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Indian Ocean Watch

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This Newsletter tracks developments in the following countries of the Indian Ocean region

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

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EDITOR'S NOTE

The month of April 2013 witnessed India enhancing her defence cooperation and security partnership with Maldives to tackle common challenges in the Indian Ocean region. With the 24th fleet of the Iranian navy completing its 72-day mission in international waters, Iran hopes to boost its naval presence in high seas in order to protect its naval routes. Meanwhile, Sri Lanka stands at the threshold of positioning itself as a dynamic part of a 'Southern Maritime Zone' and intends to capitalise on its geographical location.

On the economic front, India's Reliance Industries and Vodafone will jointly build an undersea cable system across the Indian Ocean to connect Southeast Asia with the Middle East. Meanwhile, Indonesia, that currently holds the chairmanship of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum for 2013 has set domestic and global maritime connectivity as its primary agenda. The economic crisis in Europe has compelled Mauritius to look to South Africa to meet its sales targets as it also offers it the luxury of tax-free exports. In other developments, Australia has been funding phase one of the solar power project in Seychelles' Aride Island Nature Reserve and will continue to contribute to the second phase in October 2013. Sri Lanka's Hambantota Port plans to attract investments worth millions and some proposals for establishing businesses within the port premises are already in the pipeline.

According to media reports, a six-month expedition has been launched to investigate the Indian Ocean's microscopic marine life. Separately, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa signed a technical assistance agreement with Seychelles worth US\$ 330,000 for disaster prevention in the country. Seychelles will also have a risk transfer mechanism in place to mitigate the economic impact of natural disasters, thanks to the US\$ 543,000 grant allocated for Indian Ocean Commission member countries.

We look forward to comments and suggestions from our readers.

Ruchita Beri

Editor

MARITIME SECURITY

India enhances defence ties with Maldives

In mid-April, India assured Maldives that it is committed to further enhancing its defence cooperation and security partnership with the country that range from exercises and capacity-building of its armed forces. Both the countries agreed to continue to work together to tackle security concerns in the interest of peace and stability in the region. India is also bolstering cooperation with the country in the fields of military training, hydrography, maritime patrol and surveillance. Over the last few years, Indian warships and Dornier reconnaissance aircraft have been regularly helping Maldives in maritime patrol and surveillance.¹ Meanwhile, the two countries also agreed to enhance their defence ties to tackle common challenges and threats, including piracy and terrorism in the Indian Ocean region.²

Iranian Navy completes successful international mission

The 24th fleet of the Iranian Navy has returned home following the completion of a 72-day mission in international waters. Among the tasks carried out by the fleet were presence in the Indian and Pacific oceans and the China Sea, patrolling the strategic Strait of Malacca, and identifying surface and subsurface vessel units. The fleet consisted of the Sabalan destroyer, and the Kharg helicopter carrier, the largest of its kind in West Asia, at 207 metres long. Iran's navy commander, Rear Admiral

Habibollah Sayyari has said that the country hopes to boost its naval presence in high seas and other oceans to protect naval routes and merchant vessels and tankers. The Iranian Navy has also conducted anti-piracy patrols in the Gulf of Aden to safeguard ships and oil tankers involved in maritime trade, particularly those owned or leased by Iran.³

Oman container traffic rises

A report from the Kuwait Financial Centre (KFC) shows that container traffic at Oman's major sea ports increased by 6 per cent annually from 2007 to 2011. The KFC points to the country's strategic location on the Gulf and at the centre of the commercial route linking the East and West as guaranteeing convenient access to markets in the Middle East, Asia, Africa and Europe. Oman has tried to reduce its dependence on oil and diversify its sources of revenue. Oil exports from the country have fallen from 81 per cent to 71 per cent between 2004 and 2011. Oman has been trying to shift the country's major economic activities to the private sector and has focused on building world-class infrastructure that includes construction of new ports linked to free trade zones.⁴

Greenpeace urges Mauritius to deny entry to a South Korean fishing boat

The Greenpeace International urged the Mauritian government to refuse port clearance for a South

¹ "India, Maldives to step up defence cooperation", *The Times of India*, April 16, 2013 at http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-04-16/india/38584919_1_indian-ocean-region-ground-radars-india-and-maldives

² "India, Maldives to join hands to counter piracy, terrorism", *The New Indian Express*, May 30, 2013 at <http://newindianexpress.com/nation/India-Maldives-to-join-hands-to-counter-piracy-terrorism/2013/04/16/article1546648.ece>

³ "24th fleet of Iran's Navy wraps up successful international mission", *PressTV*, April 4, 2013 at <http://www.presstv.com/detail/2013/04/04/296453/iran-naval-fleet-wraps-up-intl-mission/>

⁴ "Container Traffic on the Rise", *Oman Daily Observer*, April 12, 2013 at <http://main.omanobserver.om/node/160643>

Korean ship suspected of illegal fishing. The fishing boat was sailing towards Port Louis after the Mauritian authorities gave permission for its entry. It was found to be using false letters claiming permission to fish in the waters of the Southern African Coast. As per the confirmation of the Liberian Bureau of National Fisheries, the letters of permission presented were forged. The Greenpeace urged the Mauritian government to follow other states in the region which had already refused the vessel's entry into their ports. The NGO sent a letter to the Mauritian prime minister and the fisheries minister demanding for the same.⁵

Maritime security course in Seychelles

In accordance with the Djibouti Code of Conduct signed by Seychelles in 2009, the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and other bodies organised a training course for maritime security officials from a number of countries. Delegates had come from Yemen, Tanzania, Kenya and some global bodies which form part of the anti-piracy joint groups. Seychelles' principal secretary for transport, Terrence Mondon noted that the advanced training programme on information sharing has been jointly organised by the European Union's Marsic project, the IMO and the France Expertise International. Twenty other member states have signed the Djibouti code for repressing piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Aden and in the western Indian Ocean.⁶

Sri Lanka to position itself as a dynamic part of 'Southern Maritime Zone'

Seatrade Communications Ltd., that organised the Sri Lanka Ports, Trade & Logistics Conference and Exhibition this year said that the Government of Sri Lanka is rapidly positioning itself as a dynamic part of a 'Southern Maritime Zone' following the rise of Singapore and Dubai. It was further added that Sri Lanka is well placed to capitalise on its geographical location and take advantage of the fast growing Indian and Chinese economies.⁷

US envoy highlights importance of sharing knowledge with Sri Lanka's Coastguards

At the graduation ceremony of the Maritime Law Enforcement Instructor Course conducted in Sri Lanka, the US Ambassador to the country highlighted the importance of maritime security, common maritime threats and the importance of conducting professional training and sharing knowledge between the two Coastguards.⁸

Sri Lankan boat recovered in Kenyan waters

The Kenyan police have found a Sri Lankan fishing boat suspected of having capsized and drifted to Pate Island in Lamu East. The boat was found floating in the deep sea by fishermen who alerted the police. The boat either capsized or it was swept away by strong winds to the Kenyan territorial waters. No incident of abduction or capsizing of any vessel had been reported to the police.⁹

⁵ "Mauritius urged to deny Entry to suspected illegal fishing vessel", *The Fish Site*, April 23, 2013 at <http://www.thefishsite.com/fishnews/20024/mauritius-urged-to-deny-entry-to-suspected-illegal-fishing-vessel>

⁶ "Seychelles hosts major maritime safety course", *Seychelles Nation*, April 23, 2013 at <http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=31244>

⁷ "Sri Lanka is emerging as South Asia's maritime hub", *Colombo Page*, April 24, 2013 at http://www.colombopage.com/archive_13A/Apr24_1366785535CH.php

⁸ "US envoy stresses importance of maritime security", *Daily News*, April 29, 2013 at <http://www.dailynews.lk/2013/04/29/news55.asp>

⁹ "Sri Lankan vessel found floating in Kenya waters", *The Star*, April 8, 2013, at <http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/article-115667/sri-lankan-vessel-found-floating-kenya-waters>

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Reliance and Vodafone to build undersea cable system

India's Reliance Industries and Vodafone Group Plc will jointly build an undersea cable system across the Indian Ocean to connect Southeast Asia with the Middle East. The 8,000-kilometre Bay of Bengal Gateway cable will have connections to India and Sri Lanka. The system is expected to carry commercial traffic by the end of 2014.¹⁰

