



United Arab Emirates  
Government of Sharjah  
Department of Seaports & Customs

# SEAPORTS



# CUSTOMS

الموانئ البحرية SEAPORTS AUTHORITY

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The declaration also includes commitments to establish a harmonised mechanism for sharing information about IWT and to develop the use of due diligence and risk assessment systems to identify potential IWT shipments. Companies will also be encouraged to establish mechanisms for reporting suspicious activity to enforcement authorities and develop appropriate staff-training programmes.

A cross-disciplinary team will be established to work with local customs and law enforcement authorities to develop a system of best practice for combatting illegal wildlife trade in key ports, and the World Customs Organisation and national customs authorities will be supported in developing mechanisms to aid detecting and preventing IWT.

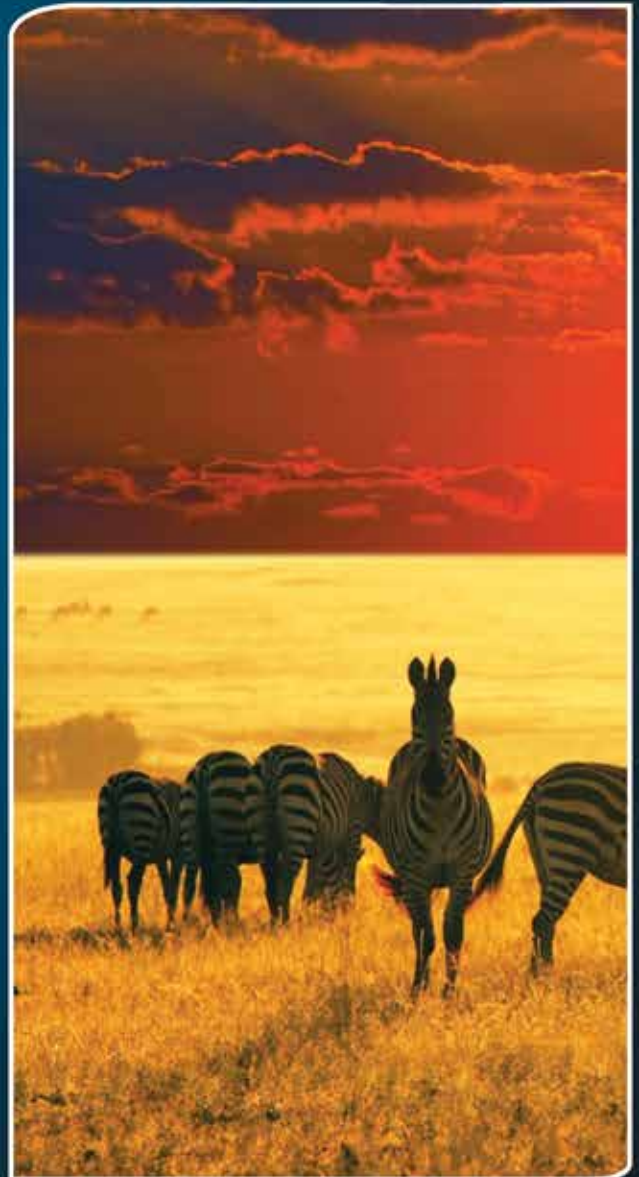
The commitments included in the declaration will, if adopted by the wider transport sector, help break the chain between suppliers and consumers and lead to a tangible and significant reduction in the volume of IWT.

The declaration will be brought to the attention of IMO's Facilitation Committee when it meets in April 2016.

IWT continues to be a pressing global problem, requiring the combined efforts and attention of the

global community to prevent the loss of many of the world's iconic species.

Despite many positive recent developments, the need for urgent action remains. The Transport Taskforce aims to combat the international trafficking that facilitates IWT, specifically through the transport industry. Members include representatives from the transport industry, alongside governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations and United Nations agencies. United for Wildlife is a collaboration of seven of the world's leading conservation organizations and The Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry. Led by The Duke of Cambridge, its prime objectives are better on-site protection for wildlife, a reduction in demand for illegal wildlife products, to improve law enforcement, to work with the private sector to reduce trafficking and to engage young people with conservation.





