



Report of the Maritime Coordination Group Reception held on 21st September 2022, at Jessop House, Nairobi, Kenya.

Introductions

1. The meeting began at 08:30 EAT with welcoming remarks from **Cdr. Karen Cahill (UK)**, and Chair of the meeting.

Attendance

2. It was attended by 16 participants representing the following countries and international organizations.

CANADA DENMARK JAPAN UNITED KINGDOM UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

And by the following International Organization and programmes

EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION EU – GO BLUE PROJECT CRIMARIO II
IMO IOM UNODC

Summary of matters arising from the previous meeting and any new developments

3. IMO updated the meeting on matters arising from the previous meeting and the progress made, including populating the DCoC Capacity Building Coordination matrix, in which regional needs and priorities are updated by signatory States including Kenya.

Feedback from MCG participating countries/organizations

4. Participants provided an update of ongoing activities as below:

DENMARK

5. Denmark delegation briefed on their Inter-ministerial fund program for the horn of Africa that's currently coming to an end of phase three this year. They are working on the next four-year program and plans to stay engaged in the region.

6. Denmark has a Liaison Officer based at the Kenya Naval Base at Mtongwe. Members interested in engaging with the KN were urged to take advantage of that relationship. The Danish Delegation emphasized the importance of collaborative working with all the MCG partners and expressed their interest collaborate with partners in the MCG group for better results.

7. The delegation also touched on the Kenyan membership status at the CMF and noted that although it was a great achievement getting Kenya as an observer, Denmark is currently working with the US to draft an MOU to get Kenya from observer status to full membership. Denmark made emphasis on the importance and advantages of getting Kenya full membership status at CMF but regretted that despite having a LO in Bahrain, KDF appears not to appreciate

the benefit to Kenya of engaging with CMF at strategic level. Members were called upon to lobby in trying to make Kenya address the issue.

8. The setting up a damage control unit as a Joint agreement program with the UK and Kenya which will be an extension of the firefighting unit donated by the UK last year. The construction of the damage control unit -container based is ongoing at the work side company in Karen and will be moved to Mombasa in mid-November and ready for use by December.

9. Denmark is currently in the process of building up the diving capacity of the Kenyan Navy, but there are challenges with the decompression chamber. Having worked on the matter with Kenya previously, UK and USA were requested to consider helping. It was noted that having a functional and sustainable decompression chamber in Mombasa can benefit all, in case of a diving emergency in the region.

EU – NAVFOR ATALANTA

10. The EU NAVFOR ATALANTA cited challenges in the execution of their task on countering narcotics due to the lack of regional frameworks for ensuring legal finish. The task - apprehension at sea which was activated in February has been delayed as most EU member states need a legal finish to enable them to put people in prison. EU ATALANTA is now working to get that in place and cited that currently only the French have the approval and since then in 9 Days, 7Dhows were apprehended with 12 Kg of drugs worth 200 million.

11. Although there has been a sharp decline in piracy, they are still working on curbing it.

12. It was noted that having Kenya with full membership status at the CMF would be crucial to addressing the issue of legal finish.

13. UNODC representative added that they were engaged with EU on developing a legal finish program set to start next year focusing on the prosecution element and will entail legal framework to apply transfer agreements etc

14. EU NAVFOR also reported that Somalia had requested for assistance in building their capacity to counter nuclear and toxic waste dumping and IUU fishing and cited it as problem as the EU mandate is only monitoring.

EU CRIMARIO

15. The EU CRIMARIO highlighted their continued work on developing the roadmap with Kenya through the PS Maritime office and in coordination with KCGS that will help increase dialogue and cooperation between them following the visit of the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission, Joseph Borrell.

15. EU CRIMARIO continues to work with Kenya with the IORIS system through training to build the capability for National maritime information sharing centres in the Kenya and the region. It was also mentioned that version three of IORIS launched two weeks ago, and it also includes a live AIS for all users the new version also includes translation to all I languages available on Microsoft. Swahili will be added in the menu set among other languages missing.

16. EU CRIMARIO also mentioned that in the last few months they have conducted multiple agencies trainings including up to level of the Train the trainers with representatives from KCGS, KPA, KeFS, Kenya police now have recognised trainers. Regional trainings have also been conducted in Jordan Madagascar, Comoros, and Seychelles. It was also cited that EU CRIMARIO was planning a regional conference on IORIS in the next few months aimed at policy makers, heads of administration and focusing on DCoC membership.

GO Blue Maritime security

17. The Go Blue Programme conducted safety training for the fishing community. The first batch was implemented in five coastal counties from December 2021 to April 2022. Safety training with the fishing community will resume at the end of October alongside KCGS up to train the trainer level.

18. Go blue maritime security is also working with EU CRIMARIO to develop a coastal light application as part of the community water program. Go blue is developing this to link the maritime agencies through KCGS with the coastal communities such as fishermen, BMUs and will be connected to the IORIS platform and will be designed to have information maritime awareness such as search and rescue and reduce pollution events. The first demonstration the platform is expected within this year.

IMO

19. IMO briefed on the EU funded port security project as well as the focus on enhancement of maritime security governance using the IMO model of whole of government approach. The series of workshops held such as the Kenya Maritime strategy project a national workshop held on 7- 8 March 2022. IMO cited its success that has now been anchored into the Kenyan legal system and is being used in driving the agenda on maritime security. The development of the National Maritime Security Risk Register workshops was completed following two workshops held in May and July. The risk register is currently being presented to principals with a sign off expected March 2023.

