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ASEAN Regional Forum

Work Plan

For

Maritime Security

2018-2020

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Context

Maritime security is critical for the stability and prosperity of the Southeast Asian (SEA) region, and wider ARF domain. Maritime security-related issues represent some of the most pressing but potentially useful areas for cooperation for the ARF; the region's seas are becoming congested and contested, many countries continue to invest in advanced naval and civil maritime capabilities, and terrorists and other criminals take advantage of the relatively porous maritime boundaries as a means to proliferate their criminal agendas.

Due to the importance of shipping and seaborne trade in the ARF region, some forms of cooperation have developed, both bilaterally and through multilateral fora, with a view to combating and preventing maritime security-related threats. However, cooperative efforts through enhanced international engagement can always be improved, as in some instances there are areas in which cooperation still falls short of what 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. Ministers at the 18th ARF in Bali, Indonesia adopted the first ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security in July 2011 in order to build common perceptions of threats and challenges in maritime security. Over the next three years, the work plan guided cooperative activities in support of the ARF's ISM-MS. Ministers at the 22nd Meeting of the ARF in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in August 2015 adopted the second ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security 2015-2017. However, the dynamic nature of the regional security landscape, coupled with recognisable 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 keep the Work Plan under review.

At the 9th ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security in Tokyo, Japan on 8-9 February 2017, ARF members commended the role of the Second Work Plan as a guiding document for maritime security activities and discussion under the ARF framework. ARF members emphasised the need to ensure, that in developing a new ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security for the period 2018-2020, initiatives undertaken by the ARF closely align with other maritime security mechanisms in the region such as the ADMM-Plus and the EAS to avoid duplication of efforts. The Tokyo meeting further noted the importance of information sharing and the need to identify gaps in maritime agreements and frameworks in order to develop a robust and effective new Work Plan. At the ARF Inter-Sessional Support Group Meeting on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy, Ottawa, Canada, on 11-12 May 2017, it was further reiterated that there is a need to ensure that the development of a new Work Plan should take into consideration initiatives undertaken in other relevant forums to avoid duplication of efforts.

Regional heads of government and ministers continue to place high importance on maritime security issues, as reflected in: the ASEAN Regional Forum Ministerial Statement on Enhancing Cooperation among Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies at the 23rd ARF Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 26 July 2016 in Vientiane, Laos; and the East Asia Summit Statement on Enhancing Regional Maritime Cooperation, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 22 November 2015.

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:

- prioritises the issues on which the ARF ISM-MS should concentrate its future effort;
- creates a compilation of shared experiences and lessons learned;

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- 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; and
- advances ARF Maritime Security efforts in a direction that contributes to the goals of the ARF Vision Statement endorsed by Foreign Ministers in July 2009 and the Hanoi Plan of Action endorsed by Foreign Ministers in May 2010.

A key issue is the extent to which the ARF ISM-MS should balance its work between traditional and non-traditional security issues. Non-traditional security issues are recognised 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 based on consensus, potential measures of Preventive Diplomacy and confidence building in the maritime domain have a place in the ARF Work Plan on Maritime Security.

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, the ARF should focus its own work in the fields where it can bring the most benefit 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 complement, as appropriate, other ARF work plans, including on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime; Disaster Relief; Non-Proliferation and Disarmament; Security of and in the Use of Information and Communications Technologies; and Preventive Diplomacy.

Priority Areas

The ARF Maritime Security Work Plan 2018-2020 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: [TBC]
2. Confidence Building Measures based on International and Regional Legal Frameworks, Arrangements and Cooperation including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
 - Co-Leads: Malaysia and Japan
3. Capacity Building and Enhancing Cooperation of Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies in the Region
 - Co-Leads: Malaysia and China

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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 2018-2020 ISM-MS* provides details on the key topics that the 2018-2020 ISM-MS Co-chairs will feature in the ISM agenda.

ARF Maritime Security Project Proposals

With a view to strengthening 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 in 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; and
4. Studies on selected aspects of maritime security, in particular focused on improved risk assessment and risk reduction.

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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 organise 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 synchronising 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 six 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 those undertaken by various regional and international organisations (see Annex B). The following actions will be taken to ensure activities do not create unnecessary redundancy, but are complementary to and in coordination with other regional and international efforts.

- The participation, as appropriate, of regional/international organisations 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 organisation reports, strategies, and Work Plans, etc. by ARF with other organisations is encouraged;
- Lead Countries, ARF Unit, and ISM-MS Co-Chairs should regularly consult with representatives of other fora both within and outside their own governments;
- The ARF Unit should publish the ARF MS Work Plan on ARF and ASEAN public websites; and
- A priority for maritime security in the ARF is to ensure that it is complementary and synchronised 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:

8-9 February 2017: The 9th ARF ISM-MS chaired by Vietnam, Australia and the EU, as the incoming co-chairs of the ARF ISM-MS, to present the draft Work Plan 2018-2020 at the 10th ARF ISM-MS in 2018, before submitting the draft to the ARF Inter-sessional Support Group Meeting on Confidence Building Measures and Preventive Diplomacy (ARF ISG on CBMs and PD) and the ARF SOM for consideration and subsequently to the 25th ARF in 2018 for adoption.

