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REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT – THIRD SESSION

THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
LIVESTOCK AND CO-OPERATIVES

REPORT ON THE VISIT TO MAURITIUS FOR THE FIRST INDIAN OCEAN  
RIM ASSOCIATION (IORA) BLUE ECONOMY CONFERENCE HELD FROM  
2<sup>ND</sup> – 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015, IN MAURITIUS.

*3rd SNA  
28/10/15  
Paper laid  
for the vice  
chamberman  
Departmental  
Committee on  
Agriculture,  
Livestock  
and Co-operatives  
Hon. Kareika  
Mburu  
on Wednesday  
28.10.2015  
[Signature]*



Directorate of Committee Services,  
Clerk's Chambers  
Parliament Buildings,  
NAIROBI

OCTOBER , 2015

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## Abbreviations/Acronyms:

EEZ - Exclusive Economic Zone

LDCs - Least Developed Countries

IUU - Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated

IOE - Indian Ocean Expedition

IORA - Indian Ocean Rim Association

SIDS - Small Islands Developing States

UNCLOS - United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

## 1.0 PREFACE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

On behalf of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Cooperatives and pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 199 (6), it is my pleasant privilege and honour to present to this House the Report of the Committee on the visit to Mauritius on the First IORA Blue Economy Conference held on 2<sup>nd</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2015 in *Meridien, Pointe Aux Piment*, Mauritius.

### 1.1 Committee Mandate

The Departmental Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Co-operatives is established pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 216 (5). Under the provisions of Standing Order 216 (5) the Committee is mandated to:-

- (a). investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned Ministries and departments;*
- (b). study the Programme and policy objectives of the Ministries and departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;*
- (c). study and review all legislation referred to it;*
- (d). study, assess and analyse the relative success of the Ministries and departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;*
- (e). investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned Ministries and departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the House;*
- (f). vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any other law requires the National Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 204 (Committee on Appointments); and*
- (g). make reports and recommendations to the House as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.*

The Committee is also mandated to scrutinize the budget of line Ministries and Departments as provided under Standing Order No. 235.

The Departmental Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Co-operatives oversees the performance of the following Ministries and Government department:-

- (i) Agriculture,
- (ii) Livestock,
- (iii) Irrigation,
- (iv) Fisheries development,
- (v) Co-operatives development, and
- (vi) Production and marketing.

Under the above Ministries, the Committee covers the following subjects;

- (i) Agriculture policy
- (ii) Livestock policy
- (iii) Fisheries policy
- (iv) Cooperative societies

## 1.2 Committee Membership

The Committee comprises the following Members:-

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. The Hon. Adan Mohamed Nooru, MBS, M.P. -   | <b>Chairman</b>      |
| 2. The Hon. Japhet M. Kareke Mbiuki, M.P. -   | <b>Vice Chairman</b> |
| 3. The Hon. Mary Wambui Munene, M.P.          |                      |
| 4. The Hon. Kabando Wa Kabando, M.P.          |                      |
| 5. The Hon. Raphael Letimalo, M.P.            |                      |
| 6. The Hon. Patrick Wangamati, M.P.           |                      |
| 7. The Hon. Francis Munyua Waititu, M.P.      |                      |
| 8. The Hon. Peter Njuguna Gitau, M.P.         |                      |
| 9. The Hon. Maison Leshoomo, M.P.             |                      |
| 10. The Hon. Anthony Kimani Ichung'wah, M.P.  |                      |
| 11. The Hon. Alfred Kiptoo Keter, M.P.        |                      |
| 12. The Hon. Ayub Savula Angatia, M.P.        |                      |
| 13. The Hon. Justice Kemei, M.P.              |                      |
| 14. The Hon. Philip L. R. Rotino, M.P.        |                      |
| 15. The Hon. Korei Ole Lemein, M.P.           |                      |
| 16. The Hon. Silas Tiren, M.P.                |                      |
| 17. The Hon. Benjamin Jomo Washiali, M.P.     |                      |
| 18. The Hon. (Dr.) Victor Kioko Munyaka, M.P. |                      |

19. The Hon. John Bomet Serut, M.P.
20. The Hon. Millie Odhiambo - Mabona, M.P.
21. The Hon. Fredrick Outa, M.P.
22. The Hon. Maanzo, Daniel Kitonga, M.P.
23. The Hon. James Opiyo Wandayi, M.P.
24. The Hon. Ferdinand Kevin Wanyonyi, M.P.
25. The Hon. Paul Simba Arati, M.P.
26. The Hon. Florence Mwikali Mutua, M.P.
27. The Hon. Hezron Bollo Awiti, M.P.
28. The Hon. John Kobado, M.P.
29. The Hon. Zuleikha Hassan Juma, M.P.

