

*Ministerial Conference on International Transport Security
Tokyo, Japan 12-13 January 2006*

**Ministerial Statement on Security
in International Maritime Transport Sector**

1. We met in January 2006 in Tokyo, Japan, to participate in the Ministerial Conference on International Transport Security and considered directions for further enhancement of the security in international maritime transport sector.
2. We recognize that acts of terrorism pose a serious threat to international maritime transport and that acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships recur with alarming consequences. We, therefore, believe that it is essential to reduce the vulnerability of international maritime transport to such unlawful acts.
3. To this end, we welcome and support the vigorous activities undertaken by relevant international organizations, particularly, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the World Customs Organization (WCO).
4. In particular, we firmly believe that the provisions of chapter XI-2 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended (1974 SOLAS Convention) and the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS Code), which were adopted under the auspices of IMO in December 2002 and entered into force in July 2004, and the exercise of control and compliance measures, have greatly contributed to enhancing international maritime security, and we stress the importance of ensuring continued compliance with these requirements.
5. We also believe that the Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade, adopted in June 2005 by WCO, represents a new approach to working methods and partnership for both customs and business.

6. Furthermore, we welcome the adoption, under the auspices of IMO in October 2005, of the Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, 1988 and the Protocol of 2005 to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, 1988.
7. We note the decision of IMO to continue its work in relation to the protection of shipping lanes of strategic importance and significance, especially the follow-up of the Jakarta Statement referred in paragraph 10-3.
8. While commending the efforts of these organizations as well as the efforts of individual States, we believe that a continuing high priority must be given to addressing vulnerabilities in international maritime transport by promoting further enhancement of international maritime security, bearing in mind the significance of ensuring the efficient and legitimate flow of people and goods.
9. Recognizing that the effectiveness of security measures for international maritime transport will be enhanced if they are considered and adopted by all States concerned, we reaffirm our commitment to co-operate to enhance the security of international maritime transport.
10. We hereby:
 - 1) invite IMO to consider, in cooperation with WCO, the development and adoption, as necessary, of appropriate measures to enhance the security of the maritime transport of containers in the international supply chain, while respecting efficiency and international harmonization;
 - 2) invite IMO to undertake a study and make, as necessary, recommendations to enhance the security of ships other than those already covered by SOLAS chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code, in an effort to protect them from becoming targets of acts of terrorism, piracy, or armed robbery and to prevent them from being exploited or used as means for committing such acts;

- 3) note with satisfaction the adoption in September 2005 of the Jakarta Statement on Enhancement of Safety, Security and Environmental Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (the Jakarta Statement), and in particular the agreement that a mechanism be established by the three littoral States to meet on a regular basis with user States, the shipping industry and others with an interest in the safe navigation through the Straits of Malacca and Singapore;
- 4) resolve to take necessary actions, as appropriate, in response to the Jakarta Statement while respecting fully the sovereignty of the littoral States, and note with appreciation the offer by Malaysia to host a follow-up meeting;
- 5) urge all Contracting Governments to the 1974 SOLAS Convention to ensure the continued compliance of port facilities located within their territory with the requirements of SOLAS chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code by appropriate measures which may include conducting inspections or audits of the port facilities located within their territory;
- 6) resolve to share, to the extent possible, in an effort to promote effective implementation, best practices on the implementation of SOLAS chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code in relation to security in port facilities;
- 7) resolve to continue, in cooperation with IMO and other appropriate fora, to provide necessary assistance and support to Contracting Governments to the 1974 SOLAS Convention in enhancing their ability and capacity to implement appropriate security measures at their port facilities through further international and regional efforts; and
- 8) further promote international co-operation in the education and training of Port State Control (PSC) officers, through relevant regional Memoranda of Understandings for PSC, and other officers specifically designated to exercise control and compliance measures, in order to promote effective implementation of SOLAS chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code.