



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

ENHANCING MARITIME SECURITY IN AFRICA: WHOLE-OF-AFRICA MARITIME DIALOGUE 2019

INFORMATION NOTE

- WHAT:** The Africa Center for Strategic Studies will host a five-day seminar focusing on “Enhancing the Continent-Wide Maritime Security Architecture in Africa.” It will be the Africa Center’s second annual Whole-of-Africa Maritime Dialogue following the first which was held in Victoria, Seychelles in March 2018.
- WHERE:** Windhoek, Namibia
- WHEN:** 13 – 17 May 2019
- WHO:** Senior maritime security professionals are expected to attend from the following states: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Comoros, Republic of Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, and Uganda. Nominees will be senior officials (O6 or equivalent) from the uniformed forces (particularly navy and coasts guard) or government ministries or agencies (such as the defense, interior or maritime security agencies, Port Authority or Maritime Administration) with direct supervisory responsibility for maritime security programs and/or policy. Nominees will have relevant experience in the design, execution, and monitoring of maritime security programs and policy. In addition, participants from regional and international bodies, maritime coordination centers, and U.S. government officials will also be invited to participate.
- WHY:** A key recommendation arising out of the 2018 Whole-of-Africa Maritime Security Dialogue was to devote collective effort toward clarifying and connecting the maritime security architecture in Africa. The proliferation of instruments and institutions, has created a complicated maritime security landscape. It has created instances of duplication, gaps, overlap, conflict, and confusion, reducing financial and personnel efficiencies and resulting in initiatives or mechanisms that may not deliver effective results.
- HOW:** Prior to the event, participants will receive a read-ahead paper to provide a picture of the current multinational instruments and institutions relating to maritime security in Africa. The paper will be a starting point for discussion of: 1) How the maritime security architecture is currently intended to work; 2) How the maritime security

architecture actually does work; and 3) How the maritime security architecture should work.

Participants will have a unique opportunity to meet their counterparts from other parts of the continent, and to work together towards identifying ways to enhance the coherence of maritime security institutions, instruments, and inter-regional collaboration around the continent. The recommendations developed by the end of the week will be disseminated to a wider audience to inform collective efforts to improve maritime security.

The program will include plenary sessions, small group discussions, cooperative exercises, and an icebreaker. The program will be conducted in English, French, and Portuguese. The Africa Center's non-attribution policy will apply.