



## **COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE 4TH CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN MARITIME ADMINISTRATIONS (4TH AAMA) HELD AT SAVOY HOTEL, SHARM EL SHEIKH, EGYPT, 16-19 SEPTEMBER, 2018.**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Association of African Maritime Administrations (AAMA) in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), held its 4th Annual Conference at the Savoy hotel, in the resort city of Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. The conference took place from 16 - 19 September 2018

The theme of the 4th AAMA Conference was **“Protecting the African Marine Environment to support Sustainable Development”**.

The 4th AAMA Conference was hosted by the Egyptian Authority for Maritime Safety (EAMS).which participated in the conference as an observer.

### **BACKGROUND OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Association is the coordinating body for Maritime Administrations in Africa, established pursuant to Article 5 of the African Maritime Transport Charter (AMTC) to improve, among others, the capacity, capability and performance of Africa’s Maritime Administrations with emphasis on human resource development, technology and information sharing.

### **PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES**

The representatives of the following member Administrations attended the Conference: Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cameroun, Cote d’Ivoire Comoros, Congo, Cape Verde, DR Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In total, thirty- six countries participated in the 4th AAMA Conference.

**Other Countries and Organizations that attended the conference were:**

Jamaica, Singapore, Peru, Seafarers Management Centre, Malaysia, Maritime Organization of West and Central Africa (MOWCA), African Women in Maritime (AWIM), Women in Maritime Africa Arab League (WIMA Arab), Women in Maritime Sector in Eastern & Southern Africa (WOMESA), Women's International Shipping and Trading Association (WISTA), Arab Federation of Chambers of Shipping (AFCS).

**OPENING CEREMONY**

The Opening Ceremony included the following major items:

- Welcome Address by Rear /Admiral Khaled Zahran- Chairman of the Egyptian Authority for Maritime Safety – EAMS (Host Country)
- Opening remarks by Dr.Dakuku Adol Peterside, the Chairman, Association of African Maritime Administrations/ Director General of Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)
- Video Message on the World Maritime Day – H.E Mr. Kitack Lim, IMO Secretary General
  
- *Goodwill message by:*
  - Mr. Lawrence Barchue, Assistant Secretary-General IMO,
  - H.E Ambassador Bouzaher Abdel Hamid, the African Union Permanent representative at the League of Arab States representing the Chairperson African Union
  - Mr. Hatem Elkay, Chairman Arab Federation of Chambers of Shipping
  - Mr. Lars Vang Christensen, Chief Executive Officer, Suez Canal Container Terminal representing CEO APM Maersk /T & L
  - Mr. Andrew Tan, Chief Executive Maritime and Port Authority Singapore
  - Mr. Ahmed Jaafar Bahron, Director Seafarer Management Centre Malaysia
  - Rear Admiral/ Peter Brady, Director General of the Maritime Authority of Jamaica
  - R. Admiral/Reda Ahmed Ismael, Head Maritime Transport Sector
  - Vote of Thanks by representative of Mr. Sobantu Tilayi, COO South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)
  - Group Photographs of Heads of Maritime Administrations and Delegates
  
- Declaration of the Conference Open

**WHEREAS:** The Theme of the 4th AAMA Conference “**Protecting the African Marine Environment to support Sustainable Development**” is aligned to Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG14) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, unanimously adopted by 193 Member States of the United Nations in 2015. The theme demonstrates AAMA’s full commitment to protecting Africa’s marine environment in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

### **PRESENTATIONS DURING THE CONFERENCE**

The Conference featured seven sessions covering a period of three (3) days. There were twenty eight Speakers and Discussants drawn from Singapore, Egypt, Nigeria, Mozambique, Kenya, Cote d’Ivoire, South Africa, Burundi, Uganda, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport (AASTMT), Women in Maritime Sector in Eastern & Southern Africa (WOMESA), Women’s International Shipping and Trading Association (WISTA).

