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Since 2010, Galle Dialogue has become an important venue to build up confidence, reach consensus, and deepen cooperation among world navies, with more participant countries, vaster discussion topics and broader influences, playing a positive role in maintaining peace and stability in Indian Ocean. The theme of “synergizing for collaborative maritime management” meets the security situation requirement of Indian Ocean and international community’s wish for a peaceful and stable Indian Ocean and it is of pragmatic significance. Centering on the theme, my speech includes 3 main points.

I. To grasp the opportunities and collaboratively discuss new requirements of peace and stability in Indian Ocean.

Indian Ocean is the world maritime transportation hub, playing an important role in world communications and developments. It is the common wish of the world to maintain peace and stability in the region.

1. As a region of colorful cultures, Indian Ocean calls for understanding and respect

Indian Ocean is a region of colorful cultures and multiple systems, with the co-existence of eastern, western and African

civilizations, the co-existence of Islam, Hinduism, Christian, and the co-existence of more than 30 different social systems of regional countries with their unique characteristics. Diversity and colorfulness are the natures of human society and sources of development. There is an ancient Chinese saying, “All things in germinating without harming each other, in order without betraying each other”. It means that when facing different civilizations, different cultures and different social systems, we should uphold the spirit of understanding and harmony. Therefore, in Indian Ocean security cooperation, we should respect the diversity, colorfulness and differences of the region, start from equality, understanding and respect, and especially listen to voices from the middle and small countries.

2. As a region of economy vitality, Indian Ocean calls for peace and stability

Indian Ocean Region is full of development vitality and economy growth potential. In average age, Indian Ocean has the youngest population of the world, its coasts highly populated and its development potential enormous. Indian Ocean is also the hot land of international economy cooperation, which greatly promotes the prosperity of the region. The 21st century Maritime Silk Road Initiative

by Chinese President Xi Jinping inputs new impetus to the regional economy development. Peace and stability are the common interests and common wishes of both regional and ex-regional countries.

3. As a region of multi security challenges, Indian Ocean calls for collaborative efforts

Indian Ocean Region is facing quite serious non-traditional threats, such as piracy, terrorism, trans-border crimes, massive natural disasters and ecological catastrophes. Regional countries suffered serious damages from Tsunami, piracy and massive terrorist attacks both physically and physiologically. The non-traditional security threat in this region has complex background, covers a vast area and is of great uncertainty. After the recovery of ISIS controlled area in Middle East, the possibility of terrorist threat spreading to sea direction is increasing. It is necessary to synergize world effort to construct a maritime joint defense line of counter terrorist.

II. To collect wisdoms and collaboratively endeavor for a new vision of peace and stability in Indian Ocean.

Following the principle of “Extensive Consultation, Joint Efforts, and Shared Benefits” proposed by President Xi Jinping, we would like to synergize our efforts with world countries to deal with the threats and challenges in Indian Ocean Region for a new vision of peace and stability.

1. Jointly shouldering peace and stability responsibility in Indian Ocean

Indian Ocean regional security situation is quite complex and severe. No single country is enough to handle the situation and ensure everlasting security. It is required to enhance mutual confidence, work collaboratively and figure out solution jointly. On the basis of respecting Indian Ocean regional countries’ core interests and great concerns, China would like to join hands with regional and ex-regional countries to discuss extensively on maritime

security topics, to contribute maritime security governance wisdom, to exchange counter piracy experiences, to shoulder stability maintenance obligations, to provide financial support for security and to jointly shoulder maritime security responsibility.

2. Jointly constructing peace and stability orders in Indian Ocean

An equitable and rational maritime order is important to guarantee peace and stability in Indian Ocean. China would like to be together with the international community to construct and maintain a free, open, inclusive and cooperative maritime order in Indian Ocean through open, sincere and deeply talks, to make equitable, rational and inclusive maritime rules on the basis of UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and basic principles of relevant international laws, to provide maritime public security products, perfect maritime security governance mechanism and solve maritime disputes peacefully through negotiations.