### 1.3 Visit to Mauritius (First IORA Blue Economy Conference)

A Kenyan delegation participated in the First IORA Blue Economy Conference that was held in Mauritius from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2015. The theme of the conference was *“Enhancing Blue Economy Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the IORA Region for economic growth”*

The delegation comprised the following:-

#### National Assembly

1. Hon. Zuleikha Juma Hassan, M.P – Leader of Delegation
2. Hon. Hezron Awiti Bollo, M.P – Member
3. Mr. Ahmad Adan Guliye – Committee Clerk & Delegation Secretary

#### State Department of Fisheries Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries

1. Dr. Betty Nyonje
2. Mr. John Omingo

#### Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade

1. Mr. Joshua M. Mugodo
2. Mr. Boniface Makau –

### 1.4 Objectives of the Conference:

The objectives of the conference were;

- (i) To share experiences and best practices on local and regional initiatives related to the following four priority areas;

- a) Fisheries and Aquaculture- “Regional cooperation for sustainable Fisheries & Aquaculture Management in the Indian Ocean”;
  - b) Renewable Ocean Energy: “Exploring regional opportunities for Renewable Ocean Energy in the Indian Ocean region”;
  - c) Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals: “Towards developing the Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals sector in the Indian Ocean region”; and
  - d) Seaport and Shipping: “Enhancing Seaport & Shipping management facilities in the Indian Ocean Rim region”.
- (ii) To coordinate the development of the IORA Blue Economy Core Group, including a framework for research exchanges in Member States.
- (iii) To provide support for networking measures in the form of several workshops to promote cooperation activities.

### 1.5 Observations

Arising from the discussions, the delegates observed the need for Member States to embark on the following;

- (i) Enhance capacity building programmes for promoting fisheries and aquaculture development in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (ii) Promote private and public partnership in fisheries and aquaculture in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (iii) Strengthen cooperation in research and development to promote fisheries and aquaculture in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (iv) Create a database of experts, expertise and institutions in the Indian Ocean Region with the assistance of the Secretariat;
- (v) Identify capacities and needs of Member States regarding responsible deep sea fishing;
- (vi) Improve safety and quality of fish and fish products through the strengthening of guidelines;
- (vii) Promote joint collaboration in developing fisheries sector among IORA Member States, Dialogue Partners and International Organisations;
- (viii) Improve the investment climate and business environment in aquaculture among IORA Member States;
- (ix) Promote best practices and exchange of information on laws and regulations on sustainable fishing practices, including Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.

## 1.6 Declarations/Resolutions:

The delegates came up with the following declarations arising from the two day consultative fora;

That the Member States of IORA will be guided by the following principles in our shared goal to foster the sustainable development of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region:

- (i) The Blue Economy paradigm is founded on the ecosystem approach, including science-based conservation of marine resources and ecosystems, as a means to realize sustainable development;
- (ii) IORA's priority sectors of the Blue Economy, including: Fisheries and Aquaculture; Renewable Ocean Energy; Seaports and Shipping; and Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals that should be developed in an environmentally sound manner for the socio-economic benefit of the population;
- (iii) Sustainable use of marine resources of the Indian Ocean should be carried out according to international law including UNCLOS and the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- (iv) Member States are also encouraged to consider formulating measures for the development of the Blue Economy in a sustainable manner;
- (v) Cooperation by IORA Member States on data collection and development of environmental baselines could ensure a strong foundation for informed decision making and policy development;
- (vi) IORA Member States shall promote sustainable fisheries including combating Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing;
- (vii) The role of the IORA Blue Economy Core Group that will focus on: Fisheries and Aquaculture; Renewable Ocean Energy; Seaports and Shipping; and Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals; to promote the Blue Economy as a driver for sustainable development; research and development; investment, technology transfer and capacity building should be encouraged so as to explore the full



potential of the oceans and to ensure sustainable development in the Indian Ocean Rim region;

- (viii) IORA Member States should attach higher importance on the sustainable development of the Blue Economy and be encouraged to strengthen networking, the exchange of experiences and best practices in relation to the development of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Rim region;
- (ix) Member States and Dialogue Partners should be encouraged to facilitate and allocate the availability of sufficient funding from all sources to promote mutual cooperation and technology transfer with regards to the sustainable development of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Rim Region;
- (x) The sustainable development of the IORA priority sectors of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region would contribute to: food security; poverty alleviation; the mitigation of and resilience to the impacts of climate change; enhanced trade and investment; enhanced maritime connectivity; economic diversification; job creation and socio-economic growth;
- (xi) The empowerment of women and facilitation of micro, small and medium enterprises to participate in the development of the Blue Economy is essential to equitable and sustainable economic growth;
- (xii) Improving research, networking, and promoting researchers' exchange programmes among the Member States and Dialogue Partners is vital to ensure sustained development in the region: taking advantage of the upcoming UNESCO Indian Ocean Expedition II (IOEII) as endorsed by the 2014 Perth Communiqué;
- (xiii) The need to involve Public-Private Partnership to enhance productivity and marketing efforts in different sectors of the Blue Economy;
- (xiv) The need to set-up or revise existing regional regulatory frameworks and governance with regard to development of the Blue Economy in the region, drawing upon existing case studies and experience where it exists;
- (xv) The participation of Multilateral Organizations can make a valuable contribution to the sustainable development of the Blue Economy;
- (xvi) Blue Economy development in Member States would create a conducive business environment and attract foreign investment to boost growth;

(xvii) Member States and Dialogue Partners should promote capacity building for the development of professional skills for the sustainable development and sound environmental management of different sectors in the Blue Economy.

