

**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

RECORD OF THE MEETING

1 The International Maritime Organization (IMO), pursuant to the request of Signatory States to the Code of Conduct concerning the repression of piracy and armed robbery against ships in the western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden (DCoC), the Signatory States to the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct, 2017 (DCoC/JA), and States eligible to sign these instruments (Participants), convened a High-level Regional Meeting “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.

2 The meeting was attended by representatives from the following participating States:

COMOROS	DJIBOUTI	ETHIOPIA
JORDAN	KENYA	MALDIVES
MAURITIUS	MADAGASCAR	MOZAMBIQUE
OMAN	SAUDI ARABIA	SEYCHELLES
SOMALIA	SOUTH AFRICA	SUDAN
TANZANIA	YEMEN	

by observers from the following States:

DENMARK	INDIA	JAPAN
NETHERLANDS	UNITED KINGDOM	UNITED STATES

and by observers from the following intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations:

COMBINED MARITIME FORCES (CMF)
CRIMARIO II
EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN UNION NAVAL FORCE SOMALIA (OP ATALANTA) (EU NAVFOR)
EUCAP - SOMALIA
IGAD
INDIAN OCEAN COMMISSION (IOC)

INTERPOL
INTERPORTPOLICE
UKMTO
UNDP – YEMEN
UNODC
UN SOMALIA

The list of participants is attached at annex 1.

3 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".

4 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 Coordination; and the second Friends of the DCoC meeting held virtually on 28 September 2022.

5 The meeting was opened by Major General Muhammad Abdullah Al-Shehri, Director General of the Border Guard of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The welcoming ceremony also featured comments by H.E Hassan Houmed Ibrahim, Minister of Infrastructure and Equipment, Republic of Djibouti and H.E. Ambassador Michael Pulch, Senior Coordinator, Coordinated Maritime Presence, North-Western Indian Ocean (European Union). The Secretary-General of IMO was unable to attend but provided pre-recorded comments. Opening comments have been posted on the DCoC Website. (<https://dcoc.org/play/dcoc-high-level-meeting-jeddah/>).

6 Signatory States nominated and approved Maj. Gen. Muhammed Abdullah Al-Shehri, Director General of the Border Guard of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to act as Chair of the Meeting. H.E. Amb. Nancy Karigithu, Principal Secretary, State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs, Kenya was nominated and approved as the meeting's Co-Chair. The first order of business for the Chair was the approval of the Agenda of the High-level Regional meeting. This was proposed by the Chair and approved by the Delegations. A copy of the agenda is attached at annex 2.

7 Summary of Decisions Taken at the High-Level Meeting of the Djibouti Code of Conduct

Decision	Action Taken
Resolution One: Enhancement of the DCoC (JA) Information Sharing Network.	Approved – Full Text of Resolution at annex 3
Resolution Two: on Responding to evolving maritime challenges and security priorities of Signatory States to the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct, 2017.	Approved – Full Text of Resolution at annex 3

Regional Threat Update

8 To set the scene for subsequent discussions and to update the National Focal Points (NFPs) on the maritime security picture in the Indian Ocean, a regional threat brief was provided by Cdr. Jennifer Parker on behalf of both EUNAVFOR and the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF). The briefing addressed a range of current threats including piracy, narcotics smuggling, weapon smuggling, conflict related maritime events, human trafficking, charcoal smuggling and IUU fishing. The takeaways from the brief were:

- .1 maritime security threats are often inter-connected;
- .2 the spill-over of conflicts in Somalia, Yemen & Mozambique creates a permissive environment for wider illicit activity;
- .3 piracy has been suppressed but not eradicated;
- .4 the narcotics trade is adaptable, resilient & regionally networked; and
- .4 maritime crime holds back economic and social development.

[\[https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/CMFPAR1.pdf\]](https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/CMFPAR1.pdf)

9 The meeting was further advised that EUNAVFOR and CMF issue Industry Releasable Threat Assessments (IRTA) that articulate the threat to merchant and large fishing vessels transiting the Red Sea, Bab al Mandeb Strait, Gulf of Aden, and the Western Indian Ocean. Industry Releasable Threat Bulletins (IRTB) are issued in response to incidents. IRTAs and IRTBs are available to signatory States.

