



REPORT OF THE JOINT KENYA NMSC AND MCG MEETING HELD ON 25 APRIL 2024, AT THE KMA TOWERS IN MOMBASA.

Introductions

1. A joint meeting of Kenya's National Maritime Security Committee (NMSC) and the Maritime Coordination Group (MCG) was held at the KMA Tower in Mombasa, Kenya, on April 24th, 2024. The meeting, hosted by the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), was chaired by Kenya's Principal Secretary, State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs, Hon. Dr. Geoffrey Kaituko.

2. The MCG convenes likeminded Nations and International Organizations that share the goal of supporting Kenya in enhancing maritime security to harness the benefits of the blue economy. The purpose of this voluntary forum for Kenyan partner nations is to coordinate, deconflict, and amplify their bilateral efforts.

Attendance

3. The meeting was attended by participants from the following Kenyan agencies:

State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs (SDSMA)

State Department for Blue Economy and Fisheries

State Department for Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy, and Maritime Affairs (MIBEMA)

Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA)

The Directorate of Immigration Services Immigration

National Police Service (NPS)

Ministry of Interior and National Administration

The Kenya Fisheries Service (KeFS)

Kenya Forest Service (KFS)

Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA)

Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS)

Kenya Ports Authority (KPA)

Kenya Navy (KN)

Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS)



And by the following States:

DENMARK

EU

UNITED KINGDOM

And by the following International Organizations and Programmes:

GO BLUE

CRIMARIO II

sIMO

UNODC

UNOPS

Absent with apologies.

4. The Secretariat received apologies from participants of the following organizations/countries:

NETHERLANDS

USA

5. The list of participants is shown at **ANNEX A**.

Opening Remarks

6. The meeting was chaired by Kenya's Principal Secretary for the State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs, Hon. Dr. Geoffrey Kaituko, and commenced at 10:00 hours.

7. Following introductions, Mr. Martin Munga, Director-General of the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), delivered welcome remarks. He thanked all for honoring the invitation and wished them fruitful deliberations.

8. In his opening remarks, Mr. Kiruja Micheni (IMO) commended Kenya for the significant strides it has made in implementing measures for a Whole of Government approach to maritime security, aligned with the guidelines set forth by the IMO. He emphasized the importance of interagency cooperation in securing the maritime domain and thanked the Principal Secretary for his dedication to ensuring unified support for the government's agenda of fostering a sustainable Blue Economy through collaborative efforts with all stakeholders.

9. The Principal Secretary thanked participants for honoring the invitation to the meeting. He added that the government, led by the President, had given utmost priority to the maritime space, and was now working to create an enabling environment for the development of the sector.

10. He added that as the chairman of the NMSC, he met with various heads in Mombasa in February 2024, alongside his own parallel meeting with representatives of agencies represented in the MCG meeting. In both meetings, the PS witnessed the effectiveness of the Whole of Government approach in conducting interventions over recent incidents.

11. Hon. Kaituko particularly thanked the KCGS intervention during the rescue mission of the Korean vessel, alongside the Kenya Maritime Authority and other agencies. Despite the vessel being situated outside the Kenya EEZ, players were able to report to Seychelles' authorities for action. He commended the collaborative efforts in the drowning incident at Lake Baringo, which was carried out jointly with the Kenya Maritime Authority, Kenya Ports Authority, Kenya Forest



Services, and Kenya Coast Guard Service, and called for partners to work together. He urged participants to work as a multiagency front with development partners and stressed the need to work with the navies of other countries interested in maritime security in the western Indian Ocean.

The Chairman thanked the international partners for establishing the Maritime Coordination Group as a common platform for coordinating capacity building efforts and reducing duplicity. It ensures resources are strategically allocated and collaborates with all partners to ensure unified mutual efforts with the government to reduce inefficiencies from disjointed programs.

The Principal Secretary's Speech is attached at **ANNEX B**

Summary of matters on Kenya's priorities arising of the previous meeting

12. The meeting registered appreciation to Kenya and MCG partners for their support in operationalizing the Kenya National Maritime Security Committee and the development of the Country's National Maritime Security Risk Register and the ongoing plans to complete the development of the National Maritime Security Strategy.

13. The meeting was informed of the need to focus on multi-user programmes that involved all state agencies and the call to support legal finish agreement with Kenya as was the case with Seychelles.

14. Members were requested to share their country/organizational annual workplans with the Secretariat to deconflict capacity building activities.

15. Denmark reiterated the need for a sustainable supply chain structure for funding and/or support to ensure investments made to the country were not wasted or underutilized.

