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

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ISCOS Presentation on M-SHIP

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TRANSPORT AND TRADE LOGISTICS

WHAT IS ISCOS?

- Intergovernmental Standing Committee on Shipping
- Formed 1967
- Permanent Secretariat Established 1974 in Mombasa, Kenya.
- 2006 Protocol
- 2014 Strategic Plan 2015-20
- Purpose: To Promote and Protect Shipping and Maritime Interests of Member States.
MEMBER STATES

KENYA
TANZANIA
UGANDA
ZAMBIA

OBJECTIVES OF ISGOS

- 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 seaborne 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?

- 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 real-time 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.
M-SHIP

Welcome to ISCOS.
Please choose your preferred language:
1. English
2. Kiswahili

Welcome to ISCOS:
Inform the Governments of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Central
Europe.
Urgent
Complaint
Compliment
Feedback

Where are You?
1. Mombasa Port (KPA)
2. Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA)
3. Kenya Police
4. PM
5. Shipping Lines
6. Clearing Agency
7. Others
8. Main Menu

Choose Organisation

Comments: Problem or Solution
Type Message of 100 characters or less
9. Main Menu

Thank you for reporting. ISCOS will follow up.
9. Main Menu

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ISCOS Secretariat: Main Menu

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M-Ship Kenya: 0724724896
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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THANK YOU

END