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

ANNEX A

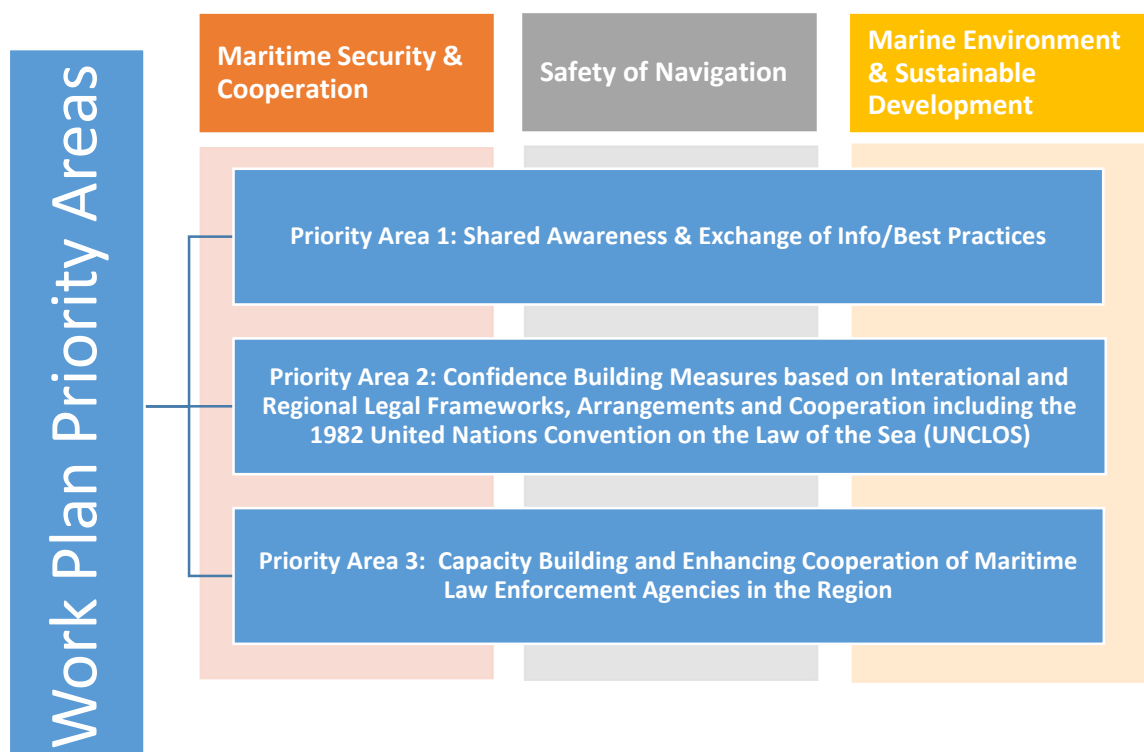
Guide to 2018-2020 ISM-MS

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 2018-2020 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 traditional security issues such as military threats and state sovereignty concerns. There are also non-traditional challenges such as piracy and armed robbery against ships, people smuggling, terrorism, money laundering and terrorist financing, illicit drugs and illicit small arms trafficking, and human trafficking. Other maritime-related challenges where cooperation can be enhanced include search and rescue, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, natural disasters, climate change, and understanding and protecting the marine environment. As such, the following are specified as Topics for guiding the development of the ISM-MS agenda during the 2018-2020 co-chair cycle:

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

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 and Enhancing Cooperation of Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies in the Region. This method will establish a mechanism to link the ISM-MS agenda to the Work Plan.



ISM-MS Topic#1: Maritime Security and Cooperation

Scope:

This Topic should explore how ARF can address maritime security issues through reviewing case studies and sharing best practices, promoting compliance and adherence to relevant international legal instruments and regional arrangements in accordance with international law, 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 and armed robbery against ships, people smuggling, terrorism, money laundering and terrorist financing, illicit drugs and illicit small arms trafficking, maritime cyber attacks, and human trafficking. Linkages between illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, transnational organised 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. ARF Workshops on National Maritime Single Points of Contact – to be co-chaired by Malaysia, Australia and US.
2. ARF Workshop on Best Practices in Maritime Data Analysis to Combat Transnational Organised Crime, [TBC] (US and Indonesia).
3. ARF Workshop and Table Top Exercise on Crimes Related to Fisheries - to be co-chaired by Indonesia and other ARF Participant (TBC).
4. 2nd ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional Maritime Law Enforcement Cooperation – to be co-chaired by Vietnam, Australia and EU.

Implemented Projects:

- ARF Workshop on international cooperation on Maritime Domain Awareness, Tokyo, Japan on 7-8 March 2018 – co-chaired by Malaysia and Japan.
- ARF Workshop on Enhancing Regional Maritime Law Enforcement Cooperation, Nha Trang, Vietnam, 18-19 January 2018 – co-chaired by Vietnam, Australia and EU.

