



SOMALI NAVY & COAST GUARD (SNCG)
PARTICIPATION IN THE INAUGURAL Meeting
OF WORKING GROUP 3
OPERATIONAL COORDINATION AND COOPERATION AT SEA
Mombasa, Kenya | 1–4 September 2025



Strategic Context

- Somalia's geostrategic location (Horn of Africa, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean)
- Challenges: Due to vast area there are limited assets, MDA gaps these Challenges made Threats like IUU fishing, arms & human trafficking, Piracy legacy, terrorism at sea and maritime accidents
- Opportunities: Blue economy, regional cooperation, DCoC framework.



Somalia Navy and Coast Guard : Operational Readiness & Regional Cooperation

~3,333 km coastline: Indian Ocean (east) & Gulf of Aden (northwest link to Red Sea)

Key routes: Bab el-Mandeb, Mogadishu, Berbera, Kismayo, Bosaso



Somalia Navy and Coast Guard Overview & Institutional Framework

- **National maritime security force** under the Ministry of Defence, Federal Republic of Somalia at Mogadishu (HQ & central command)
- **Dual mission: Integrated** naval (defence) and coast guard (law enforcement) missions.
- **Mandate:** Safeguard and Defend Somali sovereignty, secure territorial waters, protect national maritime resources & enforce maritime laws
- **Functions:** patrols, interdiction, SAR, port protection, training support



Somalia Navy and Coast Guard Missions & Roles

- **Naval missions:**
 - Maritime defence & deterrence
 - Protection of Somali EEZ (200 + NM)
 - Maritime situational awareness & surveillance
- **Coast Guard missions:**
 - Counter-piracy operations
 - Combating IUU fishing
 - Anti-smuggling & anti-trafficking (arms, narcotics, people)
 - Environmental protection & oil spill response
 - Maritime law enforcement in cooperation with judiciary & Maritime police
 - Environmental protection & coastal security
- **Humanitarian roles:**
 - Search & rescue operations
 - Disaster relief & coastal community assistance



Executive Summary

- Safeguard Somalia's maritime domain in Indian Ocean & Red Sea approaches
- Red Sea/Gulf of Aden: corridor security, escorts, smuggling disruption, port security
- Cooperation anchored in DCoC/JA, UNCLOS, bilateral & regional arrangements
- WG3 opportunity: align operations, SOPs, and information-sharing
- Developing communication protocols (HQ ↔ vessels ↔ coastal stations ↔ partners)

Information Sharing & Cooperation

- Structures: ISCs, RMIFC, RMIC
- Processes: incident reporting, secure channels, advisories
- Joint Ops: coordinated patrols, deconfliction, exercises
- Partners: EU, IMO, regional navies, multinational task forces



SNCG Achievements **and** Recent Results

- Active participation in Regional Exercises and Trainings like **Cutlass Express**, **Implementation** of for Regional MDA
- Recent interdictions of IUU fishing vessels
- Growing legal framework for maritime security
- IUU deterrence: improved compliance
- Smuggling disrupted: seizures enabled by partner tip-offs.



Gaps & Enablers

- Gaps: limited patrol assets & shore infrastructure like craft, radar coverage, comms, evidence facilities
- Enablers needed: patrol craft, radar, comms, boarding kits, training
- Policy: harmonized SOPs, legal finish, mutual assistance arrangements
 - Limited patrol Insufficient advanced training in **operational coordination, Engineering, VBSS, and SAR**
- Need to Strengthen Regional Coordination Centres and Surveillance Equipment for Faster Response“
- **Request:** Long-term development, structured capacity-building and resource support

“Together for Safe and Secure Seas”

SNCG Expected Role in the Establishment of WG3 – Priorities.

- Common SOPs: MIO/VBSS, SAR, evidence handling
- Shared MDA: real-time COP, standardized reporting
- Hotline & Deconfliction: 24/7 contacts, escalation ladder
- Exercises & Training: TTX, at-sea drills
- Legal Finish: referral pathways, prosecutor liaison
- Logistics: spares pools, support agreements
- Strengthen **information-sharing mechanisms**
- Enhance **Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)** through regional centers
- Promote **capacity building & training exchanges**
- Establish **interoperable communication protocols**
- Strengthening **operational coordination** among regional navies & coast guards
- Building **interoperability** through joint training, exercises, and patrols

SNCG Expectations from WG3

- Development of a **clear framework** for regional joint operational coordination
- Adoption of **shared best practices and SOPs** for maritime operations
- Regular **joint exercises & patrols** with regional partners
- **Technology support** for surveillance, secure communications, and data exchange
- Expansion of **training, mentorship, and Training exchange programs**



SNCG Way Forward

- Commitment to regional maritime security
- Enhance cooperation under **DCoC WG3**
- Build **trust, interoperability, and rapid response capacity**
- Promote Somalia's role as a responsible maritime nation



Strategic Vision (2025–2030)

- Develop a **modern, self-reliant naval and coast guard force** capable of independent operations.
- Establish a **national maritime surveillance system** (radars, AIS, satellite, drones).
- Build **logistics, maintenance, and training facilities** along the Somali coast.
- Acquire **medium-sized patrol vessels** (50–70m) for offshore operations.
- Expand **regional and International cooperation** and frameworks.
- Support the implementation of Somalia's **Blue Economy and Safety strategy**.



Conclusion

- SNCG is committed to working with DCoC partners to achieve shared maritime security goals to cooperate for safer, lawful, and prosperous seas.
- *“Stronger Together at Sea – Regional Cooperation for Safer Oceans”*

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Thank you — Asante sana / Mahadsanid