



Arrangement and Call for Papers

Second IORA Blue Economy Core Group Workshop on "*Maritime Connectivity and Financing for Development in the Indian Ocean Rim*"

July 13-14, 2016 Qingdao, China

Introduction

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, in collaboration with the Department of International Relation and Cooperation (DIRCO) and the IORA Secretariat, welcomes delegates to the Second IORA Blue Economy Core Group Workshop to be held at Shangri-La Hotel in Qingdao, China, on July 13 & 14, 2016.

Blue Economy, as the comprehensive concept of environmentally friendly, resource-saving coastal and ocean economy, needs joint efforts of worldwide stakeholders across oceans. China put forward the blue economy strategy in coastal regions in 2009, and upgrades it into broad and opening-up initiatives along the Maritime Silk road since 2013. As the important dialogue partner of IORA, China is willing to share research progress and cooperative opportunities in implementing the blue economy initiatives with participants from the Indian Ocean Rim region.

The Workshop is funded with the contribution by Chinese Government to the Special Fund of IORA in the year of 2015.

Theme & Main Topics

The theme of the Workshop is ***Maritime connectivity and financing for development in the Indian Ocean Rim.***

The conference aims to boost cross-ocean blue economy cooperation among Member States and Dialogue Partners of the Indian Ocean Rim Association. The Second IORA Blue Economy Core Group workshop will focus on, but not be limited to, 4 priority areas as follows:

1. Financing of ocean economy infrastructure and development projects, especially in port infrastructure and shipping
2. The *Economic Development Zone* (EDZ) model in China: EDZ as drivers for economic development and foreign investment, and linkages to international trade
3. Co-operation in marine capacity building programmes for education and skills training for IORA Member States
4. Opportunities for co-operation between China and IORA in the sustainable development of the Blue Economy

Besides, a site visit to maritime infrastructure projects will be arranged.

Participant Requirements

Each member state and dialogue partner is invited to nominate 1 to 2 participants, among whom at least 1 participant is supposed to be expert in marine economics & industries, as well as international maritime issues. English will be the main working language during the Workshop.

Abstracts & Papers

All abstracts submitted to the Workshop should be in English. Authors are invited to submit a concise and informative one-page abstract (no less than 500 words) that clearly describes the contents of the proposed paper. The title, full name, the affiliation, and the email address should be included. The abstract should be in WORD format. Full papers should be submitted after acceptance of the abstracts. All papers submitted to the Workshop should be in English.

Hospitality

Participants' meals, transport between airport and hotel as well as accommodation for a total of up to three nights in Qingdao will be provided during the Workshop. Air tickets for international travels and domestic travels within China are supposed to be borne by participants themselves.

Important Dates

Deadline for abstract: June 5, 2016

Deadline for on-line registration: June 8, 2016

Deadline for full paper: June 20, 2016

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Indian Ocean Rim Association



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