

It was an honour to host the 6<sup>th</sup> High-Level meeting on the implementation of the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct in our beautiful country – South Africa. Notably at Cape Town, the Mother City. We hope the beautiful weather has provided suitable conditions for the robust discussions under the shade of the Table Mountain.

Special thanks to the interim Chair of the DCoC Steering Committee, the IMO Secretariat and National Focal Points. The work done to organize the 6<sup>th</sup> high-level meeting is appreciated.

To the Department of Transport most notably the Maritime Security Coordination Center; your coordination has been magnificent to ensure that South Africa successfully hosts the 6<sup>th</sup> high-level meeting. Hopefully, the delegates enjoyed themselves and felt warm through the amazing support and hospitality that you offered throughout the high-level meeting

We would like to applaud the all delegates for their participation from plenary, National Focal Points and friends of DCoC meetings. Your proposals will indeed assist in fast-tracking the implementation of DCoC resolutions.

RSA welcomes the vote of confidence to spearhead the DCoC Steering Committee. We look forward to a smooth handover from the current chair in this regard.

- Chair of the Steering Committee – RSA
- Deputy Chair – Saudi Arabia
- Chair of Working Group 1 (Information Sharing Network) – Yemen
- Deputy Chair - Comoros
- Chair of Working Group 2 (Capacity Building) – Seychelles
- Deputy Chair – Somalia

The new governance structure will take the baton and ensure implementation of the Cape Town Resolutions and other outstanding initiatives. It is work that we do as a collective that is supposed to take us to the next High-Level Meeting. And as indicated by various panel discussions, consensus is not relative but a critical factor and reiterate once again the words Minister Chikunga borrowed from R. Satoro, I quote, "Individually, we are one drop, together we are an ocean" we really appreciate and value your contributions we take forth the blue print herein agreed to.

The support from the friends of DCoC is commendable which explicitly outlines mutual respect by observing sovereignty, we value the journey as DCoC Parties and ask that we continue as partners at work, you know our strengths and weakness and I do believe you are here to help us to be our best selves.

Massive thanks to the NFPs for robust discussions which showcases determination to be primary drivers of solutions that are tailored to their needs.

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There is a monumental task ahead to develop the regional Maritime Security Strategy and further consultation on the draft MoU pertaining the RCOC and RMIFC. The Steering Committee will work diligently with Signatory States, the 2 centres and friends of DCoC to ensure successful implementation of Cape Town Resolutions.

Thank you all for your participation over the three days of robust engagements. Enjoy the rest of the day in the Mother City and

Travelling mercies, Safari Njema! Safar Salaama

