

WOMESA Newsletter

Think Maritime, Think Women

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**Newsletter of the Kenyan Chapter of the:
Association for Women in the Maritime Sector in Eastern & Southern Africa.**

IN THIS ISSUE

GLOLITTER PROJECT...

Page 03

*INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR
WOMEN 2022...Page 04*

*WEBINARS ATTENDED IN
2022...Page 04*

*MENSTRUAL HYGIENE
DAY...Page 05*

*MORE LADIES BREAKING THE
GLASS CEILING...Page 08*

*WOMESA KENYA
ACHIEVEMENTS...Page 08*



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON'S DESK

has disrupted the world economy. The issue of climate change has also been affecting food security and many households are without enough food and water. We are learning the new norm and adapting to the technology.

Locally in Kenya, we thank God for the peaceful general elections held in August 2022 and we look forward to prosperous new government.

As I look back, there has been growth in WOMESA.

In July 2021, WOMESA Kenya made a proposal to Ocean Conservancy's 2021 Small Grants Program - Joanna Toole GloLitter

Partnerships Grant where we secured a grant fund of \$20,000 US Dollars under the proposal "Empowerment of Beach Management Units (BMUs) on Mitigation of Pollution Effects as a Result of Abandoned, Lost, or Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG) in Kilifi County, Kenya."

In Training and Capacity Building, individual development in various levels, technical and leadership has greatly improved. In 2022, various members have attended regional and international forums and notably, Ms. Elizabeth Marami has been certified as a UK Chief Officer unlimited/master 3000GT, Ms. Harriet Kadzo was issued with a Certificate of

It is with great pleasure to welcome you to our publication on WOMESA Kenya trends, developments and plans.

The year 2022 has been a learning curve for many because of the NEW NORMAL after the world pandemic of corona virus from late 2019 to date and the war of Russia and Ukraine which



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**Association for Women in the Maritime Sector in
Eastern & Southern Africa.**

P.O. Box 95076 – 80104 MOMBASA, KENYA

TEL: (+254) 41 2318398/9, FAX: (+254) 41 2318397

Email: info@ke.womesa.org | Website: www.kenyawomesa.org

Competency (CoC) by Kenya Maritime Authority, Ms. Virginia Muindi was recognized in the Maritime SheEO Leadership programme, Ms. Angeline Nyambu was awarded the VLIR-UOS scholarship to pursue a Master's degree in Belgium, Ms. Aziza Swazuri and Ms. Kulthum Salim are currently in World Maritime University – Sweden.

In Policy development, WOMESA Kenya domesticated the WOMESA Region constitution and aligned through registration as bylaws for use by WOMESA Kenya. WOMESA Kenya further seeks to address the WOMESA Region's Strategic Plan through its activities in 2023 and beyond.

In Public Policy and Sector Reforms, we launched the Gender and Equal Opportunities sub-committee under Mombasa Port and Northern Corridor Community Charter (MPNCCC) in Kisumu during the inaugural

International Day for Women in Maritime Regional WOMESA meeting.

In Mentorship and Career Development, this year, we have mentored 400 girls in one secondary school and 147 seafarers from 3 different Institutions upon new employment in various shipping companies both in technical and cruises (hospitality) in 2022 and we look forward to starting the year 2023 with more sessions.

In Publicity and Advocacy, the social media platforms are active. There is coverage of our activities in media, radio, TV and print. Keep on following and liking us on twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and Website. Talk to us through our official mail which is shared at the end of this newsletter.

The Resource Mobilization is an area for improvement in 2023.

The year 2022 highlights includes; the International Day for Women in Maritime established by the International Maritime Organization to be observed on 18th May, every year. The inaugural celebration was held in Kisumu.

Another highlight is the government nomination of our Patron and founder member Amb. Nancy Karigithu to vie for IMO Secretary General position. This is a great honour to the Africa continent and globally to women specifically in Maritime. We wish her success and offer our support.

Let's collaborate more in 2023.

'Comebackability' - The FIFA World Cup 2022 quote.

Best Wishes from,
Fiona Mbandi,
Chairperson – WOMESA Kenya.

LEADERSHIP ACCELERATOR PROGRAM ORGANIZED BY THE MARITIME SHEEO IN PARTNERSHIP WITH IMO

Maritime SheEO is a program that offers a bouquet of services focusing on the business case for diversity. It aims to create solutions that can impact the maritime and allied industries – with a focus on diversity & inclusion (D&I), leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship and competitive advantage.

They work with organizations to create a level playing field for women and environment

conducive for women to rise to leadership positions. Their team of experts employ D&I initiatives to address and eliminate unconscious bias, conduct gender sensitization programs and help with the smooth transition of women from ship to shore positions.

Their goal is to increase the participation of women and eliminate all forms of biases in the Maritime Industry.

Two WOMESA Kenya has so far benefitted from the programme which started in March 2022.

