

Count Down to Swakopmund Begins

It is count down to the African Ports and Maritime Conference 2011 and 37th PMAESA Council meeting set for Swakopmund Namibia between 27 and 30 November this year. The joint committee established by PMAESA and Namport are working day and night putting together final touches to ensure a splendid event that will make a mark on most delegates memories for years to come.

"We are ready and we look forward to the best," Mr. Bisey Uirab, the CEO of Namibian Ports Authority told the committee during a recent meeting in his Walvis Bay office.

"We are happy the way things are shaping up and I am positive it will be a successful meeting."

The conference is being hosted at the Swakopmund Hotel and Entertainment Centre- Namibia's premier resort which has severally been voted "Best Hotel in Namibia."

The award winning resort is conveniently situated at the gateway of the Skeleton Coast in the city where Namib Desert meets the Atlantic Ocean.

There will be an international Exhibition parallel to the



Part of the joint organizing committee: Jo-Ann Stevens, (coordinator, Namport) (seated). Standing from rom left: Marelise Serfontein (Conference Link), George Sunguh (coordinator, PMAESA), Sophia Links (Conference Link), Cliff Shikuambi (Namport) and Mubarak Sodha (PMAESA)

Conference. It is expected to provide a leading platform connecting top port operators, port equipment suppliers and buyers in Africa and across the world. The event promises to avail excellent sourcing opportunities and brilliant ideas for port executives, maritime experts and CEOs in the related sectors besides providing an educational platform for all visitors. The Windhoek based Conference Link- event organizing company entrusted with the responsibilities to of managing the conference are not new to PMAESA activities having handled the Council meeting of 1999 at the same venue.

Ms. Marelise Serfontein, the Managing Director of Conference Link is equally upbeat as she says her team will leave nothing to chance.

The Conference Committee has selected an array of hotels and negotiated rates tailored to suit every pocket. The programme starts with the arrivals on Sunday 27th November to a welcome cocktail at the Swakopmund Hotel in the evening.

The grand opening ceremony is set for Monday 28th in the morning and will be graced by the high and mighty of the Namibian political landscape. This will be a prelude to some

continues to page 2



continues from page 1

stimulating talks to be delivered by some of the best and knowledgeable speakers on the maritime scene and related sectors across the globe.

Topical issue to be covered include: How Africa Can Stimulate Development for its Ports; Investment Opportunities in African Ports; Port Privatization: challenges and the Concession process; Piracy Issues on the African waters and Cruise Shipping Development in the region.

But just as the old adage goes "too much work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," a befitting "Dinner in the dunes" has been meticulously organized with mouth watering dishes, scintillating entertainment with the distant roar of the Atlantic Sea waves giving the scene a resplendent ambiance- a perfect way to unwind.

This will be crowned off by a trip to either of Namibia's surreal and unique destinations. The choice will be yours- a trip to the towering dunes abound with adventure activities such as sand

boarding and skiing, quad biking, camel rides or just scaling the tallest dune in the world.

Alternatively you can choose a marine trip in the protected lagoon area of Walvis Bay where the water is calm and abundant with bird life. This trip will also expose you to a large seal colony within the lagoon where some seals are said to even climb the boats for snacks thus providing a wonderful photographic opportunity.

Swakopmund is Namibia's second biggest town and traditional "summer capital".

The city is one of the most popular destinations in the country and is styled in a European set up. It's often the place to get some rest and recreation after a dusty trip to the desert dunes of Sossusvlei or the Namib-Naukluft Park, Swakopmund is surrounded by the Namib-Naukluft Park, one of the most bewitching desert wilderness areas in Africa, for one day trips or longer safaris for the ultimate desert camping experience.

PMAESA Studies Cruise Tourism Potential

The European Union has funded a three month study to promote cruise tourism within the Eastern and Southern African region under the auspices of PMAESA.

The study is being undertaken by Consult International a company being represented by Mr. Michael Langstaff and Mr. Chris Landmann both with over 30 years' experience in developing countries: development projects, organisation of investment conferences and facilitation of EU-Africa business links, for the EU, World Bank and UN specialised Agencies". According to Mr. Jerome Ntibarekerwa, PMAESA's Secretary General, the sector has great potential, cultural richness, diversity, natural beauty and wonderful weather that need to be exploited. The purpose of the policies and regulations is to provide uniformity in service provision in the region. Standards and clear guidelines with structures need to be developed to coordinate the activities of the sector in the region with a view to promoting cruise shipping. Upon completion, the project is expected to help promote the cruise industry in the region; strengthen partnership with



Mr. Michael Langstaff



Mr. Chris Landmann

European cruise; information system will be strengthened among the stakeholders; support facilities and infrastructure, such as airports, hotels, transportation, and security in addition to smooth handling of the vessels will be improved; knowledge of the cruise sector will be promoted; and finally there will be a possibility of having outbound travellers from the region. Cruise tourism is the fastest growing sector in the tourism industry. The growth in cruise tourism has been exceptional, from 500,000 passengers in the 70's to 12.8 million 2008. The potential in the cruise industry is huge, and is currently characterized by the vast untapped regions, development of mega ships, and the

constant improvements and offering of new products to meet customer expectations.

