

Global Maritime Security Conference 2019

7TH - 9TH OCT, 2019

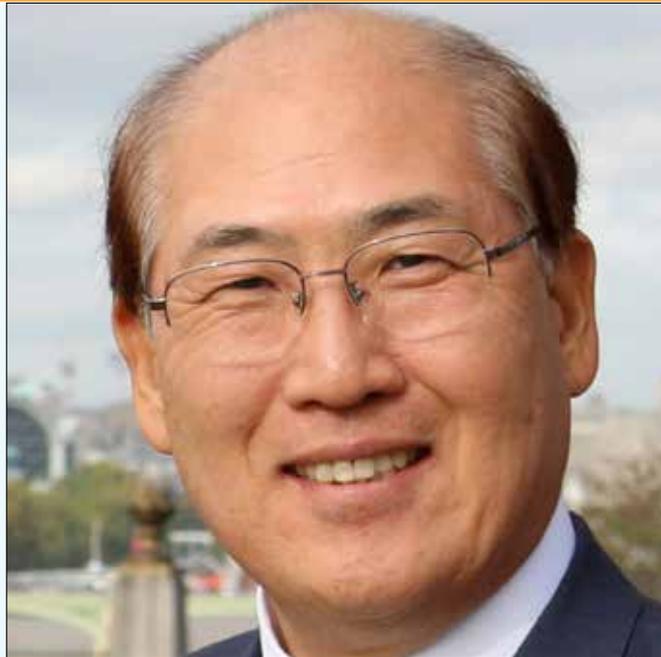
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE, ABUJA, NIGERIA.

DAY ONE

For registration and more information visit: www.globalmaritimesecurityconf.com



Kitack Lim,
IMO Secretary-General



GMSC: Kitack Lim Commends Nigeria

In his goodwill message at the opening of the Global Maritime Security Conference, Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization Mr. Kitack Lim said that the threat posed by piracy and armed robbery against ships has been on IMO's agenda since the early 1980's. In the late 1990's and the early 2000s, with the focus on the south China sea and the Straits of Malacca and Singapore.

He said that more recently, the focus on piracy activity turned to the African coasts, after the significant rise in such activities off Somalia and now the Gulf of Guinea.

Wary of the threats and the challenges it poses to global maritime trade Mr. Lim who was represented by the Assistant Secretary General of the Organization Lawrence Barchue said that IMO has developed guidance on the suppression of piracy for use of both governments and ship-owners/operators, which has been supplemented by industry-developed "Best Management Practices".

He further informed that guidance has also been issued on investigating piracy incidents, and this calls

on States to investigate and persecute suspected perpetrators; and on using contracted armed security personnel, leading to an international standard being developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

While commending Nigeria for hosting the conference Nigeria he said the strategic location of the country in the region makes it important for it to continue to lead the quest for the security of the region.

"Nigeria sits at the heart of the Gulf of Guinea. This region is noted for huge oil and gas deposits, large mineral reserves and abundant fisheries as well as food and cash crops. This combined with geographically strategic location shipping movements, makes this region a vitally important part of the global economy"

"the theme for this conference "let us join hands to manage and secure our waters". Working together is something that the IMO is fully on board with. Together is something that IMO is fully on board with. Together we can team up to deploy resources from all stakeholders in order to comprehensively address maritime insecurity within the region Lim concluded.

FEDERAL MINISTRY
OF TRANSPORTATION,
NIGERIA





R-L: Dr. Dakuku Peterside, DG, NIMASA; Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas; Ambassador Zubairu Dada, Nigeria Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Nigeria Minister of State for Transportation, Gbemisola Ruqqayah Saraki; Representative of Minister of Defense, Hajia Nuratu Jimoh Batagarwa; and other naval representatives

Efforts To Rid Our Waters of Piracy, Illegalities Yielding Fruits – *Buhari*

• *As President Commends FMOT, NIMASA, NIGERIAN NAVY For Organising GMSC*

President Muhammadu Buhari has restated that the efforts being put in place to mitigate all illegalities in the Nigerian waters are yielding the necessary results. This is as the President commended the Federal Ministry of Transportation, the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) and the Nigerian Navy for organizing the on-going global maritime conference in Abuja.

Buhari who was making his keynote address to declare the 3-day event opened stated that this is a very critical time to deliberate on issues of global maritime security adding that he is confident that the conference will give rise to innovative solutions as well as offer new mechanisms and strategies that would deepen global commitment towards ensuring effective and efficient security in the Gulf of Guinea and other critical areas essential for world maritime.

The President who represented by the Honorable of State for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Zubairu Dada said that the recent events in the Gulf of Guinea which has brought the region to epicenter of piracy which further makes the importance of the conference and the deliberations as well as resolutions very critical.

According to him "the discussions on the theme: Managing and securing our waters at this conference are not new; but the increase in threats to safe, secure shipping globally have

however heightened the focus on it, given the impact on global trade and the economic prosperity of our Nations"

He pointed out that available statistics indicate that efforts to eradicate the menace by the governments in the region are bearing dividends adding that the International Maritime Bureau's Report on Piracy which states the drastic decrease in the attacks in the Gulf of Guinea in the first and second quarter of 2019 is a pointer towards the effectiveness of the measures being taken by the Nigerian Government.

The President informed that his accent on the Suppression of Piracy and Other Maritime Offences Act has further put Nigeria in the right stead to deal with issues of piracy.

"I am pleased to mention that Nigeria has put in place a Suppression of Piracy and Other Maritime Offences Act, which I signed into law on the 24th of June, 2019. The Act, in essence seeks to give further credence to the relevant international treaties of the United Nations and International Maritime Organization ratified by Nigeria and the continental and regional treaties subscribed to on maritime safety and security. It is detailed and would provide the much needed Legal and institutional framework for Nigeria to ensure safe and secure shipping in Nigerian waters.