Acknowledgement:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

On behalf of the delegation and members of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Cooperatives, I am pleased to table the report of the Committee on its visit to Mauritius for consideration and adoption.



.....  
HON. ADAN MOHAMED NOORU, MBS, M.P

CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND COOPERATIVES.

Date..... 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015 .....

## 2.0 BACKGROUND:

The Oceans accounts for around 75% of the world's surface area and constitute more than 95% of the biosphere providing a substantial portion of the global population with food and livelihoods and are main means of transport for 80% of global trade.

In light of the growing global interest in the Blue Economy, the Australian Foreign Minister the Honorable Julie Bishop, introduced the Blue Economy theme at the 14<sup>th</sup> IORA Ministerial Meeting in Perth in October 2014.

The Government of Mauritius in collaboration with the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) held the First IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference with the theme "Enhancing Blue Economy Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the IORA Region". The conference was held at *Le Meridien, Pointe aux Piments*, Republic of Mauritius, 2-3 September 2015.

The "Blue Economy" is a new comprehensive concept, incorporating the "Ocean Economy", environment and sustainability to provide basic human needs such as potable water, food, jobs and habitable shelter.

The First IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference (BEC) brought together Member States and Dialogue Partners of the Indian Ocean Rim Association in order to promote Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean region.

The First IORA Blue Economy Conference focused on four priority areas namely:

- (i) Fisheries & Aquaculture
- (ii) Renewable Ocean Energy
- (iii) Seaports & Shipping and
- (iv) Seabed Exploration & Minerals.

## 3.0 THEMES DELIBERATIONS

### 3.1 FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE- "REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT IN THE INDIAN OCEAN"

Fisheries, which are vital oceanic resources that form the core of the blue economy, are one of the main resources of the Indian Ocean which provide food to hundreds of millions of people and greatly contribute to the livelihoods of coastal communities. It plays an important role in ensuring food security, poverty alleviation and also has a huge potential for business opportunities. There has been a strong increase in fish production from 861,000 tons in 1950 to 11.5 million tons in 2010 and the world's total demand for

fish and fisheries products is expected to rise from 50 million to 183 million tons in 2015, with aquaculture activities predicted to cover about 73% of this increase.

Aquaculture, which offers huge potential for the provision of food and livelihoods, will under the blue economy incorporate the value of the natural capital in its development, respecting ecological parameters throughout the cycle of production, creating sustainable, decent employment and offering high value commodities for export.

To meet the increasing public demand in seafood products, natural fisheries resources are being overexploited and threatened. Therefore, the urgent need to find a balance between population need and environmental health has provided impetus to the promotion of sustainable fishing and aquaculture. Well-managed fisheries can deliver billions more in value and millions of tons more fish each year, while aquaculture has the potential for continued strong growth to supply the food requirements of a growing world.

### **3.2 RENEWABLE OCEAN ENERGY-“EXPLORING REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RENEWABLE OCEAN ENERGY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION”**

The world population is expected to increase to an estimated 9 billion people in 2050, which is 1.5 times greater than the current population, resulting in an increase in countries' demands on fossil fuels. Recently there has been a collapse in the price of crude oil, but the possibility of an eventual normalization (of return to higher prices) should not be disregarded and thus necessitates the continued attention of IORA Member States to consider alternative renewable sources of energy. Renewable sources of energy such as solar and wind are already being implemented worldwide. However, additional incentives in renewable energy are strongly in demand to further decrease the burden on fossil fuels. The time is therefore appropriate to explore the potential of renewable energy derived from the ocean. The sea offers vast potential for renewable “blue energy” production from wind, wave, tidal, thermal and biomass sources.

In line with the above efforts, it is also proposed to bring together the offshore Oil and Gas community together with the renewable ocean energy community to undertake a gap analysis in relation to Oil and Gas exploration. In this regard the potential for the development of the offshore oil and gas industry in the Indian Ocean region should also be taken into consideration.

