



Charting a Limitless,
Sustainable Future
Together

Amb **Nancy
Karigithu**



AMB. NANCY KARIGITHU

Candidate for the Position of IMO
Secretary General





KENYA'S CANDIDATURE FOR THE POSITION OF SECRETARY- GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION (IMO)

I reaffirm Kenya's nomination of Amb. Mrs Nancy Karigithu for the position of Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

Amb. Karigithu, who is Kenya's Special Envoy for Maritime and Blue Economy Affairs, is a highly acknowledged maritime expert with a proven commitment to the course of global maritime interests. She has unmatched experience in delivering strategic leadership at various levels of the global maritime sector including building consensus on some of the most complex issues that enabled common action in favor of shared objectives of the IMO membership.

Kenya looks forward to working with all players in the Maritime Sector in charting a sustainable future together.



WILLIAM SAMOEI RUTO, PhD., CGH.,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Amb Nancy
Karigithu



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MISSION

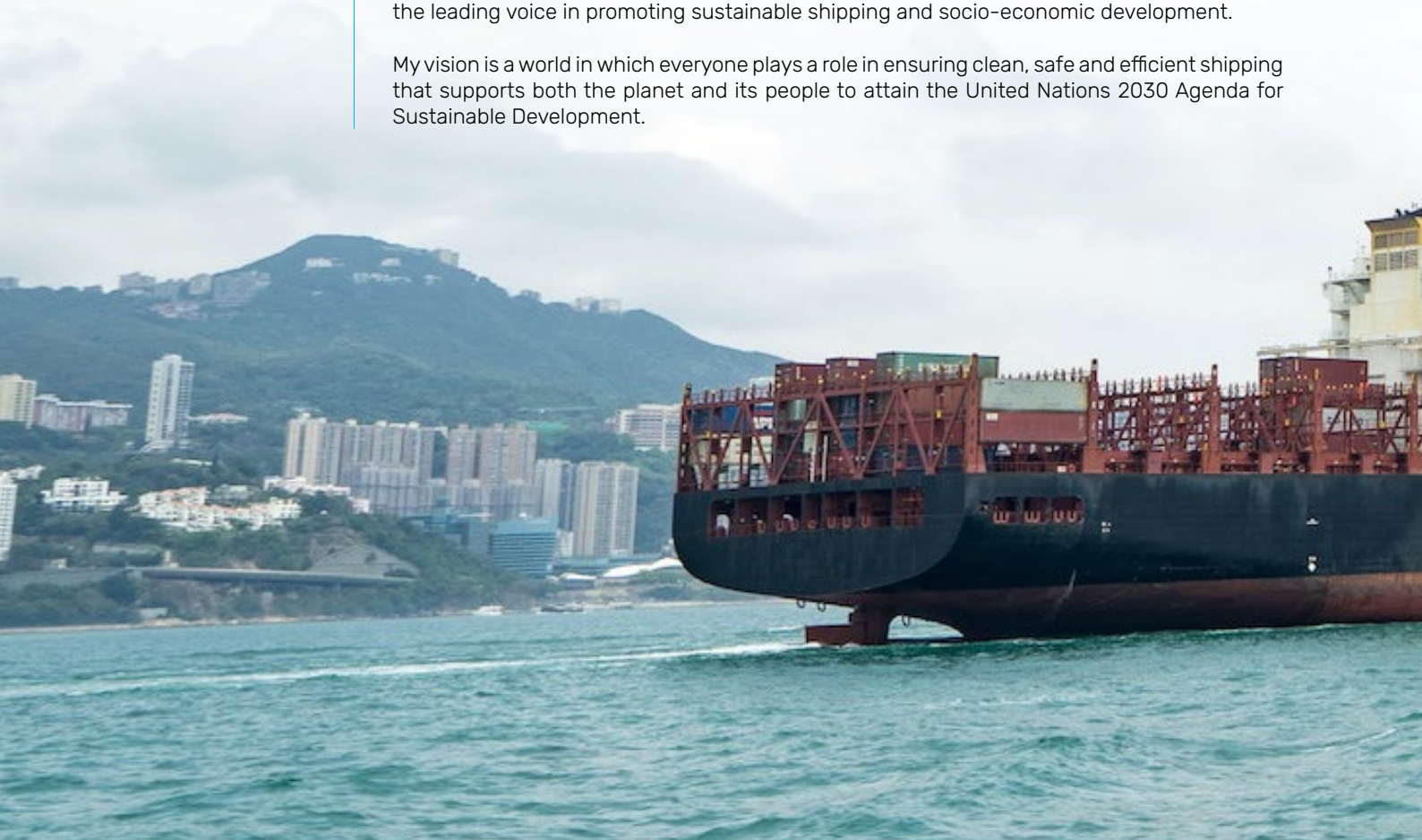
To provide an effective platform through multilateralism, for the transition into green shipping through partnerships, technical cooperation & collaboration, inclusive leadership, and global cooperation.

