

Building Trust and Confidence, Pushing Forward Cooperation, Jointly Enhancing Maritime Security

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All my naval colleagues, friends, ladies and gentlemen, good morning!

It's my great pleasure today to come to Galle, the historical city of Sri Lanka. And it's also my great honor to have discussion on maritime security issues with my colleagues from around the world. Firstly, on behalf of Admiral Wu Shengli, Commander in Chief of the CPLA, I wish to extend our sincere gratitude to all my maritime colleagues, and specially extend our great appreciation to the hospitality from Sri Lanka MND and Sri Lanka Navy.

Today I wish to make some comments on maritime issues.

First, building trust and confidence is an effective way to protect maritime security

The ocean is the hug of international communication and strategic resource of human development. Ocean is strictly related to the development of people, nations and human society. In contemporary world, although general maritime situation remains stable, we still face some globalized maritime issues. Maritime geopolitics conflict, territorial disputes on waters, islands and maritime natural resources,

sea lanes security threat as well as maritime pollution are increasingly high. One of the reasons of above all is the lack of mutual trust and confidence. So China advocates the security concept of “mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation”, among which “mutual trust” takes the first.

Building trust and confidence is an important premise in enhancing communication and cooperation. The first fundament of peaceful cooperation is mutual trust. Mutual trust makes cooperation, cooperation makes security. Without mutual trust and confident, there will only be miscalculation, misunderstanding and disputes of interests, and we cannot achieve maritime cooperation, cannot achieve mutual benefits. Responsibly speaking, China’s development is not a threat but an opportunity to the world. The “Chinese dream” we are chasing for, is not only conducive to the Chinese people, but also conducive to the world at large.

Building trust and confidence is an important insurance to jointly manage maritime threats. “Tiger brothers, father and son soldiers into battle”. The old saying in Chinese culture just emphasizes the importance of building trust and confidence. Only in building trust and confidence, can us jointly mange future crisis. In today’s world, no single nation can manage maritime security problems. only if we united together, understand and trust each other, can we jointly defuse maritime threats and challenges, making further

contributions to the peace of the world, stable of the ocean as well as economic development and happiness of the people.

Building trust and confidence is a pragmatic measure to avoid miscalculation and manage crisis. With the background of globalization, the Zero-sum thinking cannot manage maritime security issues any more. Building trust and confidence is the efforts all maritime nations made to promote common security, avoid miscalculation on strategic attempt, military power and activities.

Second, the Chinese PLA navy is devoting herself to Maritime Security.

China is a peace-loving nation. Peaceful development is the solid promise China made to the world. We chase China's development in building a peaceful international environment, and also make contributions to the world peace in achieving China's development. The development of China is a peaceful development, cooperative development and harmonious development.

The Chinese PLA navy is always advocates the concept of "Harmonious Ocean", and devotes herself in building friendly relationship with world's navies, jointly protecting maritime security. From 2010, we dispatched 51 naval ships to make friend-will visit to 59 nations, received 27 visiting ships, 23 naval chiefs from foreign navies and conducted 24 Exs with 15 navies.

In recent years, we dispatched hospital Ship "Ark Peace" to

Asian, African and American nations to conducted humanitarian medical assistant missions under code name “Mission-Harmonious”. We dispatched 15 batches of task group to conduct escort missions in Gulf of Aden, totally provided escort support for 5400 ships from China, International nations and World Food Programme. We also coordinated the escort mechanism with other independent escort naval forces such as India, ROK and Japan, etc, highly improved the escorting efficiency. To further enhance the cooperation, coordination and mutual-trust among WPNS nations, in 2014, we will host the WPNS Plenary Meeting in Qingdao, China, and also invite relative navies to participate in Maritime Ex on MOOTW. We hope above efforts will make further contributions to world’s maritime peace and stable.

Third, call for maritime security cooperation of mutual-belief and mutual-benefit.

Today, we meet with unprecedented opportunities and challenges in exporting the ocean, in building maritime security, and in enhancing maritime cooperation. World’s navies should build trust and cooperation, join hands in managing maritime challenges and protect the peace and stability of the ocean. Now, I suggest:

1. To choose in a more flexible way and mode for bilateral and multilateral contacts. We should build a multi-level mechanism of dialogues and cooperation on maritime issues, which covers a

variety of areas, and enables frequent exchanges and talks. The establishment of such a mechanism is for the purpose to build an Indian Ocean featuring “peace, openness, cooperation, and development”, by improving strategic communication, increasing mutual understanding and trust, eliminating conflicts and confrontation, and creating favorable conditions.

2. To establish a new order of international maritime security. We should stick to the peaceful settlement of maritime disputes through consultation on an equal footing, to maintaining maritime peace and stability by facing up jointly to security threats, and to the peaceful utilization of ocean, which ensures the scientific and sustainable development of marine economy.
3. To explore new fields for pragmatic cooperation at sea. We should explore actively our common interests in fields such as maritime security, exploitation of resources, talents cultivation, military exchanges, etc., to find fields of common desire of and mature conditions for cooperation, and to promote security cooperation at sea in a concrete way with openness, mutual respect and mutual benefits.
4. To establish a new mechanism for defusing crisis at sea. We suggest that a highly efficient and smooth emergency response mechanism to be established for purposes of handling properly frictions and

conflicts at sea, maintaining the security of maritime strategic lines, delivering maritime disaster response and relief, sharing and communicating information at sea. A mechanism like this can help to call together efforts to respond to maritime security threats, and to avoid escalation of conflicts.

All my colleagues, friends, on 8th Nov, super typhoon “Haiyan” hit Philippines, leaving millions of victims. Feeling the pain of them, the Chinese government and people are highly concerned about the situation, and have made immediate donations to the disaster stricken area. We are ready to work jointly with the international community and the sea powers in the reconstruction and rescue efforts. Today, Ark Peace, the hospital ship of Chinese PLA Navy, is arriving in Philippines to deliver humanitarian aid and medical care. We hope we can work hand in hand to face the challenges and overcome the hard times!

All my colleagues, friends, peace, development, cooperation, mutual-benefit is the theme of the time, and is conducive to the interests of the world’s people. Protecting the maritime security and building a harmonious ocean is the common responsibility of world’s navies. If only we make efforts hand in hand, will this lofty goal be achieved!

Thank you!