Progress since the Dubai Meeting

10 The meeting received an update on actions taken since the Dubai Meeting. Mr. Kiruja Micheni (IMO) reported on meetings held since Dubai and reinforced the importance of adopting a whole-of-government approach. The meeting also considered the reports of outcomes and recommendations of Working Group #1 on the Information Sharing by Brig. Loonena, Chair WG1 (Kenya) and Working Group #2 on the Capacity Building Network by Capt. Getinet Abay, Chair WG2 (Ethiopia); reports on the activities of the Friends of the DCoC and the Maritime Coordination

Group (MCG) in Kenya by Cdr. Kjeld Gaard-Frederiksen (Denmark); and a case study on the tracking of non-SOLAS vessels by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia presented by Cdr. Nader Al Omari (Saudi Arabia).

11 WG 1's Work for the period had focused on preparations for the implementation of the ISN strategy and roadmap; a focus on the development of the NMISCs; capability assessments for NMISCs; roles and linkages for NMISCs; development of milestones; proactive aspects of the ISN; and securing support for re-establishing the Sana'a ISC in Aden. [[https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/LOONENA-Presentation-by-WG1.hlm .pdf](https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/LOONENA-Presentation-by-WG1.hlm.pdf)]

12 WG2 had focussed on identification and prioritizing of needs (through the matrix), resource mobilization, seeking technical assistance and coordination with the Friends of the DCoC. Specific focus areas had included support for conducting assessments for NMISCs, developing the risk register; resource mobilization through contributions to the DCoC Trust Fund; communication strategy; developing a regional training strategy, needs and priorities for the capacity building matrix and tracking for small vessels and non-SOLAS vessels. [<https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/WG2-DCoC-update-Jeddah-meeting-1.pdf>] Saudi Arabia's presentation on this matter can be found here. [<https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/KSA-CASE-STUDY-cmdr-nader.pdf>]

Enhancement of the DCoC (JA) Information Sharing Network.

13 The meeting received a summary of the recommendations of the preparatory Workshop, held at the Jeddah Academy for Maritime Science and Security Studies from 13 to 21 November 2022. This was presented by Ms. Joyce Awino (Kenya).

14 The meeting noted that the workshop had developed new mission and vision statements for the ISN:

“The Mission of the ISN is to improve national and regional Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) and maritime safety and security through sharing of reliable information, including, on incidents of maritime crimes such as piracy and armed robbery; illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing; illicit trades; human smuggling; and maritime terrorism”.

The Vision for the ISN is:

- “Every DCoC-JA signatory State has established its National Maritime Security Committee structure which oversees the work of the operationalised National Maritime Information Sharing Centre (NMISC) and effectively utilises the information it provides in national maritime security decision making;
- DCoC signatory States' national agencies cooperate in sharing information through NMISCs;
- The Friends of the DCoC cooperate in sharing information, including, where appropriate, through MOUs established with NMISCs and regional centres; and

- Analysis of incidents by regional centres distinguishes patterns in illicit maritime activities and supports disruption of maritime crime by guiding regional policy decision.”

15 The first panel discussion, moderated by Capt. Mohammed Almajashi (Yemen), proposed a range of ideas and proposals for the enhancement of the Information Sharing Network. The panellists were Mr. Richard Morris (UK), Mr. Said Lavani (Comoros), Cdre. Nitin Parvataneni (IFC-IOR (India)), Ms. Anastasia Kirillas (INTERPOL) and Mr. Dave Natrass (CRIMARIO II). This was followed by an open discussion.

