



INTRODUCTION

The Indian Ocean Rim Association is an inter-governmental organisation which was established on 7th March 1997. IORA enhances economic dialogue and regional cooperation to promote sustainable growth and balanced development for prosperous Indian Ocean Rim. The vision for IORA originated during a visit by late President Nelson Mandela of South Africa to India in 1995, where he said:

“The natural urge of the facts of history and geography...should broaden itself to include the concept of an Indian Ocean Rim for socio-economic co-operation and other peaceful endeavours. Recent changes in the international system demand that the countries of the Indian Ocean shall become a single platform.”

23 MEMBER STATES

Australia, Bangladesh, Comoros, France/Reunion, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen

11 DIALOGUE PARTNERS

China, Egypt, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, United Kingdom and United States of America.

PRIORITY AREAS

- ✓ Maritime Safety and Security
- ✓ Trade and Investment Facilitation
- ✓ Fisheries Management
- ✓ Disaster Risk Management
- ✓ Academic, Science and Technology Cooperation
- ✓ Tourism and Cultural Exchanges

**With the Blue Economy and Women's Economic Empowerment as Cross-cutting Issues*

STRUCTURE

IORA's apex body is the Council of Foreign Ministers (COM) which meets annually. A Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) meets bi-annually to review and prioritise IORA's activities. The Association has Functional Bodies which strengthen and promote activities in the Association and are governed by their Terms of Reference (TOR) as recommended by the CSO and approved by the COM.

SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

Fisheries Support Unit (FSU) - Headquartered in the Sultanate of Oman since 2003, FSU plays an important role in enhancing the cooperation, better utilisation of fisheries resources, exchanges of expertise and joint research activities.

Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT)-Established in 2008 in the Islamic Republic of Iran, RCSTT aims to facilitate the transfer of sustainable and appropriate technology to and between Member States.

IORA SPECIAL FUND

The IORA Special Fund was established by the Council of Ministers in its meeting held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, August 2004. The Special Fund is a financial mechanism for supporting and complementing the funding of projects and programmes adopted by the Association, in line with the principles and objectives enshrined in the Charter as well as the objectives and goals envisaged by the relevant bodies of the Organisation.

IORA SECRETARIAT

The IORA Secretariat manages, coordinates, services, and monitors the implementation of policy decisions and work programmes adopted by the Association. It is based in Mauritius and overseen by the Secretary-General who is appointed for a three-year period.

CHAIRS

The Council of Ministers elects the Chair of the Association for a period of two years. This is based on the voluntary offer by Member States to become the Chair or; if there is no voluntary offer, the Chair will be elected based on geographical consideration.

	Year
Republic of Mauritius	1997-1998
Republic of Mozambique	1999-2000
Sultanate of Oman	2001
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka	2003-2004
Islamic Republic of Iran	2006-2008
Republic of Yemen	2009-2010
Republic of India	2011-2012
Commonwealth of Australia	2013-2014
Republic of Indonesia	2015-2016
Republic of South Africa	2017-2018
United Arab Emirates	2019-2020
People's Republic of Bangladesh	2021-2023
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (incoming)	

IORA SECRETARIAT

3rd floor, NeXTeracom Building
 Cybercity, Ebene, Republic of Mauritius
 Office : +230 454 1717 Fax: +230 468 1161
 Email: hq@iora.int www.iora.int





AUSTRALIA
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Canberra
 Language: English
 Currency: Australian Dollar



BANGLADESH
 Joined IORA in 1999
 Capital: Dhaka
 Language: Bengali
 Currency: Taka



COMOROS
 Joined IORA in 2012
 Capital: Moroni
 Languages: Comorian, Arabic, French
 Currency: Comorian Franc



FRANCE/ REUNION
 Joined IORA in 2020
 Capital: Paris/ St Denis
 Language: French
 Currency: Euro



