

WG3 PARALLEL MEETING TWO SESSION



OUTCOME/DISCUSSIONS



- ❖ Cargo carriers remain the highest targets
- ❖ Piracy and armed robbery score highest
- ❖ Contraband smuggling (more than 930 cases reported)
- ❖ Poor weather conditions and poor maintenance of vessels



OUTCOME/DISCUSSIONS Cont...



- ❖ IUU fishing cases (more than 540 cases reported)
- ❖ Irregular human migration (Lives lost, missing pers) – overcrowded vessels and dangerous sea states
- ❖ Hybrid maritime threats
- ❖ GPS and Comms interference cases



OUTCOME/DISCUSSIONS Cont...



EA

- ❖ Threats in both near coast and deep waters
- ❖ Africa- Latin America active routes of maritime crime



OUTCOME/DISCUSSIONS Cont...



IFC – IOR

- ❖ Role in recording and monitoring cases
- ❖ Data available in portal and media handles

PARALLEL MEETING TWO SESSION:

WG3 MEETING OUTCOMES



WG3 OUTCOMES



S/N	OUTCOME DOCUMENT	PURPOSE
1.	Terms of Reference (TORs)	Mandate and Structure: Formalized the objectives, scope, and roles of WG3,
2.	Concept of Operations (CONOPS)	Operational Framework: Provided the comprehensive guide for member states to collaboratively counter maritime security challenges.



WG3 OUTCOMES Cont...



3.	Phased Roadmap	<p>Work Plan: Established a phased approach for WG3's development:</p> <p>Phase 0: Establishment (0 – 2 months) from 4 Sep 25</p> <p>Phase 1: Framework Development (2 – 12 months)</p> <p>Phase 2: Capacity Building and Pilot Operations (12 – 24 months)</p> <p>Phase 3: Full Operationalization (24 –36 months)</p> <p>Phase 4: Consolidation and Sustainability (36+ months)</p>
4.	Resource Mobilization Framework	<p>Sustainability: Addressed the need for funding, resources, and budget management for WG3 operations, encouraging the use of technology and providing a mechanism for partners to support the work plan</p>



IMPLEMENTATION GAPS



❖ Legal Framework Gap ("The Legal Finish")

- **The Problem:** The **lack of a harmonized "Legal Finish"**. To allow for the effective prosecution and punishment of offenders apprehended at sea by a foreign partner's naval or law enforcement asset
- **Consequence:** Continued risk of "**catch and release**" policies by international naval forces.
 - Undermines the deterrence and making joint Ops less effective.



IMPLEMENTATION GAPS Cont...



❖ Interoperability and Standardization Gaps

- **The Problem:** The current structure lacks **standardized procedures (SOPs)** and common training across member state navies, coast guards, and civilian authorities
- **Consequence:** Hinders the ability of different national agencies (military and civilian) to seamlessly execute joint OPs, communicate effectively



IMPLEMENTATION GAPS Cont...



❖ Information Sharing and Integration Gaps (MDA)

- **The Problem:** There is **uneven operationalization** of NMISCs across all signatory states
- **Consequence:** Fragmented **Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)** picture, limits the fusion of data from various tools/platforms, national systems and delays the development of the crucial **Regional Vessels of Interest (VOI) database**.



IMPLEMENTATION GAPS Cont...



❖ Coordination and Stakeholder Integration Gaps

- **The Problem:** The DCoC/JA mandate require a "**Whole-of-Government**" approach, integrating agencies beyond the navy/coast guard. **Interagency coordination** remains weak or uneven in many signatory states
- **Consequence:** Silo mentality limits the effectiveness of Ops against complex Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) and makes it difficult to convert an apprehension at sea into a successful prosecution on land



WAY FORWARD



	GAP	ACTIONABLE OUTCOME	ALIGNMENT TO WG3 R/MAP
1.	LEGAL FRAMEWORK GAP ("THE LEGAL FINISH")		
	Legal Finish (Difficulty in prosecuting suspects apprehended by foreign forces)	Accelerate Adoption of Enabling Legislation/Agreements: Secure a political mandate from all signatory states to fast-track the finalization and ratification of regional agreements, such as the model Shiprider Agreement or equivalent MOUs	Implement Legal Finish Protocol
	Fragmented Legal/Judicial Capacity (Lack of specialized maritime crime courts/prosecutors)	Targeted Legal Capacity Building: Mandate WG3 to coordinate with other partners (WG2) to deliver joint Trg courses for prosecutors, judges, and law enforcement on admissibility of evidence gathered at sea and the application of the Jeddah Amendment	Capacity Building



WAY FORWARD Cont...



