

# THE BMA NEWSLETTER

*A World Class Centre for Maritime Education and Training*







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**SEPTEMBER 2026 INTAKE**  
**FOR LEVEL 5 AND 6 COURSES.**

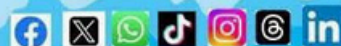


| COURSES                                  | MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS                                        | Duration | MODE of STUDY           | FEE Per Year |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Marine Engineering Level 6               | KCSE Grade C- (minus) or KNQF Level 5 in the relevant field | 2 Years  | Full time               | Ksh 140,000  |
| Marine Engineering Level 5               | KCSE Grade D (Plain)                                        | 1 Years  | Full time               | Ksh 125,000  |
| Nautical Science Level 6                 | KCSE Grade C- (minus) or KNQF Level 5 in the relevant field | 2 Years  | Full time               | Ksh 140,000  |
| Nautical Science Level 5                 | KCSE Grade D (Plain)                                        | 1 Years  | Full time               | Ksh 125,000  |
| Maritime Transport and Logistics Level 6 | KCSE Grade C- (minus) or KNQF Level 5                       | 2 Years  | Full time and part time | Ksh 100,000  |
| Maritime Transport and Logistics Level 5 | KCSE Grade D (Plain)                                        | 1 Years  | Full time               | Ksh 95,000   |

Bandari Maritime Academy

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## Message from the Chief Executive Officer



*Dear Esteemed Readers,*

*Welcome to this edition of the Bandari Maritime Academy Newsletter. This publication showcases our commitment to excellence, innovation, and quality maritime education and training.*

*At Bandari Maritime Academy, we continue to equip globally competitive maritime professionals through enhanced training, modern facilities, strategic partnerships, and continuous curriculum improvement. Our focus remains on supporting the growth of the blue economy while embracing innovation, digital transformation, sustainability, and international best practices.*

*This edition highlights key achievements, ongoing initiatives, and the outstanding contributions of our students, staff, and partners. These accomplishments reflect the dedication and teamwork that drive our success.*

*I sincerely thank our students, faculty, industry partners, government agencies, and stakeholders for their unwavering support. Together, we are shaping the future of maritime education and building a sustainable maritime sector.*

*Thank you for your continued trust and support.*

**Dr. Eric Katana**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Bandari Maritime Academy**



## Bandari Maritime Academy Elevates Kenya's Blue Economy Presence at the 11th Our Ocean Conference

The 11th Our Ocean Conference (OOC) 2026 in Mombasa marked a significant milestone in global efforts to strengthen ocean governance and advance the Blue Economy. As international stakeholders gathered at Pridelnn Paradise Beach Resort to chart a path toward sustainable maritime development, Bandari Maritime Academy (BMA) reinforced its strategic role in developing the skilled workforce, innovation capacity and partnerships required to support Kenya's maritime ambitions and regional leadership in the Blue Economy.

The Conference brought together international leaders, policymakers, researchers, development partners, industry experts and youth representatives to deliberate on solutions for marine conservation, climate resilience, maritime security, sustainable ocean management and the responsible utilization of marine resources. It also served as a key platform for strengthening global collaboration and accelerating commitments toward a sustainable Blue Economy



**Bandari Maritime Academy CEO Dr. Eric Katana** delivering the speech for the Cabinet Secretary for Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, Hon. Ali Hassan Joho, during a high-level side event in Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA).



**Bandari Maritime Academy CEO Dr. Eric Katana** with other panelists after participating in a panel discussion on the intersection of Blue Economy technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

## THE QUOTE

“AI is no longer a futuristic concept—it is a present-day tool that is redefining how we train, operate, and innovate within the maritime space.”  
Dr. Katana

*Leading the Academy's delegation, BMA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Eric Katana represented Bandari Maritime Academy in a series of high-level engagements that highlighted the institution's growing influence in maritime education, policy dialogue and industry collaboration.*

*In a significant highlight, Dr. Katana represented the Cabinet Secretary for Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, Hon. Ali Hassan Joho, during a high-level side event on Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA). Delivering the Cabinet Secretary's keynote address, he underscored Kenya's commitment to strengthening national and global capacity for Maritime Domain Awareness as a strategic priority for enhancing maritime security, safeguarding marine resources and reinforcing the country's position as a regional maritime hub.*

