



The **Heads of Africa Maritime Administrations (MARADS)** at their 2nd meeting held in Sandton, South Africa from the 22nd to the 23rd October 2013 representing Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zambia;

In conjunction with representatives and Ship Owners from the following countries and bodies: Algeria, Botswana, Congo Brazzaville, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritius, Senegal, Namibia, the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), Cameroon Shippers Councils, and African Maritime Policy and Advisory Centre (AMPAC);

PREAMBLE

INSPIRED by the objectives of the African Maritime Transport Charter, particularly Article 3 and 5;

CONSIDERING Article 5 of the African Maritime Transport Charter that advocates the establishment of an Association of African Maritime Administrations to ensure effective continental coordination of maritime transport policies and programmes;

Inspired by the noble objectives which guided the founding fathers of our Continental Organisation in their efforts to promote unity, solidarity, cohesion, and cooperation among the people of Africa;

Determined to take up the multifaceted challenges that confront the maritime sector in Africa and establish the necessary conditions which can enable the continent to play its rightful role in the development of the African maritime sector;

Convinced of the need to assist in accelerating the implementation of the African Maritime Charter;

Guided by the common goal of a united and strong association of maritime administrations and the need to build partnerships in order to strengthen the various African Maritime Administrations;

Conscious of the fact that the formation of the Association of the Maritime Administrations will encourage unity and solidarity between the maritime administrations and promote cooperation in order to advance the African Maritime Sector;

Mindful of the principles of international law that requires countries to regulate their coastal waters at the same time empowering them to exploit the economic benefits within their Exclusive Economic Zones;

Conscious of our duty to develop and utilise the maritime sector for the general well-being of Africans;

Recognizing the various factors that hinder the development of the maritime sector in Africa;

RECOGNIZING the specific profile of maritime transport as a regional, continental and international activity;

RECOGNIZING the role of maritime transport in the facilitation and development of trade between Africa and other parts of the world and the need to implement an effective maritime transport policy with a view to promoting trade between African States and other continents;

RECOGNIZING the essential obligations of African States to strengthen maritime governance structure in Africa;

RECOGNIZING the importance and the role of efficient transport infrastructure and services in the political, economic and social integration of Africa;

CONSCIOUS of the need to establish and strengthen cooperation in order to coordinate efforts to harmonize shipping, ports and inland waterways policies, regulations and procedures in intra-Africa relations;

CONCERNED by the divergence and disparity of maritime and inland waterways policies, regulations and procedures between and within Member States;

CONSCIOUS of the importance of the role of maritime transport in the promotion of economic development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable maritime development;

CONSCIOUS of the need to develop African merchant fleets to ensure development of maritime transport in Africa;

RECOGNIZING the support which has been provided by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to the African Continent through the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP), the IMO Regional Coordinators and Regional institutions;

NOTING the reform and review being undertaken by the IMO and support received from the IMO Council and the Technical Cooperation Committee;

NOTING ALSO the desire of African Maritime Administrations to give effect to IMO instruments and to participate in the Voluntary IMO Member States Audit Scheme;

NOTING further that the maritime administrations in Africa need special attention for the safety/security and protection of maritime environment of their countries; and

ACKNOWLEDGING AND APPRECIATING the IMO Secretary General's initiative to develop an additional ITCP tool through the country maritime profile for effective need-driven technical assistance to Member States;

RECALLING the relevant resolutions taken in Mombasa, Kenya at the inaugural meeting of Heads of Maritime Administrations from 3-5 October 2013;

NOW THEREFORE, agree and resolve as to follows:

1. To establish the Association of African Maritime Administrations (AAMA);
2. To agree on a draft constitution;
3. To request that the various MARADS consider the draft constitution as an interim document to guide the actions of the AAMA prior to the adoption of the final constitution;
4. That the draft Constitution shall be non-binding until the final Constitution is approved within a period of two years;
5. That the interim Chairperson shall take all necessary measures in accordance with the draft constitution to ensure the effective functioning of AAMA including the speedy adoption of the draft constitution and in convening the first General Assembly;
6. That a technical committee shall be constituted to assist the interim Chairman in respect of 5 above;
7. Engage the African Union on the establishment of the AAMA;
8. To acknowledge the continuous support from the IMO that African Member States have enjoyed and express gratitude to the IMO Secretary General in this regard;