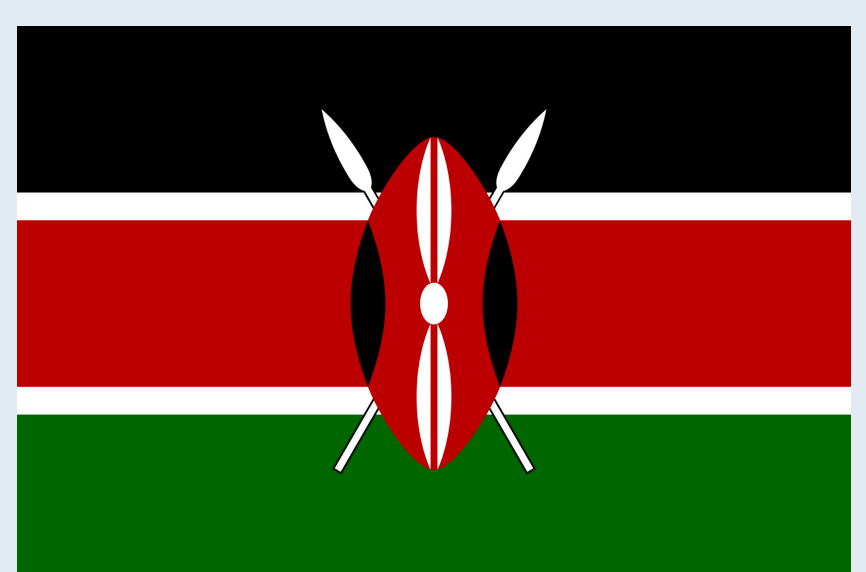
INDIA
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: New Delhi
 Languages: Hindi, English
 Currency: Indian Rupee



INDONESIA
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Jakarta
 Languages: Indonesian, Bahasa, Indonesia
 Currency: Indonesian Rupiah



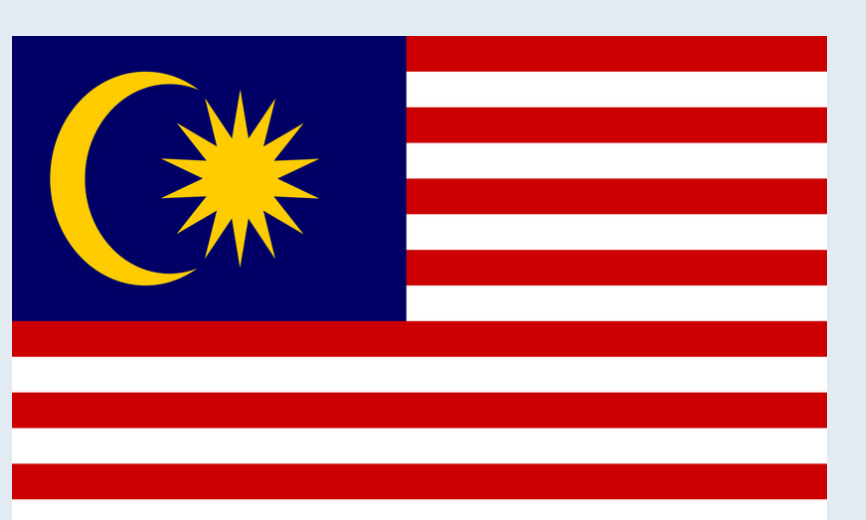
IRAN
 Joined IORA in 1999
 Capital: Tehran
 Language: Persian
 Currency: Iranian Rial



KENYA
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Nairobi
 Languages: Swahili, English
 Currency: Kenyan Shilling



MADAGASCAR
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Antananarivo
 Languages: Malagasy, French
 Currency: Malagasy Ariary



MALAYSIA
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Kuala Lumpur
 Languages: Bahasa Malaysia
 Currency: Malaysian Ringgit