Indonesia to promote maritime connectivity with Asia-Pacific region

Indonesia is gearing up to strengthen its maritime connectivity with the Asia-Pacific region. The country currently holds chairmanship of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum for 2013, and has set domestic and global maritime connectivity as a primary agenda. Indonesia is an archipelago country with 70 per cent of its territory being water, thus making maritime connectivity between its islands inevitable. Indonesia's maritime infrastructure is presently centred around the island of Java, with infrastructure on other islands, particularly the eastern region, being limited.¹¹

More than US\$ 226 million for Kenya, Tanzania link roads

The African Development Bank boosted the road

project linking Kenya and Tanzania to be completed by December 2018 by approving a loan of more than US\$226 million for the two countries. The road project would run from Taveta to Voi in Kenya and would connect Arusha and Holili in Tanzania. The roads are expected to reduce the cost of transport and open up the region. They are jointly financed by Kenya and Tanzania with a grant from the Africa Trade Fund. This Eastern African Community project seeks to improve the regional transport infrastructure to support economic and social development programs.¹²

Slowdown leads Mauritian exporters to switch attention from EU to South Africa

Mauritius is looking towards South Africa as a new destination for exports. The ongoing financial crisis has weakened exports to Europe. Therefore, clothing and textile companies in Mauritius are looking to South Africa to meet their sales targets. Being an active member of the Southern African Development Community, the South African market has the added advantage of being tax free for Mauritian exports. Given its proximity, the travel and transport time to the market is rather short. The Mauritian shift of focus from Europe to South Africa becomes more important as Mauritius is already ranked as South Africa's second-largest supplier of exported textile products after the European Union.¹³

¹⁰ "Vodafone, RIL in consortium to build undersea cable", *Reuters*, April 30, 2013 at <http://in.reuters.com/article/2013/04/30/reliance-cable-idINDEE93T06920130430>

¹¹ "News Focus - Big Agenda, Maritime Infrastructure Towards Indonesia, APEC Connectivity", *antaranews.com*, April 9, 2013 at <http://www.antaranews.com/en/news/88298/news-focus—big-agenda-maritime-infrastructure-towards-indonesia-apec-connectivity>

¹² "ADB approves Sh19 billion loan for Kenya, Tanzania link roads", *The Star*, April 19, 2013 at <http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/article-117384/adb-approves-sh19-billion-loan-kenya-tanzania-link-roads>

¹³ "Mauritius exporters switch focus from EU to South Africa", *just-style*, April 29, 2013 at http://www.just-style.com/analysis/mauritius-exporters-switch-focus-from-eu-to-south-africa_id117614.aspx

Australia funds Seychelles' renewable energy project

The Australian High Commission Direct Aid Programme is funding phase one of the solar power project which is running Seychelles' Aride Island Nature Reserve since March 28, 2013. WHL Energy Ltd will contribute to the second phase, which is to start in October 2013. A funding from the UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme will also help boost this system by reducing reliance on diesel by over 90 per cent. The new solar installation is in line with the goal of the Island Conservation Society owning and managing the island to promote 'green' and sustainable eco-tourism on it. The project is primarily aimed at reducing the island's demand for fossil fuels in general and diesel in particular. It will also provide a model for other small scale renewable energy and nature conservation projects on remote islands.¹⁴

New air agreement between Seychelles and Sri Lanka

Providing a flexible arrangement for scheduled airline operations between the two countries, Seychelles and Sri Lanka has concluded a new air services agreement. The agreement, which comes as a consequence of Seychelles' President James Michel's first state visit to Sri Lanka in August 2012, replaces the air transport agreement that was concluded in 1987. The improvements in air links are critical for the growth and development of trade and travel as well as other economic cooperation between the two countries. Seychelles considers the agreement as a part of the vision to diversify its tourism industry and promote trade and investment by improving accessibility to all corners of the world. A series of other bilateral programmes are also under negotiations between the two countries.¹⁵