### **3.3 OFFSHORE HYDROCARBONS AND SEABED MINERALS “TOWARDS DEVELOPING THE OFFSHORE HYDROCARBONS AND SEABED MINERALS SECTOR IN THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION”**

With the decreasing inland mineral deposits and increasing industrial demands, much attention is being geared towards the seabed for mineral exploration and mining. The seabed contains minerals that represent a rapidly developing opportunity for economic development in both the Exclusive Economic Zones of coastal nations and beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. Seabed exploration in the Indian Ocean has already started but the major constraints in the commercialization of these resources lie in the fact that Member States have limited data on the resources their exclusive economic zone (EEZ) possesses, lack capacity for exploration, mining and processing of these minerals. Therefore, improved information is needed to assess potential across the region.

### **3.4 SEAPORT AND SHIPPING- “ENHANCING SEAPORT & SHIPPING MANAGEMENT FACILITIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN RIM REGION”**

The seaport and maritime transport sector is one of the important priority sector under the Blue Economy, which is gaining increasingly consideration and attention of Member States. In spite of the continuous rise of maritime transport and shipping transactions in the region, uneven distribution of trade exists among the rim countries, where only a handful of them are able to retain trade and investment and benefiting economically from the maritime exchanges and transportation. Most of the others, mostly located in the African region struggle to keep pace with the rapid development and complexity of maritime trade as they face challenges in terms of congestion, new information technology and equipment, improvement of port infrastructures and professional services to shipping. In this regard, regional cooperation prevails as a vital strategy to unlocking the bottlenecks to ports development and maritime economy expansion in the Indian Ocean so as to enhance blue growth through economic cooperation and trade relations between Member States.

## **4.0 OBSERVATIONS:**

Arising from the discussions, the delegation noted that there is need to;

- (i) Enhance capacity building programmes for promoting fisheries and aquaculture development in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (ii) Promote private and public partnerships in fisheries and aquaculture in the Indian Ocean Region;

- (iii) Strengthen cooperation in research and development to promote fisheries and aquaculture in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (iv) The Secretariat with the assistance of Member States, is encouraged to create a database of experts, expertise and institutions in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (v) To identify capacities and needs of Member States regarding responsible deep sea fishing;
- (vi) Improve safety and quality of fish and fish products through the strengthening of guidelines;
- (vii) Promote joint collaboration in developing fisheries sector among IORA Member States, Dialogue Partners and International Organisations;
- (viii) Improve the investment climate and business environment in aquaculture among IORA Member States
- (ix) To promote best practices and exchange of information on laws and regulations on sustainable fishing practices, including Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- (x) Enhance capacity building programmes for renewable ocean energy and technologies in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (xi) Promote cooperation, networking and transfer of technologies on renewable ocean energy between IORA Member States, Dialogue Partners and international organisations;
- (xii) Promote research and development in renewable ocean energy; and,
- (xiii) The IORA Secretariat, with the assistance of Member States, is encouraged to assess and create a database on renewable ocean energy resources in the Indian Ocean Region.
- (xiv) Enhance capacity building programmes, transfer of technology and science-based research and development on seabed minerals among Member States and Dialogue Partners in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (xv) Promote Private-Public partnerships on offshore hydrocarbons and seabed minerals in the Indian Ocean Region
- (xvi) Consider measures to improve ship registration in the Indian Ocean Region;

- (xvii) Promote cooperation in the seaport and shipping sector in the Indian Ocean Region, including cooperation for ship building, seaport logistics, among other potential areas of cooperation;
- (xviii) Enhance capacity building programmes on seaport and shipping sectors in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (xix) Promote cruise tourism in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (xx) Promote seaports connectivity and coastal shipping in the Indian Ocean Region;

## 5.0 DECLARATIONS:

The delegates adopted the following declarations that emanated from the discussions;

WE, the Ministers and representatives of the Member States of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (hereinafter referred to as "IORA"), Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Sultanate of Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand and United Arab Emirates attended the First IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference in Mauritius on 2 – 3 September 2015;

- **RECOGNISING** the importance of the Blue Economy vis-a-vis :
  - Fisheries and Aquaculture to ensure food security and contribute to poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihoods;
  - Renewable Ocean Energy to reduce the cost of energy and to mitigate and adapt to the impact of climate change;
  - Seaport and Shipping to promote trade, investment and maritime connectivity in the Indian Ocean Rim region; and,
  - Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals to foster new business opportunities and attract investment in the Indian Ocean;
- **RECOGNISING** the need of Member States and Dialogue Partners to promote proper management of marine resources and enhance capacity building in developing countries, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs);
- **REAFFIRMING** IORA's role to promote collaboration and cooperation in the Blue Economy for balanced economic development among IORA Member States and Dialogue Partners;



