

**CSCAP Study Group on the Implications of Naval Enhancement in the Asia-Pacific -**  
**Second Meeting Agenda**  
**Auckland, New Zealand 27-28<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

The second meeting of the CSCAP Study Group (SG) on the Implications of Naval Enhancement in the Asia-Pacific is planned to be held at Auckland NZ on 27-28 March 2010. This meeting has been arranged “back to back” with the ARF–ISM and is expected some ISM delegates will attend the SG. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

27 March 2010

**Day One**

**SESSION ONE – Welcome Address by Co-chairs**

Implications of regional naval enhancement: coping with new naval powers - Adm Sureesh Mehta Retd

Is there a maritime arms race in Asia Pacific – Prof Paul Dibb\*(TBC)

**SESSION TWO – Navies and Good order at sea**

The maintenance of good order at sea is inextricably linked to navies who are often tasked by their governments to ensure it is maintained. At one end of the spectrum they range from HADR operations to that of managing the rising threats from a range of maritime asymmetric challenges. Possible papers are

- Providing Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) – CSCAP Indonesia
- Managing growing asymmetric challenges – CSCAP Singapore
- Managing maritime Environmental disasters- CSCAP New Zealand

**SESSION THREE – Negative aspects associated with enhancing navies**

The generic tenor of our first meeting was aimed at finding common maritime interests to be able to promote the concept of maritime security as a public/common good for all littoral countries. Thus the accentuation was on exploring the benefits of capacity enhancements in the navies of the Asia-Pacific region. However there are also negative impacts arising from such developments. Rising naval capacities/capabilities and navies operating in close quarters can lead to tensions, miscalculations and purported arms races etc. For a balanced perspective and to mitigate the associated risks it is important to explore these aspects as well. A range of views may be presented by different CSCAPs on the disadvantages (perceived or otherwise) on rising naval capacities in the region. Suggested lead papers with comments as necessary by other CSCAPs in each region are:

- Northeast Asia (CSCAP Japan )
- Southeast Asia (CSCAP Singapore)
- Oceania (CSCAP New Zealand)
- South Asia (CSCAP India)
- North America (CSCAP Canada)

#### **SESSION FOUR – Managing naval tensions at sea – some response strategies**

There is a need to explore the response strategies to reduce tensions arising from possible competition due to rising naval capabilities. These include the potential for an unfortunate incident at sea especially where there are disputed claims to sovereignty or from operating in close proximity. The active usage of preventive diplomacy to achieve such ends could also be a viable option. Some lead papers are

- Maritime Confidence and Security-building measures (MCSBMs) – CSCAP Korea
- INCSEA as a model for escalation control - CSCAP Malaysia
- Transparency in Defence policy development – CSCAP Australia

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#### **Day Two**

#### **SESSION FIVE –Information sharing and capacity building**

The benefits of naval enhancement flow from the facilitation of information-sharing, interoperability and operational cooperation. The lacunae in the current systemic could be explored.

- Information-sharing and the efficacy of MDA in Asia Pacific - US CSCAP
- Maritime Capacity building in Asia Pacific – CSCAP China

#### **SESSION SIX – Way Ahead**

The last session of the meeting should seek to develop ideas that might be on the agenda for the third and final meeting of the group. A discussion on the proposed Memo will also be undertaken in this session.