



Indian Council of World Affairs
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Press Release

on

**DG's Participation in the
Mauritian National Dialogue on Ocean Economy
Port Louis, July 21-23, 2013**

Ambassador Shri Rajiv K Bhatia, DG-ICWA, was invited by the Government of Mauritius to attend the National Dialogue on Ocean Economy on 21-23 July 2013 at Port Louis. He presented a paper on Policy Framework and Capacity Building in the Conference.

The Conference was organized under the aegis of the Prime Minister's Office of Mauritius on July 22-23, 2013 to increase awareness about the role of the ocean, initiate debate on future prospects and to identify opportunities with a view to charting a Road Map for the development of the Ocean Economy. Spread over eight technical sessions, more than 32 international speakers discussed issues pertaining to the Ocean Economy, Living Resources, Fish and Fisheries, Marine Biotechnology and Marine Bio-products, Ocean-related economic activities, Mineral Exploration and Exploitation, Ocean Management Principles, Policy Framework and Capacity Building, Effective Ocean Governance and Future prospects.

The ICWA has long been engaged in the study of and research on maritime issues. It organised international conference on Reinvigorating IOR-ARC prior to the assumption of the Chair of IOR-ARC by India to suggest a possible agenda to be pursued. It held the last international Asian Relations Conference in March 2013 on the Indo-Pacific concept and its implications, challenges and opportunities. It is organising discussions of the IOR-ARC Troika in New Delhi in the near future and planning to organise and host an "Indian Ocean Dialogue" at ICWA in February 2014.

The engagement of ICWA in the dialogue for development of the Blue Economy is a natural concomitant of these continuing researches.