- **ENCOURAGING** IORA Member States and Dialogue Partners to enhance capacity for the protection of coastal areas, marine environment and resources to ensure sustainable development in the Indian Ocean Rim region;
- **RECALLING** the Rio +20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 20 - 22 June 2012, that integrates social, economic and environmental goals and objectives for decision-making;
- **RECALLING** the IORA Perth Principles for peaceful, productive and sustainable use of the Indian Ocean and its resources agreed by IORA Ministers in Perth, Australia on 1 November 2013; and the IORA Economic Declaration adopted by IORA Ministers in Perth on 9 October 2014 which recognized the blue economy is emerging as a common source of growth, innovation and job creation for the Indian Ocean Region;
- **RECALLING** the establishment of the Blue Economy Core Group and the conduct of the preparatory workshops for the First IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference (BEC) including: (i) The IORA Blue Economy Core Group Workshop on “Promoting Fisheries & Aquaculture and Maritime Safety & Security Cooperation in Indian Ocean Region” that was held in Durban, South Africa, on 4 - 5 May 2015; (ii) The Indian Ocean Region Workshop on “Exploration and Development of Seabed Minerals and Hydrocarbons: Current Capability and Emerging Science Needs” that took place in Bali, Indonesia from 26 - 27 July 2015 and (iii) the IORA Dialogue on the Blue Economy in Goa, India on 17-18 August, 2015;
- **RECALLING** the Third International Conference on Financing for Development that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13-16 July 2015 that holistically looked at financing for development across three dimensions and addressed the way in which inclusive growth and sustainable development can be achieved to address issues including sustainable energy; climate change; disaster risk reduction; oceans and seas; food security and nutrition; sustainable transportation; gender equality and women’s empowerment; and, biodiversity;
- **RECOGNISING** the importance of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the Blue Economy, especially for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for development;
- **RECALLING** IORA’s commitment to develop a common vision in making the Blue Economy an engine for sustainable development and sound environmental management in the Indian Ocean Region;

- **RECONFIRMING** IORA's belief in promoting an innovative and sustainable Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region;
- **COMMITTING** to an optimization of the populations' benefit from the economic activity of the ocean;
- **REITERATING** the importance of IORA's cooperation and engagement with Dialogue Partners, relevant international and regional organizations, the private sector, and civil society in delivering Blue Economy objectives;

#### HEREBY DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

That the Member States of IORA will be guided by the following principles in our shared goal to foster the sustainable development of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region:

- (i) The Blue Economy paradigm is founded on the ecosystem approach, including science-based conservation of marine resources and ecosystems, as a means to realize sustainable development;
- (ii) IORA's priority sectors of the Blue Economy, including: Fisheries and Aquaculture; Renewable Ocean Energy; Seaports and Shipping; and Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals that should be developed in an environmentally sound manner for the socio-economic benefit of the population;
- (iii) Sustainable use of marine resources of the Indian Ocean should be carried out according to international law including UNCLOS and the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- (iv) Member States are also encouraged to consider formulating measures for the development of the Blue Economy in a sustainable manner;
- (v) Cooperation by IORA Member States on data collection and development of environmental baselines could ensure a strong foundation for informed decision making and policy development;
- (vi) IORA Member States shall promote sustainable fisheries including combating Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing;
- (vii) The role of the IORA Blue Economy Core Group that will focus on: Fisheries and Aquaculture; Renewable Ocean Energy; Seaports and Shipping; and Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals; to promote the Blue Economy as a driver for sustainable development; research and development; investment, technology

transfer and capacity building should be encouraged so as to explore the full potential of the oceans and to ensure sustainable development in the Indian Ocean Rim region;

- (viii) Kenya should attach higher importance on the sustainable development of the Blue Economy and be encouraged to strengthen networking, the exchange of experiences and best practices in relation to the development of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Rim region;
- (ix) Kenya and Dialogue Partners should be encouraged to facilitate and allocate the availability of sufficient funding from all sources to promote mutual cooperation and technology transfer with regards to the sustainable development of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Rim Region;
- (x) The sustainable development of the IORA priority sectors of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region would contribute to: food security; poverty alleviation; the mitigation of and resilience to the impacts of climate change; enhanced trade and investment; enhanced maritime connectivity; economic diversification; job creation and socio-economic growth;
- (xi) The Government should ensure empowerment of women and facilitation of micro, small and medium enterprises to participate in the development of the Blue Economy is essential to equitable and sustainable economic growth;
- (xii) Improving research, networking, and promoting researchers' exchange programmes among the Member States and Dialogue Partners is vital to ensure sustained development in the region: taking advantage of the upcoming UNESCO Indian Ocean Expedition II (IOEII) as endorsed by the 2014 Perth Communiqué;
- (xiii) Government need to involve Public-Private Partnership to enhance productivity and marketing efforts in different sectors of the Blue Economy;
- (xiv) Government need to set-up or revise existing regional regulatory frameworks and governance with regard to development of the Blue Economy in the region, drawing upon existing case studies and experience where it exists;
- (xv) Kenya Government participation of Multilateral Organizations can make a valuable contribution to the sustainable development of the Blue Economy;

potential of the oceans and to ensure sustainable development in the Indian Ocean Rim region;

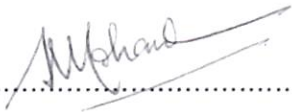
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- (xiii) The need to involve Public-Private Partnership to enhance productivity and marketing efforts in different sectors of the Blue Economy;
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- (xv) The participation of Multilateral Organizations can make a valuable contribution to the sustainable development of the Blue Economy;
- (xvi) Blue Economy development in Member States would create a conducive business environment and attract foreign investment to boost growth;

(xvii) Member States and Dialogue Partners should promote capacity building for the development of professional skills for the sustainable development and sound environmental management of different sectors in the Blue Economy.

