### **PROJECT 2**

# COOPERATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING ON HNS PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

IN THE STRAITS OF MALACCA AND SINGAPORE

## **OBJECTIVES**

Generally to enhance marine environmental protection in the Straits

by

enhancing the preparedness and response capabilities of the littoral States against any ship based hazardous and noxious substances incident.

#### CURRENT STATUS TRAFFIC

A variety of products carried on board ships transiting the Straits include dangerous cargoes such as oil, gas and chemical products.

About 5% from the total number of ships transiting the Straits annually are LNG/LPG carriers and another 25% are tankers while others carry chemical products.

Therefore the STRAITS IS EXTREMELY VULNERABLE TO POLLUTION INCIDENTS.



Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Co-ordination to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances, 2000

#### **OPRC – HNS PROTOCOL**

Formally adopted on 15 March 2000

Entered Into Force 14 June 2007

### CURRENT STATUS IMPACT

- Currently there is very minimal (HNS) preparedness and response capabilities along the Straits.
- This inadequacy will drastically reduce the capability of littoral States to prevent serious damage to the marine environment and resources in the Straits in the event of any ship-based HNS incident in the Straits.
- The economic livelihood of thousands of fishermen along the Straits will seriously be impacted.





#### CURRENT STATUS NEEDS

- There is a serious need for knowledge and capacity building on preventive and curative alternatives available in an event of any HNS spill in the Straits.
- The establishment of HNS Databank and response capability and cooperation will significantly increase the capability of the littoral States to prevent great damage to the marine environment in the Straits.

## SCOPE OF PROJECT 4 COMPONENTS

- 1. Establishment of a common HNS databank & risk assessment Interested party – Australia
- 2. Formulation of SOP for Joint HNS Spill Response Interested party – United States
- 3. Establishment of HNS Response Centres
- 4. Capacity Building Programme Interested party - China



## **ESTIMATED COST**

Total project estimated cost is expected to be about USD 3.5 million

## **POTENTIAL BENEFITS**

- Each littoral States will have a common HNS Databank and its own National Response Equipment Centre to combat HNS spills from ships.
- The common standard operating procedure (SOP) and coordinated training will enable greater cooperation among littoral States in the Straits.
- Increase the ability of the littoral States to protect the marine environment and resources.
- Indirectly contribute to the maintenance of safety of navigation as a result of the improved capability to deal with ships involved in HNS incidents.

## **POTENTIAL BENEFITS**

- The information collated in the common HNS databanks may be useful input for the on going Marine Electronic Highway (MEH) demonstration project.
- The MEH demonstration project may even include the common HNS databanks that is developed in this project as part of the MEH database.
- Furthermore other States in the region e.g. ASEAN member States may be given access to any of the established common HNS databanks or established their own similar common HNS databanks.

## **AREAS FOR CO-OPERATION**

- Development and establishment of a common electronic based HNS databank & risk assessment including the provision of computers at each littoral State.
- Development of a common SOP for HNS spill response.
- Funding for the setting up of HNS national response centres including maintenance for a pre-determined period.
- Contribution of funds for the purchase of the HNS response centre equipment, or in-kind contribution to the HNS response centres.
- Training and capacity building in HNS. Start-up awareness and training programmes including national level exercises and joint exercises.



