



Master Messages Seychelles 2016 CGPCS Presidency

1. The purpose of these Master Messages is to facilitate unity and coherence in our external communications. The master messages contain information elements, key phrases, arguments for Seychelles' officials to use and refer in meetings, interventions, speeches, written articles, web sites etc.
2. The Seychelles CGPCS Presidency Agenda will be a **regional agenda**. It aims to give a voice to the aspirations and needs of the region. The slogan campaign chosen by Seychelles for the 2016 CGPCS Presidency is: **From the Region to the Region. Creating a lasting legacy**. In this light, the Seychelles Chair of the CGPCS will consult widely and intensely in the Indian Ocean region to seek actively the opinions, views and expectations from the regional stakeholders in the CGPCS.
3. The Seychelles Presidency aims at **consolidating the achievements** of the CGPCS into a **lasting legacy** of structures, capacities and mechanisms. The international reaction to Somali piracy started as a response to a crisis. Now we need to consolidate the achievements of the crisis response and turn them into lasting mechanisms for regional and international cooperation. Examples are: an agreed regional architecture for MSA, the continued operational coordination through SHADE, MASE and Indian Ocean Forum on Maritime Crime.
4. The Indian Ocean as an 'Ocean of Opportunity'.

5. The Seychelles Presidency aims – in line with African Union policy and the Togo/Lomé Charter and in partnership with the private sector – to **develop the Blue Economy** in order to provide jobs and economic opportunities. Blue Economy jobs can be found in the shipping industry, tourism, the development of coastal infrastructure, port development and off shore mining and oil and gas exploration.
6. Piracy remains a substantial threat and potential risks re-emerging. Many young men take to sea because of poverty or the lack of economic opportunities. If we do not provide for jobs and economic opportunities they will continue to consider maritime piracy as an alternative. Developing the Blue Economy aims at building the full economic potential of the sea thus creating jobs and economic opportunities. Providing jobs for potential pirates in the Blue Economy will get these men into business and keep them out of piracy and other illegal activities.
7. The Seychelles Presidency will work on the basis of the following principles:
 - a. Bringing the family together – an inclusive approach and process;
 - b. Doing it together – Strength lies in unity
 - c. The Seychelles aims to give a voice to the aspirations, needs and expectations of the entire Indian Ocean region
 - d. From the region to the region – the Seychelles Presidency aims to create a lasting legacy.