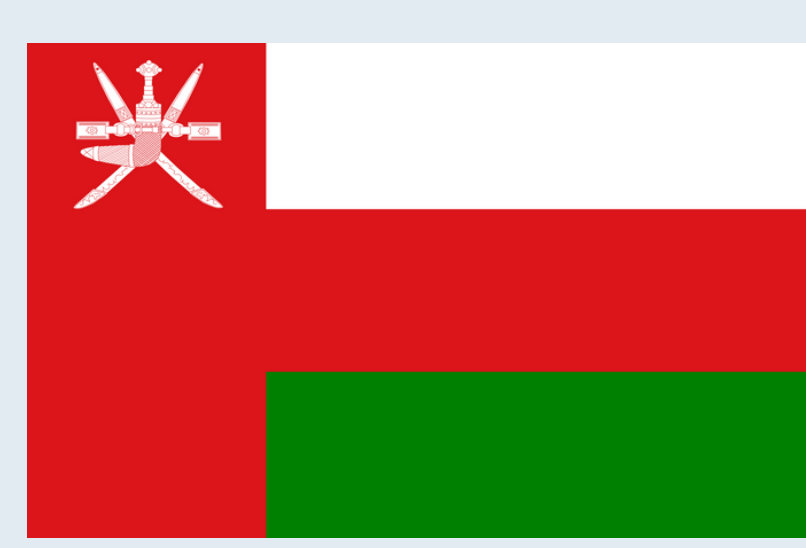
MALDIVES
 Joined IORA in 2018
 Capital : Male
 Language: Dhivehi
 Currency: Maldivian Rufiyaa



MAURITIUS
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Port-Louis
 Languages: English, French, Mauritian Creole
 Currency: Mauritian Rupee



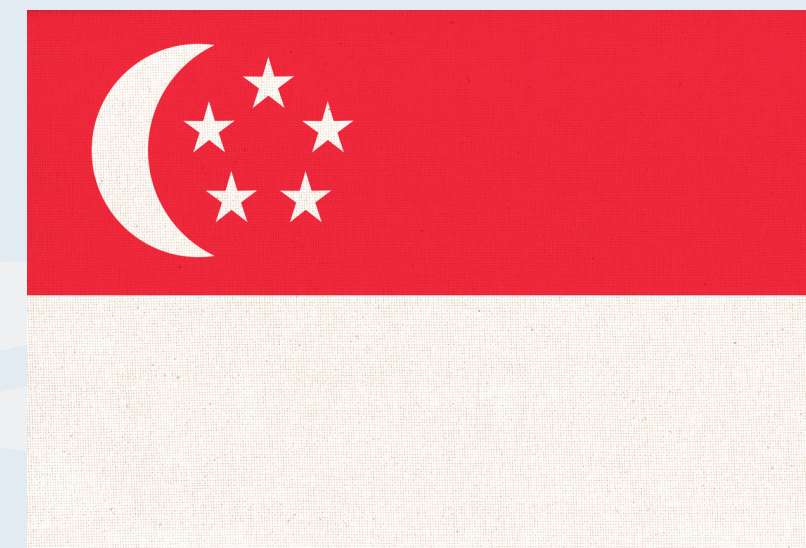
MOZAMBIQUE
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital : Maputo
 Language: Portuguese
 Currency: Mozambique Metical



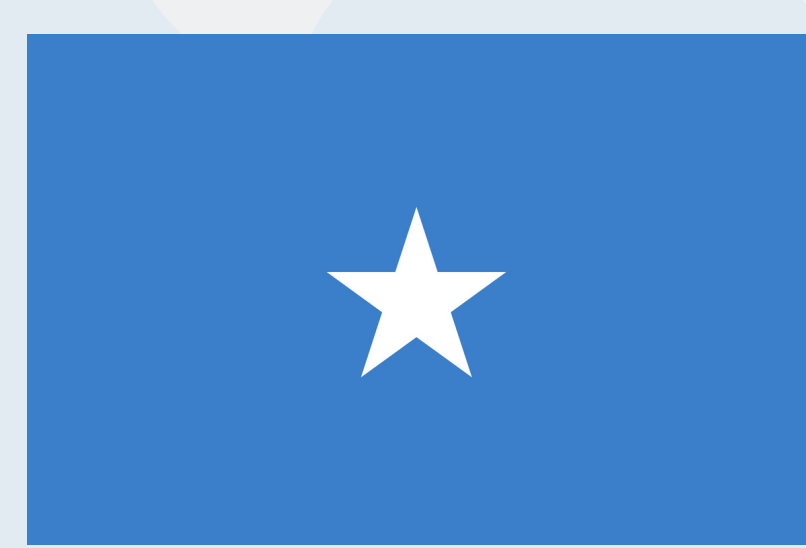
OMAN
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Muscat
 Language: Arabic
 Currency: Omani Rial



