LESSONS LEARNT FROM ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL MARITIME INFORMATION SHARING CENTRE - KENYA

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OBSERVED CHALLENGES FOR COMPREHENSIVE APPROACHES

• Low institutional capacities for maritime security/threat awareness and analysis
• Insufficient/weak legal frameworks
• Overlapping mandates for agencies with a role over maritime security leading to varied surveillance feeds with varied service providers and contracts leading to challenges in sharing information nationally and achieving the regional objectives
• No procedures (E.g. MOUs) for information exchange
• Insufficient resources- no capacity for national collaboration in absence of few/no joint training/exercises
• Donor project mismatch
CONCEPT OF NMISC

The Concept of a National Maritime Information Sharing Centre (Joint Operations Centre) was introduced in Kenya by Law and is oversighted by a National Committee Border Control and Coordination Committee for the following purposes;

a. Optimise coordination of operations and communication among the various border agencies.

b. Enhance Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) for the various government agencies.

c. Enhance intelligence sharing among the government agencies along the maritime border to augment law enforcement at the Points of Entry (POEs)
FOCUS

1. Shared responsibilities and inter-governmental integration through shared resources and shared work responsibilities;

2. Enhancing maritime domain awareness across agencies;

3. Joint focused operations designed to strengthen inter-agency coordination to:
   • Deter
   • Detect individuals and organizations engaged in illegal cross border activities
   • Prevent
   • Interdict
THE COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES IN THIS REGARD HAS LED TO:

➢ Intelligence sharing

➢ Coordinated joint patrols

➢ Coordinated joint surveillance

➢ Special operation interdictions
KEY ROLES AND FUNCTIONS: MARITIME SURVEILLANCE

TARGETING of threats emanating from the movement of persons and cargo across borders on the maritime space.

MARITIME SECURITY FOCAL POINT: Act as Kenya’s focal point for National, regional and International partners for Maritime Security.

ANALYSIS: Analyze and share information enabling improved awareness to mitigate border and maritime security risks.

RESPOND to government departments and agencies in supporting their information and intelligence needs on a case by case basis.

ENHANCE maritime domain awareness through collaboration with other national and regional centers.
• Components of internal information sharing: common approaches to risk assessment, common architecture enabling access by departments to a coherent maritime domain picture

• Benefits: enable control of data in and out of the system as a trusted source and in the long-run satisfy future data sharing arrangements

• Made a case for legitimate national legal frameworks/SOPs
LESSONS LEARNT

1) The centre implies that security actors engage in joint projects and interact on an everyday basis

2) Created necessary conditions that allows the Government ability to address strategic issues

3) In turn has provided the preconditions for more sustained security interaction In the form of a maritime security community.

4) National legislation to domesticate legal and international framework

5) Framework for maritime security strategy and Risk Assessment Register now at advance stages

6) Joint exercises and training (Participation in national and regional maritime security exercises)

7) Participation in successful Maritime Search and Rescue Activities

8) Cost of personnel lies with contributing Department

9) Independent from RMRCC
HOW THE DCOC CAN LEVERAGE ON NATIONAL CENTRES

The work outlined in the Code is aimed at improving regional co-ordination and co-operation and is based on 4 broad pillars:

✓ Information sharing
✓ Capacity Building
✓ Updating National Legislation
✓ Regional Training

Strengths

• National focal point (NFP) network
• NMISCs
• Civil / military cooperation: Joint Exercises/training
• Facilitation of capacity building,
• Transnational coordination between the signatory States, other IMO Member States, United Nations entities and other international partners
CASE FOR NMISCs/OPPORTUNITIES

• Missions cannot be achieved without partnerships (national/regional/international): Focus is reporting and sharing of information not simply for security but also for safety in a comprehensive approach for law enforcement at sea

• Potential for common policies that ensure success – We have developed common reporting templates- need to adapt the same nationally

• Case for national laws: partnerships for information sharing cannot exist devoid of legal basis that allows for it

• Understanding and leveraging on collaborating partners capabilities (national and regional)

• NFP Template: Provides for feedback mechanisms, self assessments and enables monitoring, evaluation and improvements
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION