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**THE MARITIME DOMAIN: STRENGTHENING STABILITY, PROMOTING CONFIDENCE**

*Strengthening Mutual Confidence & Promoting Maritime Cooperation*

by

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# **Strengthening Mutual Confidence & Promoting Maritime Cooperation**

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# **I. Safeguard maritime interests and promote common development**





# Maritime Trade in a Globalized World

Water covers nearly **70%** of the planet's surface and maritime trade accounts for **90%** of world transport and half of it goes through oceanic areas in Asia.



# China as an Oceanic Country

China has **9.6 million** km<sup>2</sup> land territory.

China has **22000** km of borderline and **18000** km of continental coastline.







# A Glimpse of China's Overseas Interests

- The largest trader in the world.
  - The largest exporter in the world.
  - The second largest importer in the world.
  - Total overseas investment of **\$500 billion**.
  - Over **20,000** Chinese enterprises and **1.2 million** Chinese workers overseas.
  - **100 million** Chinese going abroad each year.
- 



**In 2013, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed that China and countries along the ancient maritime silk road to build a "21st Century Maritime Silk Road".**



## II. Settle maritime disputes and consolidate mutual trust





# **Maritime disputes in the Asia-Pacific**

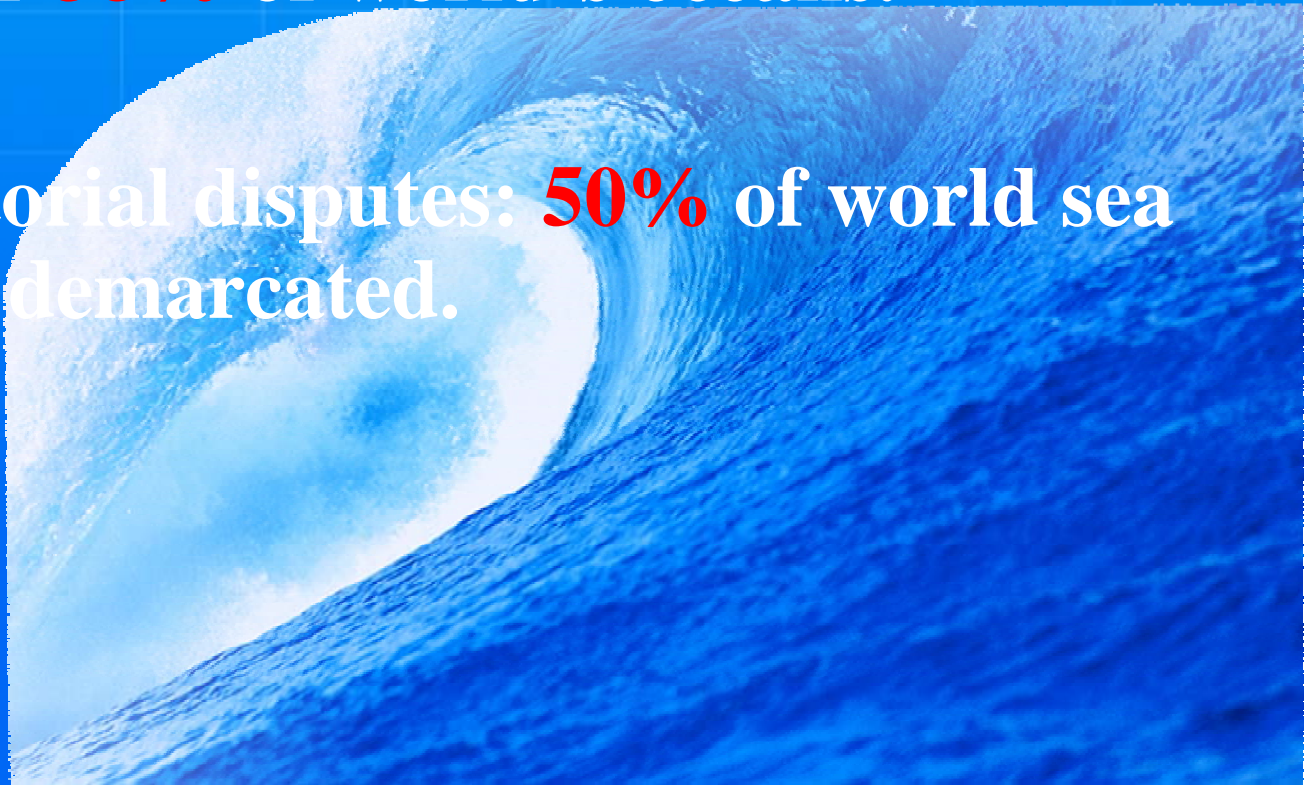
- Maritime territorial sovereignty**

- Sea boundary delimitation**

# Addressing Traditional Threats

EEZs counts for **38%** of world's oceans.