Feedback from MCG Participating Countries

CRIMARIO

16. Mr. Abdalla Hatimy informed the meeting on trainings conducted with Kenya as follows:

- .1 One-week interagency course on National Inter-agency SOPs
- .2 One-week IORIS Foundation, Advanced and SOP Course - Inter agency
- .3 Two-week IORIS Foundation, Advanced and SOP Course (with support on the Coastal App by Go Blue project) for the Coastguard Operation Centre.
- .4 CRIMARIO is also working on improving the IORIS system through modernization using features such as satellite feed and was also scheduling its 3rd IORIC committee to be held in Philippines.

17. Additionally, it had received support from the GoBlue project to synergize efforts of Capacity Building for complementarity. The CRIMARIO Maritime Coordination Activity Map on planned, ongoing and completed projects is attached at **ANNEX C**.

DENMARK



18. Col. Jens Lindvig informed the meeting that the Principal Secretary's initiative in operationalizing the maritime security sector was welcome, with his counterpart Cdre. Kjeld Gaard-Frederiksen commending the "all hands-on deck" approach. The latter emphasized the importance of countering silo mentality. He added that despite Denmark being a small country, it was invested in maritime security since security played an important role in enhancing growth.

19. Denmark sees the WIO region as a key player in taking responsibility for security and has, in its partnership with the DCoC/JA, grown the capacity of Kenya in various ways. Denmark works with the Kenya Navy through advanced training. It has also set up a firefighting facility at the Mtongwe Naval Base, to be used for training by state agencies; is supporting the Kenya Navy Training College in sailing training. It is also refurbishing a decompression chamber, in collaboration with the EU and Go Blue Security programme, to be established at the KN. A bridge simulator has also been provided.

European Union

20. Ms. Alina Neacsu registered apologies from the EU Deputy Ambassador who is involved in work in Nairobi and could not make it to the MCG.

21. She also reaffirmed EU's commitment to Kenya as a trusted partner and was delighted with the work of Strategy development that is currently underway and added that the EU was willing to support implementation once the development is done.

22. The EU hosted a delegation from Kenya in Brussels for a meeting focused on maritime security and Kenya's strategy. It also submitted a proposal through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding capacity building offered by Atalanta, which is currently in progress. Additionally, the possibility of offering port disposal services was being explored, to accommodate Atalanta's mandate which includes seizure of drugs, among other duties. Collaboration on legal matters is also underway with Spain, Italy, and Seychelles, with Seychelles' model serving as a promising example for Kenya.

23. In support of legal initiatives, the EU-funded Safe Seas regional program is in the works, with a focus on financial aspects following the completion of legal work. Maj. Alejandro Gil Salas announced plans for the first joint exercise with Kenya scheduled for May 20-24, 2024, aimed at enhancing maritime security capabilities. Subsequently, from May 27-29, Atalanta legal team will conduct a seminar in Nairobi on legal issues, with participation expected from Kenyan agencies. Further details will be provided in the EU's Maritime Coordination Activity Map attached in **ANNEX C** alongside the other partners' MCA Maps.

Go Blue Security

24. Théo Girard outlined the €5 million project Go Blue Programme, funded by the EU Delegation to Kenya and implemented by Expertise France. The project aims to provide technical assistance in the field of maritime security and governance in Kenya.



25. He explored the achievements of the Go Blue Programme to date, where it had delivered safety trainings to fisher communities and developed a smartphone application called *Usalama Baharini* to create a direct channel of communication between the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) and fisher communities.

26. He also mentioned the establishment of the KCGS Operations Centre, which is now running 24/7, and the provision of IT equipment and training to the Centre.

27. This project also aims to improve Search and Rescue (SAR) operations along the Kenyan coast. This includes providing new SAR boats and training for boat crews. It will also improve fisheries enforcement capabilities by providing training to Kenya Fisheries Service (KeFS) staff.

IMO

28. Mr. Kiruja Micheni appreciated Kenya's collaboration with the IMO and its leadership in regional maritime security initiatives under the auspices of the DCoC/JA.

29. The IMO's support to Kenya in fulfilling Article 3 of the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct, concerning measures at the national level, has been ongoing to establish strong foundations, such as the development of NMSC, NMRR, and NMSS. Kenya has made great strides in fulfilling Article 3.

30. There are several areas that remain incomplete, including the development of the NMSS, and the development and maintenance of the multi-agency National Maritime Information Sharing Centre (NMISC). As the pioneer Chair of the DCoC Workign Group on Information Sharing, Kenya was expected to set a leading example in operationalizing a fully functional NMISC. Furthermore, upon completion, there will be a need for the NMSS implementation plan and support for its execution.

31. In accordance with the 2021 DCoC Strategy and Roadmap for the regional Information Sharing Network (ISN), the attainment of the Initial Operating Capability for the NMISCs was scheduled for March 2024, a milestone that has not yet been fulfilled. Additionally, the Joint Operations Centre (JOC) was not established in accordance with the DCoC guidelines.

