

# OPENING REMARKS BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE KENYA COAST GUARD SERVICE AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE OIC CONFERENCE

Principal Secretary for Internal Security and National Administration  
Sir, KCGS Senior Leadership, UNODC Mentors, Officers In Charge of various stations across our AOR, Fellow Coastees,

**Hamjamboni.**

PS Sir, first and foremost, thank you for honoring our invitation and dedicating time out of your busy schedule to join us on this auspicious occasion. Chief Guest Sir, before you are the men and women who form the backbone of the KCGS workforce.

Allow me to quote from the acclaimed leadership book "It's Your Ship" by Captain D. Michael Abrashoff: "The best leaders are those who lead by example." Captain Abrashoff transformed a troubled ship into the

best guided-missile destroyer in the U.S. Navy within 18 months. His ability to build and mentor his team was defining and decisive.

When I took the helm of this great ship, my commitment was, and still remains, to build a highly efficient workforce that upholds the values of integrity, professionalism, and teamwork, striving towards a safer and more prosperous maritime environment for all.

Chief Guest Sir, we have made significant strides leveraging on our development partners who have literally walked a mile in our shoes. Through our steadfast partner INL, the KCGS has benefitted from numerous projects implemented by UNODC, including training and capacity building, equipment modernization, and international outreach assistance.

I am overjoyed to witness that the next batch of KCGS leadership is undergoing a leadership and mentorship program. This one-week conference will host more than five national agencies, underscoring our commitment to entrenching a whole-of-government approach within our maritime law enforcement operations. Additionally, we

have invited four external facilitators aimed at upskilling to keep pace with a highly dynamic industry.

As part of the professional development ingrained within this conference, it is without a doubt that the sessions will add significant value to our planned leadership development journey.

To my fellow coastees, I urge all of you to utilize this moment and gain as much as possible from the experienced pool of facilitators that shall be with you.

With those remarks, it is my singular honor and duty to request you to be upstanding as we welcome our Chief Guest to make his remarks.

**Chief Guest Sir.**