**GMA DIRECTOR GENERAL CALLS ON IMO SECRETARY GENERAL**

The Director General of the Ghana Maritime Authority (GMA), Mr. Kwame Owusu has paid a courtesy call on the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Mr. Kitack Limin London.

The meeting was to introduce Mr. Owusu to the IMO Secretary General on his first visit to the IMO as the Director General of the GMA, since his recent appointment.

In their interaction, the Secretary General commended the contribution of Ghana to the work of the IMO, mentioning past contribution of Dr. Thomas Mensah, former Deputy Secretary-General of the IMO, Mr. Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary General and the Auditor-General of Ghana, as External Auditor to the IMO.

Mr. Lim said Ghana is fortunate to be endowed with a capable and educated workforce, adding that the country could therefore capitalize on this and position itself to take greater part in the maritime industry.

The maritime industry, he said was a vast domain and encouraged Ghana and other African countries to increase their participation in the various sectors of the industry. He added that increased participation would collectively lead to increased job opportunities and wealth creation, ultimately providing a boost to the economies of those countries.

In his response, Mr. Owusu stated that his main focus was to build capacity within the GMA to perform its mandate effectively. Additionally he said, the Authority was considering transforming Ghana’s Ship Registry into an Open Registry in order to attract more tonnage to the Ghanaian Flag.