Theme: Maritime security, safety and regulatory enforcement

Building safe & resilient communities

Secure and safe maritime resources are essential for trade, communication, and job and wealth creation.

However, security challenges have escalated with attacks from criminals and terrorists on ports, offshore installations and ships. These attacks are showing increased innovation and sophistication, and endangering crew, ships, cargo, marine life and other investments.

Maritime security and safety concerns are at a new level of importance, due to the:

- impact of insecurity
- financial implication of mitigation measures, such as:
    - surcharges
    - use of armed guards

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The need to adopt international conventions on maritime safety and develop the necessary capacity for compliance will be crucial to ensure environmental protection and sustainability.

Collaboration

Maritime safety and security challenges continue to affect many states and sectors. Collaboration is essential to align and ensure the effectiveness of individual states' deterrent measures.

At the international level, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has championed the development of regulatory and infrastructural initiatives.

The initiatives address areas such as:

- inter-agency response to threats
- human resource capacity building
- maritime cyber risk management
- comprehensive ship-boarding protocols
- regional piracy information exchange centres
- electronic systems that track real time location of ships
- bilateral inspections of shipping containers before they are loaded

These tools can be used to address a range of illegal activity. This includes illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing.

Local and regional initiatives

There are also a number of local and regional initiatives aimed at realizing secure and safe maritime resources.

The need for collaboration has seen increased desire to address security and safety through establishment of regional frameworks and consultations. These would have far-reaching recommendations for enhancing cooperation among states on maritime security and safety.

Opportunities

Maritime resource stakeholders need to reflect on the state of maritime safety and security, and regulatory frameworks. They also need to think critically about measures

needed to address challenges in the short and long term. These stakeholders include:

- academia
- lawmakers
- security agencies
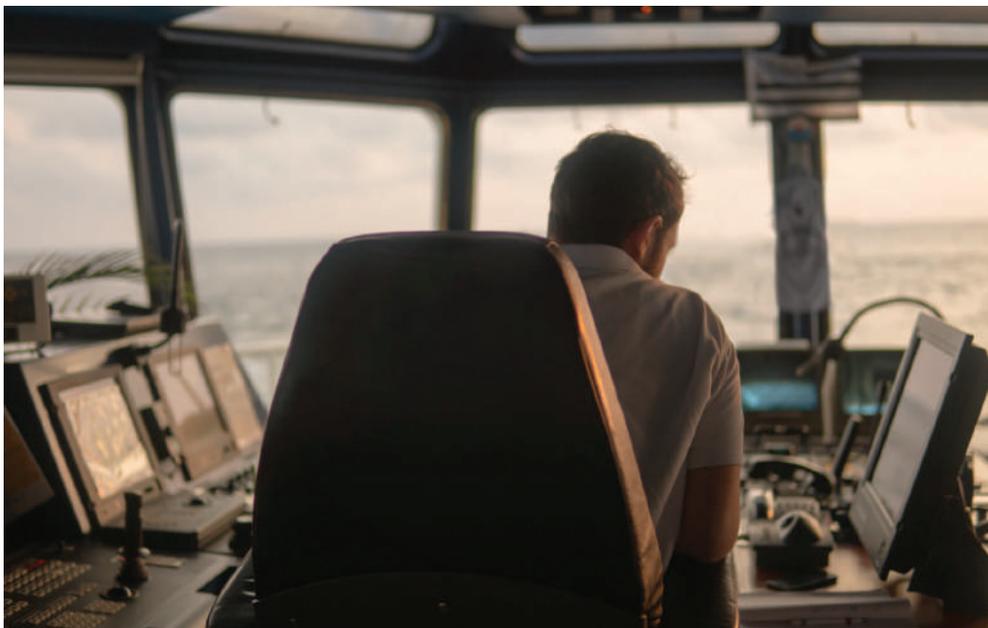- industry operators

It is important to look into gaps within existing:

- infrastructure
- human capacity
- technological knowledge
- institutional and legal frameworks

This will allow us to build and sustain strategies on addressing orderly migration while aware of:

- the upcoming Global Compact for Migration
- national and global levels of maritime security and safety

To address existing and emerging maritime security threats and safety and governance issues, we must have conversations around technology, legal frameworks and enforcement capacity.

Questions

Panelists will guide discussions on:

1. How can effective coordination among states and security agencies be realized to eliminate duplication of efforts and resources targeting maritime security and safety?

2. What legal and institutional frameworks are needed to address various existing maritime threats?

3. To what extent is the maritime industry prepared to anticipate, adapt and respond to insecurity challenges presented by an increasingly dynamic maritime sector?

4. To ensure the health, safety and protection of maritime zones, what effective detection, responses and enforcement mechanisms can be used for threats and illegal activity (e.g. IUU fishing)?

5. What measures could be put in place to combat drug trafficking, respond to humanitarian disasters and keep pace with the evolving political, legal, safety and security considerations in the sector?

6. What clean and blue technology (including block chain and remote sensing) advancements are there to deal with maritime security issues in ports and waters, particularly in regards to addressing lack of awareness, intelligence collection, processing and exchange of information?