	GAP	ACTIONABLE OUTCOME	ALIGNMENT TO WG3 R/MAP
2.	INTEROPERABILITY AND STANDARDIZATION GAPS		
	Lack of Standardized Procedures (SOPs) (Difficulty in joint Ops and asset coordination)	Develop and Endorse Common SOPs: Mandate the WG3 Chair/Secretariat to draft a regional set of SOPs (e.g., VBSS, and Information Flow Protocol)	Standardize Operations SOPs & ROEs
	Insufficient Joint Ops Experience (Conceptual CONOPS not tested in practice)	Commit to Pilot Ops: Secure political commitment and resource pledges from 2-3 member states to host and participate in the first WG3 Joint Pilot Operational Exercises (Phase 2). These exercises must test the new SOPs and legal frameworks against a high-priority threat scenario (e.g., counter-IUU fishing or narcotics interdiction)	Launch Pilot Operations



WAY FORWARD Cont...



	GAP	ACTIONABLE OUTCOME	ALIGNMENT TO WG3 R/MAP
3.	INFORMATION SHARING AND INTEGRATION GAPS (MDA)		
	Uneven Operationalization (Incomplete information infrastructure) NMISC national sharing	Mandate NMISC Operational Milestones: Set a firm, short-term to operationalize their NMISCs	Integrate MDA/ISN
	Lack of Unified Data Fusion (Data resides in silos like platforms and NMISCs)	Integrate Infor Sharing Tools: Mandate the Devt of a technical interface or protocol to ensure the seamless, automated fusion of critical maritime data from national, regional, and international platforms into a single, OPSEC-compliant Common Operating Picture (COP) for WG3 tasking	Enhance COP and Awareness



WAY FORWARD Cont...



	GAP	ACTIONABLE OUTCOME	ALIGNMENT TO WG3 R/MAP
4.	COORDINATION AND STAKEHOLDERS INTEGRATION GAPS		
	Siloed National Coordination (Lack of Whole-of-Government approach)	Institutionalize National Maritime Security Committees (NMSC): Encourage all member states to formalize or reinforce a "Whole-of-Government" NMSC structure	Whole-of-Government Approach
	External Communication/Industry Liaison (Fragmented messaging and lack of OPSEC compliance)	Adopt Unified Comms Line and Single Slide: Formally endorse the Unified Communications Line and the Single Slide Briefing for all external briefings (SHADE/NSC)	Strategic Communications

WG3 PARALLEL MEETING TWO SESSION

WG3 ROADMAP ALIGNMENT & LINES OF EFFORT



ADOPTIONS & ENDORSEMENTS



	ITEM	PROPOSAL FOR ENDORSEMENT/ADOPTION	OBJECTIVE	STATUS/ DECISION
1.	Immediate Operational Priority	Endorsement of the Focused Threat Response: Endorse a shift in immediate operational focus to the complex, asymmetric threats, leveraging the Int shared in the Regional Threat Update	To ensure Ops are Int and targeted against high-value maritime crimes covered by the JA	ADOPTED/ ENDORSED UNDER DISCUSSION
2.	Legal Finish Mechanism	Mandate for Legal Finish Protocol: Endorse the Devt & urgent signing of a Regional Model Shiprider Agreement/Legal Finish Protocol within the next <u>six months</u> to bridge the gap in prosecuting offenders apprehended by international partners	To eliminate the "catch and release" issue, thereby ensuring a decisive "Legal Finish" for all joint OPs	ADOPTED/ ENDORSED UNDER DISCUSSION



ADOPTIONS & ENDORSEMENTS Cont...



