

DIR/ADMIN/61B/0321

31st March 2021

Ms Funmi Folorunso
The Secretary General
African Shipowners Association
Lagos
NIGERIA

Dear Madam,

REF: AFRICA BLUE ECONOMY STRATEGY - African Shipowners Association

Reference is made to your letter Ref. no. ASA/AU-IBAR/2021/1, dated 16th March 2021 on the above-mentioned subject. We sincerely appreciate and acknowledge your desire to collaborate with AU-IBAR on the implementation of Africa Blue Economy Strategy, with specific reference to the thematic area on the ***Shipping/transportation, trade, ports, maritime security, safety and enforcement.***

The Africa Blue Economy Strategy recognized that African shippers are facing serious challenge in transporting their cargoes, due to lack of or limited African-owned shipping companies. We therefore applaud your resolve to establish an association of African ship owners to contribute to international trade. AU-IBAR places great emphasis on shipping as an important vector in blue economy growth in Africa. Not surprising, during the blue economy concept awareness enhancing workshop in October 2020, a representative of Ship Owners' association (from Uganda) was invited to share the vision, perspectives and strategies of the association.

In the above regard, we wish to assure your association that, whenever the opportunity arises for collaboration for the implementation of the thematic area as indicate above, we shall seek the cooperation of your association.

We sincerely look forward to fruitful collaboration in the not too distant future.

Yours faithfully,

Talal Kishlaf
Officer-in-Charge, AU-IBAR