The Global Maritime Conference which commenced on the 7th is still ongoing till the 9th of October.



Minister

Legal Frame Work Will Deal With Piracy – *Saraki*

The Honourable Minister of State for Transportation Senator Gbemisola Saraki has stated that whilst there have been several endeavors to address the broad array of threats in the Gulf of Guinea, it was time to appraise the relevance and impacts of the various interventions initiated already to tackle maritime insecurity in the Gulf in order to revise and adapt them to address the current challenges.

According to her the absence of legal frameworks within member states in the region seems to be a significant challenge in the regional effort to stem the tide.

“Nigeria has put in place detailed legislation in the form of a Suppression of Piracy and Other Maritime Offences Act to tackle and repress piracy and other maritime crimes in the Nigerian maritime domain. Integrated maritime security architecture has also been emplaced with a command and control centre for effective policing of the Nigerian waters”.

Commenting on the importance of maritime to Nigeria, Senator Saraki said that Nigeria’s prosperity as nation has an inextricable linkage to maritime security considering that over 90% of world international trade is by sea adding that striving to maintain safe, secure shipping in our seas and oceans is non-negotiable.



Gbemisola Ruqayyah Saraki
Minister of State for Transportation, Nigeria



Ambassador Zubairu Dada
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs,
Nigeria





GLOBAL
MARITIME
SECURITY
CONFERENCE

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Dr. Dakuku Peterside
Director-General, NIMASA

Gulf Of Guinea: Dakuku Advocates More Profound Solution To Insecurity

The Director General of NIMASA Dr. Dakuku Peterside has stated his optimism that the Global Maritime Security Conference will offer a platform for the world to chart a way forward in tackling the issue of piracy in the Gulf Guinea.

The NIMASA Director General who spoke while welcoming delegates to the Global Maritime Conference in Abuja said that Maritime insecurity remains one of the significant challenges affecting international trade and the quest for sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and creation of jobs.

He noted that the scourge of maritime insecurity, of which the Gulf of Guinea has been one of the hotspots which has hindered global maritime considering the importance of the Gulf to international

commerce and the global energy balance.

He said this made Nigeria take the initiative by convening this Global Conference to examine the maritime security challenges in the region.

“Nigeria is keen to drive this initiative because it is a significant destination in the international and domestic shipping map, accounting for over 65% of cargo generated from the Gulf of Guinea region and with rich endowments in oil and gas reserves” he said.

While commenting about the conference he said global maritime experts will be making presentations in the course of the three day Conference with eleven (11) thematic sessions which have been carefully chosen to ensure holistic coverage of the multidimensional issues associated with maritime security in the 21st century.



Chief of Naval Staff (CNS), Vice Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas (middle); Loulla Mabilka Sosthene, CNS Gabon (right) and K. Alexis Maomou

Collaborations, Enforcement will Secure the Gulf of Guinea – *Ibok Ibas*

According to the Chief of Naval staff, the current security challenges in the Gulf of Guinea inarguably are of serious global concern, as criminal activities at sea are directed at the economic life and developmental prospects of individual countries and the African continent, at large recently.

He said the need for collaboration and enforcement of maritime security laws by regional partners and stakeholders towards enhanced maritime security within region cannot be overemphasized.

While acknowledging some gains of such efforts, the CNS said that the Global Maritime Security Conference presents yet another opportunity to harness collaborative initiatives towards curbing the maritime security challenges in the region with greater urgency.

Speaking further Admiral Ibok Ibas said that the theme of the Conference, “Enhancing Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea: Together We Win” very timely and apt.

The Naval chief said also note tha, recent efforts by Nigeria in concert with its neighbors and partner nations have proven useful in containing the associated threats. He pointed out that the 2013 Yaounde declaration between member states of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) led to the adoption of an inter-regional code of conduct to facilitate inter-navy cooperation. Under the ECOWAS Integrated Maritime Strategy. In his opinion continuous collaboration will greatly assist the region in ridding its maritime sector of illegalities.



What's On Tomorrow at GMSC: Your Daily Guide

TIME	ACTIVITY		TIME	ACTIVITY	
8:00 – 9:00	Registration continues				
9:00 – 10:30	Parallel Thematic Sessions Panel 5: Maritime Security, Legal Framework and Regulatory Issues in the Gulf of Guinea Lead Speaker: Oliver Stolpe , Country Representative for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Nigeria.	Executive Hall		Panel 8: Future of Maritime Security: Trends, Emerging Threat Vectors and Capacity Requirements Lead Speaker: Prof. Timothy Edmunds , Professor of International Security and Director of the Global Insecurities Centre at the University of Bristol	Africa Hall
	Panel 6: Maritime Security: Moving Beyond Policy Statements to Taking Collective Actions Lead Speaker: Jon Huggins , Senior Advise, Stable Seas	Aso Hall	12:45 – 13:45	Lunch	Aso Hall
10:40 – 11:05	Tea Break		14:00 – 15:30	Parallel Thematic Sessions Panel 10: Maritime Security Partnerships: The Roles of Civil Societies Lead Speaker: Mr. Philip Heyl , CEO, Heyl Group	Executive Hall
11:10 – 12:40	Parallel Thematic Sessions Panel 7: Technology Deployment in Maritime Security: Emerging Issues Lead Speaker: Prof. Dimitrios Dalaklis , Associate Professor, World Maritime University	Executive Hall		Panel 11: Harmonised Standard Operating Procedures (HSOP): A Model for Cooperation	Aso Hall

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Osagie Edward for GMSC2019 Publicity Sub Committee