

Mombasa Hosts Cruise Workshop



photo: Kenya Ports Authority

Above: A cruise ship docked at the Port of Mombasa.
Inset: Kenya Ports Authority MD and Cruise Indian Ocean Association Chairman, Mr. Gichiri Ndua(left) and Kenya's Tourism Minister, Mr. Najib Balala(right)

Key players in Cruise tourism industry within Eastern and Southern Africa are expected to converge in Mombasa next month to discuss a study undertaken by a team of consultants to boost cruise passenger traffic in the region. The meeting, which was initially set for Port Luis, Mauritius will now take place between October 17th and 18th, 2011 at Mombasa's Nyali Beach Hotel and is expected to attract an estimated 100 participants. The study had been prompted by the fact that Cruise tourism

within the East African region is at an all time low following the continued cases of Somali piracy, recent economic recession and the political turmoil that hit Kenya after the 2007 election fiasco. Out of the 15.4 million cruise tourist passengers carried by the luxury ships across the globe in the year 2009, only 558 passengers called East Africa's premier port of Mombasa. This was a sharp contrast to 12,096 cruise passengers that called the same port in the year 2008. This means that Kenya

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received just a paltry income from the year's total cruise tourism receipts of US\$ 790.34 billion.

The picture has not been any different to neighboring ports, save for South Africa where cruise tourism passengers arrivals have been projected to rise from the current figure of 200,000 per year to about one million passengers by the year 2025.

But even, here sporadic cases of pirate attack deep inside South Africa territorial waters have been a source of concern to cruise operators and shipping industry in general.

It is in this light that PMAESA received support from the European Union - Centre for Development of Enterprise (EU-CDE) to conduct a study to evaluate the Potential as well as Existing Policy and Regulatory Framework for Cruise Development in the eastern and southern Africa region.

The workshop will be graced by Kenya's Tourism Minister Mr. Najib Balala and the Chairman of the Cruise Indian Ocean Association (CIOA) Mr. Gichiri Ndua, who is also the Managing Director, Kenya Ports Authority.

According to Mr. Jerome Ntibarekerwa, the Draft Final Report

of the study was due for submission by the end of last month (August). As part of the Terms of Reference, the study should be presented to stakeholders for discussion and validation of the recommendations.

Consequently, PMAESA is in the process of organizing a workshop to disseminate the findings and recommendations of the study to the cruise fraternity in the region, to get consensus on the way forward. The project was developed with the realization that the growth of the cruise industry depends on a cohesive approach from the ports and the tourism sectors. To achieve this there is need for standards and clear guidelines with structures to be developed to coordinate the activities of the sectors in the region. Therefore the overall objective of the project is to streamline procedures and processes of handling cruise ships with a view to promoting the relatively unexplored cruise destination. The study was also looking at the policies and regulations which are intended to provide uniformity in service provision in the region. www.pmaesa.org/cruise

Book Exhibition Stall Now PMAESA SG Urges Members

PMAESA's Secretary General, Jerome Ntibarekerwa, has urged the member ports to take an early opportunity to book stalls for the international exhibition which will run a long side the forthcoming African Ports and Maritime Conference 2011.

In a recent circular, Mr. Ntibarekerwa urged all PMAESA member ports use the exhibition stalls measuring three by two meters to show case their port activities and related products. The SG observed that a lot of activities were going on within the regional ports that other members could learn from in such a forum.

"I urge you to fill in the attached exhibition forms and email back to the Secretariat at your earliest opportunity to facilitate our logistical arrangements and to make this year's event a great success," said the circular.

He said the exhibition which will be



The Conference and Exhibition Venue: Swakopmund Hotel & Entertainment Centre

held parallel to Conference and the 37th PMAESA Council meeting is expected to provide a platform connecting port operators, equipment suppliers and buyers in Africa and from around the globe and will

also avail an excellent sourcing opportunities and brilliant ideas for all involved.

The annual conference will be held between November 27th and 30th at Swakopmund, Namibia.