## Illegal wildlife trade faces zero-tolerance policy

Members of the United for Wildlife International Taskforce on the Transportation of Illegal Wildlife Products.

Members of the taskforce, including IMO, agreed the text of a declaration, to be signed next March, containing firm commitments to tackle the illegal wildlife trade.

A zero-tolerance policy towards the illegal wildlife trade (IWT) was among several concrete measures agreed this week (9th December 2015) by members of the United for Wildlife International Taskforce on the Transportation of

Illegal Wildlife Products.

Members of the taskforce, including IMO, agreed the text of a declaration, to be signed next March, containing firm commitments to tackle IWT. Many within the transport sector, including companies represented on the task force, have agreed to enforce a zero-tolerance policy by never knowingly facilitating or tolerating the carriage of illegal wildlife or illegal wildlife products. The policy will be included in documents such as conditions of carriage, employment and client contracts as well as in marketing material.



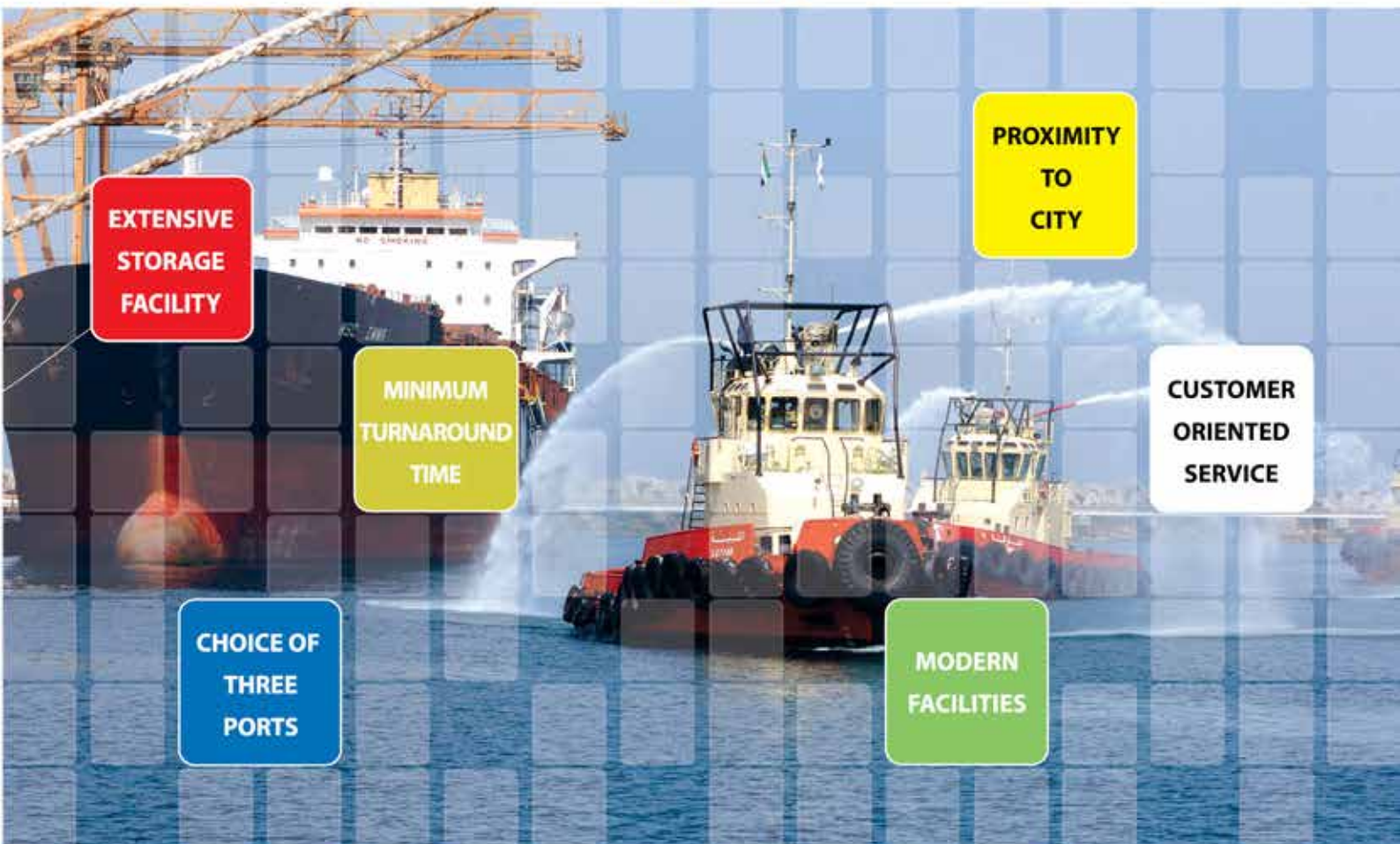
## SHARJAH PORTS AUTHORITY

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# Environmental Issues Discussed at Sharjah Ports



A delegation from Ministry of Environment and Water headed by Mr. Salem Akram, Director of Marine and Coastal Sustainability Department visited Sharjah Creek Customs Centre on November 15 2016.

The delegation held a meeting with Mr. Jarsh Mohammed bin Jarsh, Director of Sharjah Creek Customs, Mr. Mohammed Hamad Al – Qubaisi, Director of Security, Safety, Health Environment at Port Khalid, Mr. Abdul Rahman Seed Bu Ghanim, Assistant Director of the Centre, Mr. Mohammed Al Zaronie, Customs Officer.

Mrs. Annah Abdullah Al Suwaidi – Creek Customs Centre and Mrs. Hamdah Abdullah – Ministry of Environment also attended the meeting.

The delegation reviewed the national project for detecting and observing the marine and costal environment which was suggested to the Federal Customs Authority in 2004 which aims to observe changes and developments of the coastal marine environment.

