



## **Inaugural Workshop on the Establishment of the DCoC Working Group 3 On Operational Cooperation and Coordination at Sea,**

**Serena Beach Resort & Spa, Mombasa, Kenya  
1-4 September 2025**

### **Opening Remarks by Chair of Djibouti Code of Conduct – Jeddah Amendment South Africa – Ms. Mashudu Nepfumbada**

All protocol observed;

“The whole is greater than the sum of its parts”, so said Aristotle. A phrase drawn from his metaphysics ideology outlining that – when individual components are brought together in a functional whole, the resulting entity possesses qualities and capabilities that exceed those of the components in isolation. Such perfectly outlines the concept of holism, a philosophical concept indicating that systems and concepts are better understood as wholes rather than as mere collections of their individual parts.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

The holism concept is fully embodied as a fundamental cornerstone of the Djibouti Code of Conduct – Jeddah Amendment. “A Whole of Government Approach”. An approach that aims for efficient integration and synergy amongst Member States in ensuring safe and secure shipping along the Western Indian Ocean and within the Gulf of Aden region. The Whole of Government Approach creates a unified framework which assists in addressing multifaceted maritime threats and promotes cooperation which enables connectivity between national, regional and global maritime security efforts.

To DCoC-JA Member States, Friends of DCoC and International Partners;

It is with great pleasure for all of us to convene here today to action one of the resolutions of the 7th High Level Meeting i.e. Establishment of Working Group 3 on Operational Cooperation and Coordination at Sea. Such is in alignment with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) 2026-2027 World Maritime Day theme – From Policy to Practice. A commitment from IMO to develop Member States’ capacity to put policy into practice. It is time to execute those regional frameworks to counter maritime security threats developed in 2009 and expanded in 2017 (Jeddah Amendment).

Let us recall the plea from the IMO Secretary-General, Arsenio Dominguez during the 7th High Level meeting – emphasis on tangible outputs.

To IOC, UNITAR & Kingdom of Denmark, thank you for your efforts to ensure execution of resolution No.1 of the 7th High Level meeting.

To IMO, notably the Nairobi office – thanks for your excellent work to ensure that DCoC remains a premium forum for Maritime Security. All coordination efforts to implement DCoC objectives are greatly appreciated.

To our gracious host – Kenya, notably the Kenyan Navy; thanks for the hospitality

From the Chair of DCoC-JA – South Africa, let Working Group 3 yields tangible outputs – Powering Maritime Excellence in Maritime Security. May the newly established Working Group fully embrace the concept of 3 Cs – Coordination, Collaboration & Cooperation. When the triple Cs are effectively executed, we will definitely have a harmonized framework for countering maritime security threats and other illicit activities. It is our objective to ensure synergy between maritime civilian authorities and naval forces of coast guards within the region. Let us fully embrace the expanded scope of outlined on the Jeddah Amendment to secure the maritime domain for sustainable development. Let us play our role towards achievement of the UNSDGs as well as 2050 AIM strategy.

“We are all one team and together we’re strong and we’re in this together”. Bo Brabo

Harambee!