

ASEAN Regional Forum

Work Plan

for

Maritime Security

2015 - 2017



ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM 

Promoting peace and security through dialogue and cooperation in the Asia Pacific.

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Context

Maritime security related issues represent some of the most pressing and potentially useful areas for cooperation in the ARF. Due to the importance of shipping and seaborne trade in the ARF region, some forms of cooperation have developed among relevant countries in the region, both bilaterally and through multilateral fora, with a view to combating and preventing maritime security-related threats. However, cooperation in some areas still falls short of that which is necessary.

The ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (ISM-MS) was established by the 15th ARF Ministerial Meeting in Singapore in July 2008. Based on the discussion in the first ARF ISM-MS in Surabaya in March 2009 which agreed to utilize the outcomes of the previous ARF discussions on maritime security, the second ARF ISM-MS in Auckland in March 2010 agreed to seek a mandate from the 17th ARF Ministerial meeting to develop an ARF Work Plan. As a result of the 17th ARF Ministerial Meeting in Hanoi in July 2010, the Ministers issued the following directive in the Chairman's Statement;

The Ministers stressed the need to build common perceptions on threats and challenges in maritime security. The Ministers appreciated the work of the Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security (ISM-MS) in promoting awareness and concrete cooperation on maritime security. In this regard, the Ministers tasked the ISM-MS to develop an ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security for consideration during the next inter-sessional year.

The resulting ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security was adopted by the Ministers at the 18th ARF in July 2011. Over the next three years, the work plan guided cooperative activities in support of the ARF's ISM-MS. However, the dynamic nature of the regional security landscape, coupled with recognizable progress made in confidence building, best practice exchanges and practical cooperation under the ARF ISM-MS and other fora, underscored the need for the ARF to review and revise the Maritime Security Work Plan, in order to give a clear orientation to ARF participants in setting up ARF official events in the maritime domain for the years to come.

Objective

As a guiding document approved by the ARF Ministers, the principle objective of this Maritime Security Work Plan is to create, in accordance with ARF Ministerial guidance, a practical, long-term, coordinated and comprehensive plan that:

- prioritizes the issues on which the ARF ISM-MS should concentrate its future effort;
- creates a compilation of shared experiences and lessons learned;
- strengthens existing networks to share and exchange information;
- assists in the coordination of regional and/or sub-regional capacity building exercises and training related to maritime security;
- maintains and builds on existing ARF participants' efforts in capacity-building, technical support and information exchange;
- complements and coordinates with existing regional and international agencies, arrangements and initiatives;
- advances ARF Maritime Security efforts in a direction that contributes to the goals of the ARF Vision Statement endorsed by Ministers in July 2009.

A key issue is the extent to which the ARF ISM-MS should balance its work between conventional and non-traditional security issues. Non-traditional security issues are recognized as useful early building blocks which are conducive to the cultivation of mutual trust and consensus in the region. Consistent with the Preventive Diplomacy Work Plan and on the basis of consensus, potential measures of Preventive Diplomacy and confidence-building in the maritime domain has a place in the Work Plan. The coordination of the timing of events under both Work Plans to prevent activities from running simultaneously to each other is important in order to allow broad ARF participation.

Framework

Consistent with the long term goals of the ARF Vision Statement, including the development of the ARF into an action-oriented mechanism, the Work Plan should identify Priority Areas for the ARF's maritime security efforts and distinguish the ARF's role in the context of other regional efforts. While there are various important aspects of international maritime security cooperation, ARF should focus its own work in the fields where it can bring the most added value given its geographic focus, participation, and past work, as well as the specific interests of its members. Accordingly, within the framework of the ARF, this work plan will seek to compliment, as appropriate, other ARF work plans, including for Counter Terrorism/Transnational Crime, Disaster Relief, Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, and Preventive Diplomacy.

Priority Areas

The ARF Maritime Security Work Plan will be guided by “Priority Areas.” The following Priority Areas will serve as the primary guideposts for cooperative efforts under this Work Plan:

1. Shared Awareness and Exchange of Information and Best Practices
 - Co-Leads:
2. Confidence Building Measures based on International and Regional Legal Frameworks, Arrangements and Cooperation
 - Co-Leads: Malaysia and Japan
3. Capacity Building of Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies in the Region
 - Co-Leads: Malaysia and China

When developing a proposal for an official ARF maritime security activity, ARF participants are encouraged to consider the said Priority Areas.

ISM-MS

In order to facilitate active participation by ARF participants at the annual ARF ISM-MS, Annex A: *Guide to 2015-2017 ISM-MS* provides details on the key topics that the 2015-2017 ISM-MS Co-chairs will feature in the ISM agenda.

ARF Maritime Security Project Proposals

With a view to visualizing the connection between ARF official events and this Work Plan, in submitting project proposals to acquire the status of an official ARF event, ARF participants are encouraged to indicate, as appropriate, how their project can contribute to the Priority Areas of the Work Plan.

Projects can take a variety of forms to fit the particular needs and nature of the Priority Areas. As appropriate, projects can be single events or a series of activities with increasing complexity. Some examples include, but are not limited to:

1. ARF-wide or sub-regional training focused on improving law enforcement capacity, including inter-agency coordination;
2. Capacity-building workshops that share information on experiences on maritime security, bringing in government, private sector and

- other relevant experts, as agreed, to train and/or develop best practices;
3. Multilateral tabletop and/or field exercises that would test the modes of communication (including information-sharing) among ARF and sub-regional participants;
 4. Studies on selected aspects of maritime security, in particular focused on improved risk assessment and risk reduction.

Co-Chair and Lead Countries Responsibilities

The Co-chairs of the ARF ISM-MS and Lead Countries for each priority area will work to implement this Work Plan through, inter-alia, encouraging ARF participants to organize ARF official events in line with the Priority Areas and taking into consideration the ISM-MS Topics.

Along with co-chairing the annual ARF ISM-MS, the Co-chairs are responsible for updating the Work Plan and synchronizing the ARF ISM-MS with other regional/sub-regional maritime fora. The Co-chairs will also cooperate with the ARF Unit to update the list of ARF Points of Contact for Implementation of the Maritime Security Work Plan in Annex C.

Lead Countries for each Priority Area (one ASEAN and one non-ASEAN) are responsible for coordinating and presenting input provided by ARF participants in their respective Priority Area, proposing projects, coordinating the work in their Priority Area, and seeking out funding and hosts for projects in need of assistance. Lead Countries are also responsible for:

- Liaising with the ARF Unit on the coordination and implementation of Priority Area requirements;
- Updating the ARF Unit on Work Plan contributions every 6 months; and
- Working with the ARF Unit to ensure maximum synergies among projects, as appropriate.

Relationship with Other Regional/International Efforts

There is an obvious need for the Work Plan to be complementary to and coordinated appropriately with relevant regional and global efforts on maritime security. These efforts include various regional and international organizations (see Annex B). The following actions will be taken to ensure activities do not create unnecessary redundancy, but are

complimentary to and in coordination with other regional and international efforts.

- The participation, as appropriate, of regional/international organizations acceptable to all participants in annual ISM-MS meetings.
- The ARF Unit and ISM-MS Co-chairs should also seek participation in relevant meetings of other regional/international efforts.
- Consistent sharing of organization reports, strategies, and Work Plans, etc. by ARF with other organizations is encouraged.
- Lead Countries, ARF Unit, and ISM-MS Co-Chairs should regularly consult with representatives of other fora both within and outside of their own governments.
- The ARF Unit should publish the ARF MS Work Plan on ARF and ASEAN public websites.
- A priority for maritime security in the ARF is to ensure that it is complementary and synchronized with the various fora/mechanisms in the region- the ASEAN Maritime Forum has reported that there are currently 13 different bodies associated with ASEAN that deal with maritime issues.

Implementation Timeline:

December 2014: An initial draft of the Work Plan was tabled at the ISG in Melaka, Malaysia

1 April 2015: An updated draft Work Plan was tabled and discussed at the 7th ARF ISM-MS in Honolulu, USA

8 May 2015: An updated draft Work Plan was tabled at the ARF ISG on CBMs and PD in Tokyo, Japan

10 June 2015: An updated draft Work Plan was tabled at the ARF Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) in Kuching, Malaysia

6 August 2015: The Work Plan was adopted by the Ministers at the 22nd ARF in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The Annexes of this Work Plan will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

ANNEX A

Guide to 2015-2017 ISM-MS

Guide to 2015-2017 ISM-MS

In order to facilitate active participation by ARF participants at the annual ARF ISM-MS, this Annex provides details on the key topics that the 2015-2017 ISM-MS Co-chairs will feature in the ISM agenda.

