

## Port Security Project – Newsletter (October 2023 - January 2024)

For the period October 2023 - January 2024, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has been implementing relevant activities for the project and working with the State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs, Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs of Kenya, to strengthen the legal framework related to IMO instruments dealing with maritime security. During this time, emphasis was on the legislative drafting process to support domestication of SOLAS chapter XI-2 and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, including control and compliance measures, with reference to MSC.1/Circ.1525 on development of national maritime security legislation.

As of 31 December 2023, legal workshops had been organised in all beneficiary countries, which enabled the verification of some of the findings of the Inception Phase methodology, the presentation and discussion of the Gap Analysis Report related to the assessment and review of existing national legislation of each participating country. These were prepared remotely by IMO consultants and laid the foundation for the work that will be carried out with the legal staff of Ministries of Transport or Maritime Affairs Authorities to begin the process of domestication of international regulations and drafting of laws and regulations.



From 31 October to 3 November 2023, a workshop was held in Mombasa, Kenya, in cooperation with the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA). This brought together 25 participants from key ministries, departments and agencies to assist national legislation and enable the provision of IMO treaty instruments to be implemented in each country. Topics discussed during the event include flag, port, and coastal State obligations relevant to the ISPS Code, as well familiarity with the content of IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1525 on Guidance for the development of national maritime security legislation.

The workshops provided the first stage of assistance to staff of the respective Ministries of Transport and Maritime Affairs Authorities by enhancing their skills and knowledge regarding the process of domesticating international IMO instruments related to port security and safety into national legislations.

Furthermore, the training provided participants with a solid foundation in oversight roles and responsibilities of Designated Authorities related to the implementation of the maritime security measures.