9. To request support from IMO through the ITCP to continue to further enhance capacity building, development of human resources and institutional resources in the maritime sector and appended hereto as **Annex 1** are the overall resolutions taken in respect of the IMO;
10. Identify personnel to be recommended to the Secretary General of IMO to be trained as auditors for VIMSAS with nominations to be done by March 2014 and request for training in June 2014;
11. Undertake mock VIMSAS Audit in preparation for IMO's compulsory VIMSAS Audit to commence in 2016;
12. Establish a Commission / Council for Maritime Affairs comprising of various regional bodies such as shippers council and port associations, etc.;
13. Promote and facilitate maritime development financing;
14. Encourage Capacity Building by the sharing of best practises in the overall management and operation of Maritime Administrations and this shall be done by assessing current status and identifying gaps so as to enable improved cooperation, coordination and capacity building;
15. Ensure cooperation in the drafting, implementation and harmonization of legal or regulatory framework in the field of maritime transport and in this respect assist to draft new maritime legislations or update where necessary in accordance with identified best practises and agreed framework;
16. Encourage African Fleet Development by adopting the necessary measures to attract investment in ships and shipping in general;
17. Cooperate in African Seafarer Development by complying with international maritime standards of training, securing of training berths for cadets and entering into agreements of mutual recognition of certificates awarded by the various maritime administrations;
18. Implement measures for the protection of African Ocean and Inland Waterways Governance so as to grant Africa significant geo-strategic, economic, political, social and security benefits from the maritime sector and to protect the environment;
19. Develop a model for the establishing of a Registrar's Office so that Countries without Registrars Offices can adapt;

20. Conduct an audit of Ship Registry on the continent and what cargo is being transported; and
21. Compile a similar “Cape Town Convention” for the maritime sector taking into account the fact that the “**Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and Aircraft Protocol**” has provided for an international legal regimen for security and related interests in aircraft objects in the aviation sector and assisted to reduce legal uncertainty caused by differences in national laws and thereby open up to developing countries access to finance at reasonable cost.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Notwithstanding the provisions on the draft Constitution, the meeting resolved on the establishment of the following governing structures:

1. Nominate South Africa to serve as an Interim Chair for a period of two years;
2. The Interim Chair to be supported by a Secretariat comprising of Liberia, Mozambique, South Africa and the African Maritime Policy Advisory Council for a period of two years (AMPAC);
3. The interim Chair with the assistance of the Secretariat to develop an action plan for AAMA based on its work programme; and
4. Set up a Technical Committee to investigate financing for AAMA.

MEETINGS

The meeting furthermore resolved as follows:

1. To hold a General Assembly in 2015; and
2. To hold a Conference next year in a Country that wants to host (There were expressions of Interest from Nigeria, Liberia, and Gambia).

**THIS DONE, AGREED AND RESOLVED ON THIS DAY OF THE TWENTY-THIRD DAY OF OCTOBER 2013
IN SANDTON, JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA.**



ANNEX 1

RESOLUTIONS IN RESPECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO)

The **Heads of Africa Maritime Administrations** at their 2nd meeting held in Sandton, South Africa from the 22nd to the 23rd October 2013 representing Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zambia;

In conjunction with representatives and Ship Owners from the following countries and bodies: Algeria, Botswana, Congo Brazzaville, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritius, Senegal, Namibia International Maritime Organisation (IMO), Cameroon Shippers Councils, African Maritime Policy and Advisory Centre (AMPAC);

PREAMBLE

RECOGNIZING the support which has been provided by International Maritime Organization (IMO) to the African Continent through the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP), the IMO Regional Coordinators and Regional institutions;

NOTING the reform and review being undertaken by the IMO and support received from the IMO Council and the Technical Cooperation Committee;

NOTING ALSO the desire of African Maritime Administrations to give effect to IMO instruments and to participate in the Voluntary IMO Member States Audit Scheme;

NOTING FURTHER that Voluntary IMO Member States Audit Scheme shall become compulsory from 2016;

RECALLING that the theme for the 2014 IMO World Maritime Day is: *IMO Conventions: Effective Implementation*;

NOTING further that the maritime administrations in Africa need special attention for the safety/security and protection of maritime environment of their countries; and

ACKNOWLEDGING AND APPRECIATING the IMO Secretary General's efforts to continue to drive an additional ITCP tool through the country maritime profile for effective need-driven technical assistance to Member States:

HEREBY MAKE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

1. To acknowledge the continuous support of the IMO's participation in the Heads of Maritime Administrations' meetings and sharing best practises with the administrations;
2. To request support from IMO through the ITCP to continue to further enhance capacity building, development of human resources and institutional resources in the maritime sector and appended hereto as **Annex 2** are the overall resolutions taken in respect of the IMO.
3. Identify personnel to be recommended to the Secretary General of IMO to be trained as auditors for VIMSAS audit training with nominations to be done by March 2014 and request for training in June 2014.
4. To request support from IMO through the ITCP for technical assistance to enable Member States to ratify and implement IMO Conventions.