



Ag. DG's Speech: Launch of the Ministry of Transport's Taskforce on the Development of the Integrated National Maritime Policy (INMP): 2nd March, 2016 at the English Point Marina, Mombasa

The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Transport & Infrastructure, Mr. James Macharia
The Principal Secretary, Shipping and Maritime Affairs,
The Principal Secretary, Petroleum, Mr. Andrew Kamau,
The Principal Secretary, Fisheries, Prof. Micheni Japheth Ntiba,
The Principal Secretary, Environment and Natural Resources, Dr. Richard Lesiyampe
Shipping and maritime industry representatives,
Our esteemed Stakeholders,
Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Today is a significant day for Kenya and indeed the entire maritime sector as we witness the formal launch of the Taskforce on the Development of the Integrated National Maritime Policy by the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As the regulator of maritime affairs in the country, the Kenya Maritime Authority is confident about the Ministry of Transport's initiative to set in motion work on the Integrated National Maritime Policy because, we believe, that it will not only unravel the latent potential of Kenya's maritime sector, but also, significantly impact on the maritime sector's contribution to economic growth in our country.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Maximizing Kenya's maritime prospects requires the development of appropriate and sustainable strategies, reinforcement of policy framework to support growth and investments in the sector, establishment of maritime resources and building strategic alliances and partnerships. We are optimistic that the Integrated National Maritime Policy will charter a novel course for the maritime sector, a course that will revamp and transform the sector to further yield economic productivity for the benefit of all

stakeholders, citizens and investors. Furthermore, we are cognizant that the policy will harness inter-agency synergies for the development of the sector and eliminate obstacles that impede the overall contribution of the maritime sector to the national economy. We are also aware that the Policy will combine social, economic, technical and scientific information to enable resource management agencies understand the tradeoffs and consequences of their decisions, as well as bring together various organizations to solve problems that may extend beyond their traditional roles. Most appreciably, we recognize that some of the anticipated outcomes of the Integrated National Maritime Policy are improved knowledge transfer between businesses, science and education and enhanced innovation in the use of Kenyan waters for creation of new employment opportunities.

Ladies and gentlemen,

From the foregoing it is evident that the Integrated National Maritime Policy is a worthy initiative and its formal launch by the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, a precursor of many greater things to come. We, as the Kenya Maritime Authority, laud the Ministry for its resolute efforts and remain keen and passionate to work with the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, to develop and take Kenya's maritime sector to unimaginable heights. Finally, it has been said, *"If you have discipline, drive and determination, nothing is impossible."*

Thank You!

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Mr. Cosmas K. Cherop

Ag. Director General, Kenya Maritime Authority

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