Acknowledgement:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

On behalf of the delegation and members of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Cooperatives, I am pleased to table the report of the Committee on its visit to Mauritius for consideration and adoption.



.....  
HON. ADAN MOHAMED NOORU, MBS, M.P

CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND COOPERATIVES.

Date..... 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015 .....

## 2.0 BACKGROUND:

The Oceans accounts for around 75% of the world's surface area and constitute more than 95% of the biosphere providing a substantial portion of the global population with food and livelihoods and are main means of transport for 80% of global trade.

In light of the growing global interest in the Blue Economy, the Australian Foreign Minister the Honorable Julie Bishop, introduced the Blue Economy theme at the 14<sup>th</sup> IORA Ministerial Meeting in Perth in October 2014.

The Government of Mauritius in collaboration with the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) held the First IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference with the theme "Enhancing Blue Economy Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the IORA Region". The conference was held at *Le Meridien, Pointe aux Piments*, Republic of Mauritius, 2-3 September 2015.

The "Blue Economy" is a new comprehensive concept, incorporating the "Ocean Economy", environment and sustainability to provide basic human needs such as potable water, food, jobs and habitable shelter.

The First IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference (BEC) brought together Member States and Dialogue Partners of the Indian Ocean Rim Association in order to promote Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean region.

The First IORA Blue Economy Conference focused on four priority areas namely:

- (i) Fisheries & Aquaculture
- (ii) Renewable Ocean Energy
- (iii) Seaports & Shipping and
- (iv) Seabed Exploration & Minerals.

## 3.0 THEMES DELIBERATIONS

### 3.1 FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE- "REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT IN THE INDIAN OCEAN"

Fisheries, which are vital oceanic resources that form the core of the blue economy, are one of the main resources of the Indian Ocean which provide food to hundreds of millions of people and greatly contribute to the livelihoods of coastal communities. It plays an important role in ensuring food security, poverty alleviation and also has a huge potential for business opportunities. There has been a strong increase in fish production from 861,000 tons in 1950 to 11.5 million tons in 2010 and the world's total demand for

fish and fisheries products is expected to rise from 50 million to 183 million tons in 2015, with aquaculture activities predicted to cover about 73% of this increase.

Aquaculture, which offers huge potential for the provision of food and livelihoods, will under the blue economy incorporate the value of the natural capital in its development, respecting ecological parameters throughout the cycle of production, creating sustainable, decent employment and offering high value commodities for export.

To meet the increasing public demand in seafood products, natural fisheries resources are being overexploited and threatened. Therefore, the urgent need to find a balance between population need and environmental health has provided impetus to the promotion of sustainable fishing and aquaculture. Well-managed fisheries can deliver billions more in value and millions of tons more fish each year, while aquaculture has the potential for continued strong growth to supply the food requirements of a growing world.

### **3.2 RENEWABLE OCEAN ENERGY-“EXPLORING REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RENEWABLE OCEAN ENERGY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION”**

The world population is expected to increase to an estimated 9 billion people in 2050, which is 1.5 times greater than the current population, resulting in an increase in countries' demands on fossil fuels. Recently there has been a collapse in the price of crude oil, but the possibility of an eventual normalization (of return to higher prices) should not be disregarded and thus necessitates the continued attention of IORA Member States to consider alternative renewable sources of energy. Renewable sources of energy such as solar and wind are already being implemented worldwide. However, additional incentives in renewable energy are strongly in demand to further decrease the burden on fossil fuels. The time is therefore appropriate to explore the potential of renewable energy derived from the ocean. The sea offers vast potential for renewable “blue energy” production from wind, wave, tidal, thermal and biomass sources.

In line with the above efforts, it is also proposed to bring together the offshore Oil and Gas community together with the renewable ocean energy community to undertake a gap analysis in relation to Oil and Gas exploration. In this regard the potential for the development of the offshore oil and gas industry in the Indian Ocean region should also be taken into consideration.