Seychelles assesses India as potential tourism market

A fact-finding mission from the Seychelles Tourism Board (STB) visited India to evaluate the potential of its market for Seychelles tourism. The delegation travelled around Delhi and Mumbai to meet different partners from travel and tourism sectors. It held various business meetings with an objective of attracting more business towards Seychelles. The STB held the majority of its meetings with media representatives, tour operators and public relations officers and representation companies in Mumbai. The board is looking at appointing a representation company in India by the second quarter of this year.¹⁶

South Africa is experiencing a phenomenal tourism growth

International tourist arrivals in South Africa grew by 10.2 per cent year-on-year, more than double the global average of around 4 per cent. In a country where merely 3.4 million foreigners visited in 1993, the figures have shot up by 300 per cent to 13.5 million in 2012, out of which around 9.2 million were tourists. South Africa's tourism growth has been phenomenal, giving the country a distinguished place in a competitive marketplace. However, the biggest growth came from Asia and South America, particularly large scale arrivals from South Africa's BRICS partners Brazil, India and China. Africa still remains the pillar of the South African tourism economy and the growth from the continent is up by 8.5 per cent. South Africa, with the help of its National Tourism Sector Strategy aims to become one of the world's top 20 tourist destinations by 2020, adding 225,000 jobs in the economy.¹⁷

¹⁴ "Aride's Australian mission's direct aid programme-funded renewable energy project", *Seychelles Nation*, April 20, 2013 at <http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=31209>

¹⁵ "Seychelles and Sri Lanka seal new air service accord", *Seychelles Nation*, April 22, 2013 at <http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=31233>

¹⁶ "STB assesses Indian market potential", *Seychelles Nation*, April 27, 2013 at <http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=31301>

¹⁷ "No stopping South African tourism", *SouthAfrica.info*, April 26, 2013 at <http://www.southafrica.info/travel/tourism-260413.htm#.UZjctUpWK1Y>

Traffic boom on Dar Port

Thanks to its improved efficiency, Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) is reaping benefits out of its heavy investments in cargo handling. The cargo traffic at the Dar port between July 2012 and February 2013, as compared to the corresponding period in the years 2011 and 2012, increased by around 20 per cent. The TPA has invested adequately in the training of people operating the state-of-the art machines for port management. The Port Improvement Committee has been working towards improving the performance and efficiency of the Dar port by designing measures to solve congestion of vessels at the outer anchorage and cargo at the port terminals.¹⁸

Humbantota Port to attract investments worth billions

The Sri Lanka Ports Authority plans to attract billions of dollars worth of investments to the Ruhuna Magampura Mahinda Rajapaksa port. The government has received proposals from prospective local and foreign investors to establish businesses within the port premises. They include proposals for setting up a sugar refinery plant, cement grinding/bagging plant, fertiliser plant, petro-chemical plant and warehouses.¹⁹

Tanzania could become a top uranium producer

Tanzania could be catapulted into the top five countries producing uranium as the result of its decision to give license to a major uranium mining company. Mantra Tanzania Limited, owned by Mantra Resources, an Australian subsidiary of the Russian firm AtomRedMetZoloto, has been

permitted by the Ministry of Energy and Minerals to mine the strategic resource. The company will build and operate the Mkuju River uranium mine in southern Tanzania. It has been operating in Tanzania since 2010. The site is said to contain at least 36,000 tonnes as known uranium deposits. Some reports suggest that the mine would extract 14,000 tonnes of the radioactive element annually which could put Tanzania in a position to overtake Canada as the world's second biggest uranium producer.²⁰

Dar Looks to Beijing for More Tourists

Tanzania is trying to woo Chinese tourists. About 90 million Chinese tourists travel overseas annually and almost none visit Tanzania. The Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania informed that the two countries have already charted the way forward. Tapping just one per cent of the total number of Chinese tourists to Tanzania will double the rate of the country's revenue collection and tourist arrivals. He expressed optimism for a bright future for co-operation between Tanzania and China in the tourism industry.²¹

UAE is largest Middle East market

A United Nations report has shown that a surge in business in the UAE has boosted imports by the country over the past few years, making it the largest market in the Middle East. With one of the smallest populations in the region, the country's imports of goods and services reached US\$256.4 billion in 2011. This figure exceeds imports by all other Arab nations and Turkey. The UAE's trading figures soared to an all-time high last year. The country is also the second largest exporter of goods and services, after Saudi Arabia. The UN Conference on Trade and

