



REF No: 459_08072024_ROSA

Invitation to participate in the “Regional Round Table and Systems Analysis Exercise on Mapping Drug Trafficking Networks in The East Indian Ocean by UNODC

Dear Sir,

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) respectfully extends its compliments to the Ministry of Defence of Sri Lanka.

In 2024, the Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP) in partnership with the Global Programme on Criminal Network Disruption (GPCD) of UNODC has jointly carried out a regional assessment that investigated the organised crime networks (OCNs) engaged in illicit drug trafficking in the Eastern Indian Ocean Region. The assessment concentrated on the drug trafficking through the Southern route in Maldives and Sri Lanka.

As a follow up, UNODC is organizing a Regional Round Table Meeting, with the participation of representatives from India, Sri Lanka and Maldives to share the findings of the above assessment and to conduct a system analysis exercise on mapping drug trafficking networks. The event will facilitate information sharing among relevant practitioners and experts while generating discussions on the criminal networks involved in drug trafficking, latest trends, transnational threats, impact of the illicit drug trade in various countries and law enforcement response. A **Concept Note** and **Agenda** with additional details of the event are attached herewith for more information.

In light of the above, UNODC is pleased to extend an invitation to your esteemed entity to nominate **02 officers from the Sri Lanka Navy and Sri Lanka Coast Guard (1 from each agency)** to participate in the above event from **27 – 30 August 2024 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.** The exact venue will be notified to the nominated individuals closer to the event date. Please note that all sessions will be conducted in English. Furthermore, in accordance with the United Nations' overarching objective to promote gender-responsive programming, we would appreciate receiving nominations of both men and women who will contribute their expertise and insights to these activities. Kindly note this activity requires participants to be Leahy Vetted.

If you view this invitation favourably, kindly submit the letter of nomination with details of the selected Officers; including name, rank/position, email and phone number to Mr. Hussain Kausar Waheed via email: hussain.kausarwaheed@un.org **no later than Monday, 15 July 2024**, together with the following documents:

- 1) Official Nomination Letter.
 - 2) HR Mini Master Form with banking proof.
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- 3) Leahy vetting templates (Leahy vetting form and the INVEST C template)
- 4) NIC/Passport Bio page Copy.

We eagerly anticipate your acceptance of this invitation and look forward to continuing working together to combat maritime crime in the Indian Ocean.

Yours sincerely,

Siji Song

Regional Programme Coordinator, Eastern Indian Ocean
Global Maritime Crime Programme

General G. D. H. Kamal Gunaratne (Retd.)
Secretary, Ministry of Defence
Ministry of Defence
15/5 Baladaksha Mawatha
Colombo 03

CC:

Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy
Navy Headquarters
Colombo 01

Director General of Coast Guard,
Coast Guard Head Quarters,
Mirissa