

BILATERAL AND MULTI-LATERAL COOPERATIONS ON MARITIME SECURITY

Speech by the Ministry of Public Security of P.R.China

As the representative from the Ministry of Public Security of China, I'd like to share with you some information concerning MPS maritime international cooperations.

Here are some basic knowledge of MPS Border Control Force and its Coast Guard: MPS Border Control Department is the commanding authority of the Border Control Force of China, it is one of China's military units and belongs to the Armed Police Systems. China MPS BCD has 30 regional headquarters in different provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. In border areas, it has Border Control Branches, which main mission is to maintain public order in border area. In coastal areas, it has coast guard branches, which main mission is to maintain public order at sea and coastal area. In international ports and airports, it has immigration stations, which main mission is to conduct passport control. The MPS Coast Guard is an important military law enforcement agency deployed by MPS at sea. It is, by far, the only authority that has the juridical right to investigate criminal cases in the seas that are under China's Jurisdiction. The main responsibilities of China MPS Coast Guard are:

1. To prevent, interdict, investigate maritime crimes and illegal activities at sea;
2. To safeguard the important targets at sea;
3. To participate S&R activities, protect public properties and individual life and properties;
4. To conduct international cooperations in line with and relative laws and agreements;
5. To conduct other responsibilities authorized by laws, administrative regulations and the Ministry of Public Security.

China MPS puts great emphasis on bilateral maritime cooperation. By far, it has signed maritime law enforcement cooperation documents respectively with Korea Coast Guard, Japan Coast Guard and US Coast Guard. MPS Coast Guard further established direct channel of communications with maritime law enforcement agencies of ROK, Japan, Philippines, and

Indonesia. In April 2007, for the first time MPS maritime cooperation delegation visited the Maritime Police Bureau of Indonesian National Police, the Maritime Group of Philippine National Police and Philippine Coast Guard.

China MPS also participate multi-lateral maritime cooperation actively. In 2004, it became the formal member of North Pacific Coast Guard Forum, hence then enhanced cooperation relationship with CCG, JCG, KCG, RFSB, USCG. In August 2006, China MPS held a China- ASEAN Maritime Law Enforcement Seminar in Dalian, Which marked a operational step for China and ASEAN maritime law enforcement cooperation relationship. In Sept. 2006, after China became the formal member of ReCAAP, China MPS sent a representative to work in the Information Sharing Center in Singapore. In May 2006, MPS held a training course for East Timor maritime and border officers. In June 2008, MPS held a seminar course on maritime law enforcement, 42 officers or official from 24 Asian and African countries participated that 20-day course.

In the future, China MPS will stick to the principle of “getting well with neighboring countries, and taking neighboring countries as good partners”, and keep on discussing effective maritime security cooperation methods with maritime law enforcement agencies of different countries that are participating this meeting in order to ensure the maritime security and stability in a joint effort.

Thank you very much!