*He emphasized that effective Maritime Domain Awareness requires strong inter-agency collaboration, strategic partnerships, and sustained investment in technology, innovation, and human capital development. This, he noted, is essential for building a secure and resilient maritime sector capable of supporting sustainable economic growth through the Blue Economy.*

*Dr. Katana also participated in a panel discussion on the intersection of Blue Economy technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI), where experts explored how emerging digital solutions are transforming maritime operations, education, and training.*



**Bandari Maritime Academy Cadets** posing for a photo with a delegate during the Youth Leadership Forum at the 11th Our Ocean Conference 2026.



**Bandari Maritime Academy CEO DR. Eric Katana** participating in a panel discussion on the intersection of Blue Economy technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI).



He highlighted that Artificial Intelligence is reshaping the maritime sector by improving efficiency, enhancing safety at sea, and equipping future professionals with the digital skills required in an evolving global industry.

"Artificial Intelligence is no longer a futuristic concept—it is a present-day tool that is redefining how we train, operate, and innovate within the maritime space. Institutions must embrace these technologies to remain relevant and competitive," he said.

He further reaffirmed the Academy's commitment to integrating modern technologies into its training programmes, positioning Bandari Maritime Academy as a regional Centre of Excellence in Maritime and Blue Economy education.

Beyond the formal sessions, Dr. Katana joined Cabinet Secretary Hon. Ali Hassan Joho, Principal Secretary for the State Department for Shipping and Maritime Affairs Aden Millah, and senior maritime stakeholders at a high-level networking event hosted by Maersk.

The engagement focused on strengthening long-standing cooperation between Kenya and Maersk, spanning over six decades, and exploring new opportunities for collaboration in maritime logistics, innovation and skills development.

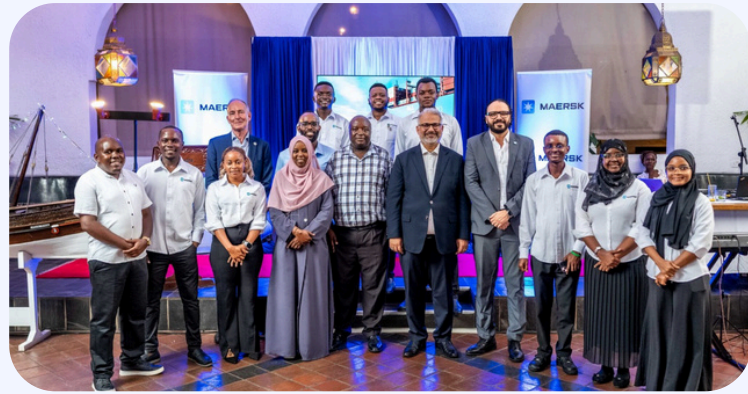
A key outcome of the engagement was the announcement of a new Maersk internship programme aimed at providing Kenyan graduates with hands-on industry experience in maritime logistics and shipping operations.

The initiative is expected to bridge the gap between academic training and industry needs while complementing Bandari Maritime Academy's mission of producing industry-ready maritime professionals.

The Conference also provided an important platform for Bandari Maritime Academy cadets participating in the Our Ocean Conference Youth Forum, where they engaged in global discussions on Blue Economy leadership, maritime innovation, Artificial Intelligence, environmental sustainability and the future of maritime education.

Throughout the Conference, BMA also engaged with international partners, government agencies and industry stakeholders to explore opportunities in maritime education, research, innovation, and technology transfer.

## The 11th Our Ocean Conference



**BMA representatives led by Senior Deputy Director, Maritime Transport Operations Training, Mr. Enock Okwema posing for a photo after attending a high level networking event hosted by Maersk at the 11th Our Ocean Conference**



**BMA CEO Dr. Eric Katana with cadets led by BMASA President Vincent Kagechu (right) during the 11<sup>th</sup> Our Ocean Conference**

## Bandari Maritime Academy Celebrates Cultural Diversity and Leadership During Inaugural Cultural Week 2026

**By Raymond Zaka**

For one memorable week, the Bandari Maritime Academy transformed into a vibrant mosaic of color, rhythm, tradition and shared identity as students celebrated Kenya's rich cultural diversity during the institution's inaugural Cultural Week organized by Bandari Maritime Academy Students Association (BMASA) under the sponsorship of Dola Group Company.

Held under the theme "Sailing Through Culture," the event became more than a celebration of heritage. It reflected the Academy's growing recognition that today's maritime professionals require more than technical expertise—they must also possess cultural awareness, adaptability and interpersonal skills to thrive in an increasingly interconnected global industry.

Drawing cadets and students from universities and tertiary institutions across the Coast region and beyond, the week unfolded as a lively showcase of traditional dance, cuisine, fashion, music and leadership. Each activity reinforced the message that diversity is not merely to be acknowledged, but embraced as a strength that fosters unity, collaboration and mutual respect.



**Daniel Mataza & Tertia Kerubo (seated) after being crowned Mr & Miss Bandari during BMA's Cultural Week 2026 .**





Among the most anticipated moments was the crowning of Tashia Kerubo as Miss Bandari and Daniel Mkalla as Mr. Bandari. Their confidence, eloquence, cultural knowledge and stage presence earned admiration from judges and audiences, making them fitting ambassadors of leadership rooted in excellence and cultural appreciation.

The traditional dance competition highlighted Kenya's cultural richness. The Kalenjin cultural group impressed with an energetic performance to claim top honor, while the Mijikenda and Abaluhya groups followed in second and third positions after equally spirited showcases of heritage and pride.

Culture was also expressed through food, as participants presented traditional dishes from across the country. The Abaluhya group emerged as the winners with their well-prepared Ingoho, a traditional chicken dish praised for its authenticity and flavor. The Mijikenda followed with coconut-infused beans, while the Kalenjin completed the top three with Mursik, their fermented milk delicacy.

Beyond competitions, the week served as a reminder of students' future professional realities.

For Bandari Maritime Academy, the inaugural Cultural Week marked the beginning of a tradition aimed at producing graduates who are both technically skilled and culturally competent—professionals ready to sail the world with expertise and empathy.

***"Success does not come overnight. It is built through resilience, hard work, and determination to keep moving forward despite challenges. Stay focused, embrace learning opportunities, and believe in your potential," Lulu Hassan said***

Speaking on behalf of Bandari Maritime Academy Chief Executive Officer Dr.

Eric Katana, Deputy Director of Corporate Affairs CPA Evans Ayeyo emphasized that cultural literacy is now essential in maritime careers.

"Cultural literacy enhances global citizenship, intercultural competence, and collaboration in the maritime industry. This Cultural Week reflects your commitment to unity through diversity. As future maritime professionals, you will work in multicultural environments across the world where respect and understanding are vital," he said.

He noted that the maritime sector depends on professionals who can operate effectively across cultures, where diversity and inclusion are everyday realities aboard ships and in ports worldwide.

The event also featured a motivational address from Citizen TV Swahili news anchor Lulu Hassan, who urged students to pursue their goals with resilience and discipline. She reminded them that success requires consistency, effort, and determination. Her visit left a lasting impression after she pledged to mentor students with talents in acting and music, offering opportunities to feature in her television productions, reinforcing the event's focus on nurturing talent beyond academics.

Deputy Director Registrar Dr. Irene Mugo also emphasized the importance of diversity, noting that each culture represented contributes to Kenya's identity and prepares students for global careers. She encouraged cadets to respect and celebrate all traditions as essential for inclusivity in professional life.



***Citizen TV Swahili News Anchor Lulu Hassan ( second left ) with BMA Deputy Director Corporate Services CPA Evans Ayeyo and BMA Deputy Director Registrar Dr. Irene Mugo (left ) and BMASA Vice President Phyllis Karuru at the epic of Cultural Week 2026 at BMA***





# Advancing Inland Maritime Safety Through Coxswain Certification

By Raymond Zaka

Bandari Maritime Academy (BMA) is strengthening maritime safety and professionalism in Kenya through a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) assessment and training programme for coxswains, an initiative aimed at formalising the skills of experienced boat operators while enhancing safety on the country's inland waterways.

