



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
MARITIME EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND
(METFUND)



REPORT

on the

4th International Day for Women in Maritime Commemoration

**17th – 19th May
2025 Tanga,
Tanzania**

“An Ocean of Opportunities for Women”



Prepared by:

Maritime Education and Training Fund (METFUND)

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Introduction

The Maritime Education and Training Fund (METFUND) was honoured to participate in the commemoration of the **4th International Day for Women in Maritime**, held in Tanga from 17th to 19th May 2025.

The event was organized and hosted by the Tanzania Chapter of the **Association of Women in Maritime Southern Africa (WOMESA)** under the theme: *"An Ocean of Opportunities for Women."*

This commemoration provided an important platform to celebrate women's growing contributions in the maritime sector, reflect on persistent challenges, and set a pathway towards an inclusive and equitable maritime industry.

Day 1: Outreach and Technical Visits

- **School Engagement:** A delegation visited Usagara Secondary School to raise awareness of maritime opportunities among young girls. The session emphasized the importance of maritime education and careers, encouraging students to consider the sector as a future profession.
- **Port of Tanga Visit:** Participants toured the Port of Tanga, where they learned about recent infrastructure upgrades that have improved operational efficiency. The hosts also shared insights into safety and security measures applied at the port.

Day 2: Opening Ceremony and Recognitions

The official opening was graced by the **Regional Commissioner of Tanga, Hon. Dr. Batuli Salha Burian**, with remarks from **Dr. Devota Mandanda, President of WOMESA**.



- **Recognition Award to METFUND:**

METFUND was honoured with a recognition award from WOMESA for its support in empowering women through education in the maritime sector. This award reaffirmed METFUND's commitment to promoting gender inclusion and expanding educational access in a traditionally male-dominated industry.



- **Presentations and Discussions:**

- *Paper 1 – Opportunities for Women in Maritime Sectors:*

Presented by **Prof. Tumaini S. Gurumo,**

Highlighting vast opportunities in oil & gas, fisheries, shipping, and logistics. She underscored the need knowledge acquisition and aligning personal passion with professional pursuits.



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- *Paper 2 – New Opportunities for Women in Maritime Sectors:*

Presented by **Ms. Fatma Masenene**, who identified underdeveloped areas such as shipping brokerage and cargo brokerage, calling on women to take an active role in shaping these fields.

Day 3: Training, Capacity Building, and Knowledge Sharing

- **Presentation on Maritime Training and Capacity Building:**

Delivered by **Ms. Watiku Nyerere**, emphasizing Tanzania's strategic location along the Indian Ocean and the importance of investing in maritime training to maximize this potential for sustainable growth.

- **Participation of Women in Maritime Activities:**

Presented by **Eng. Regina Mbilinyi**, who outlined the importance of women's involvement across maritime activities.



- **Experience Sharing by Young Seafarers:**

Young women professionals shared their journeys, challenges, and opportunities in the industry, inspiring others to pursue maritime careers.



- **Leadership and Management Training:**

Presented by **Eng. Thomas Justin Mayagilo**, who stressed the qualities of effective leadership and its link to operational success and safety. He distinguished leadership (vision, inspiration, people) from management (planning, organization, execution).

Conclusion

The 4th International Day for Women in Maritime successfully underscored the growing role of women in shaping the sector. METFUND's recognition award highlighted its dedication to advancing women's empowerment through education.

The event provided valuable learning, inspiration, and networking opportunities, reinforcing the call for continuous investment in maritime education, leadership development, and inclusivity.