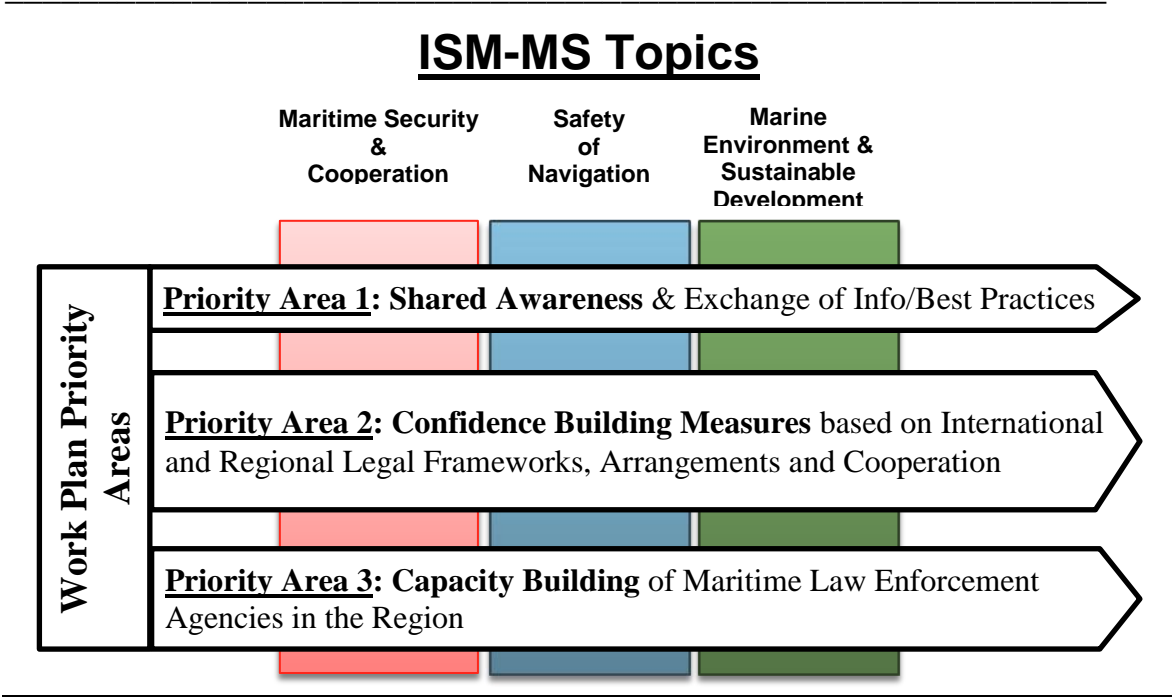
The concept of maritime security, safety and cooperation is vast, diverse and evolving. There are conventional security issues such as military threats and state sovereignty concerns. There are other challenges such as piracy, armed robbery against ships, terrorism, illicit drugs trafficking, illicit small arms trafficking, and trafficking-in persons. Other challenges where cooperation can be enhanced include maritime search and rescue, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, natural disasters, climate change, and marine environment. As such, the following are specified as Topics for guiding the development of the ISM-MS agenda during the 2015-2017 co-chair cycle:

1. Maritime Security and Cooperation
2. Safety of Navigation
3. Marine Environment and Sustainable Development

These topics were selected based on trends of cooperative efforts in the ARF.

As an important mechanism for implementing this Work Plan, the ISM-MS agenda will address these topics from the perspective of the Work Plan Priority Areas: Shared Awareness and Exchange of Information and Best Practices; Confidence Building Measures based on International and Regional Legal Frameworks, Arrangements and Cooperation; and Capacity Building of Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies in the Region. This method will establish a mechanism to link the ISM-MS agenda to the Work Plan.