The programme follows the findings of a Situational Analysis and Training Needs Assessment conducted by BMA's Ag. Senior Deputy Director for Maritime Transport Operations Training, Mr. Enock Okemwa, together with Assistant Director for Quality Assurance, Mr. Michael Njogah. The assessment was undertaken to inform the development of a regional coxswain training curriculum.

The study identified critical gaps across the region, including inconsistent training standards, fragmented certification systems, and limited alignment between national training programmes and the evolving operational demands of inland and coastal water transport. It also highlighted the need for structured, competency-based training pathways to enhance safety, professionalism, and accountability among coxswains.

To address these challenges, BMA conducted a pilot RPL assessment in Kisumu County, bringing together 250 coxswains from the Lake Region. Sponsored by the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA), the initiative marks the first phase of a broader coxswain certification programme that will be rolled out across the Greater Lake Region.

The exercise addressed a longstanding challenge in the inland water transport sector, where many coxswains possess years of practical experience but lack formal qualifications. Through the Recognition of Prior Learning framework, participants' knowledge, skills, and competencies were assessed against nationally approved occupational standards, creating a pathway for successful candidates to receive certification as Coxswain Class III.

Beyond individual certification, the programme contributes to the wider goal of improving safety on Kenya's inland waterways. By promoting nationally recognised competencies in navigation, seamanship, emergency response, and regulatory compliance, the initiative supports safer passenger and cargo transport while raising professional standards across the maritime sector.



**Stakeholders' consultative workshop convened on 18th-19th May 2026 under the umbrella of the Maritime Organization for Eastern, Southern and Northern Africa (MOESNA), attended by Principal Secretary State Department For Shipping and Maritime Affairs Aden Millah and BMA's Ag. Senior Deputy Director for Maritime Transport Operations Training, Mr. Enock Okemwa, together with Assistant Director for Quality Assurance, Mr. Michael Njogah.**



**BMA Senior Principal Trainer 1 in Nautical Science Maj. (Rtd) Franklyne Toniok during an assessment and training programme for Coxswains in Kisumu County**

A key feature of the programme was the collaborative approach adopted by Bandari Maritime Academy. Working in partnership with Kisumu Maritime Centre (KMC) and Kenya Coast National Polytechnic (KCNP), the Academy combined technical expertise, training resources, and regional networks to deliver quality assessment services closer to practitioners.

The collaboration demonstrates how strategic partnerships can expand access to maritime education while maintaining consistent national training standards.

Representing the Academy's Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Eric Katana, Senior Principal Trainer I – Nautical Science, Maj. (Rtd) Franklyne Toniok, commended the strong response from practitioners across the region.

He noted that the Recognition of Prior Learning framework provides experienced maritime practitioners with an opportunity to formalize their competencies, enhance their professional credentials, and improve their employability.

"Our role is to guide trainees through the assessment process and recommend qualified candidates to the Kenya Maritime Authority for certification as Coxswain Class III," he said.

The Kisumu exercise also reflects Bandari Maritime Academy's broader strategy of expanding maritime training beyond the Coast through partnerships with regional institutions and industry stakeholders.



**A team of BMA experts leading Coxswain grade III assessment exercise in Kisumu county**



# From Qatar Kitchens to the High Seas: Ibrahim Kinanawi Waithera Pursues Maritime Career Through BMA

By Raymond Zaka

A promising opportunity to work at sea has inspired Ibrahim Kinanawi Waithera from Nairobi County to enrol for the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) course at Bandari Maritime Academy (BMA), paving the way for a career in the global maritime industry.

Kinanawi enrolled for the internationally recognised training after applying for a position with MSC Shipping Line, where he learnt that STCW and Crisis and Crowd Management certifications were mandatory requirements for employment onboard passenger vessels.

A Diploma graduate in Hospitality Management from Zytech College, Kinanawi previously worked in Qatar, where he rose from Kitchen Steward to Chef through dedication and hard work. His hospitality experience, combined with maritime safety training, has positioned him for opportunities in the cruise and shipping industry.

"I applied for a position with MSC Shipping Line and was informed that I needed STCW and Crisis and Crowd Management certificates. That is why I came to Bandari Maritime Academy. These courses are opening the door to my dream of working at sea," he said.

