

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD OCEANS DAY 2019 CELEBRATIONS AT NATIONAL CENTRE FOR MARITIME POLICY RESEARCH KARACHI

Karachi 13 June: National Centre for Maritime Policy Research (NCMPR), Karachi chapter of National Institute of Maritime Affairs, organized the celebrations of World Oceans Day on 13th June 2019. The celebrations were focused to highlight the theme for this year which is “Gender and the Ocean”, that is vital to sustainability in the many ongoing efforts to protect and preserve the health of oceans around the world. The theme aims to raise gender literacy and promote gender equality, in ocean related activities such as marine scientific research, fisheries, labour at sea, policy and to endeavor explore ways and means for of sustainable use of oceans and marine resources derived from them.

In this regards a Maritime Discourse was arranged at Pakistan Maritime Museum. During the discourse, maritime experts diluted upon the importance of oceans and participation of all mankind irrespective of gender in perusing this vital asset. Cdre (Rtd) Ali Abbas, Director NCMPR welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of oceans to mankind. He said, World Oceans Day is marked by people around the world by honoring the ocean, which provides an opportunity to take personal and community action to conserve the ocean and its resources. The world's oceans generate an estimated 70% of the earth's oxygen. This year theme offers an opportunity to explore the gender dimension of human relationship with the oceans. While women constitute half of the work force, they only comprise 2% of the seafarers’ work force and 38% of the overall marine scientists. They earn only 64% of men’s wages and have less access to the decision making positions.

Mr. Aasim A Siddiqui, Chairman APSA, and MD Marine Group of Companies, in his keynote address said “We need to empower each and every citizen to take care of the ocean and enable all to play transformative and ambitious roles in understanding, exploring, protecting and sustainably managing our resources”, The second speaker on the occasion Mr Moazzam Khan, from World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Marine Expert also presented an informative talk on the theme. He said, humans have done irreparable damage to oceans during the past few centuries and there hardly seems to be a way out of the ensuing destruction. We all used to act now the preserve our oceans. Mr Asif Shaikh Javid, Vice President KCCI and Dr. Brigadier (Rtd) Nasim Khan an Expert on Alternate Energy also spoke on the occasion. The event was attended by a large number of serving and retired naval personnel, Govt officials, faculty members, students and maritime stakeholders.