

Breakout Session 1 Recommendations (Day 1)

International

- Bilateral arrangements with neighboring countries should be pursued
 - Increasing operational presence, enhancing deterrence if possible
 - Common, direct communication mechanisms with immediate neighbors
 - Coordinated patrol by ships/aircrafts
 - Information Exchange/Track II Forums
 - Engaging with regional forums
- Forming an international coalition with partners in the region
 - Need to get a better understanding of location of assets
 - Emphasize a shared level of threat across the region
 - Establish partners to have a legal justification for further action
 - Minilateral solutions–
 - Create an exchange command control shipping center
 - Able to encourage collaboration at sea between surface units
 - Need to recognize different interests but imperative to develop collaborative and joint strategy in tackling illicit trafficking amidst pandemic
- Springboard off International frameworks
 - Global Coalition to Defeat Daesh, offers a platform for partnerships to lobby for support. Also provides a longer term solution.
 - Build off United Nations efforts
 - More substantive engagement with major powers
- Trust Building
 - Focus on immediate neighbors, regional nations, and major powers
 - Make efforts as transparent as possible

National

- Create a Crisis Management Committee of experts
 - Defense
 - Security
 - Foreign affairs
 - Setting clearly defined mandates, and set strategic action moving forward
 - Identify available logistics and financial assets available within the home country
- Strengthen inter-agency coordination amongst national security agencies
- Review available resources
 - Risk assessment of threat – studies of strengths and weakness of national capabilities
 - Realistic assessment of resources availability
 - Explore more support, more funding, pay incentives for sailors/coast guard, etc.
 - Determine options for getting fisherman back to work

- Incorporate more technology – to monitor borders, engage transiting vessels, identify suspicious perpetrators and vessels, acquire a common operating picture to achieve situational awareness at the level of littorals
 - Develop regional centers to collect and centralize data; Fusion Center
 - Acquire thermal systems for all maritime security vessels
- Encourage stakeholder responsibility across all sectors
- Consider development of media/PR campaign to explain position internally, regionally, and internationally

Operational

- Identify nature of threat
 - Predict the behaviour of perpetrators
 - Type of assistance that we may require, FA?
 - Align current capacity with threat level
 - Smuggling: Imperative to act immediately
- Fisheries
 - Is there a potential link between smugglers and fisheries?
 - Priority to preserve and sustain fishery industries
 - Best to engage with fishery communities through direct dialogue in gaining their trust in collaborating with maritime law enforcement agencies in defending coastlines – create an action plan
 - Important to include the perception of reliance on regional or international strategic constructs
 - Best practices: Malaysia’s experience in fishing and tourism industry, particularly the use of the K3M app to report to any suspicious activity or emergencies at sea to a central collection point
- Manage balance of resources between addressing pandemic, suffering economy, and ensuring national autonomy
 - How to monitor vessels transiting along territorial waters?
 - Surveillance monitoring
 - Coast guard forces
 - Port Information System Integration and Activation of related systems
 - Highlight the importance of trade routes for regional and global economic strength
- Enforcement
 - Developing/Initiating clear rules of engagement for efforts at sea
 - New/Innovate Training to address challenge
 - Procuring new assets
- Legal framework surrounding illicit transnational crimes
 - Establish dialogue on legal framework at minilateral level before escalating to international level
 - Legislate international law through the UNSC, and international committees – will help garner varying perspectives through in-depth insight
 - May take up time and intense legwork
 - Definitely a long-term solution to pursue
 - Operational initiatives, which are more short-term, need to run in parallel to political initiatives