During the meeting several challenges and issues were discussed including preserving biodiversity and marine ecological systems; environment sustainability; protection of marine environment and prevention of marine pollution; supporting the integrated management of the coastal areas; adaptation with climatic changes; building up national capacities and promoting general awareness on environmental issues.



the French Shipping Line's 18,000 TEU capacity vessels.

The terminal staff completed the operation in only 36.4 hours, resulting in Gross Moves Per Hour (GMPH) of 227.7 and Berth Moves per Hour (BMPH) of 223.4, allowing the vessel to sail ahead of its pro-forma schedule with a grand total of 15,765 TEUs on board, bound for its next port of call - Yantian, China.

Daniel Wright, Gulfainer's Terminal Manager at KCT said: "KCT is renowned for its high productivity levels, and has demonstrated its ability to handle mega-vessels. This new milestone further establishes its credentials as mega-ship ready, and underlines the skills of the staff at the terminal, who are ready to complete

such a large call in record time."

Commenting on the move, Nicolas Sartini, Group Senior Vice President of CMA-CGM Marseille, said: "We are always impressed how KCT is able to constantly improve its productivity. This further validates our choice to select Khorfakkan as our main hub for cargo moving to the Middle East from Europe and Asia."

Earlier the year, KCT set a new record for the handling of the largest single unloading and loading of a single vessel call at its Khorfakkan Container Terminal (KCT), at 19,561 TEUs, and it recently received the 'Shipping Port of the Year' honour at the 2015 Supply Chain & Transport Awards (SCATA).



# Khorfakkan Container Terminal Exceeds 4000 Moves in 12 hour Shift



Gulfainer, a privately owned, independent terminal operating and logistics company and container operators to the Government of Sharjah has achieved yet another milestone as it's Khorfakkan Container Terminal (KCT), completed 4,073 container moves in a single 12-hour shift. This achievement has defied industry belief that the 6,000 moves in a 24-hour period target for shipping lines since the inception of the mega-ship is not possible.

The full operation consisted of an 8,288 container / 13,005 TEUs (Twenty-foot equivalent unit) exchange, inclusive of 10-high deck stowage, on the call of the CMA-CGM Georg Forster, one of

refurbishments in both 2010 and 2013.

