**REPORT OF THE MARITIME COORDINATION GROUP MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2023, ON TEAMS AT 1000HRS**

**Introductions**

1. The meeting of the Maritime Coordination Group (MCG) was hosted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on Teams on 12th July 2023 from 10:00 EAT. It was chaired by **Mr. David O’Connell (UNODC)**.

**Attendance**

2 The meeting was attended by 35 participants from the following States:

DENMARK INDIA JAPAN

NETHERLANDS UNITED KINGDOM UNITED STATES

And by the following International Organizations and Programmes:

EU DELEGATION GO-BLUE EU NAVFOR ATALANTA

IMO IOM UNODC

UNDP- GEF-USAID PROJECT

The list of participants is shown at **ANNEX 1**.

**Introductions**

3. Mr. David O Connell (UNODC) welcomed all participants and acknowledged the presence of Kenya’s Principal Secretary for Shipping and Maritime Affairs, Mr. Shadrack Mwadime and the multi-stakeholder National Maritime Security Committee (NMSC) team, being the first partner/government meeting since the new administration took office.

He also thanked the Secretariat for coordinating the MCG and its effort in ensuring the coordination between implementing partners and Kenya remained unobstructed.

4. Kenya’s Principal Secretary Mr. Shadrack Mwadime who is also the chair of the NMISC apologized for the inconveniences caused during the planning of the meeting and cited that Kenya being a democracy will move away from protests to dialogue in resolution of its internal challenges. He then introduced his team.

**Kenya’s Keynote remarks on the need for coordination of partners’ efforts in the implementation of maritime security capacity building initiatives in Kenya**

5. Kenya recognized the interconnected nature of maritime challenges and the need to resolve them with a global perspective. The PS emphasized that the current administration was keen on improving its maritime sphere by aligning the following priorities:

a) **Resources in the Blue Economy**: The need to establish policies and strategies in the maritime industry that will help exploit resources within the Blue Economy and focus on Blue Space as the new frontier of utilization.

b) **Job creation**: With a 70 % youth populace in Kenya, the State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs is exploring available opportunities in seafaring. Additionally, the government intends to convert Bandari Maritime Academy to an autonomous regional Centre of excellence in a bid to produce quality workforce and provide the STCW (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers) course at basic and advanced levels.

c) **Financing**: Kenya is sourcing for approximately KES15Bn for Bandari Maritime Academy for infrastructural upgrading, software installation, training (through Training of Trainers), hiring quality trainers and course development. He requested support from the international partners in this regard.

Kenya thanked the MCG for supporting Kenya on maritime safety and maritime security issues and reiterated the need to have a Maritime Strategy consultant who will provide support to other strategy stakeholders.

**Summary of matters arising from the previous meeting**

6. IMO briefed the meeting on the role and scope of the MCG in its involvement with Kenya. Pursuant to Article 3 of the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct which calls for the adoption of a whole of government approach model to maritime security, the IMO has been providing technical assistance to Kenya and other regional states in the development of their National Maritime Security Committee, National Maritime Risk Register and National Maritime Security Strategy.

7. Updating on the outcomes of the combined Working Groups meeting held 11th July 2023, IMO recognized Kenya’s role as Chair of Working Group 1 on Information Sharing and the ongoing work spearheaded by the WG, including development of multi-agency National Maritime Information Sharing Centres in all DCoC signatory countries and plans to incorporate the RCoC and RMIFC as part of the DCoC info sharing network, in line with the agreed strategy and roadmap for the DCoC info sharing network. The meeting also recommended working closely with the two Centres in expanding operations coordination at sea across the western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden as provided for under the JA. This will be discussed in more details at the next high-level meeting to be held in Cape Town from 24-26 October. IMO commended Kenya for leading by example by establishing the JOC.

8. IMO highlighted the planned expansion of the scope of the DCoC Working Group 2 on capacity building to include sub-working groups covering the various thematic areas under the JA, even those that don't necessarily fall under the purview of the IMO. This expansion aims to ensure effective coordination, break the silo mentality, and promote amplification of efforts.

**Kenya’s National Maritime Security Committee Debrief**

9. Joyce Awino, representing the Chair NMSC made a presentation on the NMSC’s role in the coordination of maritime security capacity building coordination in Kenya. It highlighted the thematic areas, implementing partners and programmes involved in Kenya and cited that the implementing partners’ list for the country is not limited. A summary of current Capacity Building priorities under various thematic areas was also made in the meeting.