Workshop on Anti-Piracy for Durban

PMAESA in collaboration with the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) will conduct a two day workshop on maritime safety and security within the region between November 1st and 2nd, this year in Durban, South Africa. The workshop, known as "Maritime Safety and Security, Piracy & Armed Robbery against Ships on Indian Ocean in PMAESA Region," is expected to attract ports security officers from the PMAESA member states. It will be co hosted by Transnet National Ports Authority of South Africa and Ethekwini Maritime Cluster, a Durban based company that harmonize activities of governmental and private maritime firms in South Africa in implementing programmes of common interest that supports growth and improve performance and competitiveness of maritime industry in the country. The workshop will be presided over by the Mayor of eThekweni Municipality, His Worship James Nxumalo who will also be the official host. IMO's regional Representative Mr. John Paul Muindi will kick the ball rolling with a presentation on "IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme an East African perspective.



Aerial view of the Durban Container Terminal

Inset: Durban Mayor, Mr. James Nxumalo(left) and IMO Regional Coordinator, Mr. John Muindi

He will look at recent developments in maritime security and piracy. The workshop will also be taken through User-Guide on SOLAS chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code. There will be national representations on the implementation of SOLAS's same

chapter. COMESA and SADC representatives at the workshop will give an overview on anti-piracy strategies in Eastern and Southern Africa besides other topical issues of interest.

Maritime Security Africa's Greatest Concern Today

Ports and harbours rely on maritime trade and business in order to reach projected profits, but are rethinking their security strategies in 2011. With sea-related crimes reaching an all-time high this year and militia attacks around East and West Africa moving further south and becoming too high profile to ignore, it becomes an unprofitable business model to consider maritime security strategies as an after-thought.

According to recent statistics, about 90% of the total trade of Africa is seaborne, of which a large portion is comprised of primary unprocessed commodities. The statistics also show that Africa's export-orientated economy is dependent on maritime trade, 50% of the South African GDP comes from trade, and 98% thereof is maritime trade.

It is also on record that 30% of the world's oil supply passes the Cape

through the Mozambique Channel. Not taking a stronger stance towards the increasing threats at sea can have dire economical effects on the African economy, with African ports and harbours losing market share and competitiveness as major players and service providers in international trade and transportation.

The Maritime & Coastal Security Africa 2011, taking place from 26 - 28 October 2011, at the International Convention Centre, Cape Town, South Africa is one of Africa's events that will create a community of maritime stakeholders, where experiences can be shared, lessons can be learnt, agreements can be

made and best practices in maritime security can be defined and implemented. Integrated communication and common awareness is vital in building a unified and co-operative maritime body for African sea trade. The Ports Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA) is a proud partner of the Maritime & Coastal Security Africa conference. For more information on attending this conference as a PMAESA member, please contact George Sunguh Communications Officer at PMAESA on (gsunguh@pmaesa.org) for more details. You can also visit the event website, www.maritimesecurityafrica.com



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Ntibarekerwa Condoles Zanzibar People



Photo: AFP

A man rescued from the ferry accident is taken to hospital

PMAESA Secretary General Mr. Jerome Ntibarekerwa has sent a message of condolence to the people of Zanzibar following the recent tragic marine accident in which close to 200 people died.

In a letter to Tanzania's Minister for Transport Mr. Omari Nundu the SG said:

"On behalf of the PMAESA members and the Secretariat Staff let me take this early opportunity to send our heartfelt condolences to you, your port fraternity and Tanzania people as a whole on the tragic incident that saw many innocent lives lost after a boat accident outside the Island last Saturday".

He said it was indeed unfortunate that so many people had to die in such a manner.

"I know similar tragedies have been experienced within our regional waters in the past and it is my humble appeal to people entrusted with overseeing safety measures of sea crafts operating within our territorial waters to be more vigilant to avoid recurrence of such mishaps in the future", he said in his brief message.

"May the good Lord give courage and strength to the bereaved during these sorrowful moments and rest the souls of those departed in eternal peace".

According to press reports an overloaded ferry sailing from Zanzibar to Pemba Island capsized Saturday September 10th, 2011 off the East Africa coast killing at least 193 people.

Zanzibar police spokesman Mohamed Mhina was quoted by the press as saying 192 bodies had been recovered and 606 passengers rescued from the Indian



Mr. Ntibarekerwa

Ocean by Tuesday morning.

