

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF GROWING SHIPPING TRAFFIC IN STRAIT OF MALACCA



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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- **The importance of the SOM**
- **Shipping traffic in the SOM**
- **Challenges faced by SOM as SLOC**
- **Environmental impact of growing traffic in SOM**
- **Protecting SOM's environment**

IMPORTANCE OF SOM

- **One of the world's busiest and most crucial sealanes.**
- **Economic lifeline to the littoral states.**
- **Facilitates half of world's oil supply / one third of its SOM.**
- **SOM figures prominently in the strategic calculations of naval powers.**
- **In the event of hostility, SOM may be used as a strategic theater.**

SHIPPING TRAFFIC IN SOM

- **Over 65,000 in 2006.**
- **Expected to grow further in line with rising regional / global trade.**
- **More traffic = higher risks for incidents i.e. collision, grounding, pollution.**
- **Littoral states face increasing cost to provide / enhance navigation safety.**

CHALLENGES FACING SOM

- **Rising traffic volume**
- **Sea and shore-based pollution**
- **Socio-economic / geo-strategic instability**
- **Trafficking**
- **Illegal fishing / sand mining**
- **Wrecks**
- **Piracy**
- **Potential threat of terrorism**

SAFETY MEASURES IN SOM

- **Ship Reporting System (STRAITREP)**
- **Vessel Traffic System (VTS)**
- **Automatic Identification System (AIS)**
- **Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS)**
- **Long Range Identification & Tracking**
- **Marine Electronic Highway (MEH)**
- **Proposal of six projects to maintain navigation safety / protect environment**

THE SIX PROJECTS IN SOM

- **Wreck removal in TSS area.**
- **Boosting HNS preparedness & response.**
- **Demo of Class B AIS transponder on small vessels.**
- **Setting up of tide, current & wind system.**
- **Replacement / maintenance of navigation aids.**
- **Replacement of navigation aids damaged by tsunami.**

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF GROWING TRAFFIC IN SOM

- **Growing traffic brings greater risk of pollution from ship-based discharges.**
- **Technologies and regulations are in place but ships still discharge at SOM.**
- **Traffic also causes coastal erosion**
- **Impact may cause serious socio-economic consequence to littoral economies.**

PROTECTING SOM FROM THREATS OF POLLUTION (I)

- **Determine SOM's carrying capacity.**
- **Introduce international protocol to protect SOM's environment.**
- **Impose limit on HNS carried by ships.**
- **Boost efforts and funds to protect SOM's environment and rehabilitate degraded ecosystem.**

PROTECTING SOM FROM THREATS OF POLLUTION (II)

- **Foster cooperation between littoral states and users of SOM.**
- **Set up regional authority to monitor, manage, enhance and ensure SOM's environmental protection.**
- **SOM users must match their intensive use of the strait with aids to the littoral states.**

THE WAY FORWARD

- **Protection of SOM's environment is the responsibility of all stakeholders.**
- **Growing traffic volume in SOM needs to be managed well to mitigate potential environmental impact.**
- **3C formula : cooperation, collaboration, commitment needed to protect SOM.**
- **The time for action is NOW!**

THANK YOU



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