Relationship of ISM-MS Topics to Work Plan Priority Areas



ISM-MS Topic#1: Maritime Security and Cooperation

Scope:

This Topic should explore how ARF can address maritime security issues through the review of case studies and sharing of best practices, promoting compliance and adherence to relevant international legal instruments and regional arrangements, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

This Topic should also forge cooperation in addressing other maritime security issues and transnational maritime crimes such as piracy, armed robbery against ships, illegal immigration, trafficking in persons, drugs and weapons trafficking/smuggling. Linkages between illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, transnational organized crime, and food insecurity contribute to instability, conflict, and threaten national security. These issues can be addressed through concrete and practical activities such as maritime law enforcement cooperation in accordance with national laws and international law.

Justification:

This topic was selected based on trends of cooperation in the ARF. See below for list of Proposed, Implemented, and Previous ARF projects/activities that are related to this ARF-ISM Topic.

Relationship to Work Plan Priority Areas:

The Work Plan Priority Areas will help guide the discussions under each of the ISM-MS Topics.

When developing a proposal for an official ARF maritime security activity, ARF participants are encouraged to consider the said Priority Areas as well as the fields of cooperation identified.

Proposed Projects under consideration:

1. 2nd ARF Workshop on Ship Profiling, co-chaired by New Zealand and Malaysia
2. ARF Workshop on Combatting IUU Fishing by Indonesia, Timor Leste, and the United States

3. ARF Seminar on Regional Confidence Building and the Law of the Sea by Japan, India and Vietnam
4. ARF Workshop on Maritime Risks Management and Cooperation by China and Cambodia

Implemented Projects:

- ARF Seminar on Sea Lines of Communications (SLOC) Security
 - Co-chaired by China and Indonesia
 - 7-9 December 2014 in Beijing, China
- ARF Seminar on Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery in Asia
 - Co-chaired by Japan, India, Malaysia, and the United States
 - 3-4 March 2015 in Tokyo Japan

Past ARF Work:

- 2nd ARF Seminar on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
 - Co-Chaired by Australia and the Philippines
 - 28-29 May 2014 in Manila, Philippines
- 1st ARF Workshop on Ship Profiling
 - Co-Chaired by Malaysia and New Zealand
 - 15-16 April 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1st ARF Seminar on UNCLOS
 - Co-Chaired by Australia and the Philippines
 - 8-9 March 2011 in Manila, Philippines

ISM-MS Topic #2: Safety of Navigation

Scope: This Topic should promote close cooperation in enhancing safety of navigation in the context of enhancing maritime security, including the implementation of standards and sharing of best practices regarding topics such as Maritime and Aeronautical Search and Rescue, Port State Control (PSC), enforcement of relevant standards, and implementation of relevant instruments such as the 1974 International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1972 International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGs), and the Code for Unplanned Encounters at Sea (CUES).

Justification:

This topic was selected based on trends of cooperation in the ARF. See below for list of Proposed, Implemented, and Previous ARF projects/activities that are related to this ARF-ISM Topic.

Relationship to Work Plan Priority Areas:

The Work Plan Priority Areas will be used to help guide the discussions under each of the ISM-MS Topics.

Proposed Projects under consideration:

1. ARF Workshop on Maritime Risks Management and Cooperation by China and Cambodia

Implemented Projects:

Past ARF Work:

- ARF Statement on Strengthening Coordination and Cooperation on Maritime and Aeronautical Search and Rescue
 - o 21st ARF, Nay Pyi Taw, 9 August 2014

ISM-MS Topic #3 Marine Environment and Sustainable Development

Scope: Recognizing that marine ecosystems and resources are vital to food security, human health, and economic well-being in the Asia-Pacific region and that efforts to strengthen cooperation and exchange best practices in the ARF to address marine environmental issues have proven to be effective in contributing to positive habits of maritime security cooperation. Potential issues addressed under this Topic include marine oil spill response, management and conservation of fisheries resources, marine pollution, ocean acidification, and coastal management.

Justification:

This topic was selected based on trends of cooperation in the ARF. See below for list of Proposed, Implemented, and Previous ARF projects/activities that are related to this ARF-ISM Topic.

Relationship to Work Plan Priority Areas:

The Work Plan Priority Areas will be used to help guide the discussions under each of the ISM-MS Topics.