16 The main recommendations from Panel Discussion 1 and subsequent discussion included:

- .1 The need for a whole-of-government approach to maritime security;
- .2 Recognition that mutual cooperation is the way forward considering the vastness of the Maritime Domain and for optimisation of resources;
- .3 Security and development are intimately interlinked;
- .4 Maritime security and maritime law enforcement are enablers for maritime development and create the conditions that allow the blue economy to flourish;
- .5 The basis for an effective regional system is good information sharing at national level;
- .6 Information sharing involves people-to- people exchange not just the state-of-the-art technology;
- .7 The need to share information in actionable packages;
- .8 It is an ongoing challenge to keep government departments moving forward;
- .9 Develop national capabilities for MDA, improve them and build on them;
- .10 Understand the capabilities and mandates on national agencies;
- .11 There is a responsibility to share;
- .12 The need to be proactive in sharing threat analysis, patterns of life and geopolitical considerations;
- .13 Make the best of what you have then improve it;
- .14 Technology alone cannot act as the “silver bullet” to counter maritime crimes;
- .15 It is vital that MDA systems be sustainable;
- .16 Share Information and analyse it together;
- .17 Need to consider the technology ahead so as not to repeat the mistakes of the past;
- .18 The need to learn, unlearn and relearn lessons;

- .19 Communications systems must be cyber secure;
 - .20 Communications systems must be financially sustainable;
 - .21 Explore options for establishing / selecting 'standard communication tool' for information exchange amongst each other, and
 - .22 welcomed the offer by CRIMARIO II for the use of IORIS tool by the DCoC community.
- 17 Consistent with the Mission and Vision Statements, goals going forward include:
- .1 Developing information sharing protocols;
 - .2 Identifying suitable 'standard communication tool'.
 - .3 Developing an ISN governance structure;
 - .4 Establishing benchmarks;
 - .5 Achieving initial operating capability by March 2024;
 - .6 Incorporating the ISN in operational activities; and
 - .7 Making best use of INTERPOL policing capabilities and strengthen cooperation with NMISCs.
- 18 Having taken the above-mentioned deliberations into account, the meeting developed and adopted its (Jeddah 2022) resolution¹ on Enhancement of the DCoC (JA) Information Sharing Network. A copy of the resolution is at annex 3.

Capacity Building Coordination

19 The meeting received a briefing on the progress made on the Capacity Building Coordination Matrix and key regional capacity building priorities from Ms. Winnie Maina (IMO) and Capt. Getinet Abay (Ethiopia) (Kenya). The session was moderated by Capt. Mohamed Abdulkadir (Somalia).

20 The briefings were followed by the second panel discussion, which addressed "Aligning international efforts with regional needs and priorities" and was moderated by Ms. Mashudu Nephumbada (South Africa). The panellists were Cdr. Jennifer Parker (CMF), Mr. Mourad Ghorbel (IMO), Cdr. Kjeld Gaard-Frederiksen (Denmark) and Mr. Olivier Luyckx (EU). [<https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/Capt-Getinet-DCOC-update-Jeddah-meeting.pdf>]

21 The main takeaways from Panel Discussion 2 and subsequent discussion included:

CMF

Cdr. Parker highlighted the importance of national capacity building and briefed participants on the role and multinational structure of CMF. Noting that DCoC signatory States are welcome to participate in CMF, she added that there was the need to be clear on what type of information

needed to be shared and the medium for sharing it. In addition to the IRTAs and IRTBs previously referred to, CMF is also open to requests for information from DCoC signatory States.

IMO

Mr. Mourad Ghobel provided an update on the EU funded Regional Programme for Maritime Security in the Red Sea Area, and the Port Security and Safety of navigation in Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Project, and how the two projects will benefit 13 DCoC signatory States in providing support to the Domestication of international maritime legislation, Implementation of the ISPS Code, development of Port Security management and ensuring Port Security Control and Compliance and Port State Control Measures are formulated and supported in their implementation. The projects will also support in developing frameworks for maritime security governance. [<https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/20200717-EU-Port-Security-Presentation-DCoC-presentation.pdf>]

Denmark

Cdr. Frederiksen provided details of the Danish Navy's cooperation with the Kenya Navy for maritime capacity building and with Kenya Coast Guard through the UNODC Maritime Crime Programme. Key features were the need for assistance to be effective and sustainable; delivered in partnership with the receiving State; credible and flexible; and aimed at developing whole capacities, i.e., including training and maintenance for sustainability of the programme. A whole-of-government approach, persistence, patience, and presence on the ground were vital.

