

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION (IMO)

Support to NEPAD

Period of Report: August 2004 to April 2005

Implementation of NEPAD related programmes by IMO in Africa

In the period between August 2004 and April 2005, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), through its Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ICTP) assisted African countries through the implementation of NEPAD related programmes summarized below.

- **On Marine Pollution prevention** IMO organized a Regional Course on Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response in Pointe Noire, Republic of Congo, in November 2004 to assist the countries of West and Central Africa in preparing to combat oil and other noxious substance spills through contingency planning.
- The Republic of Congo was assisted to organize a workshop on the establishment of reception facilities, and a feasibility study on the same subject was carried out.
- To save the African ports from Invasive **Aquatic species** a Training Workshop for the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Port Biological Baseline Survey was held at Mombasa, Kenya on 18-20 August 2004. This event brought together a number of countries in the region to develop methods for dealing with the issue.
- National and Regional workshops on contingency **plans** as well as training have continued during the period.
- Under NEPAD's call for **maritime security** in Africa, a number of countries received assistance on Training of Trainers for maritime security. A Regional Train-the-Trainer Course/Workshop on Maritime Security for Eastern African countries was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from 28 January to 4 February 2005. This was followed by a similar workshop held in Durban, South Africa from 7 to 11 February 2005. For the West and Central Africa sub-region, the Train-the-Trainer course in maritime security was held in Accra, Ghana, from 28 February to 5 March 2005.
- To prepare the African countries to meet the standards for **safer shipping and cleaner environment**, the Flag states have been assisted through national and regional training courses on Flag State Implementation. One such five-day training seminar was held in Ethiopia from 18 to 22 April 2005, followed by a similar one in Eritrea the following week.

- Maritime safety awareness campaigns on **inland waterways navigation** of Lake Tanganyika and Malawi inland Lakes were held in Kigoma, Tanzania in March 2005 with a view to reduce the number of accidents and casualties in African inland waterways.
- It has been IMO's concern to see that **Port state control** is well carried out in Africa, to minimise the risk of sub-standard ships being diverted to Africa. In this regard, a number of sub-regional theoretical training courses for ship inspectors as well as national ones have been organized by IMO to assist the African coastal states.
- On **Search and Rescue**, IMO has continued to evaluate the existing infrastructure in a number of African coastal countries in order to assist them to put the SAR procedures in operation. Such assistance included one ICAO/AFCAC/IMO Search and Rescue evaluation mission to Uganda from 22 to 26 November 2004. The evaluation mission included SAR on Lake Victoria. The IMO Council approved in November 2004 the establishment of an International Search and Rescue (SAR) Fund to be used for the development and improvement of technical cooperation activities related to SAR along the African Coast (from Mauritania to Somalia).