



High-Level Meeting on the Implementation of the DCoC/JA,

Dar es Salaam, 28-30 November 2024

Closing Remarks by

Ms. Gisela Vieira, Acting Head, Maritime Security Section, IMO]

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we near the end of the 7th High-Level Meeting on the Implementation of the Djibouti Code of Conduct/Jeddah Amendment, let me express my deepest gratitude to all participants, distinguished guests and speakers, moderators and panelists for your valuable contributions.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to our partner UNITAR, and the Government of Tanzania, particularly Professor Makame Mnyaa Mbarawa - Minister of Transport (URT) for your ministry's incredible work in making this meeting a success.

Additionally, I acknowledge the support provided to the meeting by Dr. Khalid Salum Mohamed, Minister of Infrastructure, Communications, and Transport for Tanzania, and Zanzibar who will issue his remarks shortly. We had several coordination meetings that led to this week, and I could personally witness the commitment undertaken by our hosts to organize every single detail of the event and to welcome us here today. My personal thanks go to Ms. Stella Katondo and her team for the amazing work and collaboration.

Over the past three days, we have explored various practical ways that this regional framework can support safe and secure global shipping. We have received updates from the DCoC States on the progress made by both WGs on information sharing and capacity building, and we have heard from international partners and Friends of the DCoC on their efforts to support the framework and the region in general.

One key objective of this High-Level meeting was to review the status of the implementation of the DCoC/Jeddah Amendment, to follow up on the agreed action points and to discuss challenges faced by the region obstructing effective implementation of the Code.

DCoC States also agreed to continue the development of the **Regional Maritime Security Strategy (RMSS)**, an initiative that builds on the foundational work carried out during the Jeddah workshop in the weeks before this meeting. We hope this strategy will foster greater harmonization, enhanced coordination, and better alignment of priorities among DCoC states and partners.

I would like to commend all stakeholders for their dedication to the development of this Strategy, the Operationalization of the DCoC Information Sharing Network and the implementation of existing policies and common standards developed as a result of all DCoC High-Level Meetings. Please support the finalization and operationalization of these initiatives to ensure that the region and partners benefit from all invested expertise and resources

In his keynote address, the IMO Secretary-General emphasized the importance of working together to achieve tangible goals and demonstrate progress through measurable outcomes.

Significant progress has been made over the past years, with regional states taking proactive steps to address emerging threats. They have strengthened their capabilities across all aspects of maritime security, including information sharing, legal frameworks, law enforcement operations, and training initiatives.

We are witnessing an extraordinary level of interest from many partners here in this room, reflecting their deep engagement with the important work being carried out by the DCoC States during these exceptionally challenging times.

We have also reaffirmed our commitment, with the sentiments made by our hosts and the IMO Secretary General on women's involvement in the sector to ensure gender equality in maritime security across the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden. We hope that DCoC States and partners will incorporate concrete actions to promote greater inclusion of women, not only within the maritime sector but, more critically, in the underrepresented field of maritime security.

My appreciation goes out to the interpreters and all staff working in the background.

Once again, thank you to our hosts, to all supporting and implementing partners, to all facilitators, panelists, interpreters, and all of those involved in the preparation and organization of this event.

From IMO side, I wish to reiterate our support for the region, to the member states and to all partners and our renewed focus and shared commitment to make all planned actions into concrete outcomes. And I look forward our continued collaboration in ensuring safe and secure waters for all.