¹⁸ "Dar es Salaam Port on cargo traffic boom", *Daily News Online*, April 22, 2013 at <http://dailynews.co.tz/index.php/biz/16649-dar-es-salaam-port-on-cargo-traffic-boom>

¹⁹ "Hambantota Port to make Lanka S Asian transshipment hub", *Sunday Observer*, April 21, 2013 at <http://www.sundayobserver.lk/2013/04/21/fea03.asp>

²⁰ "Tanzania poised to become leading Uranium producer", *Sabahi*, April 26, 2013 at http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/features/2013/04/26/feature-02

²¹ "Dar looks to Beijing for more tourists", *Daily News Online*, April 2, 2013 at <http://www.dailynews.co.tz/index.php/biz/16056-dar-looks-to-beijing-for-more-tourists>

Development has ranked the UAE the 25th largest importer of goods globally, and the 19th largest exporter, being the only Arab country in the top 30 markets worldwide.²²

Yemen agrees to cancel Somali maritime debts

Yemen has announced that it will cancel tax debts owed to it by the Somali government for ships that are docked off the Yemeni coast. The announcement was made following a meeting between Yemeni President, Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi and Somalia's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. A number of Somali ships docked in Yemen have been there for more than 20 years.²³

²² "UAE Becomes Largest Middle East Market", *UAE Interact*, April 7, 2013 at http://www.uaeinteract.com/docs/UAE_becomes_largest_Middle_East_market/54442.htm

²³ "Yemen Cancels Somali Maritime Debts", *Sabahi*, April 10, 2013 at http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/04/10/newsbrief-03

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS/ DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Six-month expedition launched to investigate Indian Ocean's microscopic marine life

A team led by Australian sailor and scientist, Federico Lauro, will carry out a six-month expedition from South Africa to Singapore to investigate the Indian Ocean's microscopic marine life. From a biological point of view, the team would be crossing some of the most under-explored waters on the planet.²⁴

Flood displaces thousands in Kenya

Four different rivers overflowed in Kenya displacing thousands of people from their homes. According to the Kenya Red Cross Society, at least 150 homes have been destroyed. As many as 20,000 people could be displaced by continued flooding in Kenya. The government is working to provide all possible humanitarian assistance. The Red Cross mobilised assistance for around 5,000 families in the valley at risk from landslides due to flooding.²⁵

Ten per cent forest cover by 2030 in Kenya attainable

According to the Green Belt Movement, the concerted efforts from the government, corporate organisations and individuals can achieve for Kenya the United Nations requirement of ten percent forest cover even before the set deadline of 2030. An initiative in which the private sector funds tree planting and the movement nurtures them for a period of three years before handing them over to the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) has gradually

reversed deforestation in some parts of Kenya. The joint initiative has achieved an average plant survival rate of about 70 percent. Besides, putting a high fine for cutting a tree illegally, the KFS has made the communities living near forests as key stakeholders and beneficiaries. Kenya was classified among the countries with low forest cover of less than two per cent of the total land area by the FAO's Forest Resource Assessment of 1990. Some experts now believe the country is likely to reach the UN requirement of ten per cent in time.²⁶

Flash floods in Mauritius, 11 die

Widespread damage was caused and 11 people lost their lives in flash floods in Port Louis. Expressing his solidarity with Mauritian people, President James Michel said that his country will strengthen its resolve to further improve regional cooperation in disaster reduction and mitigation and against the catastrophic impact of climate change and extreme weather events on islands. According to reports, 152 millimetres of rain fell into the city in just an hour and a half.²⁷

Arab bank funds disaster prevention in Seychelles

The Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (Badea) signed a technical assistance agreement with Seychelles worth US\$330,000 for disaster prevention in the country. Under the deal, two Arab hydrology and geotechnical experts would help the Ministry of Land Use and Housing in ongoing disaster relief and prevention efforts. This will enable Seychelles to face

