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Press Release

Kenya Maritime Authority issues STCW basic safety course certificates for seafarers in Lamu County

The Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) will issue the STCW (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers) Basic Safety Course Certificates for seafarers in Lamu County on 4th June, 2016. This is aimed at upgrading the qualifications of the seafarers in order to prepare them to benefit from the upcoming opportunities in the ongoing LAPSSET project and other offshore oil and gas exploration jobs in the sector as well improve their employability for both local and international fleet jobs.

Following KMA's understanding that the main hindrance for Kenyan seafarers in the access to sea employment opportunities on the international fleet is the lack of the required STCW certificates and having proof of having undergone and obtained the required sea training, KMA sponsored 405 seafarers to undergo the STCW Basic Safety Course and Ratings course at the Bandari College with the aim of equipping them with the required certificates. With the assistance of the Seafarers Union of Kenya, suitable seafarers were identified for the KMA program from Mombasa and Lamu counties.

The issuance of the certificates to seafarers in Lamu County who completed the required KMA sponsored maritime training program at the Bandari college will inspire seafarers in Lamu county and in Kenya to attain essential maritime education and training for their occupation and obtain the necessary seafaring qualifications and certification in order to access emerging opportunities in the maritime sector. The initiative also emphasizes the significance of embracing of the required standards of maritime education and training by local seafarers in the advancement of seafaring opportunities in Kenya which will enhance the number of qualified

and certified seafarers in Kenya, increase the marketability of Kenyan seafarers in the global maritime labour market and improve maritime safety and security standards on Kenyan waters.

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