3. Jointly consolidating peace and stability foundations in Indian Ocean

To safeguard peace and stability in Indian Ocean, it is necessary to improve maritime capacity to deal with challenges and to consolidate the foundation of maritime security. We support Indian Ocean regional countries’ effort to strengthen maritime security, including: updating maritime force equipments, enhancing maritime situation awareness, improving maritime operation command and control efficiency, and building maritime emergency handling capacity. We support international community’s initiative to promote peace and stability of Indian Ocean, including: pushing forward maritime information sharing, improving connectivity of maritime security facilities, perfecting maritime operation coordination, so as to effectively deal with all maritime security threats and challenges.

4. Sharing peace and stability fruits of Indian Ocean

Adhere to the solemn principle of ensuring peace and prosperity of Indian Ocean to benefit the world, and let the world people enjoy the bonus of peace and development in Indian Ocean. Oppose any behavior to make Indian Ocean a place of geo-political contest, ensure all countries enjoy maritime public security service without any discrimination, maintain Indian Ocean navigation security, protect maritime ecological environment, promote blue economy development, strengthen regional maritime economy cooperation, and promote common prosperity of both regional and ex-regional countries.

III. To synergize efforts and collaboratively open a new era of peace and stability in Indian Ocean.

Recent years have witnessed Chinese Navy's efforts for peace and stability in Indian Ocean. As responses to requests of UN, international community and related countries, we provided escort forces to GOA, humanitarian aids to Indian Ocean tsunami, fresh water assistance to Maldives, and medical care service to Indian Ocean rim countries. We also have participated in multi-nations maritime security cooperation operations under IONS with invitation from host countries. In the coming future, China would like to join hands with all parties and enhance sincere cooperation in the following fields so as to open a new era of peace and stability in Indian Ocean.

1. To enhance dialogue and communications and promote mutual confidence in maritime security fields

Enhancing strategic communications, eliminating possible suspicions and promoting mutual confidences are the preconditions to push forward maritime security cooperation in Indian Ocean. Chinese navy would like to promote mutual confidences with regional navies in maritime security field through multiple means which include more frequent

naval leaders' visits, more deeply maritime security policy understanding, respect to others core maritime interests and important security concerns, more friendly exchanges of mid and low level naval officers to consolidate the foundation of confidence, and more communications among maritime security specialists to explore solutions to solve maritime contradictions and avoid maritime crisis.

2. To abide by the principle of respect and promote development of maritime security cooperation

In Indian Ocean region, there are differences in the size of countries, differences in strength of navies and differences in contributions to maritime security. In all maritime exercises and operations, no matter bilateral or multilateral, respect should be the fundamental principle. This "respect", according to our understanding, should be based on equality, including respect to the maritime rights and interests of coastal countries based on international sea laws, respect to navigation freedom of sovereignty countries based on sea laws, and respect to the common demand of international community for an equitable and rational maritime security order. This is exactly the core value initiated by this dialogue, on the basis of respect "synergizing for collaborative maritime management".

3. To perfect sea-air activity rule and improve maritime security cooperation efficiency

An explicit and effective rule of common acceptance is the prerequisite to conduct maritime security cooperation. The CUES made by WPNS 2014 in Qingdao China is an important achievement to perfect the norms of conduct by related navies. Practice has proved its positive role in preventing maritime misjudgment, promoting interactions and enhancing mutual confidences. In the vast

Indian Ocean, there are multiple maritime security problems and demands of diversified maritime joint operations. On the basis of CUES, we may further perfect the norms and rules of maritime information sharing, maritime command and maritime coordination, to improve the efficiency of maritime security cooperation.

4. To promote naval personnel training and consolidate the human foundation of extensive consultation and joint efforts.

Human resource is the core factor to develop maritime security cooperation. In order to strengthen maritime security cooperation, we

must pay enough attention to the improvement of professional quality of navy personnel. We propose to expand mutual study programs, short term officer-sailor trainings, ship calls and joint exercises to provide world naval officers opportunities to understand different cultures, religions, customs, to exchange maritime operational experiences, to precisely understand and proficiently use maritime rules, to improve professional qualities in maritime operations and to smoothly conduct maritime security cooperation. Here, I sincerely invite and warmly welcome more naval officers from more navies to come to PLA Naval Command College for professional exchanges.