"There is a possibility that more bodies still remain at sea. Rescue workers are still searching for survivors and retrieving bodies," he said.

"The ferry flipped and capsized. There could be more bodies trapped inside the hull of the ship with the cargo," rescue worker Ali Ramadhan told Reuters at the port. "We suspect the ship was overcrowded with more than 800 passengers

onboard. It is normal for these ferries to overload passengers and cargo."

Zanzibar Police Commissioner Mussa Alli Mussa said that more than 500 people were on the ship's manifest. Abdual Said, registrar of Zanzibar's seafaring vessels, said the MV Spice Islander was licensed to carry 600 passengers.

The vessel had been sailing from Zanzibar to Pemba, the two main islands of the Zanzibar archipelago, a semi-autonomous region of Tanzania and popular beach destination for tourists.

The government announced three days of mourning and Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete postponed a trip to Canada.

Greatest calamity the government in Zanzibar said last month it planned to invest in bigger, more reliable vessels to ferry passengers between the two islands. Tanzania's worst maritime disaster was in May 1996 on Lake Victoria. The MV Bukoba ferry sank with as many as 1,000 people on board. Only 114 passengers survived and the captain and eight officials were charged with the murders of 615 people.

MSC Chicago Charts New Waters for Durban



Tugs guide *MSC Chicago* into the Port of Durban

The 9,178 TEU *MSC Chicago* has become the latest vessel to take advantage of the newly deepened and widened port entrance channel in the Port of Durban, one of Africa's busiest and largest multi-service ports. The ship is now also the biggest to date to sail into South African waters.

Last week the vessel arrived on its maiden voyage to the country en route from Europe and stopped at the Ports of Cape Town, Ngqura and finally Durban.

The Port of Durban's harbour widening and deepening project was completed in March 2010 and saw the channel depth increased from 12,8m to a variance of 16m in the basin to 19m in the outer channel. The width was increased from 125m to an average of 225m.

Built in 2005 *MSC Chicago* stands at an impressive 337 metres long and is more than three rugby fields long and three times the height of the statue of liberty. It has a beam of 46 metres and a draught of 13.1m.

MSC Chicago was guided into port by Pinky Zungu, one of three women employed by the country's freight logistics giant Transnet who recently made history as Africa's first black, female marine pilots to obtain the prestigious 'open licence'.

The qualification enables Zungu and her colleagues Precious Dube and Bongwiwe Mbambo to navigate ships of any size and type into South African waters. The vessel was serviced at Durban Container Terminal's high productivity berth 108. It left Durban



[left to right] Transnet National Ports Authority Chief Executive Tau Morwe, MSC's South African Board Chairman Capt. Salvatore Sarno and Transnet Port Terminals Chief Executive Karl Socikwa

destined for Port Louis, Mauritius and then Singapore. Transnet National Ports Authority Chief Executive Tau Morwe said the maiden voyage of *MSC Chicago* proved the capacity of South African ports to cater for ships of this magnitude.

"It is a sign of confidence that major shipping lines like Mediterranean Shipping Company see it fit to introduce these ships to South African ports.

"Durban in particular can strive to retain its position as one of the leading ports in Africa by meeting the growing need to accommodate vessels of this size. What we now need to do is deepening the berths so that vessels like this can come in fully laden.

"Also the fact that we have a black female marine pilot playing such a crucial role in this historic moment points to the successes of our efforts to bring about gender and racial equality and transformation in the maritime environment," he said.

Photos: Terry Haywood

Events

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

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

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

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

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

SADC Committee of Ministers for Transport and Meteorology Meeting, Johannesburg, South Africa, 5 - 7 October

15th Comesa Heads of State Summit / Business Forum, Lilongwe, Malawi, 10 - 15 October

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

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

IMO Council Meeting, IMO Hq, London, UK, 21 - 30 November

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

African Ports & Maritime Conference & 37th Annual PMAESA Council Meeting Swakopmund, Namibia 27 - 30 November 2011



For more events please visit: www.pmaesa.org/events



Information

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