Under my tenure, I will ensure the IMO provides effective leadership to each and every Member State, by ensuring all Member States freely express their ideas, hopes, aspirations as well as proposals in order to aptly promote innovation; anchor the just and equitable transition into safe, sustainable, and efficient shipping for the sustainable development for all nations.

VISION

I am driven by the passion and desire to take the IMO to the next level of development. As Secretary General I will work tirelessly to ensure that IMO member states, industry, and stakeholders, work together to advance the goals of the Organization and ensure that it remains the leading voice in promoting sustainable shipping and socio-economic development.

My vision is a world in which everyone plays a role in ensuring clean, safe and efficient shipping that supports both the planet and its people to attain the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



STATEMENT OF INTENT

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As a longstanding maritime professional with almost 40 years of experience, I have been involved in the work of IMO, driven by a strong commitment to the great purpose that the organization stands for. It is therefore the reason I have offered my candidature for the post of Secretary-General of IMO for the period 2024-2028.

Statement of intent to contest for the position of Secretary - General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

In recognition of my career as a maritime professional with almost 40 years of experience, I have been involved in the work of IMO, driven by a strong commitment to the great purpose for which the Organization stands for, therefore the reason for offering my candidature for the post of Secretary-General of IMO for the period 2024-2028.

My Government's nomination and African Union endorsement of my candidature comes at a critical time for IMO when strong leadership and consensus building is needed, arising from a world facing unprecedented challenges due to a global pandemic, increasing geopolitical tensions, supply chain crisis and most importantly the impact of climate change on our planet and people. As the backbone of global trade, the maritime sector touches on every sustainable development goal. I could not think of a better call than to support this sector through effective leadership in order to ensure that no one is left behind, addressing those challenges and harnessing the tremendous opportunities the sector offers to support our planet and people.



Throughout my career in the maritime industry, I have held various progressively responsible positions at national and global levels such as:

- State Law Officer, Attorney General's Chambers;
- Senior Legal Officer, Kenya Ports Authority (KPA).
- Maritime Legislation Consultant, International Maritime Organization (IMO).
- Maritime Transport Expert/Consultant for the African Union.
- Director – General, Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA).
- Consultant – European Union (Critical Maritime Routes Project).
- Principal Secretary, State Department for Shipping & Maritime Affairs, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing, Urban Development and Public Works.
- Principal Secretary, State Department for Shipping & Blue economy:
- Kenya's Ambassador & Special Envoy for Shipping and the Blue Economy.

Through these positions I have been responsible for the operational and policy management of maritime transport related programmes, including but not limited to maritime security; maritime safety; human element including maritime education and training; marine environment protection; climate change, including matters relating to decarbonization of shipping;

facilitation of international maritime trade, among others. In addition to my work experience, I hold a Master's degree in International Maritime Law from the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), Malta.

My long and illustrious career spans maritime legislative drafting; strengthening and setting up maritime administrations not just in my home country Kenya, but also in Africa; seafarer capacity building and welfare as well as mentorship and empowerment of women in the maritime sector.

I have also chaired the Steering Committee as well as provided strategic guidance to the Maritime Technology Co-operation Centre for Africa (MTCC-Africa) where I have provided oversight and direction fostering global North-South cooperation and delivery of capacity building programmes for the reduction of green-house gas (GHG) emissions from the continent's maritime and shipping sector.



In recognition of my expertise and dedicated service to the global maritime industry, I was unanimously elected as Chair of IMO's Technical Co-operation Committee (TCC) for 3 successive terms (2010-2013). The TCC, is tasked with the responsibility of setting the agenda and programmes for building and enhancing human and institutional capacity for developing countries. My experience as Chair of the TCC provided me with invaluable insight and experience in consensus building in a multilateral environment, which IMO typifies.

In the foregoing context, I strongly believe that my academic qualifications, global exposure and experience in the various positions I have held, provide me with invaluable and significant experience and have honed my leadership skills, placing me in pole position to become the next and first female Secretary-General of IMO. I have the necessary competency and attributes for this top United Nation's position.

I understand the global maritime challenges and will always factor their best interests and ensure we work together for mutual interest and efficiency in global trade.

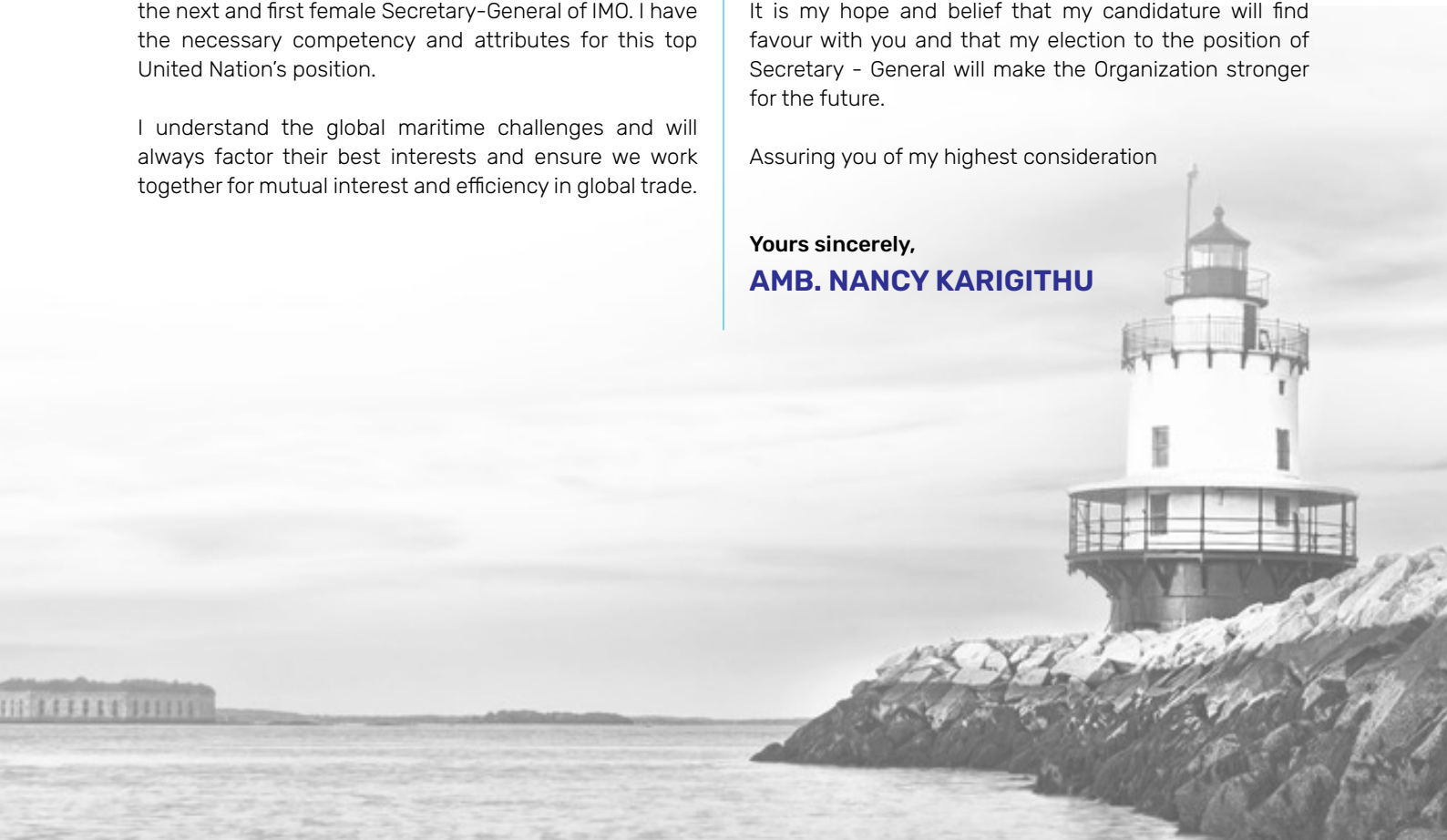
At a time when there is an increasing call to empower more women to support and lead the maritime sector, I wish to act, lead and be seen as a role model for millions of women out there who are aspiring to enter the maritime sector and make a difference. I therefore offer my candidature for the post of the 10th and first female Secretary-General of IMO in the Organization's 75-year history and seek the members' support as an African women leader who has the best interests of our planet and its people at heart.

My technical background and experience will help me ensure that I always have the best interests of IMO member states, the Secretariat, and the maritime industry at heart, and that I will work hard to serve those interests.

It is my hope and belief that my candidature will find favour with you and that my election to the position of Secretary - General will make the Organization stronger for the future.

Assuring you of my highest consideration

Yours sincerely,
AMB. NANCY KARIGITHU



My Promise

- i) To restore multilateralism and consensus building within the IMO, as a “safe pair of hands”;
- ii) To spearhead the just and equitable transition of the decarbonization of the maritime industry through IMO Green House Gas reduction initiatives to realize global equity, social justice, and technological inclusivity.
- iii) To continue the modernization of the IMO Secretariat and streamline the Organization’s program of activities with the United Nations Secretariat, especially in areas of ocean governance, security, and the attainment of the UNSDGs.
- iv) Ensure increased robust participation and involvement of the Global South, particularly developing countries and especially the SIDs and LDCs in IMO decision making meetings and activities.



Amb **Nancy Karigithu**



**One Ocean, One Vision.
Voyage to a sustainable
future - Together**

STRATEGIC DIRECTION



INCLUSIVITY & DIVERSITY

As Secretary General I will strive to lead the Organization and all the member states in achieving holistic solutions to fundamental issues that affect the shipping industry globally, so as to ensure sustainable development for all.

As Chair of the IMO Technical Co-operation Committee, I felt challenged to play a bigger role in IMO's Program on the Integration of Women in the maritime sector thus playing a key role in the setting up and launch of the Association of Women in the Maritime Sector in Eastern

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& Southern Africa (WOMESA), and serving two terms as Chairperson.

WOMESA was the first regional body to bring together women professionals in the maritime sector from 26 countries in Africa, to champion and lobby governments for capacity building opportunities for more women as well as inclusivity in the management cadres of the maritime and shipping sector. I am Patron of the Association as well as member of the Governing Council



Promoting Global Co-operation in Maritime

A strong advocate for ocean governance and the development of the maritime sector, I serve on the Board of Governors for the World Maritime University (WMU) and the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), and I am an Honorary fellow of the University. As a champion for the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals I have been a role model and mentor for the youth. In this regard I have initiated many national maritime training programs, while strongly advocating gender equity and integration of women in the maritime industry. I recognize that increasing women's representation in the industry will widen the talent pool and skills base drive economic growth and narrow the gender gap as well as advance all 17 SDGs.