Ms. Virginia Muindi was the first member to benefit from March – August 2022. Ms. Constance Mcharo is currently taking the Leadership course under the Maritime SheEO launched on 15th September, 2022.

GLOLITTER PROJECT

In July 2021, WOMESA Kenya made a proposal to Ocean Conservancy’s 2021 Small Grants Program - Joanna Toole GloLitter Partnerships Grant where we secured a grant fund of \$20,000 US Dollars under the proposal *“Empowerment of Beach Management Units (BMUs) on Mitigation of Pollution Effects as a Result of Abandoned, Lost, or Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG) in Kilifi County, Kenya,”*



The GloLitter Partnerships (GLP) is a Project funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) and led by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Ocean Conservancy created the Joanna Toole GloLitter Partnerships Grant in recognition of the late Joanna Toole, who was tragically killed when Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 crashed en route to Nairobi on 10 March 2019. Joanna was a rising star in the environmental community, fighting against the impacts of ghost gear around the globe in her roles as an FAO fisheries project manager and co-founder of Ocean Conservancy’s Global Ghost Gear Initiative®. The Grant will ensure that Joanna’s legacy



lives on, and that her passion and dedication to improving the health of the ocean for the people and animals that depend on it will continue to be an inspiration for us all.

WOMESA Kenya has been able to reach out the community and sensitized them on the

Abandoned, Lost, or Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG) as well as the effects of the ALDFG to the marine life.

The Implementation team comprises 5 members, headed by Ms. Winnie Maina.

THE INAUGURAL INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR WOMEN 2022



The International Day for women in Maritime is a day established by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to be observed on 18th May every year.

The day seeks to promote the recruitment, retention and sustainable employment of women in the maritime sector, raise the profile of women in maritime, strengthen IMO's commitment to sustainable development Goal 5 (Gender Equality) and support work to address the current gender imbalance in maritime.

This year, the very first IDWIM was held in Kisumu. The choice of Kisumu as a region to hold the International event was attributed due to the fact that it's a Blue economy hub with proximity and interactions with Lake Basins Development organizations connecting Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

Pursuant to a technical Assistance Request by WOMESA Region, IMO sponsored the two -day event aimed at bringing together a wealth of experience and vast knowledge in the key tenets of

maritime clusters, share best practices ,exchange knowledge and enhance capacity building which can be utilized by the various partners and delegates back in their countries and institutions .

The event had an attendance of partners and delegates from 16 countries: Angola, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Somali, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

WEBINARS ATTENDED IN 2022

WOMESA Kenya had an opportunity to attend the following important webinars organized by IMO;

- International Women's Day special webinar organized by IMO as they launch the Maritime Leadership Programme for 2022 on 8th March, 2022.
- International Day for Women in Maritime Webinar organized by IMO on 18th May, 2022.

The International Day for women in Maritime is a day established by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to be observed on 18th May every year.

MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY 2022 AT MAWENI MIXED SECONDARY SCHOOL IN NYALI ON 21ST JUNE, 2022



Poor menstrual hygiene caused by a lack of education, persisting taboos and stigma, limited access to hygienic menstrual products and poor sanitation infrastructure undermines the educational opportunities, health and overall social status of women and girls* around the world.

As a result, millions of women and girls are prevented from reaching their full potential.

This year, WOMESA Kenya marked Menstrual Hygiene Day at Maweni Mixed Secondary School

in Nyali – on 21st June, 2022. Over 400 girls were mentored that day.

Led by Ms. Betty Makena, WOMESA Kenya made a very big impact to the girls, not only by mentoring but also donating sanitary towels to the girls.

We also had friends of WOMESA Kenya – Hon. Hassan Omar and Hon. Mohamed Ali who also supported the programme both in Cash and in-kind. They were represented by Ms. Rehema Omar and Ms. Migweni Rashid at the Venue.

THE DAY OF THE SEAFARER 2022 - 24th June, 2022

Every year, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) observes the Day of the Seafarer in the month of June with the goal of highlighting and recognizing the priceless contribution seafarers make to International trade and the world's economy.

This year, under the theme '*Your voyage - then and now, share your journey*' WOMESA Kenya celebrated this special day through mentorship programme to Female Maritime Cadets from Bandari Maritime Academy, Technical University of Mombasa and Kenya Coast National Polytechnic on 24th June, 2022 at Bandari Maritime Academy.

About 147 seafarers were mentored.



COURTESY CALL AT KENYA PORTS AUTHORITY - 6th May, 2022

WOMESA Kenya had a privilege to pay a courtesy call to the Acting Managing Director – Ambassador John Mwangemi on 6th May, 2022. WOMESA Kenya Chairperson Ms. Fiona Mbandi was accompanied by two Divisional Heads from KPA; Ms. Evelyn U. Chibule and Ms. Everline I. Shigoli.

The MD recommended that we relate with KPA Corporate CSI and see where we can partner. KPA also offered support during the International Day for Women in Maritime.



