

**DJIBOUTI CODE OF CONDUCT REGIONAL HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JEDDAH AMENDMENT**

**JEDDAH ACADEMY FOR MARITIME SCIENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES  
JEDDAH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

**22-24 NOVEMBER 2022**

**COMMUNIQUE**

The International Maritime Organization pursuant to the request of Signatory States to the Djibouti Code of Conduct and the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct, 2017 and States eligible to sign these instruments, in conjunction with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, convened a high-level, regional meeting under the theme “Developing regional capability in light of diminishing international efforts, coupled with recent geopolitical events that have significantly influenced shipping patterns and vulnerabilities in the region”, within the context of the Jeddah Amendment.

Representatives of Signatory States (Participants), representatives from international organizations and attendees from partner organizations offer special thanks to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Representatives also offer thanks to the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and other organizations associated with organizing and hosting the meeting at the Jeddah Academy for Maritime Science and Security Studies and acknowledged the generous in kind support and hospitality extended by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and, in particular the Saudi Border Guard for the Meeting, as well as other amenities provided; and expressed its sincere gratitude to Major General Muhammad Abdullah Al-Shehri, the Director General of the Saudi Border Guard. We also thank Rear Adm. Naji bin Mansour Al-Johani, the Commandant of the Jeddah Academy for Maritime Science and Security Studies for his gracious hosting and support to the success of the meeting.

The Participants also thanked the Chair and Co-Chair of the Meeting, Major General Muhammad Abdullah Al-Shehri, the Director General of the Saudi Border Guard and Amb. Nancy Karigithu, Principal Secretary, State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs, Kenya.

The primary objective of the High-level Meeting was to help signatory States to the DCoC and DCoC/JA to implement strategies and workplans that have been developed recently in order to strengthen maritime security in the western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden. Specifically, the High-level Meeting was to focus on developing an improved, region-led Information Sharing Network (ISN); an effective Capacity Building Matrix (Matrix) based on signatory States’ needs and priorities; and a more effective support network of regional and international partners that make up the “Friends of the DCoC/JA”.

The High-level Meeting built upon the outcomes of the DCoC High-level Regional Meeting on Implementation of the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct, held in Dubai from 28 to 30 June 2022 (the Dubai Meeting); and was informed by the outcomes of the DCoC

Regional Workshop on Development of Concepts of Operation for the DCoC Information Sharing Network (the Development Workshop), held at the Jeddah Academy for Maritime Science and Security Studies from 13 to 21 November 2022. The High-level Meeting also took note of the outcomes and recommendations of Working Group #1 on the Information Sharing Network; Working Group #2 on the Capacity Building Network; and the second Friends of the DCoC meeting held virtually on 28 September 2022.

Under a subtheme of matching international efforts with regional needs and priorities, the meeting considered, inter alia, ideas to fast-track the operationalisation of the ISN including a common agenda for overcoming obstacles; a proposal for regionally-owned maritime patrol aircraft (MPA) capability; ideas for strengthening the DCoC/JA – Trust Fund; strengthening measures at national level and implementation of the IMO whole of Government approach to maritime security; and tracking progress.

As another subtheme, the Friends of the DCoC/JA considered the use of the capacity building matrix and ways to support the implementation of the DCoC/JA, and made a number of recommendations on ways forward

Pursuant to the meeting's stated objective and informed by the comprehensive discussions, the meeting adopted two resolutions. Resolution 1 on "Enhancement of the DCoC/JA information sharing network" adopted new mission and vision statements for the ISN and gave clear direction on the way forward with respect to development of national maritime information sharing centres, the information to be shared, general considerations and goals. Resolution 2 on Responding to evolving maritime challenges and security priorities of Signatory States to the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct, 2017 related to maritime security in the wider context of supporting Signatory States' maritime development and meeting sustainable development goals. The meeting reaffirmed resolution 2 and 3 adopted by the Dubai Meeting.

The Meeting welcomed the offer by the Republic of South Africa to host the next High-Level Meeting and invited offers from the Friends of DCoC to co-sponsor the event. The next Plenary session will take place before the end in June 2023 but meetings by the Steering Committee, Working Group 1 and Working Group 2 will continue to be held in line with the DCoC laid down protocols for meetings.