Incisive presentations and thought provoking commentaries were made on the following topics:

1. Egypt and Africa towards Sustainable Development
  - a. Africa & Silk Road
  - b. Enhancing intra – African Trade
  - c. Establishment of a Navigational line between Lake Victoria & Mediterranean Sea  
VICMED
2. Role of Maritime Administrations towards Protecting the African Marine Environment
3. Singapore’s Transformation from a Trading Post to a Sustainable Global Hub Port and IMC”
4. Role of Education and Training towards Protecting the African Marine Environment to Support Sustainable Development.
5. The Role of African Women in Marine Environment Protection
6. Impact of Marine Litter: Plastics Debris in Africa’s Marine Environment.
7. General Co-operation between Egypt and Africa.

At the end of the presentations, discussions and commentaries, the following **Resolutions** were agreed and adopted:

- a. African Countries to consider the presentations made by Egypt which would support the Sustainable development goals in Africa for optimization of common economic benefits.

- b. Maritime Administrations were urged to take necessary national actions to ratify, domesticate and implement relevant IMO instruments that would ensure the protection of the African marine environment to engender sustainable development.
- c. Ports and Maritime Administrations in Africa to benchmark themselves against the best of similar institutions in the world, embracing technology, automation and data analytics.
- d. To ensure development of African ports, Africa should draw a long term strategic plan and leverage physical flows to build a vibrant maritime ecosystem and sustainable infrastructural development, while remaining responsive to new developments and opportunities.
- e. Maritime Administrations to train and encourage young professionals to take advantage of available job opportunities at the International Maritime Organizations by applying for relevant and suitable vacancies in the IMO Secretariat.
- f. Need for more women to be integrated in mainstream maritime activities through access to training which will serve as a strategy for building wholesome human capacity for improving protection of the marine environment for sustainable development.
- g. Maritime Administrations are encouraged to be in the front line in driving adoption of legislations to prevent or minimize the use of plastics materials at all levels and reduce plastic litter from entering the aquatic environment.
- h. Member States to initiate and develop effective and efficient policies that can spur clean-ups of beaches and oceans to reduce or eliminate the menace of marine litter especially plastic debris.
- i. Maritime Administrations are encouraged to adopt Port State Control procedures aimed at the reduction and eventual elimination of substandard shipping, prevention of marine pollution and improvement of the living and working conditions of seafarers aboard ships.
- j. In line with Article 15.2 of the AAMA Constitution requiring AAMA to cooperate closely with such Inter- governmental organizations as may be desirable, AAMA signed Memorandum of Understanding with the following bodies thereby granting them Observer Status in the Association:
  - i. Arab Federation of Chambers of Shipping (AFCS)
  - ii. Women in Maritime Sector in Eastern and Southern Africa (WOMESA)
  - iii. African Women in Maritime (WIMAFRICA)
  - iv. Maritime Organization of West and Central Africa (MOWCA)

- v. Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA)-  
pending

## **BUSINESS SESSION: AAMA 4TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The AAMA Business Session and 4th General Assembly was held on Wednesday 19 September, 2018.

The Egyptian Authority for Maritime Safety did not participate in the Business Session.

The General Assembly considered the issues deliberated by the Executive Council during its 1st and 2nd Sessions held in September 2017 and February 2018 in Alexandria, Egypt and Mombasa Kenya respectively and resolved as follows:

