

Draft

Talking Points – RECS Meeting and Science to Policy Platform 4 – 7 Dec 2023

Maputo

Introduction

The Port Management Association of Eastern & Southern Africa provides a platform for port authorities, terminal operators and other high-level stakeholders looking to build consensus on regional issues affecting the ports and maritime sector.

Our interventions largely happen at the technical level.

Technical Committee

We have technical committee discussions which take place twice a year in person and ad-hoc discussions virtually. The main technical committee is the Port Operations committee which looks at:

1. Safety & Security of port operations
2. Protection of the marine environment
3. Sustainable port operations

Partnerships

Through partnerships with the African Union which have culminated into the formation of the Africa Green Ports Forum (AGPF) – we have held 2 technical meetings this year. The meetings also involved technical site visits to get a better understanding of how ports in the Eastern & Southern Africa Region (ESA) are incorporating sustainable port operations.

PMAESA recently held its 1st Harbour Masters Forum – the initial meeting looked at the specific issue of Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) and what technologies, instruments, tools are available to ensure the implementation thereof.

Through the INTERREG program with our members in Reunion Island – we have facilitated the exchange of information on the Green Port concept and on the Environmental Ship Index - This approach rewards the 'greenest' shipping companies that are working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality.

Implementing carbon-neutral port operations: PMAESA has encouraged port authorities to gradually shift their fossil fuel powered port equipment to electric-powered equipment. For example – electric tug-boats/pilot boats.

PMAESA has always worked towards improved information sharing amongst port authorities, port officials/representatives at all levels.