### **3.3 OFFSHORE HYDROCARBONS AND SEABED MINERALS “TOWARDS DEVELOPING THE OFFSHORE HYDROCARBONS AND SEABED MINERALS SECTOR IN THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION”**

With the decreasing inland mineral deposits and increasing industrial demands, much attention is being geared towards the seabed for mineral exploration and mining. The seabed contains minerals that represent a rapidly developing opportunity for economic development in both the Exclusive Economic Zones of coastal nations and beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. Seabed exploration in the Indian Ocean has already started but the major constraints in the commercialization of these resources lie in the fact that Member States have limited data on the resources their exclusive economic zone (EEZ) possesses, lack capacity for exploration, mining and processing of these minerals. Therefore, improved information is needed to assess potential across the region.

### **3.4 SEAPORT AND SHIPPING- “ENHANCING SEAPORT & SHIPPING MANAGEMENT FACILITIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN RIM REGION”**

The seaport and maritime transport sector is one of the important priority sector under the Blue Economy, which is gaining increasingly consideration and attention of Member States. In spite of the continuous rise of maritime transport and shipping transactions in the region, uneven distribution of trade exists among the rim countries, where only a handful of them are able to retain trade and investment and benefiting economically from the maritime exchanges and transportation. Most of the others, mostly located in the African region struggle to keep pace with the rapid development and complexity of maritime trade as they face challenges in terms of congestion, new information technology and equipment, improvement of port infrastructures and professional services to shipping. In this regard, regional cooperation prevails as a vital strategy to unlocking the bottlenecks to ports development and maritime economy expansion in the Indian Ocean so as to enhance blue growth through economic cooperation and trade relations between Member States.

## **4.0 OBSERVATIONS:**

Arising from the discussions, the delegation noted that there is need to;

- (i) Enhance capacity building programmes for promoting fisheries and aquaculture development in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (ii) Promote private and public partnerships in fisheries and aquaculture in the Indian Ocean Region;

- (iii) Strengthen cooperation in research and development to promote fisheries and aquaculture in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (iv) The Secretariat with the assistance of Member States, is encouraged to create a database of experts, expertise and institutions in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (v) To identify capacities and needs of Member States regarding responsible deep sea fishing;
- (vi) Improve safety and quality of fish and fish products through the strengthening of guidelines;
- (vii) Promote joint collaboration in developing fisheries sector among IORA Member States, Dialogue Partners and International Organisations;
- (viii) Improve the investment climate and business environment in aquaculture among IORA Member States
- (ix) To promote best practices and exchange of information on laws and regulations on sustainable fishing practices, including Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- (x) Enhance capacity building programmes for renewable ocean energy and technologies in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (xi) Promote cooperation, networking and transfer of technologies on renewable ocean energy between IORA Member States, Dialogue Partners and international organisations;
- (xii) Promote research and development in renewable ocean energy; and,
- (xiii) The IORA Secretariat, with the assistance of Member States, is encouraged to assess and create a database on renewable ocean energy resources in the Indian Ocean Region.
- (xiv) Enhance capacity building programmes, transfer of technology and science-based research and development on seabed minerals among Member States and Dialogue Partners in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (xv) Promote Private-Public partnerships on offshore hydrocarbons and seabed minerals in the Indian Ocean Region
- (xvi) Consider measures to improve ship registration in the Indian Ocean Region;

- (xvii) Promote cooperation in the seaport and shipping sector in the Indian Ocean Region, including cooperation for ship building, seaport logistics, among other potential areas of cooperation;
- (xviii) Enhance capacity building programmes on seaport and shipping sectors in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (xix) Promote cruise tourism in the Indian Ocean Region;
- (xx) Promote seaports connectivity and coastal shipping in the Indian Ocean Region;

## 5.0 DECLARATIONS:

The delegates adopted the following declarations that emanated from the discussions;

WE, the Ministers and representatives of the Member States of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (hereinafter referred to as "IORA"), Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Sultanate of Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand and United Arab Emirates attended the First IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference in Mauritius on 2 – 3 September 2015;

- **RECOGNISING** the importance of the Blue Economy vis-a-vis :
  - Fisheries and Aquaculture to ensure food security and contribute to poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihoods;
  - Renewable Ocean Energy to reduce the cost of energy and to mitigate and adapt to the impact of climate change;
  - Seaport and Shipping to promote trade, investment and maritime connectivity in the Indian Ocean Rim region; and,
  - Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals to foster new business opportunities and attract investment in the Indian Ocean;
- **RECOGNISING** the need of Member States and Dialogue Partners to promote proper management of marine resources and enhance capacity building in developing countries, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs);
- **REAFFIRMING** IORA's role to promote collaboration and cooperation in the Blue Economy for balanced economic development among IORA Member States and Dialogue Partners;

