Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation

Third Session: Small Island Developing States: Transport and Trade Logistics Challenges

24 – 26 November 2014

ISCOS Presentation on M-SHIP

Presentation by

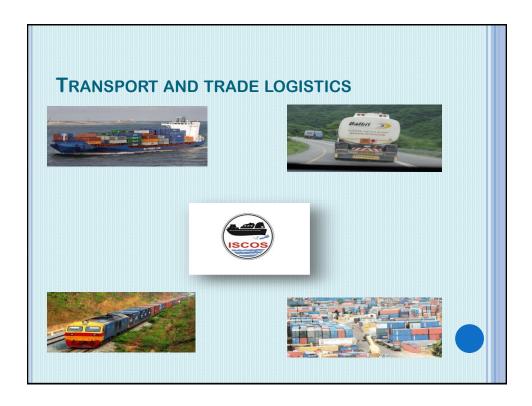
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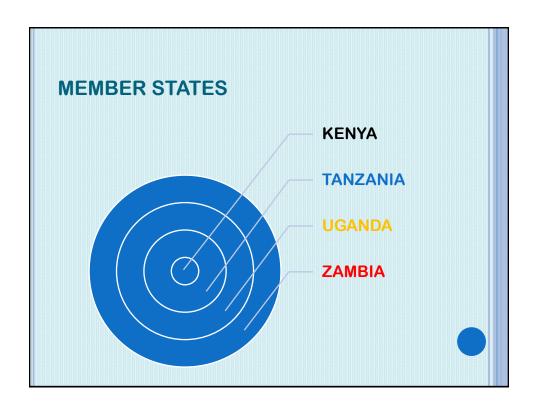
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WHAT IS ISCOS?

- Intergovernmental Standing Committee on Shipping
- **oFormed 1967**
- Permanent Secretariat Established1974 in Mombasa, Kenya.
- o2006 Protocol
- o2014 Strategic Plan 2015-20
- Purpose: To Promote and Protect Shipping and Maritime Interests of Member States.





OBJECTIVES OF ISCOS

- To Serve the region and the International Community as a One Stop Center of Excellence for Regional Maritime Matters and Total Logistics.
- To ensure that the region is served by adequate and Competitive shipping Services.
- Promote Private and Public Sector Investment in International and Coastal Shipping Services and Inland water ways.
- To contribute to the **Development** of Maritime Economy and the **Harmonization** of National Maritime Polices of the Governments.

WHY ISCOS? COMMON INTERESTS BY MEMBER STATES

- Same overseas trading partners
- Same sea ports with similar challenges for their sea borne trade
- Their seaborne trade is carried by the same shipping lines majority of which are foreign owned.
- Liner shipping operators serving the trade consider the region as one single tariff zone.
- Similar trading goods [Imports and Exports]
- Served by corridors with almost similar problems and challenges
- Same development patterns for the facilitation of Transport and Trade.
- Common high sea challenges such as Piracy



ISCOS' CONTRIBUTION TO TRADE FACILITATION IN THE REGION?

- Advocacy for Efficient Systems in Maritime Transport and the Entire International Trade Logistics Chains.
- Building Capacity among Importers/Exporters.
- Advocacy for favorable freight rates.
- Monitoring and advising on Ports Performance.
- Mitigation of unfavorable pricing mechanisms in the logistical chain.
- Formation and Advocacy for strong Shipper Institutions.
- Generation and Interpretation of relevant statistics
- Promoting PPP in Shipping and Shipping Investments.
- Advocacy for the harmonization of Maritime policies.

ISCOS' CONTRIBUTION TO THE REGION

- Provision of a Common Platform for conducting structured and evidence based dialogue in shipping matters and logistics
- Stabilization of ocean freight rate.
- Reduction or removal of unfair and unsubstantiated pricing mechanisms.
- Establishment and recognition of agreed consultative procedures.
- Providing timely advise and making timely interventions on behalf of Member States /Shippers regarding matters of shipping, ports and the movement of cargo.

ISCOS' CONTRIBUTION TO THE REGION CONT'D

- Consultation with ports authorities on matters affecting port productivity and efficiency.
- Provision of technical support to shippers.
- Formation of National Shippers' Councils in region i.e. Tanzania mainland, Uganda, Zambia and Zanzibar and initiation of similar endeavors in Mozambique, Rwanda, Malawi and Burundi and South Sudan.
- Conducted Programmes aimed at creating awareness amongst Importers and Exporters throughout the region.
- Conducting research and carrying out studies on emerging shipping issues.
- Development of an extensive ISCOS Data Bank on shipping and maritime transport.

Current Activities

- Mitigating the export of Foreign Currency and Capital through traditional trading practices.
- Developing a mobile based application for reporting and resolving NTBs along the corridors/ M-SHIP
- Organizing cargo owners through the Formation and strengthening of shipper Councils throughout the region.
- Reviewing the level and manner of engagement with Service providers (Ports, CFS/ICDs, and Shipping Lines, Regulators) for the enhancement of efficiency, and containment of the rising cost of doing business.
- Carrying out Research on Matters arising in Shipping.

Current Activities Cont'd

- □ Providing Cargo Owners with information and Creating awareness on emerging themes in International Trade.
- □ Partnering with regional corridors to provide Governments and Shippers with Comparative data on the performance of regional corridors.
- ☐ Have recommended to the Government of Kenya on Terminal Handling Charges (THCs) by Shipping Lines.
- □ISCOS was tasked to mediate between KMA and Shipping Lines over suspension of certain clauses in the KMA Act through a court injunction by shipping lines.

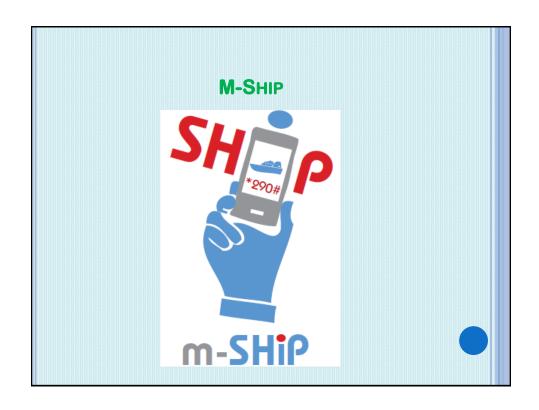
ISCOS' RESPONSIBILITY TO THE MOMBASA COMMUNITY PORT CHARTER

- Establishing and implementing a realtime monitoring system that captures the actual experiences and feedback about service providers from users of Mombasa Port and the Northern Corridor.
- Generating regular reports to guide the development and implementation of policy and reform initiatives.
- □ Conduct shipper awareness events in Kenya and Regionally in partnership with stakeholders.



STATUS OF ISCOS COMMITMENTS TO THE MPCC

- A mobile phone-based trade facilitation tool has been developed by ISCOS for monitoring, reporting and resolving Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) that are encountered by users of ports and trade corridors.
- □ The platform is coined as m-SHIP.
- Dial *290# on Safaricom network.
- Testing phase.
- Sensitization on the platform is ongoing.
- Launch of the platform is scheduled for the first quarter 2014 in Kenya and Tanzania third quarter





CHALLENGES OF M-SHIP

- Lack of resources for:
- Publicity, Information Education and Communication (IEC) of the M-SHIP
- Implementing a Call Centre to route Issues and Complaints to Port Charter Institutions for resolution or assistance
- Data-Collection from Mombasa Port & Northern Corridor users for Baseline Survey upon which to track changes/improvements and review and analysis of data collected for the Baseline Survey.

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