



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Centre for International Maritime Affairs, Ghana [CIMAG]

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### **CIMAG COMMENDS GHANA'S SUCCESSFUL EXIT FROM THE IMF PROGRAMME, HIGHLIGHTS POSITIVE OUTLOOK FOR MARITIME AND PORT SECTOR**

The Centre for International Maritime Affairs, Ghana [CIMAG] congratulates the Government of Ghana and all stakeholders on the successful completion of Ghana's IMF-supported programme and the country's formal exit from the Extended Credit Facility arrangement.

This milestone reflects renewed macroeconomic stability, improved fiscal discipline, and restored investor confidence. For the maritime industry, ports, and the wider business community, this development presents tangible opportunities for growth, efficiency, and competitiveness.

#### **Key Positive Impacts for the Maritime Industry and Port Sector**

##### **Improved Macroeconomic Stability for Trade and Logistics**

With inflation trending downward and exchange rate volatility easing, importers, exporters, and freight forwarders face reduced costs and greater predictability in pricing and contracting. This strengthens Ghana's position as a preferred gateway for West African trade.

##### **Enhanced Capacity for Port Infrastructure Investment**

Fiscal space created by reduced debt servicing pressures allows government and private partners to accelerate investments in Tema and Takoradi ports, as well as dry port and logistics infrastructure. This is critical for reducing vessel turnaround times and handling costs.

##### **Boost to Private Sector Confidence and PPPs**

A stable macroeconomic environment encourages private sector participation and public-private partnerships in shipping, warehousing, and port services. CIMAG anticipates increased foreign direct investment in maritime logistics and ancillary services.

##### **Strengthened Trade Competitiveness**

Lower borrowing costs and improved credit ratings will enable shipping lines, logistics firms, and SMEs in the port ecosystem to access financing for fleet expansion, equipment, and digitalisation initiatives.

## **The Way Forward**

CIMAG urges the government to sustain prudent fiscal management and channel the dividends of this stability into targeted reforms within the maritime and transport sectors. Priority areas include:

- *Reducing non-tariff barriers and port clearance times*
- *Advancing the implementation of the National Maritime Transport Policy*
- *Supporting local content development in maritime services*
- *Deepening digitisation of port and customs processes*

“The successful exit from the IMF programme is not an end, but a foundation,” said Albert Derrick Fiatui, Executive Director of CIMAG. “If matched with deliberate reforms in the maritime sector, it can translate into lower cost of trade, more jobs, and stronger regional trade integration under AfCFTA.”

CIMAG reaffirms its commitment to providing evidence-based policy support to ensure that Ghana’s maritime sector fully leverages this renewed economic stability for national development.

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