

## Twelfth Bi-annual Meeting of the IORA Committee of Senior Officials (CSO)

- Theme of Event

Harnessing the Opportunities of the Indian Ocean Sustainably for inclusive development

- Venue

Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

- Date

28 – 29 July 2022

### **Bangladesh, the current Chair of IORA, will convene the twelfth Bi-annual CSO meeting on 28 – 29 July 2022 at Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh**

The meeting, which will bring together the 23 Member States and Specialised Agencies, will be the second CSO meeting under the Chairship of Bangladesh.

The meeting will discuss on the progress made to date under the six priority areas and two cross-cutting issues of the Association and financial issues. Member States will also discuss preparations for upcoming events and meetings of IORA's institutional mechanisms as well as IORA's engagement with its international partners and special programmes.

The meeting will also provide an opportunity for Member States to discuss preparations for future IORA events and meetings, taking into consideration the impact of COVID-19 during the past two years. In addition, the meeting will place a central emphasis on the need to reflect on the format of the Meetings of CSO-COM and IORA Outlook on the Indo-Pacific.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Bi-annual CSO Meeting will be preceded by IORA Development Agency-Dhaka Development Initiative Workshop (IORDA-DDI) which to be held on 27 July hosted by Bangladesh at the same venue in collaboration with GIZ, Germany. This is an initiative by Bangladesh to establish an IORA Development Agency to facilitate tangible national/regional level developmental projects to promote regional integration, economic and sustainable development in the region.

Mentionable that Bangladesh assumed the Chairship of IORA in November 2021 for its two-year period (2021-2023) with the theme - "Harnessing the Opportunities of the Indian Ocean Sustainably for inclusive development".

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