10. Among areas discussed there was a need for assistance in setting up Joint Operations Centres (JOC) in Lamu and Kisumu, source for exchange programs that provide Best Practices workshops, providing security for the Cruise Terminal in Mombasa to advance Cruise Tourism, among other pertinent issues.

11. As it stands Kenya has established its multiagency National Maritime Security Committee (NMSC) and developed and approved its National Maritime Security Risk Register (NMSRR) with the assistance of IMO and will soon start work of developing its National Maritime Security Strategy (NMSS) to address challenges highlighted in the Risk Register). The presentation is attached as **ANNEX 2.**

**Feedback from MCG participating countries/organizations**

**CANADA**

12. Canada reported its continued work with the Kenya through its Oil Spill Response course with KCGS in March 2023 which has given it a springboard in its plan for the year. The Canadian Coast Guard will provide training on Search and Rescue (SAR), Oil Spill & Pollution Control and Disaster Management for the remainder of 2023.

13. A series of Canadian Coast Guard capacity building activities with KCGS are scheduled in the coming months: like Incident Command System courses in Kisumu and Mombasa, Uncrewed Airborne Systems (Drone) workshop, two Search and Rescue courses in Kisumu and Mombasa. In addition, the Canada Border Services Agency will be leading activities in Intelligence Analysis and Customs-related training, as well as supporting training curriculum development before year end. Additional Oil Spill courses have been planned for early 2024.

14. Canada will provide complementary support to relevant existing work by the KCGS and other implementing partners.

**EU – Go Blue Security**

15. An introduction to the implementation phase of the 5-million-euro Go Blue project and its support for Kenya’s Blue Economy was made by the European Union team, pointing out government agencies benefiting from the project:

* With KCGS, Go Blue is working on a Safety Training for Fishers Training of Trainers for Community Watch Programme with fishers. They are also in the process of developing a coastal app called Usalama Baharini which will be used by various maritime stakeholders in sharing of maritime safety and security information with the JOC. The app will be delivered at the end of July 2023.
* It is supporting KMA in developing SAR capacity in the coast alongside other maritime agencies and counties.
* Building up capacity with KeFS on the fight against IUU fishing and Monitoring, Control and Surveillance.
* Developed five new curricula with BMA, ToT and delivered five inter-agency courses on the state action at sea related to MDA, IUU fishing, Maritime Pollution, SAR (ongoing) and Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (ongoing).

**Japan**

16. Japan registered its continued support to Kenya with the new deployment of Cdr. Katsumata Takao’s successor, Cdr. Kawashima Keiko.

**IMO**

17. IMO reiterated its ongoing assistance to Kenya for the effective implementation of IMO instruments and highlighted the critical work of enhancement of maritime security governance in line with the requirements of Article 3 of the Jeddah Amendment, particularly the work completed in the development of the NMSC, NMSRR and soon to start the NMSS and its implementation plan.

18. IMO reported the ongoing support to Kenya to enhance safety and security of navigation through the EU-funded Port Security project, covering effective implementation of the ISPS code, safety of life at sea and marine environmental protection.

**EUNAVFOR**

19. Operation Atalanta reported that its Interim Strategic Review was out and there was a need to incorporate the Persian Gulf within the MSCHOA. As it stands, Operation Atalanta can only work within Somalia on a case-by-case issue.

It also highlighted that Kenya is scheduled to attend a Security and Defence Dialogue in Brussels that will also focus on the Legal Finish aspect as currently the EUNAVFOR lacks a legal finish framework in the interdiction and prosecution of maritime crimes within the Western Indian Ocean region.

**Netherlands**

20. Netherlands offered to support the development of the Bandari Maritime Academy and has twin programme for seafaring for Academy – to be taken up by BMA CEO and Director for Shipping and Maritime in the State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs.

21. It further affirmed commitment towards the maritime security governance work through the development of the National Maritime Security Strategy and establishing a maritime intelligence picture.

**United Kingdom**

22. The meeting was informed of a UK-Kenya Security Compact that was signed in May 2023 which has assigned a maritime security element to it and will meet some of the priorities highlighted during Kenya’s presentation.

23. The UK welcomes and pledged support for the upgrading of the Academy. It also has various workshops taking place in conjunction with the Academy i.e., a Port Security workshop, crisis management for ports workshop and tabletop scenarios on cruise tourism which involved the Joint Operations Centre. A Cyber Security workshop in the institution will be conducted between 17th-22 July 2023.

