

مرسوم سلطاني

رقم ٢٠٢٠/٣٠

بالتصديق على ميثاق رابطة الدول المطلة على المحيط الهندي

سلطان عمان

نحن هيثم بن طارق

بعد الاطلاع على النظام الأساسي للدولة الصادر بالمرسوم السلطاني رقم ٩٦/١٠١ ،
وعلى ميثاق رابطة الدول المطلة على المحيط الهندي الموقع في مدينة بيرث الأسترالية
بتاريخ ٩ من أكتوبر ٢٠١٤ م ،
وبناء على ما تقتضيه المصلحة العامة .

رسمنا بما هو آت

المادة الأولى

التصديق على الميثاق المشار إليه ، وفقا للصيغة المرفقة .

المادة الثانية

ينشر هذا المرسوم في الجريدة الرسمية ، ويعمل به من تاريخ صدوره .

صدر في : ٢٤ من رجب سنة ١٤٤١ هـ

الموافق : ١٩ من مارس سنة ٢٠٢٠ م

هيثم بن طارق

سلطان عمان

CHARTER OF THE INDIAN OCEAN RIM ASSOCIATION (IORA)

The Governments of Australia, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Union of the Comoros, Republic of India, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Madagascar, Federation of Malaysia, Republic of Mauritius, Republic of Mozambique, Sultanate of Oman, Republic of Seychelles, Republic of Singapore, Republic of South Africa, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, Kingdom of Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Republic of Yemen:

CONSCIOUS of historical bonds created through millennia among the peoples of the Indian Ocean Rim and with a sense of recovery of history;

COGNIZANT of economic transformation and speed of change the world over which is propelled significantly by increased intensity in regional economic co-operation;

REALISING that the countries washed by the Indian Ocean in their diversity, offer vast opportunities to enhance economic interaction and co-operation over a wide spectrum to mutual benefit and in a spirit of equality;

CONVINCED that the Indian Ocean Rim, by virtue of past shared experience and geo-economic linkages among Member States, is poised for the creation of an effective Association and practical modalities of economic co-operation; and

CONSCIOUS of their responsibility to promote the welfare of their peoples by improving their standards of living and quality of life.

INTENDING the present Charter to replace the Charter of the Association as adopted in 1997 and amended in 2010; Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Sultanate of Oman, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen

CONSIDERING that the 13th Council of Ministers in Perth, Australia, agreed to a new name of the Association as the "Indian Ocean Rim Association" (IORA);

Have adopted the following:

1. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Charter, the terms used in the Charter are defined as follows, unless the context otherwise indicates:

- (a) "Association" means Indian Ocean Rim Association, "IORA" and which was formerly known as the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation or IOR-ARC;
- (b) "Member States" means the Member States of the IORA;

- (c) "Observer" means the States/Organizations which are granted Observer Status by the IORA;
- (d) "Dialogue Partners" means States/Organizations with which IORA enjoys consultative relationships in agreed areas of common interest;
- (e) "IORA Region" means the territories of the Member States;
- (f) "Council of Ministers" '(COM)' means the Council of Ministers of the IORA;
- (g) "Committee of Senior Officials" '(CSO)' means the Committee of Senior Officials of the IORA;
- (h) Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG) means the Group of nominated academics from Member States;
- (i) Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF) means the nominated representatives of the private sector;
- (j) Working Group on Trade and Investment (WGTI) means the nominated representatives from Government responsible for trade and economic cooperation;
- (k) "Working Group of Heads of Mission" (WGHM) means the Ambassadors/Heads of Mission of the IORA Member States based in Pretoria, Republic of South Africa or as decided otherwise;
- (l) "Specialized Agencies" means the organs of IORA established by the decision of the Member States;
- (m) "Secretariat" means the Secretariat of the IORA in Mauritius;
- (n) "Secretary-General" means the Secretary-General of the IORA;
- (o) "Host Country/Government" means the Country/Government of the Republic of Mauritius.

2. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

The Association will facilitate and promote economic co-operation, bringing together inter-alia representatives of Member States' governments, businesses and academia. In a spirit of multilateralism, the Association seeks to build and expand understanding and mutually beneficial co-operation through a consensus-based, evolutionary and non-intrusive approach. The Association will apply the following fundamental principles without qualification or exception to all Member States:-

- (a) Co-operation within the framework of the Association will be based on respect for the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, political independence, non-interference in internal affairs, peaceful co-existence and mutual benefit;
- (b) The membership of the Association will be open to all sovereign States of the Indian Ocean Rim which subscribe to the principles and objectives of the Charter and are willing to undertake commitments under the Charter;
- (c) Decisions on all matters and issues and at all levels will be taken on the basis of consensus;

- (d) Bilateral and other issues likely to generate controversy and be an impediment to regional co-operation efforts will be excluded from deliberations;
- (e) Co-operation within the Association is without prejudice to rights and obligations entered into by Member States within the framework of other economic and trade co-operation arrangements which will not automatically apply to Member States of the Association. It will not be a substitute for, but seeks to reinforce, be complementary to and consistent with their bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral obligations;
- (f) A member-driven approach will be followed by Member States to achieve the goals and objectives of the Association;
- (g) Promotion of principles of good governance by Member States will enable smooth implementation of programmes.

3. OBJECTIVES

- (a) To promote the sustained growth and balanced development of the region and of the Member States, and to create common ground for regional economic co-operation;
- (b) To focus on those areas of economic co-operation which provide maximum opportunities to develop shared interests and reap mutual benefits. Towards this end, to formulate and implement projects for economic co-operation relating to trade facilitation and liberalization, promotion of foreign investment, scientific and technological exchanges, tourism, movement of natural persons and service providers on a non-discriminatory basis; and the development of infrastructure and human resources inter-alia poverty alleviation, promotion of maritime transport and related matters, cooperation in the fields of fisheries trade, research and management, aquaculture, education and training, energy, IT, health, protection of the environment, agriculture, disaster management;
- (c) To seek to reinvigorate the Association by progressing the prioritised agenda decided upon at the Council of Ministers' meeting in Bengaluru in November 2011. That meeting gave a focused direction towards formulation of a dynamic road map of cooperation, in consonance with the growing global emphasis on the unique geo-strategic primacy of the Indian Ocean rim. The priority areas are: (i) Maritime Safety and Security; (ii) Trade and Investment Facilitation; (iii) Fisheries Management; (iv) Disaster Risk Management; (v) Academic, Science & Technology Cooperation; and (vi) Tourism and Cultural Exchanges;
- (d) To explore all possibilities and avenues for trade liberalisation, to remove impediments to, and lower barriers towards, freer and enhanced flow of goods, services, investment, and technology within the region;
- (e) To encourage close interaction of trade and industry, academic institutions, scholars and the peoples of the Member States without any discrimination among Member States and without prejudice to obligations under other regional economic and trade co-operation arrangements;
- (f) To strengthen co-operation and dialogue among Member States in international fora on global economic issues, and where desirable to develop shared strategies and take common positions in the international fora on issues of mutual interest; and
- (g) To promote co-operation in development of human resources, particularly through closer linkages among training institutions, universities and other specialised institutions of the Member States.