WORLD MARITIME DAY 2022 - 23rd September, 2022

The World Maritime theme for 2022 - **'New technologies for greener shipping'** – reflected the need to support a green transition of the maritime sector into a sustainable future, while leaving no one behind. The theme provided an opportunity to focus on the importance of a

sustainable maritime sector and the need to build back better and greener in a post pandemic world.

WOMESA Kenya participated in this year's World maritime Day at Serena Beach Resort and Spa on 23rd September, 2022 courtesy of Kenya Maritime Authority.

WORLD FISHERIES DAY 2022 - 19th November, 2022

World Fisheries Day is celebrated annually on November 21 by all people whose livelihood depends on fisheries. Its main objectives are to highlight the contribution of commercial fishing to the global economy and to raise awareness of the importance of sustainable fisheries.

Fishing is a major source of food in many regions; according to estimates of the Food and Agriculture





Organization of the United Nations (FAO), fisheries and aquaculture provide direct and indirect employment to other half a billion people in developing countries.

This year, WOMESA Kenya in partnership with Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) celebrated the World Fisheries day 2022 through *Mangrove planting at Majaoni Site – Shanzu, Mombasa Kenya on Saturday 19th November, 2022*. We planted over 200 mangrove trees.



WOMESA KENYA TRAINING FOR MEMBERS AT PRIDE INN HOTEL TOWN MOMBASA – 11TH NOVEMBER, 2022

On 11th November, 2022 WOMESA Kenya hosted a training for its members at Pride Inn Hotel – Mombasa Town where members were trained on

Visibility, Recognition and Impact by Mr. Martin Muteti (Consultant) referred as ‘tomato’ from Bellaton Consulting Group.

‘A Lion doesn’t need to roar to prove it’s a lion!’ – Mr. Muteti

Members were also updated on the GloLitter Project, Chairperson’s Report as well as Treasurers Report.

ACHIEVERS 2022

NO.	NAME	RECOGNITION
1	Mrs. Nancy Karigithu	An Ambassador and Special Envoy for Maritime and Blue Economy appointed in 2022. On 12 th December, 2022 she was named in Lloyd’s List of Most Powerful And Influential Personality in Shipping Industry.
2	Ms. Everline Shigoli	Promoted to General Manager Supply Chain – Kenya Ports Authority
3	Ms. Evelyn Mwamure	Promoted to General Manager Corporate Research, Planning and Compliance – Kenya Ports Authority
4	Ms. Ivy Zena Faki	Promoted to be a head of department In Charge of Safety and Environment – Kenya Ports Authority.
5	Angeline Wanjala Nyambu	Awarded the VLIR-UOS scholarship to pursue a Master’s degree in Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management (Oceans & Lakes) in Belgium 2022 - 2024
6	Ms. Elizabeth Marami	Certified as a UK Chief Officer unlimited/master 3000GT on 10 th December, 2022

MORE LADIES BREAKING THE GLASS CEILING.



A. One of our member, Ms. Sicily Muthoni Gatiti from Kenya Coast Guard Service attended the 24th Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO) general meeting in Addis Ababa – Ethiopia between 4th and 9th December, 2022 under the theme “*promoting best policing practices in the fight against terrorism and transnational organized crime in EAPCCO region and beyond*”.

She raised awareness on importance of creating women networks in 14 Police countries within EAPCCO. The Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO) is a regional police body whose membership consists of Chiefs of Police of the 14 countries.

B. On 8th December, 2022, Kenya Maritime Authority officers issued Ms. Harriet Kadzo, her Certificate of Competency (CoC). She is the first female from Bandari Maritime Academy to obtain the certificate which is a seafarer’s proof of competency to work on board ships. Harriet aims to work as 3rd Officer on ship.

“This has been a long journey. I have had to persevere and have patience” she said, “If you have a dream, go for it!”.

For all upcoming seafarers, we say “Your dreams are valid” Keep on training, keep on becoming a best version of yourself and Be the Best Seafarer the World Ever Had.

WOMESA KENYA ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1 KRA PIN certificate for WOMESA Kenya.
- 2 Registration Certificate of WOMESA Kenya By – Laws.
- 3 Memorandum of Understanding between WOMESA Kenya and Kenya Coast National Polytechnic (KCNP).
- 4 Approval to Constitute Gender and Equal Opportunities sub-committee under Mombasa Port and Northern Corridor Community Charter (MPNCCC).

ACTIVITIES FOR 2023

We anticipate an active 2023 and the following are the anticipated key activities;

- Workshop on International Day for Women In Maritime 2023
- Quarterly Training of Members
- Annual General Meeting and Elections in June 2023
- Mentorship programs

GALLERY





HAVE A BLESSED YEAR 2023!!!

Our Mailing Address is:

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Association for Women in the Maritime Sector in
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P.O. Box 95076 – 80104.

MOMBASA, KENYA

Email: info@ke.womesa.org Facebook: KenyaWomesa

Twitter: [@KenyaWomesa](https://twitter.com/KenyaWomesa) Website: www.kenyawomesa.org

LinkedIn: WOMESA Kenya