GLOBAL IMPACT

Strategic Direction

As Kenya's consummate maritime diplomat I have led regional initiatives for the safety and security of the maritime sector, including the anti-piracy initiatives and during the Covid-19 pandemic, leading efforts that resulted in the Kenya's ports opening up for crew change and transit as well as available vaccination for transiting seafarers.

As IMO Secretary General my goal will be in similar manner, to lead the organization and its member states in achieving comprehensive holistic solutions on a global scale, to the critical issues affecting the shipping industry with the aim of achieving sustainable development for all.

As a Kenyan and seasoned practitioner in the maritime sector, my extensive experience has positioned me to serve as a bridge between the North and South on pressing global issues that affect the IMO's member states.



Providing Technical Assistance in Maritime Development

As a beneficiary of Technical Assistance in my studies and specialization in international maritime law, I deeply appreciate the difference and deep impact that technical cooperation can have in advancing the IMO agenda on a global scale. On qualification from IMLI, I spent eleven years assisting Governments in Africa in establishing and strengthening maritime administrations before setting up the Kenya Maritime Authority. With this background one of the pillars of my term as SG will be to expand the scope of technical assistance, cooperation and collaboration as well as partnerships, in order to expand the web of support and capacity building especially for SIDs, LDCs and developing countries thus expanding their capacity to participate more robustly in IMO meetings as well as in the delivery of maritime programs.

My experience in overseeing the Maritime Technology Co-operation Centre for Africa whose mandate is to build capacity for climate change mitigation in the shipping and maritime sector has emboldened my resolve and determination to champion the decarbonization of the global shipping industry.





SUSTAINABLE GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARITIME SECTOR

Strategic Direction

As Secretary General I will foster an environment that allows for an all-inclusive leadership approach through capacity building, technical cooperation and partnerships to promote sustainable ocean governance and development in the global shipping industry.

Decarbonizing the shipping industry and having to define what is a just and equitable transition is a challenge that I am ready to take up and implement.



Showing Leadership in Drive to Conserve & Protect the Marine Environment

My deep commitment to the conservation of sustainable ecosystems and related global initiatives are demonstrated in my leadership efforts. My initiatives and efforts towards mangrove forest restoration and planting as well as, most recently, leading initiatives for the suppression of illegal wildlife trade through ships. Here, I spearheaded a Government of Kenya proposal to the IMO Committee on the Facilitation of Trade whose output was the development of Guidelines for the Prevention & Suppression of the Smuggling of Wildlife on Ships engaged in International Maritime Traffic.

My work in this regard highlighted the importance of having champions in key leadership positions to address the multi-sectoral drivers of challenges facing the maritime industry and also boldness in addressing those challenges. The Guidelines were adopted during the 46th Session of the FAL Committee in May 2022.





WHY?

AMB. NANCY KARIGITHU

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As a longstanding maritime professional who has been involved in the work of IMO for over 30 years. I have widely delivered technical cooperation programs in the African region on behalf of IMO, the African Union, and the European Union towards improvement of maritime safety, security and marine environment protection, Including the reduction of green- house gas emissions from the continent's maritime and shipping sector as well as improved maritime domain awareness.



I recognize the crucial role the maritime sector plays as the backbone of global trade, and I am committed to ensuring that no one will be left behind in addressing the challenges facing the industry through harnessing the tremendous opportunities that the sector harbours.



As a champion for gender equality and balance, a role model, mentor and champion for the integration of women in the maritime sector, I am committed to build on the foundation that IMO has already created in this regard, through providing strong leadership, consensus-building and inclusivity for the benefit of all.





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