



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

Sagar Sandesh

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IMO and WISTA launch first Women....



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Abandoned Palmali crew are caught in....

IMO Urges Action to Combat Piracy in Gulf of Guinea

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) will convene a maritime security working group in response to the growing number of pirate attacks on ships in the Gulf of Guinea.

The working group is set to meet at the next session of the Maritime Safety Committee, MSC 103, scheduled to take place in May, to provide an opportunity for Member States and international organizations to discuss further collaboration and possible action to address the problem.

IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim expressed his concern about the escalation in the number and severity of attacks on ships and crew in the Gulf of Guinea region, and insisted on

the need for stakeholders to work together to restore security and reduce the threats to the safety and security of crews and vessels operating in the region.

The IMO said urgency of the situation has been underlined by the recent **attack** on the containership MV Mozart on 23 January 2021, which resulted in a fatality and the kidnapping of 15 seafarers, who have **now been released**.

In a circular letter (No. 4382, issued 10 February), the Secretary-General said that IMO has been taking action to enhance the coordination of initiatives among stakeholders, including facilitating meetings with representatives of the industry, the Nigeria Maritime

Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) and the Interregional Coordination Centre for the Implementation of Regional Strategy for Maritime Safety and Security in Central and West Africa (ICC).

The Secretary-General also highlighted that ships need to implement the IMO endorsed Best Management Practices (BMP) for West Africa (WA) to avoid, deter, delay and report attacks.

The number of piracy incidents in the Gulf of Guinea surged to a record in 2020 with 130 crew kidnappings in 22 separate incidents, according to the International Maritime Bureau's Piracy Reporting Centre. Also concerning is the

fact that attacks are increasingly violent and occurring farther from shore, highlighting the increasing capabilities of armed pirate gangs in the region.

"IMO continues to provide technical assistance to Member States in the region regarding the implementation of maritime security measures," IMO said in a statement. **"The Organization is currently working with the Interregional Coordination Centre (ICC) to assist with the implementation of the Yaoundé Code of Conduct (YCC), a regional code aimed at enhancing maritime security and addressing piracy, armed robbery against ships, illegal fishing and other illicit maritime activity."**



Mr. General Kitack Lim - IMO Secretary

"The IMO West and Central Africa Maritime Security Trust Fund enables the Organization's maritime security capacity-building programme to assist Gulf of Guinea coastal States as well as regional centres under the framework of the Yaoundé Code of Conduct," the IMO added.

Great Eastern linked to bid for SCI



SCI vessel

It is reported that Great Eastern Shipping is likely to submit a bid to acquire government-owned Shipping Corporation of India.

The Indian government has been readying the privatisation of SCI, inviting expressions of interest for its 63.75% stake in the company. Splash reported earlier of plans for a management buyout of the

state-run line. All bids are due to be tabled within the next month.

SCI runs a fleet of 59 vessels consisting of two container vessels, 18 crude oil tankers, 15 dry bulk carriers, one LPG / ammonia carrier, two multipurpose vessels, eight offshore supply vessels and 13 product tankers.

DP World Cochin celebrates 10 years of excellence

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Global logistics company DP World operated International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) at Cochin has completed 10 glorious years as partner in India's trade growth. This milestone comes with the terminal achieving its all-time highest monthly throughput of more than 70,000 TEUs in January 2021, registering a 36% Year-on-Year growth over January 2020.

ICTT is India's first transshipment hub strategically located in close proximity to major global east-west trade routes. Since inception, the terminal has handled 4.68 million TEUs and 5,661 vessel calls including 1,858 Mainline vessel calls. In 2020, despite major business disruptions, DP World Cochin handled 6.31 lakh TEUs, registering marginal decline of -0.35% over 2019 volumes while



DP World Cochin has completed 10 glorious years as partner in India's trade growth

South India market collectively registered an average degrowth of -11.2%.

ICTT helped enhance trade in the South India Region

ICTT has played a key role in making Cochin a strategic hub to

enhance trade in the South India Region. The terminal provides fast and reliable connectivity to hinterland through multimodal transportation including rail and

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