Commenting on the MS Island Sky visit, His Excellency Khalid Jasim Al Midfa, Chairman of Sharjah Commerce and Tourism Development Authority (SCTDA), said: “Sharjah has emerged as an ideal destination for international cruise-liners. With its strategic location and world-class facilities for cruise liners, Sharjah is the only emirate that has access to the coasts of the Arabian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. The emirate offers guaranteed winter sun and an extensive range of tourism attractions to cruise tourists.”

H.E. Al Midfa added: “Sharjah has been witnessing considerably busy cruise tourism activity with as many as 35 international cruise calls in the 2014-15 season bringing around 80,000 visitors

to the world-class Khorfakkan Port on the emirate’s East Coast. The growth of cruise tourism is significant for Sharjah considering that as part of the Sharjah Tourism Vision 2021 launched recently by SCTDA, the emirate is aiming to attract more than 10 million visitors, and cruise tourists will make a crucial chunk of these visitors.”

Sharjah receives most of its cruise calls in Khorfakkan, where visitors enjoy an authentic Arabian atmosphere. Visitors also head to Kalba and Dibba Al Hisn, both within Sharjah, to experience the emirate’s natural beauty and participate in outdoor activities at the mangroves, mountains and wadis.

Cultural heritage locations are also major attractions for cruise tourists, and while in Sharjah City, their most popular destinations are the old restored city centre called the ‘Heart of Sharjah’, the Museum of Islamic Civilization and the traditional markets.





# MS Island Sky cruise liner visits Sharjah Ports

Highlighting Sharjah's status as a major international cruise tourism destination in the region, Noble Caledonia's MS Island Sky cruise liner visited two key ports of the Emirate of Sharjah within a span of one month. The ship, carrying passengers mainly from the UK, visited Sharjah's Khalid Port on November on its way to Sir Baniyas in the UAE. It then called on Khorfakkan Port on Sharjah's east coast on November 22. This is the second time in four years that Sharjah has featured in MS Island Sky's itinerary.

MS Island Sky is one of Noble Caledonia's two flagships and one of the finest small ships in the world. With a maximum capacity of only 114 passengers, a vessel of her size is capable of carrying more people but instead the MS Island Sky has the benefit of unusually large suites, luxuriously appointed public areas and spacious outside decks. The vessel was built in 1992 and underwent significant





Mr. Mohammed Hamed Al Qubaisi

systems to practice dealing with a fire incident, while different sections of the Civil Defence showcased their professional treatment in this regard.

The drill witnessed evacuation and firefighting essentials and methods of dealing with the evacuation system, with staff and customers of a company working inside the port participating in it.

Mr. Mohammed Hamed Al Qubaisi, Security, Safety and Health Environment M said that safety exercises are highly necessary and recommended them to be carried out in the port facilities because of their importance and to

prevent loss of life and destruction of property and the environment. Besides, such drills will eliminate the surprise factor with the safety and security staff of the facility and thus will acquire a more prompt and practical reaction to deal with emergencies and fire incidents.

On his part, Captain Rajan, Harbour Master of Port Khalid said that such drills are important for they make each and every person taking part in the drill familiar with the task he has to perform in case of actual emergency and familiarize ships crews with fire fighting appliances and preventive measures on ships.

