



THE INDIAN OCEAN RIM ASSOCIATION

---

**Indian Ocean Conference**

ON

**MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING – TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE USE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN**

**22 – 23 NOVEMBER 2017**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Marine Spatial Planning Conference**

The Rt. Hon. Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Minister Mentor, Minister of Defence and Minister for Rodrigues will inaugurate the IORA Indian Ocean Conference on “Marine Spatial Planning – Towards Sustainable Use of the Indian Ocean” that will be held on 22-23 November 2017 in Mauritius and which is jointly organised by the Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues of the Republic of Mauritius and the IORA Secretariat.

The Conference will be honoured by the presence of other dignitaries including Her Royal Highness Princess Zenani Dlamini, the High Commissioner of the Republic of South Africa and the Representative of the IORA Chair and Mr Premhans Jhugroo, Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues.

**Blue Economy Vision of Mauritius**

This conference is in line with the vision and commitment of Mauritius to develop the Blue Economy into one of the innovative pillars of its economy as mentioned by the Rt. Hon. Sir Anerood Jugnauth at the Inauguration of the First IORA Blue Economy Conference that was held on 2-3 September 2015 in Mauritius. On that occasion, The Rt. Hon. Sir Anerood Jugnauth also pointed out that the ocean economy, due to its broad outreach, requires joint effort and collaboration for its sustainable development.

Thus experts from IORA Member States, Dialogue Partners and International Organisations will be grouped on a common platform to share experiences and best practices with regard to Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), as well as explore ways to strengthen collaboration in this important field.

Integrating Marine Spatial Planning and ecosystem-based approaches to the sustainable development of the Blue Economy would pave the way for new business opportunities that would contribute to socio-economic growth and job creation, whilst safeguarding the ocean health through sustainable development of its resources.

**Keynote Address by Dr Raja Mohan, Director, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, India**

Dr Raja Mohan, Director, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, from India and a leading analyst of Indian Ocean Dynamics will also attend the Conference and will deliver a keynote address entitled “South Western Indian Ocean in a Changing Maritime World” during the Welcome Dinner, which will be held on 22 November 2017.