Kinanawi commended Bandari Maritime Academy for offering quality, internationally recognised maritime training and encouraged young Kenyans to seize opportunities in the Blue Economy.

"There is no way you can get a job at sea without the STCW certificate. I encourage fellow youth to enrol at Bandari Maritime Academy and prepare for careers in the global shipping industry," he said.

Bandari Maritime Academy continues to convert graduates from different career backgrounds into seafarers by equipping them with internationally recognised maritime skills and certifications required by employers worldwide.

The Academy is opening pathways for Kenyans from diverse professions to pursue rewarding careers at sea and contribute to the growth of the Blue Economy.



**STCW Trainees at BMA practicing Close Huddling technique during a training session. Close huddling helps survivors in the water conserve body heat by staying tightly grouped together, reducing the risk of hypothermia while awaiting rescue.**

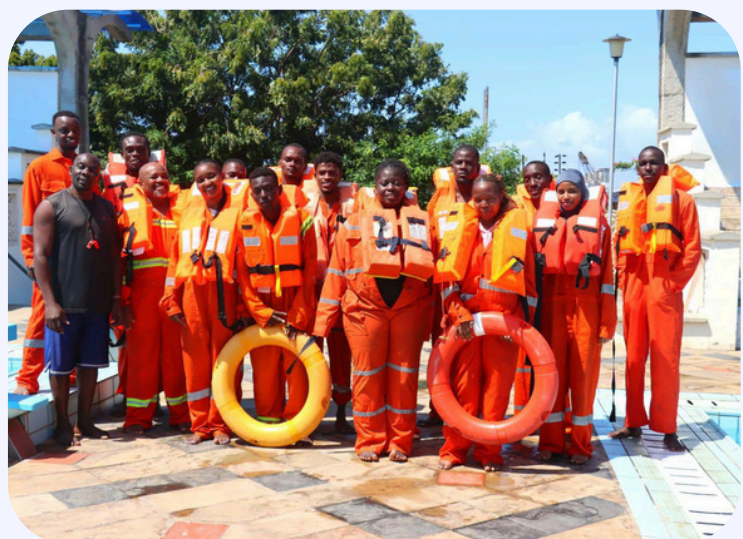


**STCW Trainee Ibrahim Kinanawi Waithera during an interview with BMA Communication Team after a training session.**

"There is no way you can get a job at sea without the STCW certificate. I encourage fellow youth to enrol at Bandari Maritime Academy and prepare for careers in the global shipping industry," Kinanawi said.



**STCW Trainees at BMA practicing Open Huddling technique during a training session. Open huddling increases the group's visibility on the water, making it easier for search and rescue teams to spot and reach survivors.**



**STCW Trainees posing for a photo with their trainer after the completion of the 6-day course at Bandari Maritime Academy**



# BMA Welcomes May 2026 Intake Through Ceremonial Induction and Regimental Training Exercise

By Raymond Zaka

Looking back, the May 2026 intake at Bandari Maritime Academy marked yet another significant milestone in the institution's commitment to shaping disciplined and industry-ready maritime professionals.

The cohort of new cadets was formally ushered into the Academy through a structured induction programme that blended academic orientation with rigorous regimental training. The exercise, delivered in collaboration with the Kenya Coast Guard Service, culminated in a mini pass-out parade and an Oath of Allegiance ceremony, symbolising the successful completion of the foundational discipline phase.

From the outset, the induction set a clear tone for the cadets' journey in maritime education and practice. It reinforced the Academy's core values of discipline, leadership, teamwork, and resilience—attributes considered essential for success in the blue economy.

The regimental training component, undertaken as a key foundation of cadet development, was designed to instill professionalism, organisational discipline, and operational readiness as the trainees transitioned into academic and practical maritime training.



Newly admitted students posing for a photo with BMA directors led by Deputy Director Corporate Services, CPA Evans Ayieyo and Deputy Director Registrar Dr. Irene Mugo after orientation.

The collaboration with the Kenya Coast Guard Service continued to play a vital role in grounding cadets in the realities of maritime service, including behavioural expectations and operational discipline.

Reflecting on the ceremony, the Academy Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Katana, underscored the enduring purpose of regimental training in producing competent maritime professionals.

