

**NAIROBI CONVENTION FOCAL POINTS AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC
COMMUNITIES (RECS) MEETING 4 DECEMBER 2023 AFRIN PRESTIGE HOTEL,
MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE**

➤ **TANZANIA NATIONAL INITIATIVES ON BLUE/OCEAN ECONOMY AND
OCEAN GOVERNANCE**

- ❖ Currently Tanzania Mainland does not have the National Blue Economy Policy. The government started formulating its National Blue Economy Policy and its implementing Strategy early this year (2023) and the said draft National Blue Economy Policy and its Strategy are currently at approval stage. The Vice President's Office (VPO) is mandated with all the coordination roles regarding its formulation. We expect the said National Blue Economy Policy and its Strategy to be approved in the coming few days.
- ❖ On the other hand, Zanzibar has its Blue Economy Policy of 2020 which is instrumental in the following key priority areas: Fisheries and aquaculture, maritime trade and infrastructure, energy, tourism and marine and maritime governance. Through the implementation of this policy, Zanzibar has the opportunity to increase employment, improve the balance of trade, promote food and nutritional security and maintain environmental resilience.
- ❖ In October, 2023, the government of the United Republic of Tanzania formulated Guidelines for the Development of Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) in the United Republic of Tanzania. The goal of these guidelines is to guide the development and implementation of MSP which will ensure sustainable utilization of marine and freshwater resources while safeguarding biodiversity, ecosystems, and the well-being of communities in URT.
- ❖ The recent government initiatives to accelerate economic growth through, among others, blue economy agenda is likely to stimulate unsustainable use of valuable marine and fresh water resources.
- ❖ Marine Spatial Plans is a practical means that will assist the government of the United Republic of Tanzania to rationally organize its marine and fresh water space in order to strike a balance between development demands and conservation of ecosystems.
- ❖ The MSP guideline has been developed to provide guidance on development and implementation of MSP in the country which will facilitate the government to achieve national and international objectives and commitments, as set out in Tanzania Vision 2025, Zanzibar Vision 2050, Nairobi convention for the development, protection, management of marine and coastal environment of the WIO, IOC UNESCO Steps of MSP planning, Africa Integrated Maritime Strategy 2050 and Agenda 2030 on sustainable development goals.
- ❖ Thank you for listening.