EU

Mr. Luyckx provided an outline of the EU's programmes in the region over the last 10 years and advised that the EU was planning two new programmes for 2024, one for the western Indian Ocean and one for the Gulf of Guinea. Essentially these would combine the existing EU programmes into streamlined maritime security programmes.

22 The information provided in these presentations and the subsequent discussions were taken into account in subsequent discussions and helped shape the resolutions.

Parallel Meeting 1

23 Within the wider context of capacity building coordination, two parallel meetings were held. In Parallel Meeting 1, chaired by H.E. Amb. Nancy Karigithu, 17 signatory States 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.

24 The purpose of the session was to discuss matters that are unique to the DCoC signatory States and the region, and to address common challenges relating to the implementation of the Jeddah Amendment.

25 Parallel meeting 1 considered ideas to fast-track the operationalisation of the ISN and how to develop a common agenda for overcoming obstacles. The meeting noted that in accordance with the strategy and roadmap for the DCoC ISN, the region intends to develop a regional network that is founded on strong foundations at National level; hence the need to prioritize the establishment of a multi-agency NMISC in each signatory State and invited participants to indicate whether they would require any technical assistance to achieve that. In response:

- .1 Comoros, Djibouti, Maldives, Mauritius, Somalia, Sudan, and U.R of Tanzania sought assistance of IMO in sensitizing strategy officials with a view to achieve political will to meet requirements of article 3 of the DCoC/JA, and further requested for technical assistance in conducting capability assessment necessary for development of an effective NMISC. They also requested for equipment support.
- .2 Madagascar requested for technical assistance in sensitizing political leadership on the need to invest more on the NMISC and implementation of a whole-of-government approach to maritime security, training of analysts, relevant IT training, and software/tools to provide independent data sources instead of being wholly reliant on the goodwill of partners.

26 The meeting agreed to fast-track the development of common Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the DCoC ISN.

27 The meeting noted that since piracy had been contained, ISC Mombasa, ISC Dar es Salaam and ISC Sana'a had generally been dormant and would need substantial capacity and capability developments to function as regional Centres, while RMIFC Madagascar and RCoC Seychelles have attained full operational capability. With the first priority being to develop NMISCs and following MASE's confirmation that the two Centres are available to serve the wider DCoC region, the Chair and Deputy Chair of WG1 were tasked to engage with MASE and then make recommendations to the DCoC signatory States on how RMIFC Madagascar and RCoC Seychelles can be integrated into the DCoC ISN structure.

28 Noting that the DCoC Trust Fund is nearly depleted, the meeting agreed to step up resource mobilization efforts, by reaching out to donors and through the FoDCoC forum.

29 Having considered the geographic proximity, strategic location of and shared interests in ensuring safety and security of navigation in the region with both the Kingdom of Bahrain and Qatar, the meeting agreed to respond favourably to any request by the two countries to become party to the Jeddah Amendment.

30 The meeting discussed the proposal by USA to provide maritime patrol aircraft as regional assets to carry out maritime surveillance of the wider DCoC region. The assets would be based in Djibouti, Kenya, and Seychelles. The meeting welcomed the offer and directed the secretariat to follow up the matter with the donor to get more details.

Parallel Meeting 2

31 In Parallel Meeting 2, the Friends of the DCoC/JA considered the use of the capacity building matrix and ways to support the implementation of the DCoC/JA.

32 In the context of the matrix, which is hosted on the DCoC website, participants were advised that access to the “members only” area was limited to signatory States and partners committed that have committed to supporting the implementation of the DCoC/JA. Partners who will be given access will have to provide details a single point of contact with a generic e-mail address on the basis of a commitment to respect the confidentiality of the information received.

33 All partners featured on the DCoC website were requested to check and where appropriate, will be required to complete their partner profiles. This will include provision of information on the scope of the partner’s scope of work, areas they can assist with, types of projects they are prepared to support, and what capacity building projects they have delivered in the past.

34 Participants in the parallel meeting were invited to provide hostship facilities and/or sponsorship for the next High-level meeting, the date for which was to be decided. (The meeting subsequently noted that South Africa had offered to host the next meeting in June 2023).