Proposed Projects under consideration:

1. ARF Workshop on Emergency Management of Offshore Oil Spills by China, Brunei, and Thailand
2. ARF Workshop on Improving Fisheries Management co-chaired by the United States and Indonesia
3. ARF Workshop on Green Shipping by China and Malaysia
4. ARF Ministerial Statement on Strengthened Cooperation on Marine Environmental Protection and Conservation

Past ARF Work:

- ARF Statement on Cooperation in Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration from Marine Oil Spill Incidents
 - 21st ARF, Nay Pyi Taw, 9 August 2014
- ARF Workshop on Marine Environmental Protection Cooperation: Preparedness and Response to Pollution Incidents Involving Hazardous and Noxious Substances

- Co-chaired by Brunei, China, Japan and the United States
- 4-5 March 2014 in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
- ARF Seminar on *Regional Cooperation on Offshore Oil Spill*
 - Co-chaired by Brunei, China, Singapore and the United States
 - 27-28 March 2014 in Qingdao, China
- 6th ARF ISM on MS, 22-23 May 2014, Bali, Indonesia
 - Briefings conducted on managing fisheries resources
- 5th ARF ISM on MS, 18-19 April 2013, Seoul, Republic of Korea
 - “Protection of Marine Environment” featured as a main topic
- ARF Concept Paper, adopted at the 2nd ARF, 1 August 1995, Brunei Darussalam
 - Annex B: Confidence-Building Measures
 - V. Maritime Security Cooperation – highlights “Sea Level/Climate Monitoring System,” Conventions on the Marine Environment” (Dumping of Toxic Wastes and Land-based Sources of Marine Pollution), and “Explore the idea of joint marine scientific research”

ANNEX B

List of Regional and International Maritime Organizations and Fora

Regional Organizations/Fora

1. ASEAN Maritime Forum (AMF)
2. Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF)
3. ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM)
4. ADMM-Plus Experts Working Group on Maritime Security
5. ASEAN Center for Biodiversity
6. ASEAN Ministers' Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)
7. ASEAN Law Ministers Meeting (ALAWMM)
8. ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting (ATM)
9. ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF)
10. ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment (AMME)
11. ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME)
12. Asia-Pacific Heads of Maritime Safety Agencies (APHoMSA) Forum
13. Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies (HACGAM)
14. Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control in the Asia-Pacific Region (Tokyo MoU)
15. Western Pacific Naval Symposium (WPNS)
16. North Pacific Coast Guard Forum
17. Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)
18. Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI)
19. Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)
20. Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)
21. Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)
22. Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (IO MoU)
23. Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices Including Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing
24. Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC)
25. Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystems (YSLME) Project
26. Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWAP)

International Organizations/Fora

1. International Maritime Organization
2. International Maritime Bureau
3. International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
4. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
5. Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP)
6. Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)

7. United Nation Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC)
8. Indian Ocean Forum on Maritime Crime (IOMFC)
9. East Asia Hydrographic Commission
10. IOC (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission) Sub-Commission for the Western Pacific
11. Indian Ocean Tsunami Information Centre (Jakarta)
12. International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA)
13. International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO)

ANNEX C

List of ARF POCs
for
Implementation of the Maritime
Security Work Plan

ARF Participants	Name	Designation	Agency	Contact Details
Australia				
Bangladesh				
Brunei Darussalam				
Cambodia				
Canada				
China	Bao Haibin	Second Secretary	Department of Asian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Bao_haibin@mfa.gov.cn
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European Union				
India				
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	Risha Jilian Chaniago	Head of Section	Directorate of ASEAN Political-Security Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	risha.jilian@kemlu.go.id
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Lao PDR				
Malaysia				
Mongolia				
Myanmar				
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Pakistan				
Papua New Guinea				
The Philippines				
Republic of Korea	Yena Yoo	Second Secretary	International Security Division, MOFA	ynyoo13@mofa.go.kr
Russia				
Singapore				
Sri Lanka				
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Timor Leste				
United States	Benjamin Côté	Military Advisor	Office of Multilateral Affairs, East Asian and Pacific Affairs Bureau, State Department	cotebf@state.gov
Vietnam				