



Proposal for ARF Expert Network of Oil Spill Response (ENOSR) (Draft)

Due to the increased incidence of accidental oil spills in the Asia-Pacific region, it is time to take a stronger pro-active approach to protect the marine environment and its living resources. We thus propose the establishment of the ARF Expert Network of Oil Spill Response (ENOSR) as a key outcome of the ARF Seminar on the Regional Cooperation on Offshore Oil Spills for submission to the sixth ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security for approval. This initiative will enhance our ability to prevent accidents associated with offshore oil exploration and development and marine transportation, and our capability to carry out rapid and effective emergency response operations.

Objective:

The objective of the ARF Expert Network of Oil Spill Response (hereinafter “ENOSR”) is to foster technical information exchange related to prevention, early warning, monitoring, trajectory forecasting systems, and the identification, assessment and mitigation of oil spills at sea. The network will provide a forum for the provision of scientific and technical advice to support regional offshore oil spill response operations and the coordination of programs to enhance the effectiveness and capacity of spills response agencies among its members.

ARF ENOSR is to be considered a platform for open exchange of views on oil spill response technologies.

The Framework:

1. ARF ENOSR will be composed of technical experts nominated by ARF participants with different professional backgrounds, including prevention, early warning, monitoring, trajectory forecasting, identification, risk assessment, damage assessment and mitigation.
2. ARF ENOSR will provide information exchange, technical training, and accident response consulting through face to face activities and internet-based communication tools (such as e-mail, expert BBS and website).
3. Support for ARF ENOSR activities and events will be provided voluntarily by ARF participants. The activities can be held regularly or irregularly.
4. Activities are anticipated to include: seminars and workshops on subjects of common concern.
5. China is willing to host an online expert BBS for ARF ENOSR.

Appendix: Expert BBS

A preparatory Expert BBS, built and maintained by China, will provide a platform to share information and exchange views on the following areas:

1. Events: the information about upcoming seminars/workshops and trainings;
2. Products and Services: information about new equipment, devices, achievements as well as the relevant services provided by the ARF participants for oil spill responses.

3. Sharing Information: an openly communication platform for all the ARF participants and BBS registers, the information shall include news updates, recommended best practices/strategies and results of case studies.

4. Expert Database: Information on participating experts regarding monitoring, early warning, trajectory forecasting, identification, assessment and mitigation technologies.

Access Management

1. All the ARF experts will be recommended as register member;
2. Registration Conditions: all the BBS register members shall be recommended by ARF countries or ARF experts who have been listed in the Expert Database.
3. All the contents in the BBS, including topic, database and information, are only open to the register member.