35 The meeting discussed the conduct of capability assessments for NMISC. This would need to be done with the agreement of the signatory State. In the wider context of developing NMISCs, suggestions for ways forward included:

- .1 Conducting in-country training at NMISCs which could then be followed back-to-back by an assessment;
- .2 Using established NMISCs as venues for training personnel from other countries, thus sharing best practice;
- .3 Developing standardized best practices for use throughout the region;
- .4 Developing baselines to monitor and encourage progress;
- .5 Recognizing that there were differences at political and operational levels on what information should be shared, delivering training packages that teach operators within NMISCs what information to share and how to share it;
- .6 Developing information sharing protocols to standardize reporting formats;
- .7 Forming a cadre of experts that could be on hand to support NMISCs; and
- .8 Considering the development of hubs through which NMISCs could share information, including engagement with the centres in Madagascar and Seychelles.

36 Discussions were also held around the use of IORIS in support of NMISC functions. The meeting noted that CRIMARIO II had purchased a lifetime licence for every DCoC signatory State, had provided training, and that MASE countries and other NMISCs use IORIS as standard. The representative of CRIMARIO II invited the DCoC Community to consider using IORIS as a standard information-exchange tool, testing the system for one year.

37 With respect to the current status of the matrix, the meeting was advised that many items were marked as priority and may have changed. It recommended that the information as captured will need to be updated to ensure appropriate categorization.

38 On completion of the parallel meetings, their outcomes were reported to Plenary and were considered in further deliberations.

Addressing New and Emerging Threats to Maritime Security

39 The meeting considered ways to enhance the implementation of the Dubai Meeting resolution 4 on Recognizing the Evolving Maritime Challenges and Security Priorities of Djibouti Code of Conduct Signatory States and Establishing Relationships to Maximize Regional and International Support.

40 The meeting held an open discussion moderated by Mr. Chris Trelawny (INTERPORTPOLICE), during which it considered a draft resolution based upon the “read ahead paper. The aim of the draft resolution was to emphasize the need for and facilitate a whole-of-government approach to maritime security; and to promote the concept of good maritime security and maritime law enforcement as an enabler for sustainable maritime development.

41 Having taken the above-mentioned deliberations into account, the meeting adopted it as (Jeddah 2022) 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. A copy of the resolution is at annex 3.

Conclusions

42 The participants discussed and approved the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting, and a communique was subsequently issued by the participants after the meeting and is attached as annex 4.

43 The participants thanked the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for generously hosting and sponsoring the meeting, the IMO Secretariat for their administrative support and the INTERPORTPOLICE for facilitating the meeting.

44 The following heads of delegations delivered closing remarks: H.E Mohamed Abdulkadir Mohamed, State Minister of Ports and Marine Transport, Somalia; H.E Hassan Houmed Ibrahim, Minister of Infrastructure and Equipment, Djibouti; H.E Ranjatoelina Rolland Fidiariseheno, Madagascar Minister of Transport and Meteorology Madagascar; and Mr. Sharew Yehwalashet Jemere, Director General - Ethiopian Maritime Authority. In his closing remarks, Maj. Gen. Muhammed Al-Shehri, congratulated the participants for the excellent outcomes.

45 The next Plenary session will take place in June 2023 in South Africa. Meetings of the Steering Committee, Working Group 1, Working Group 2, and the Friends of the DCoC will continue to be held in line with the DCoC laid down protocols for meetings.

List of Appendices

Annex One: List of Participants

<https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/DCoC-HLM-Jeddah-List-of-Participants.pdf>

Annex Two: Agenda for the High-level Meeting

<https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/Agenda-DCoC-JA-HLM-22-24-Nov-2022-Jeddah-KSA-Report.pdf>

Annex Three: Full Text of Resolutions Agreed at the High-level Meeting

<https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/Resolution-1-and-2-DCoC-HLM-Jeddah-KSA-22-24-Nov-2022.pdf>

Annex Four: Communique: High-level Regional Meeting on Implementation of the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct

<https://dcoc.org/wp-content/uploads/Communique-DCoC-HLM-Jeddah-KSA-22-24-Nov-2022.pdf>

