

## **Kenya Maritime Authority rolls out Maritime Safety Awareness campaigns in counties**

The Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) has rolled out its maritime safety awareness campaigns in various counties around the country to enhance compliance with maritime safety regulations by boat operators and owners and promote water safety and protection of the marine environment among all water transport users. The Campaigns have been carried out in Naivasha, Baringo, Rusinga and Lamu Island. During the maritime safety sensitization drive, KMA officers engaged local fisherfolk and Beach Management Units on various aspects of maritime safety and security such as on the importance of having safety equipment like life jackets on board, seeking assistance from the Regional Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre, reporting maritime incidences the maritime safety sensitization drive, preserving the marine environment among other issues.



In Lamu County, KMA also held a Beach clean-up at Wiyoni beach which was flagged off by Philip Odero, the Deputy Commissioner, Lamu, and Capt. Dave Muli, Ag. Head of Maritime Safety at KMA who was representing the Director General, KMA in the initiative. The Beach Clean-up was aimed at instilling a culture of responsibility and preservation of the marine

environment and drew participation from the Lamu County Government, Maritime Police, Wiyoni Community, Lamu Museum, Kenya Red Cross, Lamu Youth alliance, Badilika Youth group, Annidan orphanage and local environmental enthusiasts.

“Plastics in our beaches are hazardous to our marine environment,” said Mr. Philip Otero, the deputy Commissioner, “We need to work together to ensure plastics and harmful wastes do not get access to our waters.”

“We need to protect and preserve our marine environment because our lives depend on it,” said Capt. Muli from KMA.

KMA has also rolled out a national wide media campaign aimed at educating Kenyans on maritime safety precautions particularly to prevent water casualties during the festive season and protect lives.