Past ARF Work:

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- ARF Statement on Cooperation to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing, adopted at the 24th ARF Ministerial Meeting on 7 August 2017 in Manila, Philippines.
- ASEAN Regional Forum Ministerial Statement on Enhancing Cooperation among Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies, adopted at the 23rd ARF Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 26 July 2016 in Vientiane, Laos.
- ARF Capacity Building Workshop on Ship Profiling, on 24-25 May 2016 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ARF Workshop on National Maritime Single Points of Contact, on 28-29 April 2016 in Cebu, Philippines.
- ARF Workshop on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, on 20-21 April 2016 in Bali, Indonesia.
- ARF Seminar on Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery in Asia, on 3-4 March 2015 in Tokyo Japan - Co-chaired by Japan, India, Malaysia, and the United States.
- ARF Workshop on Maritime Risks Management and Cooperation, on 13-15 December 2015 in Beijing, China.
- ARF Seminar on Regional Confidence Building and the Law of the Sea, on 3-4 December 2015 in Tokyo, Japan – Co-chaired by Japan, Vietnam and India.
- ARF Seminar on Sea Lines of Communications (SLOC) Security, on 7-9 December 2014 in Beijing, China - Co-chaired by China and Indonesia.
- 2nd ARF Seminar on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), on 28-29 May 2014 in Manila, Philippines - Co-Chaired by Australia and the Philippines.
- 1st ARF Workshop on Ship Profiling, on 15-16 April 2013 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia - Co-Chaired by Malaysia and New Zealand.
- 1st ARF Seminar on UNCLOS, on 8-9 March 2011 in Manila, Philippines - Co-Chaired by Australia and the 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), ferry safety, 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. 2nd ARF Workshop on Ferry Safety – to be co-chaired by China and the Philippines.

Implemented Projects:

- ARF Workshop on International Cooperation on Maritime Domain Awareness, on 7-8 March 2018 in Tokyo, Japan.
- ARF Workshop on Ferry Safety and Statement on Cooperation on Domestic Ferry Safety, on 12-13 December 2017 in Guangzhou, China.
- ARF Workshop on Best Practices in Implementing Safety of Navigation Instruments, on 11-12 July 2017 in Manila, Philippines.

Past ARF Work:

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

ISM-MS Topic #3 Marine Environment and Sustainable Development

Scope:

This topic recognises that marine ecosystems and resources are vital to food security, human health, and economic well-being in the Indo-Pacific region and those 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 Regional Climate Change and Coastal Disaster Mitigation – to be co-chaired by China and Australia.

Past ARF Work:

- ARF Workshop on Sustainable Fisheries Management and Food Security in Southeast Asia on 13-14 March 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ARF Workshop on Emergency Management of Marine Hazards in the Asia-Pacific Region, on 6-8 December 2016 in Beijing, China.
- ARF Workshop on Improving Fisheries Management, on 22-23 March 2016 in Honolulu, USA.
- ARF Workshop of Marine Oil Spill Emergency Response Management and Disposal Cooperation, on 17-18 December 2015 in Kunming, China.
- ARF Statement on Cooperation in Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Restoration from Marine Oil Spill Incidents, on 9 August 2014 at the 21st ARF, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
- ARF Workshop on Marine Environmental Protection Cooperation: Preparedness and Response to Pollution Incidents Involving Hazardous and Noxious Substances, on 4-5 March 2014 in Honolulu, USA – Co-chaired by Brunei, China, Japan and the United States.
- ARF Seminar on Regional Cooperation on Offshore Oil Spill, on 27-28 March 2014 in Qingdao, China – co-chaired by Brunei, China, Singapore and the US.
- ARF Concept Paper, adopted at the 2nd ARF, on 1 August 1995 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
 - Annex B: Confidence-Building Measures

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- 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”

Related Topics

- 6th ARF ISM on Maritime Security, on 22-23 May 2014 in Bali, Indonesia
 - Briefings conducted on managing fisheries resources
 - 5th ARF ISM on Maritime Security, on 18-19 April 2013 in Seoul, Republic of Korea
 - “Protection of Marine Environment” featured as a main topic.

ANNEX B

List of Regional and International Maritime Organisations and Fora

Regional Organisations/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 (ASWGFi)
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 Meeting (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 (NPCG)
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)
27. East Asia Summit (EAS)

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28. Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS)
29. ASEAN Chiefs of Police Association (ASEANAPOL)
30. Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC)
31. Information Fusion Centre (IFC)

International Organisations/Fora

1. International Maritime Organization (IMO)
2. International Maritime Bureau (IMB)
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 Nations 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)
14. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
15. Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

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ANNEX C

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

ARF Participants	Name	Designation	Agency	Contact Details
Australia	Nerida King	Director, Regional Maritime and South China Sea Section	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Nerida.king@dfat.gov.au
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