²⁴ "Anchors aweigh for team studying microscopic creatures", *The Sydney Morning Herald*, April 27, 2013 at <http://www.smh.com.au/environment/anchors-weigh-for-team-studying-microscopic-creatures-20130426-2ijwl.html>

²⁵ "Thousands displaced by Kenya flooding", *Sabahi*, April 9, 2013 at http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/04/09/newsbrief-04

²⁶ "Kenya can attain UN forest cover quota", *Capital FM*, April 15 at <http://www.capitalfm.co.ke/news/2013/04/kenya-can-attain-un-forest-cover-quota/>

²⁷ "11 die in flash floods in Port Louis, Mauritius", *Seychelles Nation*, April 2, 2013 at <http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=30998>

catastrophic situations like floods, similar to what happened recently.²⁸

Seychelles receives disaster grant

Thanks to a US\$ 543,000 grant for Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) member countries and Zanzibar that a risk transfer mechanism would be developed in Seychelles to mitigate the economic impact of natural disasters. The IOC official from Seychelles, the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction representative and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery signed the disaster grant agreement. The grant will allow the IOC members and Zanzibar to set up various disaster management teams. It will support the countries' efforts to increase their capacity to systematically account for disaster losses and develop probabilistic estimations of future risks, with an emphasis in weather and climate change-related hazards. It will also incorporate climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction into the country's national public investment and development planning system.²⁹

New journalists' body on climate change formed

A regional media forum on climate change has been formed in Uganda representing each of the island nations' media. It will contribute through a network being created by the forum. The steering committee of the body has Comoros, Mauritius, Seychelles and Madagascar as members. Other groups represented are the southern, eastern and central African blocks. The journalists are expected to work together to help slow down climate change by preventing polluters

and making policy makers understand the need to put in place measures to mitigate its effects.³⁰

Carbon Monitoring Centre to be established in Dar

With the help of Norwegian funds, the Government of Tanzania is in the process of establishing a National Carbon Monitoring Centre. A proposal for the centre is ready and the government is about to finalise negotiations with Norway. Several 'Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)' pilot projects are being implemented in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. The Tanzanian authorities encourage people countrywide to continue planting trees and preserving forests so that they can earn money through carbon credits. The government has already completed a national forest resources monitoring and assessment that would enable the country to participate in the carbon credit trading. A national strategy on REDD has been finalised and approved by the government.³¹

Urgent need to conserve Mara river basin

Serengeti officials have warned that the survival of Mara river basin of Tanzania is under threat due to massive deforestation. It called for immediate intervention by the central government. Deforestation is also devastating large parts of the river basin which forms part of Serengeti eco-system into a desert. It is feared that the floods might put the people residing near Mara river into starvation. If properly developed, the river has waterfalls that can serve as one of the best tourist attractions in the Victoria lake zone region.³²

²⁸ "Arab development bank to help Seychelles in disaster prevention", *Seychelles Nation*, April 9, 2013 at <http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=31078>

²⁹ "Seychelles, IOC members receive disaster grant", *Seychelles Nation*, April 19, 2013 at <http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=31203>

³⁰ "New climate change body recognises islands' needs", *Seychelles Nation*, April 29, 2013 at <http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=31315>

³¹ "Dar to establish Carbon Monitoring Centre", *Daily News Online*, April 10, 2013 at <http://www.dailynews.co.tz/index.php/local-news/16276-dar-to-establish-carbon-monitoring-centre>

³² "Serengeti plea for Mara river conservation", *Daily News Online*, April 26, 2013 at <http://www.dailynews.co.tz/index.php/local-news/16780-serengeti-plea-for-mara-river-conservation>

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Africa, Latin America, Caribbean & UN Centre

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The Africa, Latin America, Caribbean & UN Centre of IDSA focuses on understanding developments in the African and the Indian Ocean Region. The Centre also endeavours to analyse India's engagement with Latin American countries, particularly in forums such as the IBSA and BRICS. In addition, the Centre carries out research on the broader theme of India and the United Nations.

This newsletter, compiled by the IDSA covers the recent developments in the fields of maritime security, economic cooperation and environmental concerns/ disaster risk management in the various countries of the Indian Ocean region.



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