Growth in the industry is expected to continue soaring, according to Passenger Shipping Association (PSA) the sector will handle about 20 million passengers by 2011 to raise to 30 million by 2020.

Cruise companies are looking for new ports of call in different parts of the world to add value to their packages as they endeavour to attract more business.

Africa offers an enormous untapped potential despite the vast attractions as it commands only 0.9 % of the cruise market share in the world. The PMAESA region which is well positioned for all year round cruising has only 0.05% share. The beauty and attractions found in the Indian Ocean region are second to none and range from the Nubian Desert in the north, snow capped Mount Kilimanjaro the highest point in Africa and the Great Rift Valley. The great plains of East Africa, including Serengeti, the slave markets of Zanzibar, River Nile and Lake Victoria. The Table Mountains and Robben Island of South Africa and the many game reserves in close proximity to the ports in the PMAESA region.



Eastern and Southern Africa Cruise Industry Workshop
17 and 18 October, 2011 - Port Louis, Mauritius

**PORT MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION OF
EASTERN AND
SOUTHERN AFRICA**



PMAESA

**ASSOCIATION DE
GESTION DES PORTS
DE L'AFRIQUE DE
L'EST ET AUSTRALE**

Dear Colleagues,

RE: INVITATION TO THE AFRICAN PORTS & MARITIME CONFERENCE - NAMIBIA

This is a follow up to my June 23rd 2011 letter inviting you to the forthcoming African Ports and Maritime Conference 2011 and PMAESA Council Meetings to be held in Swakopmund, Namibia, between 27 and 30 November, 2011.

I am glad to inform you that the joint committee formed by Namibian Ports Authority (NAMPORT) and PMAESA have been working day and night to ensure a successful and a splendid event for all the delegates.

The conference theme remains - Ports & Logistics: A Vision for Future Integration.

High profile speakers have been lined up with topical subjects of interest to our regional ports and maritime industry.

The Namibian Ports Authority has identified a range of pocket friendly hotels for accommodation with special rates during your stay in Swakopmund, Namibia.

I request all delegates to take advantage of these rates, by making reservations at the earliest opportunity directly with the hotel to avoid disappointment.

As earlier stated there will be an international exhibition running concurrently with the conference and we welcome your respective ports and organization to book a stall at your earliest opportunity.

Please find all the relevant details about the conference and exhibition registration at our website: pmaesa.org/apmc2011

I wish you all the best as we prepare for yet another landmark maritime event in our region.

Yours in Port service,

Jerome Ntibarekerwa,
Secretary General,
PMAESA

South African Women Invade the Sea

Three Durban women have made history by becoming Africa's first black, female marine pilots to obtain an open licence that enables them to navigate ships of any size and type into South African waters.

Not only are Precious Dube, Bongwiwe Mbambo and Pinky Zungu three of only five female marine pilots in South Africa, but their open licence gives them authority to guide anything from the very smallest vessels to the biggest supertankers and container ships into port.

The three were among the earliest development candidates introduced by Transnet National Ports Authority in the late 90's to encourage more black participation in the country's ports.

Today the majority have worked hard to achieve success in senior positions such as harbour mastering and port captaincy. Tau Morwe, Chief Executive of Transnet National Ports Authority, said the achievements of the three illustrated the successes of the port authority's programme of transformation and employment equity. "The maritime sector used to be one that was closed off to the historically disadvantaged, including women, but this is changing and we are geared for even greater success stories like this," he said. Women are now found across all levels of the country's maritime sector, from crane operators to senior executives. Dube, thirty something from Inanda Newtown, was the first female to qualify with an open licence and said she was very excited when told of her historic achievement.

"The captains of foreign ships can be very sceptical when you're a woman because it's not common for them to see a female marine pilot, although I've heard there are a few in the United States and possibly Australia," she said.

She said she was used to being quizzed about her experience as a pilot.

"But once you exchange information with the captain and make him feel confident that you know the port like the back of your hand and can get his ship into the



photo: Transnet NPA

Precious Dube (left) and Pinky Zungu (right) are two of the three women from Transnet National Ports Authority to qualify as Africa's first black, female Open Licence marine pilots.

port safely, you win him over easily enough," she says.

Mbambo, 29, is originally from Esikhawini on the North Coast of KZN but now lives in Glenwood, Durban. She laughs when she recalls the amazement of the captain of the first vessel she guided in after qualifying as an open licence pilot recently. "The captain actually took photographs and recorded a video while I was performing my job alongside him. It was very funny," she says.