- ENCOURAGING IORA Member States and Dialogue Partners to enhance capacity for the protection of coastal areas, marine environment and resources to ensure sustainable development in the Indian Ocean Rim region;
- RECALLING the Rio +20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 20 - 22 June 2012, that integrates social, economic and environmental goals and objectives for decision-making;
- RECALLING the IORA Perth Principles for peaceful, productive and sustainable use of the Indian Ocean and its resources agreed by IORA Ministers in Perth, Australia on 1 November 2013; and the IORA Economic Declaration adopted by IORA Ministers in Perth on 9 October 2014 which recognized the blue economy is emerging as a common source of growth, innovation and job creation for the Indian Ocean Region;
- RECALLING the establishment of the Blue Economy Core Group and the conduct of the preparatory workshops for the First IORA Ministerial Blue Economy Conference (BEC) including: (i) The IORA Blue Economy Core Group Workshop on “Promoting Fisheries & Aquaculture and Maritime Safety & Security Cooperation in Indian Ocean Region” that was held in Durban, South Africa, on 4 - 5 May 2015; (ii) The Indian Ocean Region Workshop on “Exploration and Development of Seabed Minerals and Hydrocarbons: Current Capability and Emerging Science Needs” that took place in Bali, Indonesia from 26 - 27 July 2015 and (iii) the IORA Dialogue on the Blue Economy in Goa, India on 17-18 August, 2015;
- RECALLING the Third International Conference on Financing for Development that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13-16 July 2015 that holistically looked at financing for development across three dimensions and addressed the way in which inclusive growth and sustainable development can be achieved to address issues including sustainable energy; climate change; disaster risk reduction; oceans and seas; food security and nutrition; sustainable transportation; gender equality and women’s empowerment; and, biodiversity;
- RECOGNISING the importance of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the Blue Economy, especially for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for development;
- RECALLING IORA’s commitment to develop a common vision in making the Blue Economy an engine for sustainable development and sound environmental management in the Indian Ocean Region;

- RECONFIRMING IORA's belief in promoting an innovative and sustainable Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region;
- COMMITTING to an optimization of the populations' benefit from the economic activity of the ocean;
- REITERATING the importance of IORA's cooperation and engagement with Dialogue Partners, relevant international and regional organizations, the private sector, and civil society in delivering Blue Economy objectives;

#### HEREBY DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

That the Member States of IORA will be guided by the following principles in our shared goal to foster the sustainable development of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region:

- (i) The Blue Economy paradigm is founded on the ecosystem approach, including science-based conservation of marine resources and ecosystems, as a means to realize sustainable development;
- (ii) IORA's priority sectors of the Blue Economy, including: Fisheries and Aquaculture; Renewable Ocean Energy; Seaports and Shipping; and Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals that should be developed in an environmentally sound manner for the socio-economic benefit of the population;
- (iii) Sustainable use of marine resources of the Indian Ocean should be carried out according to international law including UNCLOS and the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- (iv) Member States are also encouraged to consider formulating measures for the development of the Blue Economy in a sustainable manner;
- (v) Cooperation by IORA Member States on data collection and development of environmental baselines could ensure a strong foundation for informed decision making and policy development;
- (vi) IORA Member States shall promote sustainable fisheries including combating Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing;
- (vii) The role of the IORA Blue Economy Core Group that will focus on: Fisheries and Aquaculture; Renewable Ocean Energy; Seaports and Shipping; and Offshore Hydrocarbons and Seabed Minerals; to promote the Blue Economy as a driver for sustainable development; research and development; investment, technology

transfer and capacity building should be encouraged so as to explore the full potential of the oceans and to ensure sustainable development in the Indian Ocean Rim region;

- (viii) Kenya should attach higher importance on the sustainable development of the Blue Economy and be encouraged to strengthen networking, the exchange of experiences and best practices in relation to the development of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Rim region;
- (ix) Kenya and Dialogue Partners should be encouraged to facilitate and allocate the availability of sufficient funding from all sources to promote mutual cooperation and technology transfer with regards to the sustainable development of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Rim Region;
- (x) The sustainable development of the IORA priority sectors of the Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Region would contribute to: food security; poverty alleviation; the mitigation of and resilience to the impacts of climate change; enhanced trade and investment; enhanced maritime connectivity; economic diversification; job creation and socio-economic growth;
- (xi) The Government should ensure empowerment of women and facilitation of micro, small and medium enterprises to participate in the development of the Blue Economy is essential to equitable and sustainable economic growth;
- (xii) Improving research, networking, and promoting researchers' exchange programmes among the Member States and Dialogue Partners is vital to ensure sustained development in the region: taking advantage of the upcoming UNESCO Indian Ocean Expedition II (IOEII) as endorsed by the 2014 Perth Communiqué;
- (xiii) Government need to involve Public-Private Partnership to enhance productivity and marketing efforts in different sectors of the Blue Economy;
- (xiv) Government need to set-up or revise existing regional regulatory frameworks and governance with regard to development of the Blue Economy in the region, drawing upon existing case studies and experience where it exists;
- (xv) Kenya Government participation of Multilateral Organizations can make a valuable contribution to the sustainable development of the Blue Economy;