1. Deliberations on Article 11 of AAMA Constitution (Budget and Expenses) to be fully considered after countries have deposited instruments of membership of AAMA with the Secretariat in line with Article 4 of the AAMA Constitution, as the deposition of the instrument of membership will enable members meet their financial obligations.
2. The Secretariat to circulate AAMA instrument of membership to all MARADS in the appropriate official language of each country.
3. The budgetary framework presented by the Executive Council to be used to draw up an appropriate scale on which members' contribution would be based.
4. That the African Maritime Administrations Award (AMAA) is approved in principle to hold during the 6th AAMA Conference in 2020 and will cover the following categories:
  - a) Port State Administration of the Year
  - b) Flag State Administration of the Year
  - c) Coastal State Administration of the Year
  - d) Maritime Education/Training Award
  - e) Financing for Shipping Award
  - f) Maritime Law Award for the Maritime Administration that has domesticated and implemented most of the IMO/ILO Maritime Conventions
  - g) Lifetime Achievement Award for individuals who had contributed to the development of the maritime industry
  - h) Best Land-lock State Award
5. That African Business News (ABN) and ARS Conference Services are approved in principle to handle the Media arm and main Award respectively. The Executive Council to continue to engage with the two bodies in planning the award.
6. That the African Union be urged to pay more attention to the issue of illegal migrants at sea by strengthening the means of implementation of its Migration Policy

Framework and also encourage Coastal States to adopt national action plan on illegal migration.

7. That AAMA Coastal States should develop advocacy programmes against illegal migration at sea, highlighting the dangers of illegal migration.
8. That the AAMA Executive Council should develop strategies for the integration of the work of AAMA into the African Union and further engage the AU to actualise the operations of the approved department of maritime affairs at the AU for the overall development and implementation of its maritime programs.
9. The African Maritime Transport Charter gave impetus to the establishment of AAMA and also identified AAMA as the catalyst for driving the implementation of the 2050 African Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIMS).
10. That the African Union Commission be requested to notify respective governments of the role of AAMA in implementing the 2050 AIM Strategy.
11. That the African Maritime Regulation Country Performance Review, drawn in line with IMO Resolution A.912 (22) on Self-Assessment is approved and should be circulated to African Maritime Administrations to serve as a system of Annual Performance Review to be completed and forwarded to the Executive Council not later than two months preceding an AAMA Conference in a given year.
12. That the Near – Coastal Trading Certification and Competency Code developed by South Africa be adopted as Model by Maritime Administrations to foster economic cooperation among members.
13. The AAMA Executive Council to set up a Committee to work out modalities for training of Seafarers to ensure Compliance with STCW Convention 1978, as amended.
14. Approval of confirmation by Seychelles to host the 5th AAMA Conference in 2019
15. Approval of confirmation by South Africa to host the 6th AAMA Conference in 2020.
16. Ethiopia and Equatorial Guinea expressed interest to host the 3rd Executive Council Meeting of AAMA in 2019, failing which Ghana will be requested to host.
17. Dr Dakuku A. Peterside, Director-General, Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) and current Chairman of AAMA, to continue to serve the Association as its Chairman to run in line with the Constitutional Term of two years which began in April 2017 along with the Eleven Members of the Executive Council in compliance with Article 7.2 of the constitution,

This Communique is made this Nineteenth day of September 2018 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.

# Countries who Attended 6th AAMA Conference

ANGOLA [Signature]

BENIN [Signature]

BURUNDI [Signature]

CAMEROUN-----

COTE D'IVOIRE [Signature]

COMOROS [Signature]

CONGO [Signature]

CABO VERDE [Signature]

DJIBOUTI-----

DR CONGO-----

EGYPT [Signature]

(EAMS did not participate in business session)

EQUATORIAL GUINEA [Signature]

ETHIOPIA [Signature]

GAMBIA [Signature]

GHANA [Signature]

GUINEA BISSAU [Signature]

GUINEA [Signature]

KENYA [Signature]

LIBERIA [Signature] Charles & Gous Esq.

LIBYA-----

MADAGASCAR [Signature]

MALAWI [Signature]

MAURITANIA-----

MAURITIUS-----

# Countries who Attended 4<sup>th</sup> AAMA Conference

MOROCCO 

MOZAMBIQUE 

NIGERIA 

SAO TOME PRINCIPE 

SENEGAL 

SEYCHELLES 

SIERRA LEONE 

SOMALIA 

SOUTH AFRICA 

SOUTH SUDAN 

SUDAN 

TANZANIA 

TOGO 

TUNISIA 

UGANDA 

ZAMBIA 

ZIMBABWE 

GUARON 