	ITEM	PROPOSAL FOR ENDORSEMENT/ADOPTION	OBJECTIVE	STATUS/ DECISION
3.	Joint Operational SOPs	Adoption of Core WG3 Operational SOPs: Mandate WG3 to develop and provisionally adopt a set of common SOPs for core activities (e.g., VBSS, Infor Flow Protocol) to ensure facilitate operational interoperability across member states' assets	To standardize procedures and communication, ensuring forces from different member states can operate seamlessly together	ADOPTED/ ENDORSED UNDER DISCUSSION
4.	Whole-of-Government Model	Endorsement of NMSC Model: Endorse the NMSC/Whole-of-Government model as the recommended national structure for managing interagency coordination, particularly for prosecuting TOC cases	To close the gap in national coordination and enable effective land-to-sea-to-land enforcement chain.	ADOPTED/ ENDORSED UNDER DISCUSSION



COMMITMENTS AND LOEs



	LOE (ACTION REQUIRED)	SPECIFIC OUTPUT/ DELIVERABLE	OWNER(S)	DEADLINE
1.	Legal Framework Implementation	Shiprider Protocol Drafting: Circulate the draft Regional Model Shiprider Agreement/Legal Finish Protocol for national legal review	WG3 Chair (Legal Sub-Group) and IMO Secretariat	Q1 2026 (March)
2.	Operationalization of MDA/COP	NMISC Readiness Report: Each signatory state to report on the operational status and required technical assistance for their NMISC integration into the DCoC ISN.	DCoC Signatory States (NMISC Leads) and WG1 Chair	Q1 2026 (February)
3.	WG3 Pilot Operation Launch	Commitment to Host/Participate in First Joint Exercise: Secure formal commitment from at least one member state to host the inaugural WG3 Joint Operational Exercise (focus: Counter-IUU Fishing/SAR).	Volunteering Member State(s) and WG3 Chair	Commitment Secured at HLM (Exercise to be scheduled Q2/Q3 2026)



COMMITMENTS AND LOEs



	LOE (ACTION REQUIRED)	SPECIFIC OUTPUT/ DELIVERABLE	OWNER(S)	DEADLINE
4.	Interoperability & Capacity Building	Joint Trg Program Dvt: Finalize the syllabus for the first set of WG3-mandated Joint Operational Trg Modules (e.g., Maritime Law Enforcement, VBSS) and align them with partner offers	WG3 and Chair WG2 Chair (Capacity Building)	Q2 2026 (June)
5.	Resource Mobilization	WG3 Trust Fund Pledges: Solicit specific financial or in-kind contributions/Eqpt pledges from Int'l partners ("Friends of the DCoC") directly targeting the WG3 R/map and pilot operation needs	DCoC Secretariat (Trust Fund Manager) and Friends of the DCoC	HLM Closing Session

WG3 PARALLEL MEETING TWO SESSION

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS & INDUSTRY INTERFACE



INTRODUCTION Cont...



- ❖ Strategic comms should be built on the following pillars:
 - Interoperable MDA
 - Coordinated law-enforcement cooperation/Unity of effort
 - Crisis information pathways with industry
 - Capacity-building & legal harmonization/Strengthening
 - Respect for sovereignty & OPSEC discipline



EXPECTED OUTPUTS



Unified Communications Line and a **Single Slide Briefing** that are OPSEC-compliant for external engagements like SHADE (Shared Awareness and De-confliction) and National Security Councils (NSCs)



SAMPLE SLIDE



	SECTION	CONTENT FOCUS	STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS GOAL
	SLIDE TITLE: DCOC/JA WG3: PARTNERSHIP FOR MARITIME SECURITY & BLUE ECONOMY PROTECTION		
1.	Why WG3 Matters to You (The Value Proposition)	PROTECTING TRADE AND ASSETS: 1. Risk Reduction: WG3 operations decrease risk/threat exposure (IUU, TOC, Piracy). 2. Insurance/Cost Mitigation: Reduced incidents contribute to lower War Risk Premiums (WRPs). 3. Guaranteed Legal Finish: Clear legal pathways for criminals ensure long-term deterrence	Build Trust: Directly link WG3's operational output to the industry's bottom line (cost and safety)



SAMPLE SLIDE Cont...



	SECTION	CONTENT FOCUS	STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS GOAL
2.	Current Threat & WG3 Response	<p>FOCUS ON TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (TOC) (Max three short points)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Threat Shift: Modern threats are highly complex (IUU Fishing, Narcotics, Smuggling)* WG3 Mandate: We are coordinated to enforce the Jeddah Amendment across all these threats* Response: Launching Joint Pilot Operations to counter key smuggling routes and criminal enterprises (Specific exercise focus can be mentioned, e.g., Counter-IUU Fishing)	<p>Share Intelligence: Show that WG3 understands the <i>current</i> threat (not the past piracy model) and is actively responding</p>



SAMPLE SLIDE Cont...



	SECTION	CONTENT FOCUS	STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS GOAL
3.	Call to Action (What Industry Needs to Do)	<p>REQUIREMENTS FOR SHARED AWARENESS (The Asks)</p> <p>1. Immediate Reporting: Mandate timely reporting of all suspicious activity/sightings to DCoC Infor Sharing Centers & NMISCs</p> <p>2. Data Sharing: Encourage commercial/fishing fleets to share non-sensitive Vessel Data for inclusion in the Vessels of Interest (VOI) database.</p> <p>3. Commitment to Best Practices: Adherence to the latest version of Best Management Practices (BMP) and national security protocols</p>	<p>Elicit Action: Clearly state what the industry must provide to enable WG3's success (data is key)</p>



SAMPLE SLIDE Cont...



	SECTION	CONTENT FOCUS	STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS GOAL
4.	Bottom Bar (Engagement & Contact)	WG3: YOUR OPERATIONAL PARTNER ENGAGEMENT: Regular interface via SHADE meetings (operational de-confliction) and direct liaison with the WG3 Secretariat. CONTACT: [WG3 Secretariat General Email]	Accessibility: Provide clear, dedicated channels for engagement, establishing theWG3 as a reliable point of contact



SAMPLE SLIDE Cont...



	SECTION	CONTENT FOCUS	STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION GOAL
	SLIDE TITLE:		
1.	Why WG3 Matters to You	PROTECTING TRADE AND ASSETS: 1. Risk Reduction: 2. Insurance/Cost Mitigation: 3. Guaranteed Legal Finish:	Build Trust
2.	Current Threat & WG3 Response	FOCUS ON TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (TOC) (Max three short points) * Threat Shift: * WG3 Mandate: * Response:	Share Intelligence
3.	Call to Action (What Industry Needs to Do)	REQUIREMENTS FOR SHARED AWARENESS (The Asks) 1. Immediate Reporting: 2. Data Sharing: 3. Commitment to Best Practices:	Elicit Action: Clearly state what the industry must provide to enable WG3's success (data is key).
4.	Bottom Bar (Engagement & Contact)	WG3: YOUR OPERATIONAL PARTNER ENGAGEMENT: CONTACT:	Accessibility:

FLOOR REACTIONS

- SOPS TO BE THE PRIORITY: Be an upscale of whatever is present to include the partnering states (Not to do things differently to what is already being done)
- The delay in WG1 and WG2 implementation will affect the operationalization of WG3.
- Some of the Proposals require further/internal discussions
- Agreed to **develop** SOPs but not ~~adapt~~

FLOOR REACTIONS

- Develop protocols on What/Who triggers Joint Ops
- Whole of Govt Approach model vs: Whole of Stakeholders or Whole of State Approach
- Developed SOPs must align to the capabilities
- **Information Vs Action:** Having the information and do nothing as opposed to Acting from the information available

THANK YOU

❖ MERCI
❖ SHUKRAN
❖ ASANTE

