

**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]**

To the gracious host, The United Republic of Tanzania – Asante sana. Let me extend sincere gratitude to H.E. Professor Makame Mnyaa Mbarawa – Minister of Transport of the Republic of Tanzania for hosting the 7<sup>th</sup> High-Level meeting on the implementation of the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct. Special thanks to the program director, Dr. Lufunyo S. Hussein for your effective coordination and ensuring smooth flow of the program. Special thanks to the Tanzanian National Focal Point, Ms. Stella Joshua Katondo and the entire team responsible for hosting the HLM. Such extends to the WOMESA Tanzania Chapter. What a splendid job! Your hospitality has been impeccable.

Special thanks to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) for sponsoring the 7<sup>th</sup> High-Level meeting. Your support is valued as it has planted a seed that will surely grow and contribute towards sustainable development. As reassured during the opening remarks, the efforts by UNITAR are not short-term but long-term. The DCoC will surely harness opportunities offered and strive to produce tangible outcomes.

To the DCoC Member States, National Focal Points and respective delegations – The 7<sup>th</sup> HLM wouldn't convene without your hard work throughout the year. Your contributions through Steering Committee meetings, Working Group meetings, National Focal Point meetings as well as extraordinary meetings has been instrumental. Without the background work, the HLM wouldn't come to fruition.

To the Friends of DCoC and all international partners, your continued support ensures that Member States execute identified programs and achieve set objectives. Your efforts have indeed ensured better coordination pertaining to capacity building and information exchange. We look forward to ensuring complementary programs that seek to create synergy between various capacity building initiatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen; Indeed, Dar es Salaam has lived up to its name and provided a pure serene ambiance that stimulated robust discussions. The opening remarks were thought provoking, followed by well-structured conversations through knowledgeable panellists. Such has provided new insights and renewed efforts to DCoC Member States.

Last but not least; to our Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization and the entire IMO team including the DCoC Secretariat at Nairobi office. We are sincerely humbled by your exceptional work.

Nelson Mandela once said, "After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb" To DCoC, you have once suppressed the threat of piracy. One of the most detrimental threats to shipping. Those efforts as well as other, elevated the DCoC to become the supreme forum for Maritime Security within the region. Status attained, then more hills must be summited, and more threats must be deterred.

That goal can only be achieved through greater collaboration and cooperation. Just as the SG requested "Work together not against each other"

Lastly, Mr. Chris Trelawny, Mr. Kiruja Micheni, Ms. Winnie Wariara & Ms Esther Wanjiru Kung'u from the office of the chair Baie Dankie, Siyabonga, Thank You, Asante Sana. No phrase can describe the amount of gratitude I have for you.