SEYCHELLES
 Joined IORA in 2011
 Capital: Victoria
 Languages: English, French, Seselwa
 Currency: Seychellois Rupee



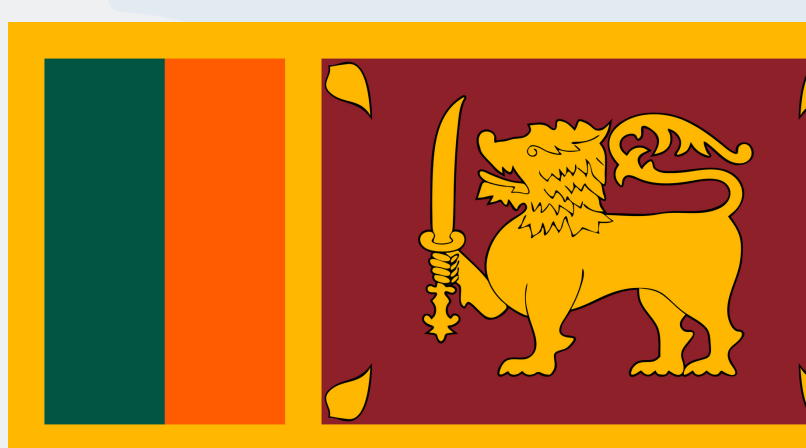
SINGAPORE
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Singapore
 Languages: English, Mandarin, Malay, Tamil
 Currency: Singapore dollar



SOMALIA
 Joined IORA in 2014
 Capital: Mogadishu
 Languages: Somali, Arabic
 Currency: Somali Shilling



SOUTH AFRICA
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Pretoria
 Languages: English, Afrikaans, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Sesotho sa Leboa, Setswana, isiNdebele, siSwati, Tshivenda, Xitsonga, Sesotho
 Currency: South African Rand



SRI LANKA
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardanapura Kotte
 Languages: English, Tamil, Sinhala
 Currency: Sri Lankan Rupee



TANZANIA
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Dodoma
 Languages: English, Swahili
 Currency: Tanzanian Shilling



THAILAND
 Joined IORA in 1999
 Capital: Bangkok
 Language: Thai
 Currency: Thai Baht



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
 Joined IORA in 1999
 Capital: Abu Dhabi
 Language: Arabic
 Currency: UAE Dirham



YEMEN
 Joined IORA in 1997
 Capital: Sana'a
 Language: Arabic
 Currency: Yemeni Rial



CHINA
 Joined IORA in 2000
 Capital: Beijing
 Language: Standard Mandarin
 Currency: Renminbi



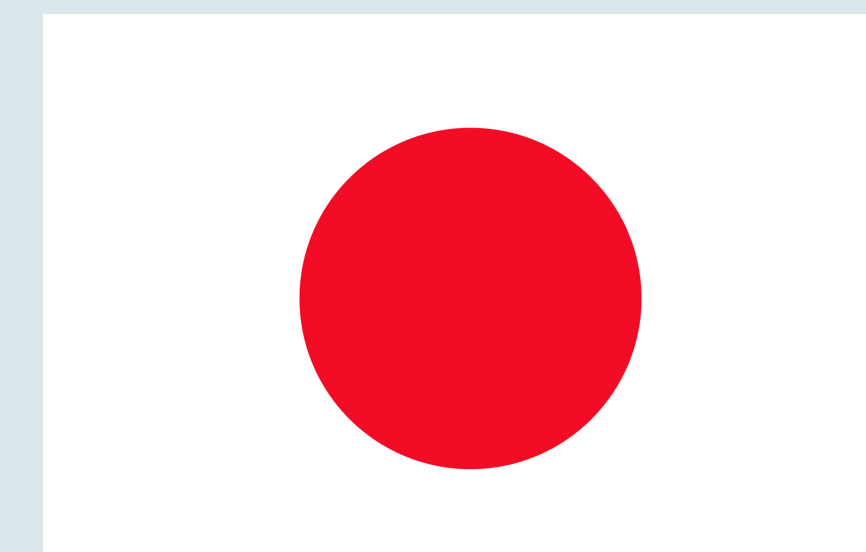
EGYPT
 Joined IORA in 1999
 Capital: Cairo
 Languages: Arabic, Modern Standard Arabic
 Currency: Egyptian Pound