32. IMO requested the Chair's and NMSC's support to make the NMISC fully operational, enabling better capabilities to combat illicit activities in the maritime domain, including the resurgence of piracy off the Somali Coast and the Red Sea crisis.

33. IMO noted that Kenya enjoys the goodwill of international naval partners in combating maritime crimes, but due to the lack of MOUs, this effort is frustrated by catch and release practices.

34. In addition to the support for the work under the DCoC/JA, IMO continues to support Kenya in enhancing Port security and safety and security of navigation under the the EU funded Port Security Project as well as through the regular IMO Technical cooperation Programme.



UNODC

35. Becky Adiele explored several projects jointly conducted with international partners to support Kenya. They include US INL funding, which is supporting the ongoing foundation course for KCGS (now in the 3rd cohort). An advisor has also begun his contract, to be embedded into KCGS and support human resource development, through providing advisory services and policy development. UNODC is also procuring some VHF radios for the boats.

36. Denmark funding supported several project management training sessions in 2023. More focus on information management sharing training and advanced TOT instructor trainings to support sustainability of efforts will be made in 2024.

37. Canada funding has enabled the UNODC to work directly with the BMS and a broader interagency committee (which includes maritime agencies) to limit illicit trade along the Kenya-Somalia border, which funds terrorist activities, leads to loss of revenue for the government and threatens the overall wellbeing of border communities. There would be a maritime and land border JOC in Lamu and Garissa, respectively. Both JOC operators will be trained on border management, basic forensics analysis and inter-agency collaboration to identify, investigate and prosecute offenders (chain of custody). Additionally various ICT & forensics equipment is set to be procured & handed over to support operations at the JOCs.

38. Potential funding from the US EXBS is set to build a maintenance culture for small boats. Various maintenance tools will be procured to support this effort.

United Kingdom

39. Patricia Davies (representing the civilian side of cooperation and maritime security) informed the meeting of three UK-funded three workshops with the Bandari Maritime Authority on port security management, crisis management response and cyber security and have done passenger security training videos which were assessed by KMA and translated into Swahili with the help of the Secretariat.

40. The UK-Kenya has signed partnership on security with maritime security embedded into it. A joint port survey of the Mombasa Port was conducted in 2024.

41. Cdre. Shaun Quin, (Military side) informed the meeting that the UK has provided Capacity Building for the Kenya Navy. It had also brought a team from the Marines to provide VBSS courses.

42. As part of a 5-year Capacity Building programme, the UK has also provided 50 Kenya Marine personnel with training and will do a third course in two weeks (May 2024) and another one in September. An additional course is scheduled with KN, KCGS in July 2024.



The Principal Secretary remarks on Partner support:

43. It was stated that the Kenyan government was available to work closely with all stakeholders, emphasizing the readiness to provide support as needed. It was mentioned that meetings with the Danish team have taken place, with plans to enhance their presence through the assignment of a maritime attaché, also referred to as a maritime advisor.

44. Regarding the prosecution of pirates, discussions were held with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) to revisit previous arrangements, particularly regarding Kenya's role in prosecution. Assurance was given that the government would issue a clear communication on this matter, involving the ODPP and the Ministry of Shipping & Maritime Affairs.

45. The PS expressed the desire for Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) to collaborate with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to ensure the full operationalization of the NMISC. Additionally, there was a call for more progress report meetings to ensure that the support provided by partners is effectively communicated to relevant agencies within Kenya.

Kenya's presentation - capacity building coordination – whole of government focus

46. Mr. Oliver Maina (KMA) reported on Kenya's maritime initiatives, stating that they have implemented the BETA maritime program, which includes socio-economic aspects. Other programs presented include:

- plans to conduct national vessel census and economic survey.
- standards for boats building and increase number of boat builders
- presidential directive on coxswain training.
- support the establishment of local boat owners' association.
- SAR program at Lake Victoria (future - Turkana and coastal)
- Lake Turkana transport project - establishing transport services between the Turkana country and Marsabit county.
- Waterfront community policing project will be rolled out also.
- project on maritime information systems.
- maritime law enforcement - review with an aim to unify.
- National survey and registration of vessels operating in Kenya.

47. While emphasizing the importance of security for development within this program. He added that the component focused on conducting a census of small vessels (4 meters and below) was meant to better plan for the sector. He noted that a survey conducted in 2013 identified 16,530 existing small vessels, which has increased to 25,000 currently. There was the need for improving approximately 10,000 rudimentary vessels to meet standards for safe operation and promote initiatives such as coxswain training and the establishment of local boat owners' associations to promote safe interactions on the water.

48. The plans to enhance search and rescue (SAR) efforts, through the establishment of SAR centers in various regions such as Turkana would replicate the working model at the Coast. He also addressed the need for a maritime law enforcement program, improved registration and



regulation of vessels, and the importance of an Integrated Maritime Information System (IMIS) for effective monitoring of vessels, and information sharing.

