



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **IORA Annual Trade Dialogue**

*21 November 2025-* The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Annual Trade Dialogue will be hosted by the Republic of Mozambique in Maputo, Mozambique, from 01 to 02 December 2025.

The Dialogue will provide a platform for IORA's 23 Member States, Dialogue Partners, and experts, including those from the World Trade Organization (WTO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) to review global and regional trade developments. The platform furthermore aims to raise awareness among government and business about regional cooperation opportunities in trade and investment, and to deepen public-private cooperation and facilitate trade opportunities among IORA Member States.

Topics to be covered include trade flows, agreements, and barriers to market access; green transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient global economy; the opportunities of the Blue Economy for sustainable ocean-based industries and attracting financing; and how to promote Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

The IORA Annual Trade Dialogue is a timely opportunity to take stock of current developments against the backdrop of an unstable global trading environment marked by economic uncertainty, shifting geopolitical dynamics, rising trade barriers, and the impacts of climate change. As the third-largest ocean, intricately connected through vital trade routes, the Indian Ocean commands major sea-lanes that carry half of the world's container ships, one-third of global bulk cargo, and two-thirds of oil shipments. In this context, the Dialogue provides a crucial platform for strengthening intra-regional economic ties and enhancing the region's capacity to attract and sustain productive foreign investment, including in the blue economy.

Key outcomes of the Dialogue will include reports on discussions, and action plans.

The Annual Trade Dialogue is a follow-up to the recently convened [IORA–University of Mauritius International Conference on International Trade and Investment 2025](#).

For more information about IORA, please visit our website: [www.iora.int](http://www.iora.int)

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