

**International Cooperation in the War against Terror
in the Asia-Pacific Region
with a Special Emphasis on the Malacca Strait**

March 8-9, 2006

Mississippi State University

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The participants reaffirm the sovereignty and sovereign rights of the littoral states. The workshop recommends the three (3) littoral states immediately implement the statement of the Jakarta conference of Sept 2005 and establish mechanisms to meet on a regular basis with the user states, the shipping industry & others with an interest in the safe navigation through the straits, to discuss issues relating to the safety, security and the environmental protection of the straits, as well as to facilitate cooperation in keeping the straits safe and open to navigation, including exploring the possible options for burden sharing, and to keep IMO informed, as appropriate, of the outcome of such meetings.
2. Participants recommend that concerned governments coordinate threat and vulnerability/risk assessment of the maritime security threat.
3. As a key user state, Japan could play a more active role in supporting the littoral states to enhance maritime security in the Straits of Malacca. In order to do so, Japan is encouraged to have a more flexible interpretation of its constitution and to cooperate to the greatest extent possible with SEA security and law enforcement forces. Further, Japan is encouraged to offer useful equipment for use by SEA countries for providing security in the region.
4. Participants recognize the WMD-related threats and regional deficiency to counter these threats and encourage the development of appropriate technology, skills, equipment and training to address this threat.
5. Participants recommend better coordination and information sharing among maritime authorities of the littoral states to facilitate safety of navigation through, and security of the Malacca Straits.
6. Participants recognize the key factor to effective maritime security is continued strengthening of regional law enforcement capabilities and encourage further user states assistance in this area and strengthened regional coordination.
7. The participants emphasize the need for continued political commitment to address the Maritime security threats and underline the need for broader comprehensive approaches including socio-economic needs of the vulnerable states.
8. MSU should have another conference on broader non-traditional security issues of the South China Sea and invite other interested countries.