



**IONS Working Groups (IWGs)
Concept Papers**

06 June 2016

Concept Paper - Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR) IWG

1.0 Objective

The objective of the Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief (HADR) IWG is to increase mutual understanding, trust and cooperation between participants, and to progress towards practical outcomes that will assist in staging and coordinating humanitarian and disaster relief activities in the Indian Ocean.

2.0 Guidelines

2.1 The HADR IWG should consider work previously conducted by other multilateral forums within, and outside of, the Indian Ocean region. The concept for the HADR IWG is that the experiences gained and lessons identified by other organizations and forums can be used to inform best practice for establishing a similar framework in the Indian Ocean.

2.2 The outcome of IWG may be consolidated into a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)/ Guidelines (or any name appropriate) for further implementation after being endorsed by the Conclave of Chief (CoC).

2.3 To render the most effective outcome of the IWG, training package, exercise modules, table tops (TTX) or any appropriate activities may be conceived and recommended to the Conclave of Chiefs (CoC).

2.4 Some notable sources include: the Western Pacific Naval Symposium (WPNS) and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) Experts Working Group on HADR.

3.0 Areas of Cooperation

The HADR IWG may consider the following areas of cooperation:

3.1 HADR Resource Directory.

3.2 Sharing HADR operational experiences.

3.3 Facilitating international observers at national/bilateral/multilateral HADR exercises.

3.4 Standard Operating Procedures (including Command and Control and tactical and strategic communication arrangements).

3.5 Operational and Governmental guidelines.

3.6 Conducting joint HADR exercises (discussion, desk-top or field) under the framework of IONS.

3.7 Conducting joint HADR training under the framework of IONS.

Concept Paper - Maritime Security (MARSEC) IWG

1.0 Objective

The objective of the Maritime Security (MARSEC) IWG (previously Counter Piracy IWG), is to improve mutual understanding, trust and cooperation between participants, and progress practical outcomes in combating transnational maritime security issues. The scope of this IWG includes but not limited to, maritime piracy, maritime terrorism, gun running, poaching, ship jacking etc. Considering the wider periphery of maritime security issues, the MARSEC IWG may limit the scope as appropriate addressing the contemporary transnational maritime security threats.

2.0 Guidelines

2.1 The IWG should consider other work by multilateral forums, counter-piracy centres, maritime security centres & groups, and military units. From these sources, information and experience can be drawn and used to progress understanding of Maritime Security within IONS.

2.2 The outcome of IWG may be consolidated into a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)/ Guidelines (or any name appropriate) for further implementation after being endorsed by the Conclave of Chief (CoC).

2.3 To render the most effective outcome of the IWG, training package, exercise modules, table tops (TTX) or any appropriate activities may be conceived and recommended to the Conclave of Chiefs (CoC).

2.4 Some notable sources include: the Information Fusion Centre (IFC), NATO Shipping Centre (NSC), United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) Dubai, United States Navy Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) Bahrain, International Maritime Bureau (IMB), Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS), Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against ships in Asia (ReCAAP), and the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) Experts Working Group on Maritime Security.

3.0 Areas of Cooperation

The Maritime Security IWG may consider the following areas of cooperation:

3.1 Determine the appropriate areas of co-operation related of maritime security in general.

3.2 Formulate standard Operating Procedure for common use of IONS nations.

- 3.3 Initiate promulgation to unclassified MARSEC information database.
- 3.4 Assist in the dissemination of training information on MARSEC operation practices and doctrines among IONS nations.
- 3.5 Share unclassified Boarding Procedures (VBSS) amongst member/observer nations.
- 3.6 Spread awareness among seafarers operating in IOR regarding all sorts of MARSEC matters.

Concept Paper - Information Sharing & Interoperability (IS&I) IWG

1.0 Objective

The objective of the Information Sharing & Interoperability IWG is to focus on how improvements to information sharing between nations can be achieved in order to provide a foundation for practical cooperation and engagement between IONS members and observers. By enhancing communication on issues relevant to IONS members/observers, trust and cooperation between nations will be enhanced.

2.0 Guidelines

2.1 The Information Sharing & IWG should consider other work and research conducted by multilateral forums.

2.2 The outcome of IWG may be consolidated into a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)/ Guidelines (or any name appropriate) for further implementation after being endorsed by the Conclave of Chief (CoC).

2.3 To render the most effective outcome of the IWG, training package, exercise modules, table tops (TTX) or any appropriate activities may be conceived and recommended to the Conclave of Chiefs (CoC).

2.4 Some notable sources of daily-weekly-annual reports include: the Information Fusion Centre (IFC), MARLO Bahrain reports, United States Navy Office of Naval Intelligence, NATO Shipping Centre (NSC), and United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO).

3.0 Areas of Cooperation

The Information Sharing & Interoperability IWG may consider the following areas of cooperation:

3.1 Identify the common areas of interest for information sharing.

3.2 Establish mechanism for effective information sharing & interoperability.

3.3 Formulate SOP/Guideline for effective IS&I procedure among IONS nations.

3.4 Promulgation of a common format for incident report, messages, situation report etc for prompt and easy dispersal of information.

3.5 Development of a Maritime Information Exchange Directory (MIED).