Zungu was the latest to qualify and echoed the proud sentiments of her peers. "Being at sea was difficult at first. I was the only cadet and the only female on a Russian cruise ship where only the captain spoke English well. But I eventually befriended another South African woman who joined the ship later and together we focused on achieving our career goals despite the challenges," she said. "Today I love my job and can imagine myself still doing this at the age of 65," she says.

The three followed similar career paths, first receiving bursaries from Transnet to pursue a one-year maritime studies programme.

They then completed experiential training as cadets out at sea with shipping lines

such as Safmarine and Unicorn, sailing between South Africa, Europe and the Far East.

After a compulsory oral examination with the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) they obtained Class 3 tickets to be junior deck officers responsible for auto piloting vessels and managing safety equipment.

They then trained and worked as tug masters at Transnet, manoeuvring ships in and out of the port with the aid of small tugboats.

After a one year pilot training programme they qualified as junior pilots before progressing through the various licence grades, starting with smaller ships of around 16 000 gross tons, then 20 000, 25 000, 35 000 and eventually finishing with an open licence.

Rufus Lekala was also part of that first development group and now holds the position of Chief Harbour Master for South Africa. He is also the youngest in the world. He applauds the women's progress saying, "South Africa is leading the pack in terms of equity and transformation in the maritime field.

"Pilots Dube, Mbambo and Zungu have put us on the map once more and should be very proud of their achievements."

Coordinators Meeting



PMAESA Secretary General Mr. Jerome Ntibarekerwa shares a joke with colleagues on a panel during the workshop.

The Experts Group Meeting (EGM) on Coordinating Development in Africa was held recently held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting was organized by the NEPAD Support Section of the Economic Development and NEPAD Division (EDND) of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in collaboration with ECA Subregional Offices for Eastern and Southern Africa (SRO-EA, and SRO-SA). The NEPAD Support Section of the Economic Development and NEPAD Division is currently responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa). The main objective of the meeting was to review and validate the report on coordinating development in Africa prepared by ECA. Specifically, the meeting provided a platform for participants to; discuss existing theories and cutting edge research on organizational coordination, with emphasis on inter-organisational coordination, and explore their applicability to Africa's development scene; identify, and share experiences and lessons from existing mechanisms for coordinating the work of different development actors in Africa; and formulate recommendations for enhancing the performance of coordination mechanisms in Africa. Representatives of continental organizations such as Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and Intergovernmental Organisations (IGOs) attended the meeting.

They included African Union Commission (AUC), NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), African Development Bank (AfDB), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), Southern African Development Community Development Finance Resource Centre (SADC-DFRC), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Economic Community of Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), Southern African Customs Union (SACU), Ports Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA), East African Sub-regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI), Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency, and Nile Basin Initiative. Representatives from the following UN organizations and agencies also attended the meeting: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Health Organisation (WHO), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS). The meeting also benefited from the participation of the following academic and research institutions: University of South Africa (UNISA) Graduate School of Business Leadership, African Research and Resource Forum (ARRF), and the Pentecost University College, Ghana.

Events

South Asia & Africa Regional Port Security Cooperation- Conference (SAARPSCO), Mahe, Seychelles, 6th - 9th September

APEC-Antwerp Port Environmental Policy & Technology, Antwerp, Belgium 5th - 16th September

FIATA World Congress 2011, Cairo, Egypt 18th - 23rd September

9th Intermodal Africa, Casablanca, Morocco 21st - 22nd September

TOC Middle East 2011, Dubai, UAE, 27th - 29th September

International Port Security Workshop, Rotterdam, Netherlands, 28th - 29th September

Comesa Policy Conference, Lilongwe, Malawi. 2nd - 15th October

3rd Maritime Security and Anti Piracy Conference, 5th - 6th October

7th Trans Middle East 2011, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 26th - 27th October

Maritime & Coastal Security Africa 2011, Cape Town, South Africa, 26 - 28 October 2011

2nd India Port Expansion & Upgrading Conference 2011, Chennai, India 3 - 4 November

IMO Council Meeting, IMO Hq, London, UK 21st-30th November.

Dredging & Land Reclamation Asia 2011, Singapore, 23 - 24 November

6th Thai Ports and Shipping 2011, Bangkok, Thailand, 24 - 25 November

African Ports & Maritime Conference & 37th Annual PMAESA Council Meeting
Walvis Bay, Namibia
27th - 30th November

The PMAESA Secretariat

Tel: +254 41 222 3245 or +254 20 238 1184

Fax: +254 41 222 8344

Email: pmaesa@pmaesa.org

Information

e-PMAESA Newsletter is produced by the PMAESA Secretariat.

Publisher: Jerome Ntibarekerwa (jntibarekerwa@pmaesa.org)

Editor: George Sunguh (gsunguh@pmaesa.org)

Design: Mubarak Adam (msodha@pmaesa.org)

PMAESA
Our Ports
Our Future

www.pmaesa.org