



## INDIAN OCEAN MOU ON PORT STATE CONTROL

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### Press Release

#### **Twenty-fourth Meeting of the IOMOU PSC Committee held via Correspondence Mode and Virtual Mode**

The Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding (IOMOU) on port State control held its **Twenty-fourth Committee Meeting** via Correspondence Mode from 27 September to 12 October 2021 and then virtual mode from 25-26 October 2021. This meeting was chaired by Ms. Beatrice Nyamoita, Deputy Director, Shipping & Maritime, State Department of Transport, Kenya.

The meeting was officially declared opened by the Chair on 27 September 2021 by circulating an opening speech to all the Members, Observers and Industry stake holders of the Indian Ocean MoU. She also requested members and observers to provide their feedback/comments related to all the documents shared before the meeting commenced, through the Comment Sheet (Doc no. IOCM24/WP.3) which was made available to all the Members on the IOMOU website for providing comments.

Documents were categorized as per the contents as follows:

1. Reports from the Correspondence Group;
2. Information documents;
3. Documents/Reports received from the Observers, Industry Stakeholders and other Organizations;
4. Documents related to the IOMOU website and Information System;
5. Administrative and Financial Documents;
6. Tentative future meetings schedules.

Comment sheets (IOCM24/WP.3) were received from the member Authorities with their valuable feedback, comments, suggestions where necessary, added with future course of actions, as required from the Secretariat.

During Virtual session, member Authorities along with observers, Industry Forum and State of Qatar (incoming member) as Observer have joined the Committee meeting. Other MoUs have made their presentations on PSC activities in their region. The Committee noted the submissions made by the representatives of the Industry Forum (IACS, ACS, ICS and INTERTANKO) related to PSC activities, impact of COVID-19 pandemic and revision in the High-Risk Area in the Indian Ocean region.

The Committee noted the status of the Co-operation program between IOMOU and Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) on fishing vessels, provided by IMO, ILO, FAO, IOTC and Pew Charitable trust (NGO).

The Committee agreed to conduct CIC on STCW in 2022, in conjunction with the Paris MoU and the Tokyo MoU.

The Committee also approved amendments to PSC Manual.

The Committee adopted the 2020 Annual Report including the overview of the activities of the IOMOU for the period and the statistics including inspections. A total number of 4762 inspections were carried out in 2020. Out of these 4762 inspections, 2318 inspections had deficiencies and the total number of deficiencies were 9288. Serious deficiencies were noted by the PSCOs led to the detention of 218 ships. The number of inspections in 2020 decreased by 20% as compared to 2019 whereas, the detention percentage has marginally increased from 3.90% (2019) to 4.58% (2020).

The Committee approved its annual Theme for the year 2022 as

*“Tides do not bring the ship, seafarers do”.*

The Committee further extended the term of Chair and Vice Chair till the next face-to-face Committee meeting. Dates for the next Annual PSCC meeting and venue arrangements have not been finalised.

On behalf of the member States, Vice Chair Mr. Tobela Gqabu, concluded the proceedings on 26.10.2021, He thanked the Secretariat, member Authorities and Chair Ms. Beatrice Nyamoita for their kind support, assistance and valuable time, provided with the best possible resources for making this meeting a success especially virtual session, with hope that we meet face-to face at the next meeting with physical interaction.

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