

Promotion of Maritime Security



Maritime security remains a key component for safe maritime transport. Kenya continues to play a key role in securing the maritime domain within the Western Indian Ocean:

- as a signatory to the Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCOC) and the Jeddah amendments;
- as current Chair of the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia by ensuring collaboration in regional initiatives towards tackling other maritime crimes; and
- the formation of a Kenya Coastguard Service which has further improved maritime surveillance and security as well as enhanced maritime law enforcement along the Kenyan coastline and territorial waters.

The Regional Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RMRCC)

Kenya hosts the Regional Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RMRCC) in Mombasa, covering on behalf of the international maritime community, the regions of Somali, Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania and the Seychelles.

Maritime Trade Facilitation (FAL)

Kenya has established a Maritime Single Window Platform in line with the IMO FAL Convention to enhance electronic data interchange which is aimed at faster clearance of ship cargo, crew and passengers to improve efficiency at the Port of Mombasa.

Kenya proposed and is championing a new output aimed at developing guidelines for the prevention and suppression of the smuggling of wildlife on ships engaged in international maritime traffic (FAL 44/18/1) which was considered and adopted as a Work Programme by the Facilitation Committee in its 44th Session.

Kenya has also championed development of a Port Community Charter to increase efficiency at the Port of Mombasa and reduce the cost of doing business for the realization of the full potential of the Port, which is a gateway to the Eastern and Central African region and beyond.



Maritime Education and Training (MET)

As a signatory to the International Convention on the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, (STCW 95), Kenya is listed on the IMO White List of countries implementing the Convention.

Kenya is geared up to contribute to the global shortage of seafarers. The Bandari Maritime Academy serves as a national center of excellence for the Region in maritime education and training, skills development, research and innovation.



Seafarers Welfare

As a signatory to the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006, Kenya was the first country in Africa to ease the humanitarian crisis at sea by making Mombasa Port a crew change Centre during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Integration of Women in the Maritime Sector

In support of the IMO program for the integration of women in the maritime sector, Kenya continues to raise awareness on the importance of gender equality in the maritime and shipping sector in line with SDG 5.



Kenya in the Region

Kenya plays a crucial role in the Eastern and Central African maritime sector and maritime trade, by hosting in Mombasa, the secretariats of the following three sub-regional organizations that are very active in dealing with maritime issues:

- i. Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA)
- ii. Intergovernmental Standing Committee on Shipping (ISCOS)
- iii. Northern Transit Transport Co-ordinating Authority (NTTCA)

Kenya is an active member of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), an organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and sustainable development within the Indian Ocean Region.

Kenya and the Association of African Maritime Administrations (AAMA)

Kenya is also an active member of the Association of African Maritime Administrations (AAMA) which plays a critical role in pursuing common interests in the African maritime sector in the spirit of Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy) and Agenda 2063 on maritime safety, security, infrastructure, management and sustainable resource utilization which provides a good platform for the continent to progress its ambitions to develop the blue economy.



Kenya and the Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding (IOMOU)

Kenya remains a committed and active member of the Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (IOMOU) towards enhancing port state control measures in the Western Indian Ocean Region.



Kenya's re-election to the IMO Council

Kenya is desirous to continue serving the international maritime community in the Council under Category 'C' and seeks the support of Member States at elections during the 32nd Regular Session of the IMO General Assembly in November 2021.

Kenya will endeavour to continue focusing and strengthening her relationship with IMO Member States towards the attainment of the safety.

Kenya thanks all Member States that voted for her in 2019 and is grateful to have served in the Council in the past Biennium.