GERMANY
 Joined IORA in 2015
 Capital: Berlin
 Languages: German
 Currency: Euro



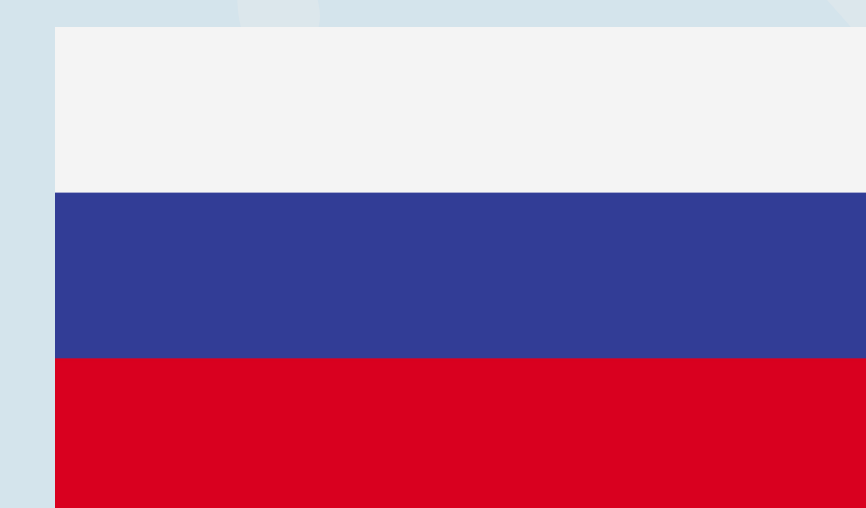
ITALY
 Joined IORA in 2019
 Capital: Rome
 Language: Italian
 Currency: Euro



JAPAN
 Joined IORA in 1999
 Capital: Tokyo
 Languages: Japanese
 Currency: Japanese Yen



KOREA
 Joined IORA in 2018
 Capital: Seoul
 Language: Korean
 Currency: South Korean Won



RUSSIA
 Joined IORA in 2021
 Capital: Moscow
 Language: Russian
 Currency: Russian Ruble



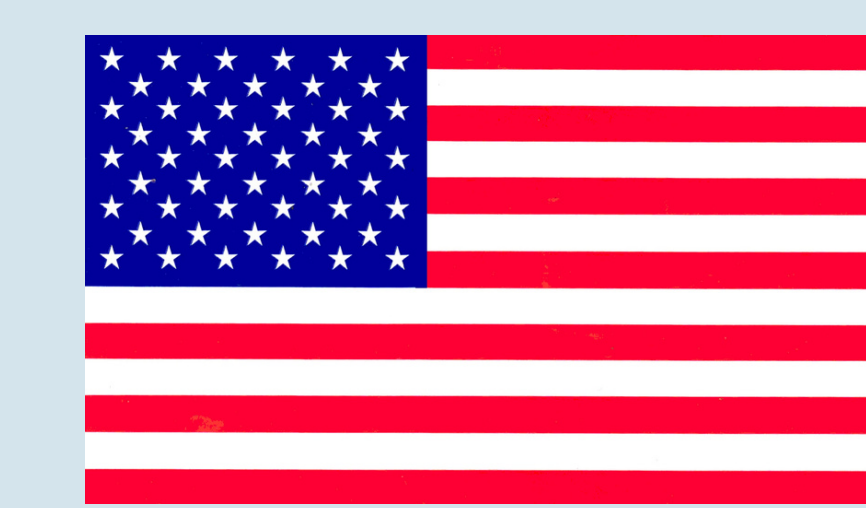
SAUDI ARABIA
 Joined IORA in 2023
 Capital: Riyadh
 Language: Arabic
 Currency: Saudi Riyal



TURKIYE
 Joined IORA in 2018
 Capital: Ankara
 Language: Turkish
 Currency: Turkish Lira



UNITED KINGDOM
 Joined IORA in 2000
 Capital: London
 Language: English
 Currency: U.K Pound



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 Joined IORA in 2012
 Capital: Washington DC
 Language: English
 Currency: US Dollar

Dialogue Partners