He emphasized that the exercise goes beyond ceremonial tradition, serving as a structured process aimed at cultivating discipline, teamwork, leadership, resilience, self-confidence, and responsibility.



He further observed that the maritime sector demands individuals capable of performing under pressure, collaborating in diverse environments, respecting authority, and consistently upholding the highest standards of integrity and professionalism—qualities the training framework deliberately seeks to nurture.

Dr. Katana also commended the ongoing partnership between Bandari Maritime Academy and the Kenya Coast Guard Service, noting its continued contribution to preparing cadets for the operational demands of the maritime environment.

He encouraged the cadets to carry forward the discipline and standards demonstrated during training into their academic journey and to actively engage in co-curricular activities for holistic development.

The mini pass-out parade served as a visible affirmation of the Academy's continued commitment to producing disciplined, competent, and industry-ready maritime professionals. It also reflected the strength of its structured training approach and strategic partnerships in advancing maritime education and capacity building within the region.

Prior to the oath-taking ceremony, cadets had undergone a comprehensive orientation programme introducing them to institutional leadership, academic programmes, regulations, and student support systems—ensuring a smooth transition into campus life.

*"Regimental training is not merely a ceremonial exercise, but a deliberate and structured process aimed at instilling discipline, teamwork, leadership, resilience, self-confidence, and a strong sense of responsibility among cadets," Dr. Katana said.*



Mini- pass out parade for newly admitted cadets after regimental training.



# Bandari Maritime Academy Showcases Maritime Excellence Through Miss Global Tourism Kenya Visit

By Raymond Zaka

Bandari Maritime Academy (BMA) welcomed Miss Global Tourism Kenya, Michelle Opiyo Otieno, for a high-profile cinematic feature designed to spotlight Kenya's growing blue economy and the Academy's strategic contribution to developing the highly skilled workforce needed to drive the sector's transformation.

The visit formed part of a broader initiative to position maritime education as a catalyst for sustainable economic growth while showcasing Bandari Maritime Academy's state-of-the-art training facilities, modern maritime technology, and commitment to producing globally competitive maritime professionals.



Miss Tourism Kenya Michelle Otieno posing for a photo with BMA CEO Dr. Eric Katana and Mr. & Miss Bandari; Daniel Mkalla & Tashia Kerubo.

Welcoming Miss Global Tourism Kenya to the Academy, BMA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Eric Katana said the collaboration presents an important opportunity to increase public awareness of maritime education and inspire more young Kenyans to pursue careers in the blue economy.

"We welcome you to this institution. We need more Kenyans to enroll at Bandari Maritime Academy and explore the vast opportunities available in the maritime sector," said Dr. Katana.

Dr. Katana noted that Bandari Maritime Academy remains at the forefront of maritime training in Kenya, providing industry-driven education and practical skills that support the country's aspirations of becoming a leading blue economy hub.

He emphasized that the Academy continues to strengthen national capacity by producing competent professionals equipped to serve the maritime industry both locally and internationally.

The Chief Executive Officer also applauded Miss Global Tourism Kenya for using her platform to champion national development initiatives, describing her as an inspiring role model whose journey continues to motivate young people to pursue excellence.

"Miss Tourism Kenya is a role model to many young people. Her journey demonstrates that with determination and hard work, young men and women can pursue their dreams and succeed in the modeling industry while also championing important national causes such as the blue economy," he said.

Speaking during the visit, Miss Otieno reaffirmed her commitment to promoting Bandari Maritime Academy as a Centre of excellence for maritime education by showcasing its advanced training facilities and cutting-edge learning environment to both local and international audiences.

"The aim is to encourage more young people to consider maritime courses just as they do other professional disciplines and take advantage of the many employment opportunities available in the sector," she said.

She observed that increasing awareness of maritime education is critical to unlocking the immense opportunities within Kenya's blue economy while encouraging greater youth participation in a sector with significant employment and economic potential.



Miss Tourism Kenya Michelle Otieno inspecting the guard of honor at BMA alongside BMA Senior Principal Traier 1 in Nautical Science Maj. (Rtd) Franklyne Toniko.

