

3rd EAS Conference on Maritime Security and Cooperation

8-9 June 2018
Mayfair Lagoon, Bhubaneswar

Tentative Agenda

8 June 2018

08.30 – 09.30

Registration

09.30 – 10.30

Inaugural Session

10.30 – 11.00

Group Photo and Tea/Coffee Break

11.00 – 12.30

Session I: Maritime Security

[This session will examine the issues relating to security threats, challenges and opportunities relating to the maritime domain, and collaborative security. On one hand, the countries still lack adequate capacities for maritime policing and law-enforcement, including for ensuring coastal and offshore security, and achieving a satisfactory level of Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA), while, on the other, the continued prevalence of traditional security threats, leading to a reticence to cooperate to the quell common threats posed by malevolent non-state actors ranging from pirates to traffickers of narcotics, arms and people. Furthermore, the security challenges are becoming more complex with the new threats posed by international terrorism and those relating to the use of the cyber-space, which could spill over into the maritime realm. This session would address all such challenges and collaborative responses, including in terms of cooperation among naval forces, coast guards and other law-enforcement agencies, capacity-building and capability-enhancement, and confidence-building at sea.]

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch Break

13.30 – 15.00

Session II: Maritime Safety

[This Session will discuss issues broadly relating to safety of human life at sea and in the littoral areas of the Asia-Pacific region and explore means of cooperation to enhance maritime safety. It would address the safety of all those who are increasingly taking to the sea or air transportation over the sea, either to earn a livelihood, or for transportation or leisure; of all those living in coastal areas who bear the brunt of nature's fury at sea; and of all 'irregular migrants' who are forced to undertake perilous journeys across the oceans due to various reasons. Hence, the session aims to span the spectrum involving maritime and aeronautical Search and Rescue (SAR), Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) and irregular sea-borne migration. It would encompass related aspects like global and national organizational structures; international and domestic laws; regional cooperation, including for situational awareness and information-sharing; coordination among maritime forces, including for capacity-building; technology-enabled responses; and the participation of non-government organizations (NGOs) and the civil society.]

15.00 – 15.30

Tea/ Coffee Break

15.30 – 17.00

Session III: Good Order at Sea

[This Session 3 will explore the challenges to the established rules-based maritime order in the Asia-Pacific, which flows from the growing rivalry among major powers to seek a favourable balance of power (or balance of influence) and the emerging considerations of ‘territoriality’, which are leading to a regional arms race, and impinging on established rules of international law and norms of conduct with regard to freedom of navigation and over-flight. On the one hand, there are differences among countries on the interpretation of UNCLOS on the military freedom in the maritime zones of other countries. On the other hand, the building of artificial islands through reclamation meant to enhance maritime-territorial claims impinges on freedom of navigation, besides posing a risk to safe navigation. Although the implementation of the Code of Unplanned Encounters at Sea (CUES) under the aegis of the WPNS is an encouraging development, it is restricted to naval vessels (and aircraft), and do not address the actions of other government-mandated maritime forces. This session would also address the opportunities for EAS countries for reaching a commonly accepted interpretation of international law on freedom of navigation, de-confliction of unintended encounters amongst maritime-security forces and confidence-building at sea.]

19.00

Cultural Programme and Dinner

9 June 2018

09.00 – 10.30

Session IV: Blue Economy

[This Session will deliberate upon the various country perspectives on sustainable development of all facets of ocean-based economy centered on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which recognizes the need to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. It will examine national approaches to the responsible development of marine resources – including the utilization of marine-based renewable energy and the long-term conservation and management of fish stocks. It will address measures to curb harmful activities such as land-based and sea-based marine pollution; IUU fishing and other destructive methods of fishing and trawling; and the destruction of corals and associated underwater life, with the aim of preserving the marine and coastal environment and the associated eco-systems. The session would also explore avenues of inter-state cooperation in these areas.]

10.30 – 11.00

Tea/Coffee Break

11.00 – 12.30

Session V: Panel Discussion on Taking Stock and Way Forward

12.30 – 13.00

Valedictory Session

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch

14.30 – 19.00

Field Trip to Konark Temple

19.00 – 21.00

Cultural Programme and Dinner at Konark