



Marine environment protection

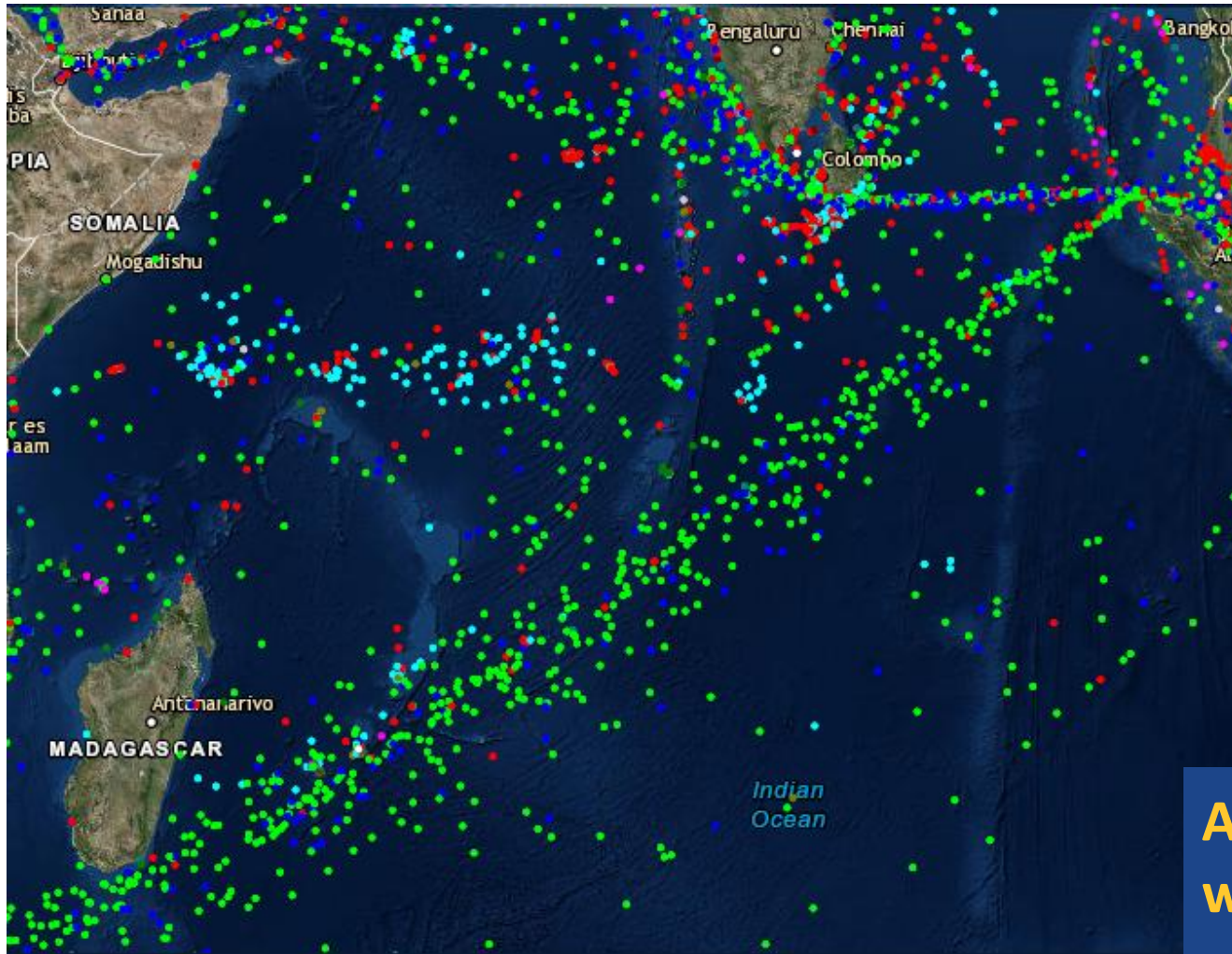
8th DCoC/JA High Level Meeting

/ R. Mohabeer

IOC

/ 13 November 2025

POLMAR RISKS: Increasing with time



5,000 tanker trips & 600M tons of oil

>200,000 vessel trips yearly

Several marine incidents common – lately

Alone, no developing country can deal with major marine pollution ALONE

Preparedness for and Response to Major Maritime Pollution in the WIO

WIO Oil Spill contingency
Planning Project

Regional Coordination Centre

Regional Contingency Plan

NOSCP

IOC, NC, IMO, UNEP,
UNDP and GEF
meeting in Zanzibar:

Need for regional
cooperation + ST & MT
actions led by NC
Maximizing from
existing regional/inter
entities; e.g RMIFC and
RCOC, etc

1999-2004

2008-2012

2020 +

Regional Agreement on CP

Regional Coordination Centre

Regional Contingency Plan & to
be updated based on National CP

Capacity bldg & regular update of National Plan

National level

Annual National marine pollution simulation exercise

Regularly update NOSCP including adapted Strategic Map, Operational Map, Environmental Sensitive Area Map, review and formulate related policies

Establish a national equipment list and provision of training for deployment and maintenance Set a Robust MDA both at regional & national levels

Assess national capacity for implementation of national, regional & international legislations, agreements and conventions, identify for the gaps and support capacity building to address them.

PREPAREDNESS FOR AND RESPONSE TO MAJOR MARITIME POLLUTION IN THE WIO

25 YEARS LESSONS

- Yesterday piracy, everyday IUU fishing, regularly drugs traffic, other traffic.... and then Wakashio – **need for multipronged and integrated approach which can be adapted to each type of maritime crime and threat whenever needed**
- Initiatives come and die with projects – need a sustained mechanism adapted and affordable to the region
- Accident happens to others

- Regional value-addition: Progress depends on degree of collective involvement of neighboring countries and partners
- There is need for a sustained regional leadership
- End objective – deal with current challenges and development via promotion of BE

Regional Maritime Security Architecture for Marpol

REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

A: Alone, no country can deal with major marine pollution – RCP&RCC

B: There is a need for a sustained regional leadership for:

Establishment of a robust and pragmatic regional/international cooperation mechanism through an operational cooperating framework including all regional actors (Nairobi Convention, IMO/OPRC, SAMSA, RMIFC, RCOC...)

C: Refining further the 7 key regional tasks under RCP:

1. Finalise the RCP – under the purview of the NC
2. Establish MARPOL Contact focal points, update and publish
3. Communication matrix and process
4. Maintain liaison with key stakeholders at all levels
5. Assist countries in need - SOPs for request of assistance for emergency
6. Regular regional FTX
 - Continue capacity building for preparedness and response
 - Start planning next FTX now – XXXX in 2026
7. Prevention: Monitoring of marine pollution incidents in the region

IOC's Actions - MASEPOLREX & PROMOTE REGIONAL COOPERATION

EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE & PRACTICE FOR NOSCP

Coordinate with
response authorities
and facilitate access to
external support.

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THEORY IN NEGOTIATION AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

Competent national
authority which ensures
coordination with all key
stakeholders to effectively
provide response

INTEGRATE REGIONAL COOP AT NATIONAL LEVEL – WITHIN NOSCP

Ensure provision for
regional and
international support
within the NOSCP and
the RCP

Regional cooperation mechanism: collaborative approach is proposed



Thank you!

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