The visit reflects the growing importance of strategic partnerships and compelling storytelling in promoting maritime careers, expanding public awareness of opportunities in the blue economy, and advancing Kenya's vision to fully harness its vast maritime resources.



"I started my journey with very little knowledge about modelling, but I believed in myself and remained committed to learning and growing every day. Your background should never limit your ambitions." Miss Global Tourism Kenya told newly admitted cadets.



# BMA Advances Maritime Training Through Strategic Partnerships and Industry Collaboration

By Selina Igadwa

Bandari Maritime Academy (BMA) has continued to advance maritime training through a growing network of strategic partnerships aimed at strengthening both academic instruction and practical sea-going experience for its cadets.

Recently BMA hosted the Ambassador of France to Kenya, H.E. Arnaud Suquet, alongside Mombasa County Governor H.E. Abdulswamad Sheriff Nassir, during a landmark engagement that brought together key maritime and diplomatic stakeholders for the signing of a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between BMA and Alliance Française de Mombasa.



**BMA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Eric Katana ( Right) and KMFRI Director General Dr. Paul Orina (Left) during signing of BMA - KMFRI MoU**

Speaking during the ceremony, Dr. Katana described the engagements as part of a broader institutional drive to expand global exposure for cadets and strengthen training outcomes through strategic collaborations.

“This partnership will not only enhance the competitiveness of our trainees but also broaden their career prospects in the international maritime space,” he noted.

Ambassador Suquet reaffirmed France’s commitment to supporting education and capacity building in Kenya, emphasizing the role of language and cultural exchange in fostering global mobility and professional growth.

Mombasa County Governor H.E. Abdulswamad Nassir commended the French Embassy’s continued engagement in youth-focused initiatives, noting that such collaborations are instrumental in advancing skills development and economic empowerment along the Coast region.

Also present was CMA CGM East Africa Cluster CEO Naveen Prabhu, who welcomed the partnership and reaffirmed the company’s continued support for BMA. He emphasized that strengthening language competencies among cadets aligns with global shipping standards and significantly enhances employability across the maritime sector.

Collectively, the engagements underscored BMA’s expanding network of strategic alliances aimed at positioning its cadets for success in an increasingly globalized maritime industry.



**BMA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Eric Katana and Alliance Française de Mombasa representative Muhammed Ramazan, during signing of BMA - Alliance Française MoU**

The MoU, signed by BMA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Eric Katana and Alliance Française de Mombasa representative Muhammed Ramazan, marked a significant step forward in strengthening international collaboration in maritime education and training.

The partnership is set to enhance French language instruction for cadets, equipping them with critical communication skills needed to access opportunities in the global maritime industry, particularly within Francophone regions.

In addition to this milestone, the Academy also highlighted its growing portfolio of strategic partnerships, including a recently established MoU between BMA and the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI).

This agreement provides cadets with access to research vessels for sea-time training, addressing a critical requirement in maritime certification and reinforcing BMA’s commitment to producing industry-ready seafarers with practical, hands-on experience at sea.

**“Research and training are inseparable. This partnership will enhance the quality of our maritime programmes and contribute significantly to developing the skilled workforce needed to support the growth of Kenya’s Blue Economy,” Dr. Eric Katana ,BMA CEO said.**



# PICTORIAL PAGE



*Ambassador of France to Kenya, H.E. Arnaud Suquet, alongside BMA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Eric Katana inspecting guard of honour*



*Mombasa County Governor H.E. Abdulsamad Sheriff Nassir, inspecting a guard of honour at Bandari Maritime Academy during the signing ceremony of MoU between BMA and Alliance Française*



*BMA Senior Principal Trainer 1 in Nautical Science Maj. ( Rtd) Franklyne Toniok with BMA Nautical Science Trainer Winnie Nyambu at the 11<sup>th</sup> Our Ocean Conference*



*Bandari Maritime Academy Senior Career Services officer Samuel Dube with Wellness at Sea Africa Coordinator Daniel Taljard after a two-day wellbeing training programme for Cohort 1 of final-year cadets at BMA*



*Daniel Mkalla and Tashia Kerubo after being crowned Mr and Miss Bandari during Bandari Maritime Academy Cultural Week 2026*

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