24. UK Joint Maritime Security Centre (JMSC) which is a 24/7 MDA centre in the UK constituting 17 different agencies has partnered with the Kenyan JOC on Information sharing in May 2023.

**UNODC**

25. The UNODC Global Maritime Crime Programme continues its work in Kenya by focusing on building capacity on maritime equipment and Maritime Law Enforcement training.

26. It was also reported that UNODC conducted the boarding officers’ courses for KCGS officers. Boarding ladders were handed over to the Service in May 2023. Under the recently concluded Danish Peace and Stabilization Programme III, UNODC conducted a strategic seminar workshop, an Information management and sharing training, and community sensitization training were carried out in Lamu.

27. In the second half of 2023, other trainings to be covered under the programme include a Boat Crew Member training, VBSS, Maritime Engineering training and maritime rule of law for KCGS and DCI Anti-narcotics units. A handover of drug kits for maritime units in Kenya covering drug identification and analysis will be conducted, as well as additional community sensitization on illegal maritime trade.

**United States of America**

28. The United States reported that it is working jointly with UNODC to support Kenya.

29. Members were informed of a Mobile Training Team coming into the country next week for training and that the USA would procuring equipment for Kenya through UNOPS.

**UNDP-GEF-USAID Project - Reducing Maritime Trafficking of Wildlife between Africa and Asia**

30. The project representative shared its scope of work with Kenya which includes training law enforcement officers to effectively follow up on seaport, dry port, and airport wildlife seizures.

31. Law enforcement officers will also receive training in financial investigation, search warrants in a workshop slotted for end of 2023 and whose outcome is to develop strategic coordination for government to intercept wildlife trafficked in the ocean.

32. In collaboration with TRAFFIC Int. East Africa the project team has just held its Regional Best Practices Workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The Objectives of the workshop were: to present the best practices and models supported by the project to the project partners and stakeholders, discuss their applicability and ways to introduce them to other ports; to jointly identify remaining needs towards further strengthening capacities to prevent, detect, and intercept wildlife trafficking through ports as well as successfully investigate and prosecute wildlife crime cases: and to develop a roadmap for donors, government agencies and international organizations for future activities, based on the Ports project experience and practices and identified needs.

33. Currently, the project is supporting the development of the Know Your Customer (KYC) Regulations for Kenya’s import and export sector, in partnership with the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) and the Space for Giants organization. The Regulation intends to obligate import-export agents, shippers, and brokers to carry out due diligence checks on their customers to make sure they are legal and honest traders, but not parts of criminal network involved in trafficking of wildlife, drugs, and other illegal trades. The regulations would apply to all contrabands moving through Kenya’s borders and would act as a strong anti-corruption measure, particularly when designed with a future eye on block chain technology that is currently being considered and developed by the Kenyan government.

**Plenary**

34. Noting the importance of discussions in the meeting, Kenya’s PS suggested an in-person MCG-Kenya meeting, to better expand on the issues raised in this session.

35. He expressed the lack of committed trainers for the Training-of-Trainers courses which has affected student enrolment in Kenya and suggested the need to hire such trainers, internally. He also requested for scholarships for maritime courses in maritime universities of countries represented in the meeting.

36. The meeting was informed of the need for a training ship as is a requirement for all maritime institutions in the world and the necessity to give sea time opportunities for Kenyan youth in merchant ships of countries represented in the meeting. This will enhance job preparation for youth as many are employable, energetic and can articulate themselves appropriately.

37. A concern was raised on the prohibitive costs for required medical tests for any youth seeking employment as seafarers and a proposal to have an affordable medical facility catering to this need was suggested. Open requests were also made to members to support upgrades to some government medical facilities already identified to provide these services.

**Way forward & Action Points**

38. The specifics for the MCG work for Kenya have been forwarded to the Kingdom of Netherlands for consideration.

39. A call was made on the need to deconflict work done by certain agencies to avoid duplicity

40. The presence of the KNMSC helps reduce the silo work routine and help keep a record of activities based on a whole-of-government approach to maritime security in the country.

**AOB**

41. MCG members were requested to reach out to the Secretariat in order to host the next meeting which, based on practice, is expected to occur during the last quarter of the year.

42. There being no further business, the meeting ended at 11:50 am

**Reference:**

**Annex 1 – List of Participants**

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**Annex 2: A Presentation on the NMSC’s Role in the Coordination of Maritime Security Capacity Building Coordination in Kenya**

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