49. During the plenary session, the Principal Secretary highlighted the upcoming Kenya Maritime Security Summit scheduled for May and called for coordination efforts among agencies.

50. IMO raised concerns over the integration of maritime information systems and emphasized the need for cooperation among agencies to enhance civil-military cooperation.

51. Various participants contributed to the discussion, sharing insights and proposals for improving maritime security. These included initiatives such as legal workshops, tracking small vessels using drone technologies, and strengthening international partnerships.

52. The European Union emphasized the importance of fast-tracking decisions to maximize funding and support for maritime initiatives. Discussions also focused on sharing best practices using the UK as a case study for contextualization, conducting training programs, and establishing effective coordination mechanisms to achieve common goals in maritime security and governance.

Summary and way forward

53. It was reported that Kenya having delivered a presentation on programs derived from KMA, other MDAs needed to submit their programme reports to the Chair before engagement with partners.

54. The Principal Secretary informed the meeting that the Kenya National Maritime Security Strategy development was scheduled for 6-9 May 2024.

55. IMO pointed to the Integrated Maritime Information System (NMIS) shared by KMA, and its role in covering all EEZ and beyond, seeking clarification on its scope.

56. Go Blue noted it has projects on community policing and SAR and emphasized the importance of reducing duplicity in the process of implementing these efforts.

57. From the Kenyan side, it was highlighted that there is need for streamlining project implementation and reducing duplicity through in-house keeping. It was also mentioned that a plan to revisit the VHF communication project along the Coast, which had been active in 2016, was up for consideration.

58. IMO emphasized the importance of multi-agency coordination and civil-military cooperation, while representatives from the Kenya Coast Guard Service optioned the KCGS Centre as a preferable national centre, with the agreement from agencies, as it has the potential to take up the role of NMISC when capacitated in line with the 2021 DCoC Strategy and Roadmap.

59. Concerns on maritime sustainability and UN support were raised by Kenya and suggestions to coordinate maritime security matters using the existing security coordination architecture were made.



60. Denmark made the offer of assistance with drone use for tracking small boats.
61. Kenya highlighted the need for in-house meetings to streamline maritime activities among agencies and proposed coordination through the office of the PS (State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs).
62. Participants discussed the confusion surrounding the JOC and its role as the national maritime information center, citing that the formation of the centre had not clarified its use as the permanently designated national choice, a matter that Kenya was encouraged to resolve.
63. A proposal to escalate the impasse with the JOC, to the PS was made.
64. Participants discussed preliminary work on NMSS development and amendments to small vessels regulations.
65. The EU emphasized the need for timely decisions to avoid losing out on funding since most of their programmes were time-constricted and budgets would only be expended where decisions from agencies and government were resolute.
66. The UK also offered to provide Best Management Practices sessions with Kenya having experienced similar hurdles during the 2012 Olympic Games.
67. With no further AOB the meeting ended at 1310hrs.

REFERENCES.

ANNEX A: List of Participants

MCG confirmed attendees		
Crimario	Hatimy Abdalla	abdallah.hatimy@crimario.eu
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European Union	Alina Neacsu	alina.neacsu@eeas.europa.eu
	Maj. Alejandro Gil Salas	cj9lmcb@mschoa.org
GoBlue Security	Theo Girard	theo.girard@gobluesecurity.eu
Kenya	Principal Secretary (Chair) Hon. Dr. Geoffrey Kaituko	State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs
	Major. (Rtd) George Okongo	State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs
	Willice Ngeso	State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs
	Eng. Martin Munga	Kenya Maritime Authority
	Julius Koech	Kenya Maritime Authority



DCOC
DJIBOUTI CODE OF CONDUCT

	Rhodah Onyancha	Ministry of Interior and National Administration
	George Sedal	National Police Service
	Caisine Auma	Ministry of Maritime and Shipping
	Mwaka Barabara	Kenya Fisheries Service
	Dr. Lui Ashwahid	Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs.
	Rodgers Chimega	Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs.
	Abdi Daib	Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs.
	Benjamin S. Were	Kenya Forest Service
	Joel Ndege	Kenya Revenue Authority
	Githaiga Moses	State Department for Blue Economy and Fisheries
	Anthony Muriuki Mate	Kenya Ports Authority
	Col Atodonyang Rialelem	Kenya Navy - Headquarters
	Major Stephen Wamalwa	Kenya Navy
	John Wambua	Kenya Wildlife Service
	Beatrice Muthigani	State Department for Foreign Affairs
	Capt. Bozu Khula	Kenya Coast Guard Service
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ANNEX B: Principal Secretary Hon. Dr. Geoffrey Kaituko's Speech



Hon. Dr. Geoffrey
Kaituko Opening Rem



ANNEX C: The Maritime Coordination Activity Map



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