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PRESS RELEASE

The Secretariat of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Port State Control for the West and Central African Region (Abuja MoU), in collaboration with the Maritime Anti-Corruption Network (MACN), organized a training on Ethics and Integrity Leadership for Port State Control Officers (PSCOs) in the region on 10-11 June 2024.

The Ethics and Integrity Leadership Training provided a means of building the capacity of Port State Control Officers (PSCOs) in the region and reinforced the [IMO MSC-MEPC.4/Circ.2 Code of Good Practice for Port State Control Officers](#), which encompasses three key fundamental principles: Integrity, Professionalism, and Transparency, in the conduct of PSC inspections. The Training also provided an avenue to emphasize the Core Values of the Abuja MoU - Professionalism, Respect, Accountability, Communication, Teamwork, Technology, Integrity, Safety, Security, and Excellence. (PRACTTISSE).

The twenty-two (22) Member States of the MoU each nominated one (1) PSCO to participate in the training. The Secretariat has also enhanced its scope of responsibilities by organizing further training/workshops for Port Authorities personnel, collaborating with countries that have Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) capabilities, and implementing a mentor/mentee scheme on PSC between Member States.

On behalf of the Chairman of Abuja MoU, Hon. Ebrima Sillah, the Honourable Minister of Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of The Gambia; the Vice-Chairman, the Hon. Minister of Marine and Blue Economy, Mr. Adegboyega Oyetola of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; the Secretariat appreciate the Government of Denmark through the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Danida) and the Maritime Anti-Corruption Network for their unwavering support towards the execution of this training.

Capt. Sunday Umoren
Secretary-General



Abuja MoU

Capt. Sunday M. Umoren

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Notes to Editors:

Abuja MoU

The Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control for West and Central African Region (Abuja MoU) was signed by 16 Countries represented by their Maritime Authorities on 22nd October 1999 in Abuja, Nigeria.

Currently, the Memorandum has 20 full members, namely, Angola, Benin, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Congo, Cote D'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Togo.

The Secretariat of the MoU is provided by the Nigerian Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy formerly referred to as the Ministry of Transportation, and is located in Lagos, Nigeria. The Abuja MoU Information System (AMIS) is a fully automated database that collects and stores PSC inspection data uploaded by Member States. The database is designed to provide information exchange on PSCI data within the region.

Port State Control is the inspection carried out on visiting foreign ships to verify their compliance with international instruments on safety, pollution prevention, and seafarers' living and working conditions. It is a means of enforcing compliance in cases where the owner and flag State have failed in their responsibilities to implement or ensure compliance. The port State can require deficiencies to be put right and detain the ship for this purpose if necessary. It is therefore also a Port State's defence against visiting substandard shipping.