# Evacuation Drill at Port Khalid



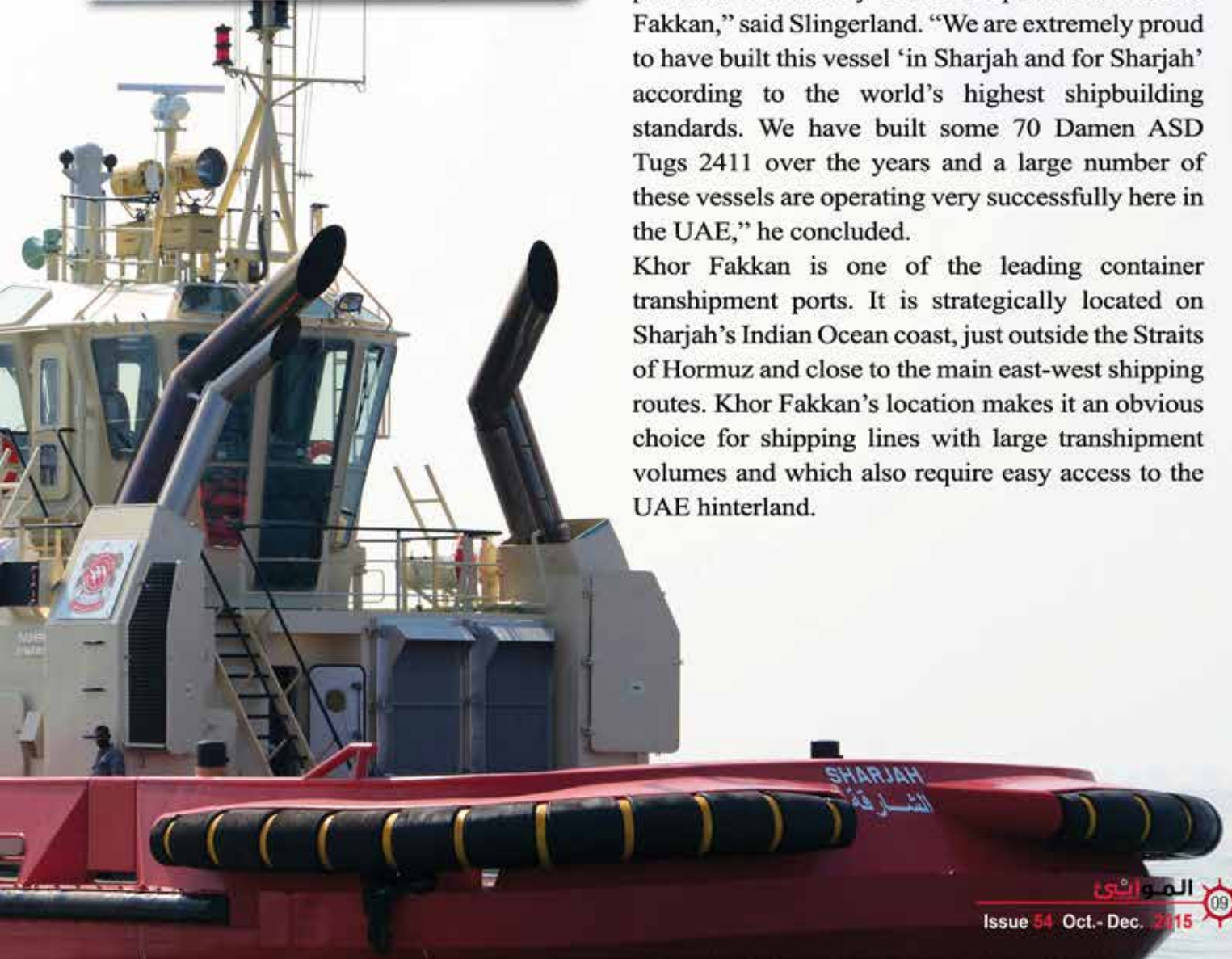
Safety and Security Department in Port Khalid is emphasizing its keenness in maintaining the interest of the Department of Seaports and Customs in elevating efficiency of the response to emergencies and disasters by training programmes and conducting safety and security exercises and drills.

These drills are within the department's plan to sustain total readiness of the staff of the Security and Safety Section and personnel of the Port and the working companies inside the port to react all possible fire or other incidents.

In this regards, an evacuation drill was successfully conducted at Port Khalid on

November 10th 2015 ,with cooperation of Saipem Company inside the port. It involved evacuation of personnel of a huge ship at the port and dealing with a fire aboard the ship.

Several Port's safety and security personnel participated in the drill of a trial evacuation operation. Sharjah Police, Civil Defence Department, Port Khalid's Security & Safety department, Customs Officers, Seaport personnel, Port's Environment and Creek Marine Operations as will the working group of Saipem Company were among the participants. The Seaport Authority's Tugs also took part in the drill by operating their fire fighting



Middle East and top officials from the department and the company.

Sheikh Khaled expressed his pleasure at adding the new tugboat to the department's fleet which consist of eight Damen Stan Tugs.

