



# SECURITY PRIORITIES OF INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA IN THE STRAIT OF MALACCA

## SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES AND IMPLICATION FOR MALAYSIA

# Objective

- Delineate the security threats in the Strait of Malacca and the priorities for Indonesia and Malaysia
- Determine their similarities and differences
- Implications for Malaysia
- Options for Malaysia
- Advantages and Disadvantages of options

# Security Threats in the Malacca Strait

- Malaysia and Indonesia share the Malacca Strait
- Threats:
  - Sovereignty
  - Smuggling of goods, arms and humans
  - “Piracy” or Sea Robbery
  - Catastrophic pollution
  - Illegal Fishing and Degradation of fish stocks
  - Transport of weapons of mass destruction
  - Terrorism

These threats are of concern to both Malaysia and Indonesia but their priorities differ



# Priorities of Threats

- **Sovereignty**

Similarity – Indonesia and Malaysia have responsibility for security and safety in SOM

- **Piracy**

Priorities are different – Indonesia & Malaysia

Malaysia - needs serious attention

Indonesia -one among other old problems

- **Pollution**

Indo and M'sia have common perception of the threat to the environment

- **Illegal Fishing**

Threat of illegal fishing from Thai trawlers is a concern to Malaysia and Indo

- **Smuggling of Humans**

Threat for M'sia and not for Indonesia

- **Arms Smuggling**

Threat to Indo, unable to control – porous borders and under equipped police, smugglers high tech speed boats

- **Terrorism**

Indo and M'sia have different perception on terrorism

- **WMD**

Threat of movement of WMD in SOM is concern of US but not Indo and M'sia



# Implications for Malaysia

- US-Indonesia military ties- Malaysia no strong military cooperation - US forces may present in the Strait – threat to Malaysia sovereignty
- Piracy less attention given by Indonesia-pressure from user states
- Arms smuggling impinges on Malaysia sea security
- Human smuggling social threat to Malaysia

# Options for Malaysia

## Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency

### Advantages

- ❖ solve maritime law enforcement challenges
- ❖ enable coordination amongst various enforcement agencies & optimizes the assets.
- ❖ Deters gun running to Indonesia

### Disadvantage

- ❖ New
- ❖ Lack of assets



## Bilateral Patrol Arrangements with Non Littoral States

### Advantage

- ❖ Solutions for inadequate assets

### Disadvantage

- ❖ Power Projection by foreign nations

## Participation in Sea Surveillance/TMDA

### Advantages

- ❖ Produce digital charts
- ❖ Early warning on threats

### Disadvantages

- ❖ Common Operational Picture – shared by littoral and non littoral
- ❖ Information may leaked to non states actors
- ❖ Vulnerabilities can be exposed during confrontations

- Give Priorities for threat of Terrorism

- Advantage

- ❖ Join global counter terrorism initiative

- Disadvantages

- ❖ Inaccurate picture on sea security in whole
    - ❖ It is a threat that does not exist and may invite attention of terrorist

# Recommendations

- Differences should not hamper cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia
- Vital to pursue cooperation with extra regional powers





**THANK YOU**