

Current Situation of Information Sharing on Maritime Security in the Region

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Current threats

- Territorial disputes for geopolitical and economic interests
- Terrorism and Insurgency
- Transnational maritime threats
- Environmental threats
- Traditional strategic rivalries among regional major powers

Positive developments

- Less sensitive to sovereignty in some areas/issues such as environmental protection, counter-terrorism measures
- Constructive role of external powers in providing technical assistance
- Strengthening norms of cooperation
- Maritime priority of natl. govt.
- Increasing allocation of national resources

Why Information Sharing?

- Maritime awareness
- Promoting maritime cooperation and maritime confidence building
- Capacity building
- Information centres (national focal points, regional coordinating centres, maritime rescue coordination centres, information sharing centres)
- Current situation
- Regional maritime security platform and policies?

Why Information Sharing?

- At the operational level,
 - Exchange and update intelligence products
 - Identify and detect threats
 - Detect and investigate anomalies
 - Take inferences and actions

Problems

- Lack of networking mindset in the member states
- Harmonizing military, legal, and commercial sensitivities
- Lack of procedures and frameworks
- Sensitivities due to sovereignty

What to do next?

- What to share? Some countries are sensitive, others are more open and less sensitive, to specific issues and information
- Establishing coherent and solid national maritime policies providing legal and institutional frameworks for interagency arrangement to deal with maritime issues
- Maritime capacity building for information sharing
- Clear national authority in maritime issues reflecting national interests and priorities of respective countries
- Establishing a regional center for information sharing. Some issues to address: who controls it; its mandate; etc.

Thank you