“Al Luolo’ Aya” was built at Damen Shipyards Sharjah, which is located in the Hamriyah Free Zone, a one of three ports owned and operated by Sharjah Ports Authority. It is the first Damen ASD type tugboat owned by the DSPC with a 68.5 tonne bollard pull ahead. It will be deployed at Khorfakkan Port to support operations at the thriving port in handling containers on the eastern coast of the Emirate of Sharjah. The tug, with its capacities will allow the port to handle even larger container vessels

“The ASD Tugs are highly manoeuvrable and powerful and ideally suited to operations in Khor Fakkan,” said Slingerland. “We are extremely proud to have built this vessel ‘in Sharjah and for Sharjah’ according to the world’s highest shipbuilding standards. We have built some 70 Damen ASD Tugs 2411 over the years and a large number of these vessels are operating very successfully here in the UAE,” he concluded.

Khor Fakkan is one of the leading container transshipment ports. It is strategically located on Sharjah’s Indian Ocean coast, just outside the Straits of Hormuz and close to the main east-west shipping routes. Khor Fakkan’s location makes it an obvious choice for shipping lines with large transshipment volumes and which also require easy access to the UAE hinterland.



# Sharjah Ports Authority takes delivery of "Al Luolo' Aya" Tugboat



The Department of Seaports and Customs (DSPC), has taken delivery of a new tugboat, a Damen ASD Tug 2411, which was named Al Luolo' Aya. The event of taking delivery which was held at Hamriyah Free Zone's inner harbour was attended by Sheikh Khaled bin Abdullah bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Chairman of the department, Mohammed Meer Abdul Rahman Director of DSPC, Saud Salim Al Mazroie, Director of Hamriyah Free Zone Authority(HFZA), Pascal Slingerland, Damen Sales Manager



came during the year 2015 which witnessed a significant decline in the world oil price and has its negative impact on the world trade and global economic development. These records reflect the strong trust of customers and partners to the ports of Sharjah.

The most significant progress was recorded in the handling overall cargo imported and exported at Sharjah ports which recorded an increment of 31.45% from 6,482,149 tons in 2014 to 8,520,924 tons in 2015. Imports increased from 5,092,125 tons in 2015 to 7,069,076 tons in 2016 recording 38.88% increment. This accomplishment embodies further improvement for the future.

Oil Cargo has increased from 4,758,496 tons in 2014 to 6,563,724 ton in 2015 recording an increment of 37.94%.

Dry Cargo increased from 486,142 ton in 2014 to 496,952 tons in 2015 with 2.22% increment. General Cargo also increased from 834,515 tons in 2014 to 1,020,227 tons 2015 with a 22.25% increment.

Another progress for the year 2015 was recorded by containers which reached 3,856,281TEUs in 2015 from 3,551,804 TEUs for the year 2014 recording an increment of 8.57%. These containers were handled at the Sharjah Container Terminal at Port Khalid and Khorfakkan Container Terminal at Port Khorfakkan.





# Sharjah Ports Conclude 2015 with More Successes

More successes have been recorded for the ports of the Emirate during the year 2015 namely, Port Khalid, Hamriyah Port and Port Khorfakkan. The new records are another testimonial of the advancement in ports performance and productivity as a whole and a manifestation of the commitment of the visionary leadership of the Government of Sharjah as it fulfilled its commitment in developing the infrastructures of the ports which led to increment in productivity. The achieved records







# Editorial

World oil prices declined sharply during the year 2015. It played a negative role on the global economy and decelerated the commercial growth which has been increasing for years. Besides, the slowing of China's economic growth rate in 2015 (a world economic giant) has participated in slackening the world maritime transport.

Despite these disappointing facts, the performance of Sharjah ports has recorded many successes and increased in maritime shipping.

The success of Sharjah ports, namely, Khalid, Hamriyah and Khorfakkan was accomplished due to several factors; the most important being the strong trust of customers, traders and partners to these ports and the developed infrastructure of which witnessed continuous improvement to deal with needs of the progress of the global maritime industry.

Sharjah Customs also has maintained successes during 2015 by developing performance and responding to the needs of customers. It has renovated its official website adding more electronic services to expedite the works of customers.

These valuable accomplishments for the Department of Seaports and Customs in 2015 would have not been possible without the joined efforts of both Customs' and Ports' staffs.

Editor



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