20. IMO is also supporting Kenya as chair of the DCoC information sharing network to help in enhancing maritime domain awareness also mentioned the finalisation of the strategy and roadmap of the DCoC information sharing network. Linked to this, a major regional workshop on development of the concepts of operation for the DCoC information sharing network will be conducted in Jeddah KSA from 13-24 Nov 2022. EU CRIMARIO, EU NAVFOR, and UK have offered in-kind support.

21. Following the request of Yemen at the Dubai meeting, for assistance in re-establishing ReMISC in Aden, UNDP Yemen, UNODC, and EU CRIMARIO have so far offered assistance. There are plans to conduct a joint technical assessment mission. IMO is coordinating the same.

IOM

22. Under a Canada funded project IOM is working with BMS, BCOCC border committee to come up with standard operating procedures for coordinated boarder management. Although Kenya already has coordinated boarder management structure different coordination levels

were noted in Kenya entry points and IOM was working on creating SOPs on coordination. IOM mentioned that SOPs on land had already been done some. The government is now rolling it out.

23. IOM mentioned an upcoming regional project focused on Lake Victoria with Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania funded by INL with four areas of focus namely to strengthen the coordination structure between the governments, infrastructure support at the port of Lake Victoria, capacity building for front line officials and boarder community maritime community engagement.

JAPAN

24. Japan mentioned that they have donated 3 high speed boats to the KeFS and plan to deliver the rest before the end of the year.

25. Also, they have an agreement with Seychelles on catch and release of pirates and continue to work to eradicate piracy in the region.

UK

26. UK emphasized the importance of Kenya becoming a full member of CMF. It was also mentioned that Kenya was looking at other partners utilising the shipyards in Mombasa and Kisumu and urged those interested to investing or building with the Kenyans to go ahead. UK also mentioned that they will continue to support Denmark through provision of medical support in their diving program. UK is also working with USA on supporting the Kenyan marine detachment. Further to this it was highlighted that MSC, and the Caribbean cruise were actively recruiting members into the cruise line industry targeting 2300 Kenyans. UK supporting the Kenyan navy on creating a more up to date curriculum development. The UK mentioned that they were keen to support KCGS with their mandate but due to internal issues within the agency such as HR, structure and financial problems progress was delayed. UK mentioned that they continue to reach out and are keen to work with the JOCK to provide support with maritime domain awareness and information.

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME

27. Members were briefed that there was a full-time mentor based in Mombasa following Steve Ashington departure who will act as a mentor to KCGS. It was also mentioned that nationally UNODCs focus will be on providing basic level training and their will be a qualification to be attained before moving to advanced training courses which will take place at their UNODC Regional Training centre in Seychelles.

28. UNODC is also in the process of setting up another training centre in Cape town, South Africa. UNODC also mentioned that they have an agreement with CMF on capacity building of the KCGS with trainings held severally in Seychelles. UNODC under INL funded project working towards building a National maritime centre in Tanzania.

UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

29. Members were briefed on a few programme updates first being a recent CUTLASS express workshop held in Djibouti. USA mentioned that cutlass express has increased their footprint in Mombasa by 33% making it the largest operating location. It was also mentioned CUTLASS EXPRESS will be held in conjunction with IMX which will run on the first two weeks of March 2023. The conference will encompass diving operations, VBSS operations and will be working together with UNODC and INTERPOL for NMS collection, chain custody all the way to the legal finish. USA mentioned that they are working towards including KWS, KeFS, KPA, Customs, board patrol, BPU, NPS into cutlass express. The US Coast guard will having bilateral training KCGS in Kisumu as operating location during upcoming cutlass express. Moving forward USA is working towards making Kisumu the location for Cutlass express that will be used by other countries in the region such as Tanzania and Uganda with the intention of improving infrastructure in Mvita and communication networks on the lake.

30. USA encouraged all members to attend cutlass express workshops and mentioned that they were working with the Kenya navy on train the trainer exercise in collaboration with UK with a focus on MDA training.

31. Canadian coastguard had agreed to provide a demonstration of UAV capability for the Kenya coast guard during cutlass express with the intent that they will then proceed to initiate a larger programme for unmanned operations or drones.

32. USA highlighted the importance of using the DCoC information sharing network to enhance engagement with the countries in the region and urged the members to work with them.

33. The US will be introducing search and rescue during cutlass express with trainers planned to attend the workshop. Cutlass express final planning conference set for January in Bahrain with a focus on the interaction between the military and law enforcement.

34. Delays were noted in responses from KCGS on a proposed training calendar with US Coast guard. It would be helpful for the members of MCG to meet with the NMSC when it is constituted, and USA is happy to host the event. USA is funding Interpol on project compass that will help in building of the capacity of Kenyan law enforcement for a better legal finish.

35. On 6 October USA will be taking an engineer from INL to Mombasa to evaluate the new KCGS headquarters. It was also mentioned that the MOA between drug enforcement and KCGS is not finalised.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS FROM DUBAI HIGH LEVEL MEETING

36. IMO highlighted some of the follow up actions from the high-level meeting in Dubai, UAE as below:

- The need for better coordination of capacity building efforts and the importance of the capacity building coordination matrix
- Emphasis on the need to support implementation of the 4 resolutions agreed upon in Dubai, and the need to adjust and provide support in dealing with new emerging threats to maritime security, e.g., cyber-attacks etc



37. The next high-level meeting will be held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia from 22-24 November 2022.

GOING FORWARD

38. Having agreed to have a rotational chair for the CG Meetings, Denmark agreed to host the next meeting on 30 Nov 2022. USA will host the one after.

39. IMO was requested to organize a meeting between the MCG and Kenya's National Maritime Security Committee.

40. There being no further business, the participants were invited to network and leave at their leisure.