

ARF Workshop on Best Practices to Implement Safety of Navigation Instruments

Key Takeaways and Way Forward

Workshop Objectives

- Identify best practices on the implementation of Convention on the Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS), International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs) and other international safety of navigation arrangements;
- Review the implementation of these arrangements in the Asia-Pacific setting;
- Make concrete recommendations on capacity-building towards the enhancement of a rules-based maritime regime in the Asia-Pacific; and
- Provide opportunity for relevant officials of ARF Member States to network, thereby creating and/or enhancing critical lines of communication among those who are directly involved in implementing safety of navigation instruments

Workshop Accomplishment

Objective: Identify best practices on the implementation of the Convention on the Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS), International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs) and other international safety of navigation arrangements;

- National Best Practices (Thailand, Philippines, India, Japan, and Sri Lanka)
- Sub-Regional Best Practices (TTEG, CM, Djibouti Code of Conduct, Australia, EHC, TCA)
- Regional Best Practices (ReCAAP, EU Places of Refuge, Indian Ocean Region)
- Industry Best Practices (BMP 4)
- Naval and Other Best Practices (CUES, INTERPOL Maritime Piracy Database)

Workshop Accomplishment

Objective: Identify best practices on the implementation of the Convention on the Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS), International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs) and other international safety of navigation arrangements;

- Burden-sharing with due regard to the sovereignty of Coastal States
 - Cooperation safety of navigation instruments enhances the exercise of sovereignty of States
- Need to balance of interests of multiple stakeholders
 - Identifying the legitimate interests of different stakeholders in the implementation of safety standards and regulations
 - Sustained dialogue process, implementable outcomes, measurable impact
 - Government support in providing safety of navigation tools
- Recognition of the role of International Maritime Organization as the international regulator of shipping
 - Multilateral efforts have better chances of success with IMO Support

Workshop Accomplishment

Objective: Identify best practices on the implementation of the Convention on the Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS), International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs) and other international safety of navigation arrangements;

- Standardization of Capabilities
 - There is a desire for countries to standardize capabilities with neighboring countries
 - Setting-up of Regional Training Centers and Courses
- Primacy of Information Gathering and Sharing
 - Strike a balance between accuracy of information
 - Data openness
 - Knowledge transfers and sharing of policies and regulations
 - Collaboration among regional and the national information sharing centers
- Developing a Culture of Safety
 - It is not the sole responsibility of governments

Objective: Identify best practices on the implementation of the Convention on the Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS), International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs) and other international safety of navigation arrangements;

- Role of Strategic Communications

- Humanitarian perspective
- Mainstreaming public discussions on navigational safety issues

- Institutionalization of Best Practices

- Immersion through training and exercises
- Multilateral dialogues

- Replicability of Best Practices

- Adoption of ReCAAP model in DCoC
- Application of CUES (WPNS to IONS and ANCM)

Objective: Review the implementation of these arrangements in the Asia-Pacific setting;

- Ratification of Key IMO Conventions

- There remains a significant disparity on the level of adoption of key instruments

- There is a regional acceptance of the “Big Four” IMO Conventions (SOLAS, MARPOL, COLREG, STCW) from which mutual support within ASEAN and ARF can take root

- Significant Implementation Issues

- Underreporting of piracy and armed robbery at sea incidents

- Coordinate formulation of national legislations and regulations

- Relationship Among Intergovernmental Organizations (ReCAAP-ISC, INTERPOL, IMO)

- Implementation of conventions is a shared responsibility within governments

Objective: Make concrete recommendations on capacity-building towards the enhancement of a rules-based maritime regime in the Asia-Pacific;

- Establishment of a mechanism to promote regular dialogue between ARF and IMO on technical cooperation
 - Advice and recommendations on alternative security arrangements for non-convention vessels engaged in international trade
 - Assessing requirements for safety of navigation in support of ASEAN Maritime Connectivity
 - Conduct of regional trainings and workshops
 - Formulation of standard models, instructions, and curriculum for training institutions
 - Formulation of model regulations that may be adopted by individual countries in the region
- Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships as a distinct issue
 - Need for ASEAN and ARF to assess whether existing dialogue mechanisms is adequate to holistically address the issue of piracy and armed robbery in the region
 - Consider cooperation at the Track 2 and Track 1.5 organizations for a comprehensive study of the issue

Objective: ~~Make concrete recommendations on capacity-building towards the enhancement of a rules-~~
based maritime regime in the Asia-Pacific;

- Encourage the Implementation of the 2016 ARF Statement on Enhancing Cooperation Among Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies

- Vietnam to invite experts to the upcoming workshop at the end of 2017

- Promote openness and understanding of the roles and functions of maritime security forces

- Recognize that not all countries have a standard on what a coast guard is
- Recognize that some countries provide law enforcement roles to their navies
- Continue working on practical norms and and rules of behavior to ensure that safe interaction among maritime forces

- Give ample priority to capacity-building

- Work towards promoting common understanding of IMO conventions
- Cross-training and exchange of practices and experiences

Objective: Provide opportunity for relevant officials of ARF

Member States to network, thereby creating and/or enhancing critical lines of communication among those who are directly involved in implementing safety of navigation instruments;

- Exchanged calling cards
- Identified agencies responsible for specific safety of navigation functions
- Encourage participation in future workshops

End of Presentation
