



DJIBOUTI CODE OF CONDUCT/JEDDAH AMENDMENT

ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP 3 ON OPERATIONAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION AT SEA

1 TO 4 SEPTEMBER 2025

ROADMAP FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATIONALIZATION OF DCOC WORKING GROUP 3 ON OPERATIONS AT SEA

INTRODUCTION

Working groups under DCOC/JA serve as a mechanism that translates the high-level goals of the DCOC and its Jeddah amendment into concrete actions and strategies

DCOC/JA has 3 Working Groups, WG1 on information sharing and WG2 on capacity building, and WG3 on operational cooperation and coordination at sea was approved at the 7th high-level meeting in Dar es Salaam (Nov 2024)

This roadmap provides a structured pathway for implementing operations cooperation and coordination at sea

OUTLINE OF THE ROADMAP

The Outline of this Roadmap includes:

- ☐ phase 0: establishment (0–2 months)
- ☐ phase 1: framework development (2–12 months)
- ☐ phase 2: capacity building and pilot operations (12–24 months)
- ☐ phase 3: full operationalisation (24–36 months)
- ☐ phase 4: consolidation and sustainability (36+ months)

PHASE 0: ESTABLISHMENT (0-2 MONTHS)

This phase is in progress. The objective of this phase is to formally constitute WG3. This can be achieved through the following steps

Step 1: Formal endorsement – achieved at 8th HLM (nov 2024)

Step 2: Draft and endorse TOR, adopt CONOPS, approve work plan and Roadmap

STEP 3: Appoint Chair/Co-Chair + Assign Secretariat

Step 4: Identify and designate points of contact for ease of communication.



Step 5: Secure resources and personnel to support secretariat work, including seconding or posting personnel to enhance the secretariat's capacity.

Step 6: Commence early donor engagement and resource mobilization, possibly following the model of the Djibouti Code of Conduct donor conference, 2023

Deliverables: Endorsed TORS, Adopted CONOPS, Approved Work Model and Roadmap, Appointment of Chair/Co-Chair.

PHASE 1: FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT (2-12 MONTHS)

The objective of this phase is to build an operational framework. This phase has two steps:

Step 7: Develop draft SOPs for operations and align to DCOC SOPs (joint patrols, SAR, IUU, etc.) And in elements of operations such as boarding, communication, evidence handling

Step 8: Legal/policy alignment with UNCLOS & IMO

Deliverables: draft SOPs, Alignment reports,

PHASE 2: CAPACITY BUILDING AND PILOT OPERATIONS (12-24 MONTHS)

The objective of this phase is to build capacity & test models. This is done through the following steps:

Step 9: Mobilize resources and establish WG3 operational fund to member nations and partners

Step 10: Baseline assessment of regional capacities

Step 11: Training and joint exercises (TTX, SAR, HADR)

Step 12: Organize a shared calendar for all contributing partners and states to help deconflict and synchronize activities.

Step 13: Donor engagement and resource mobilization

Step 14: Launch 2 pilot joint operations

Deliverables: Capacity Map, Training and Joint Exercise Plans, Pilot Operations, Evaluation Report

PHASE 3: FULL OPERATIONALIZATION (24-36 MONTHS)

The objective in this phase is to institutionalize WG3. This is achieved through:

Step 15: Establish a fully functioning joint operation centre and link to regional and national information sharing centres



Step 16: Donor engagement and resource mobilization

Step 17: Conduct of operations

Step 18: Establish a rotating joint maritime task force

Step 19: Independent evaluation and refinement

Deliverables: Maritime Task Force Creation, Evaluation Reports

PHASE 4: CONSOLIDATION AND SUSTAINABILITY (36 MONTHS AND BEYOND)

This is the last phase of this roadmap. The objective of this phase is to have long-term sustainability & ownership. This phase has the following steps:

Step 20: Institutionalize WG3 outputs in national systems

Step 21: Expand partnerships (IORA, CMF, AU)

Step 22: Donor engagement and resource mobilization

Step 23: Establish cost-sharing & donor transition plan

Deliverables: Institutionalised Framework, Partnerships, Sustainability Plan

CONCLUSION

Kenya stands ready to provide leadership, expertise, and regional coordination in order to operationalize WG 3

This roadmap bridges the gap between strategy and execution, transforming high-level ideas of this workshop into a clear, actionable plan to enhance maritime security, safety, and ultimately prosperity.
