

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA

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Somalia prioritize Security whether it is land security or maritime security to protect Somalia against all threats that put in danger the wellbeing of its citizens.

The importance of Indian Ocean;

- The Indian Ocean is a vital transit route between Africa, Middle-east, Asia, Europe, and the Pacific region.
- more than 80 percent of the world's seaborne trade in oil transits through Indian Ocean choke points.
- It is home to around 30 per cent of the world's population.
- Indian Ocean has some of the world's most important CHOKES POINTS, notably Bab El-Mandab, the Strait of Hormuz, Malacca, which are important for the passage of the Global trade.

Security of shipping and sea lanes of communication (SLOCs) in the Indian Ocean is **critical**.

Current State of Piracy and Terrorism

- Somalia is a country that was plagued by Piracy and Terrorism for nearly two decades until the Maritime Piracy has been momentarily contained.
- The terrorist groups affecting our security and resources has grown substantially and they operate unimpeded in the corridor of our territorial water. They are actively planning maritime operations and spread their wings in Puntland regional state from the sea side to undermine the stability of Puntland and the Federal Government of Somalia, but that will not be allowed to happen.
- They also acquired wealth through illicit activities such as charcoal export, import of arms and ammunition, drugs as well as trafficking of human beings. All these illicit activities are taking place in remote natural ports **in the northwest of Indian Ocean.**

How to prevent against these threats

- Requires **joint maritime security policy and resources**.
- The more advanced countries in IORA should provide assistance to other littoral states and engage in capacity building to boost the naval and coastguard capacity of its members to secure the maritime security in the Indian Ocean.
- The Federal Government of Somalia has limited potential but it took its responsibility towards the security of its ports and maritime lanes as well the fight against piracy and terrorism.

How to prevent against these threats (II)

- A lot has been done on the maritime security since September 2013, yet many challenges remain.
- Work has been done in the process of developing our Maritime Security Policy which considered :
 - ✓ The size of our coastal line (the longest in Africa);
 - ✓ The abundance of the marine resources in it.

How to prevent against these threats (III)

- The Somali Maritime Security policy has identified the reestablishment of enabled Coast Guard able to ensure the Somali Maritime Security and allow the Federal Government of Somalia to effectively control its Maritime Domain against the illicit activities in Somalia's waters.

Criminalization of Transnational Crimes including Illegal Fishing

- Somalia is aware that pirate's activities might resume though piracy activities off the Coast of Somalia has declined due to collaborative efforts between Somalia and International Community while the Illegal fishing which is one of the main causes of Somali Piracy is increasing.
- The illegal fishing activity is unlikely to go away any time soon and in that sense the Somali government remain committed in fighting the root causes of piracy but alone does not have the capacity to secure its shores, and create Alternative Livelihood projects to reduce crime and piracy. However, regional (IORA) efforts could be the best solution to prevent another crisis of Somali Piracy.

Cooperation, Surveillance and Information Sharing

- Cooperation with Contact Group of Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS) forum as well the convention of Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC) and Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against ships in Asia (ReCAAP).
- Strategic cooperation with IORA.
- For my country it is vital fighting against illegal fishing and eradicating piracy to get the benefits of our marine resources.
- To enhance maritime security coordination between member states of IORA.
- development of operational and surveillance capacities for the coast guard functions.
- Besides the states of more advanced capabilities to help the less capability states in the training activities to enhance their maritime security capability and capacity.

Building State Security, Political will and effective coordination rather than PCASP

- Somalia is in recovery stage after long time in civil conflict and the use of private security companies weakens the building of Somali law enforcement agencies.
- Piracy in Somalia, illicit export of charcoal, illicit import of arms and ammunition and human trafficking these maritime crimes originate from land. It needs the building of Somali law enforcement institutions and alternative livelihood for the young men engaged these crimes.
- Everlasting solution is on shore and IORA to enhance political will at community and regional level.
- Employment of privately contracted armed security on board ships can be a temporary solution against piracy and armed robbery.
- **The best measures** to enhance the security of strategic chokepoints is **efficient coordination** between member states and to enhance the capability of the maritime assets of the governments facing the strategic chokepoints.

- Somalia will cooperate with the IORA member states in order to achieve the purpose of its establishment. We have one Ocean, and Somalia priorities to develop its security and the capacity to access fisheries in its sea waters and to work closely countries in the region on the importance of fisheries and food security.

THANK YOU