Maritime territorial disputes: **50%** of world sea boundaries not demarcated.



# Maritime Disputes in East Asia

- China and the Philippines over Huangyan Island/Scarborough Shoal
- China and Japan over Diaoyu/Senkaku Islands
- Japan and Russia over Kuril Islands/Northern Territories
- Japan and ROK over Takeshima/Tokdo Island
- DPRK and ROK over overlapping boundaries in the Yellow Sea
- Claims over the islands in the South China Sea by Brunei, China, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam





# Rare Examples of Solving Disputes by International Court of Justice

- **Island dispute between Singapore and Malaysia**  
**Pedra Branca/Pulau Batu Puteh, half the size of a football field, is given to Singapore on 23 May 2008**
- **Border Dispute between Indonesia and Malaysia**  
**Part of the border dispute in the Celebes Sea was settled by the ICJ in the Sipadan and Ligitan Case in 2002**



# Chinese Proposals

- “ Mutual understanding and mutual accommodation”
- “Shelving differences and make joint exploitation”



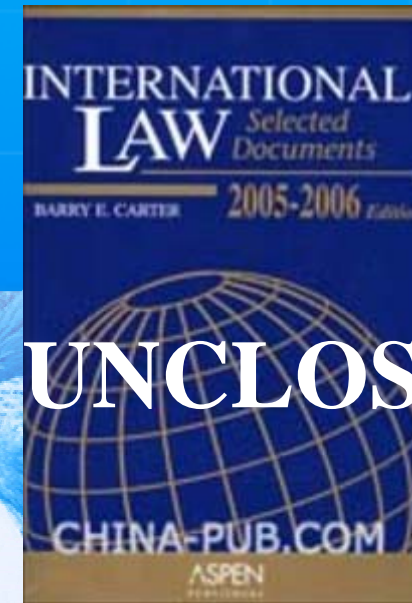
## **China's “dual-track” approach in the South China Sea issue:**

- Relevant disputes should be addressed by countries directly concerned through consultations and negotiations
- China and ASEAN countries make joint efforts in maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea





# Freedom of Navigation-Legal Ambiguity



- Ambiguity of laws, e.g. UNCLOS
- International laws=UNCLOS ?

# Article 58 of UNCLOS

- ...all states,...enjoy,...**the freedoms of navigation and over flight.**
- In exercising their rights ..., states shall have **due regard** to the rights and duties of the coastal state and shall comply with the laws and regulations adopted by the coastal state.....

# Article 59 of UNCLOS

In cases where this convention does not attribute rights or jurisdiction to the coastal State or to other States within the exclusion economic zone, and a conflict arises between the interests of the coastal State and any other State or States, the conflict should be resolved on the **basis of equity** and in the light of **all the relevant circumstances**.....



### **III. Strengthen mil-to-mil dialogue and cooperation, and safeguard maritime security jointly**



# Addressing Non-traditional Threats

- Piracy
- Maritime terrorism
- Drug and human trafficking
- Maritime accidents
- Natural disaster



# 1. Regional Cooperation Mechanism:

- WPNS
- ADMM+ MS EWG
- ARF MS ISM
- IONS
- SHADE
- The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre
- CSCAP
- MSP





## 2. Bilateral Cooperation Mechanism:

- Military Maritime Consultative Agreement between China and the US (MMCA), and direct telephone link
- MOU between China and the US on Rules of Behavior for Maritime and air Encounters
- Navy-to-Navy Cooperation Talks between China and Indonesia
- Agreement on Joint Patrols by the Navies of China and Vietnam in the Beibuwan (Gulf of Tonkin)
- Direct telephone link between China and Russia
- Proposed direct telephone link between China and ROK
- proposed direct telephone link between China and Viet Nam
- Consultations between China and Japan over the establishment of maritime and air liaison mechanism

### 3. Bilateral maritime joint exercises:

In recent years, Chinese Navy has taken part in:

- Peace-07, Peace-09 and Peace-11 hosted by Pakistan
- Maritime Cooperation-2012 co-hosted by China and Russia
- Blue Strike 2010 and Blue Strike 2012 hosted by China and Thai





## 4. Multilateral maritime cooperation:

Chinese Navy joined the ADMM+ MS EWG Joint Exercise in 2013, joint disaster relief exercise "KOMODO" in Indonesia and RIMPAC in 2014.





# China-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation Fund

**3 billion** Yuan China-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation Fund for maritime economy, environment, fishery and salvage and communications on the sea.



## 5. Providing public security goods:

- Chinese Navy send hospital ships to participate in the disaster relief operation in Philippines after typhoon "Haiyan"
- Chinese Navy escort ships carrying Syrian chemical weapons
- Chinese Navy send vessels and helicopters to search for the MH-370
- Chinese navy ships evacuation chinese and foreigners from Yemen





**To date, Chinese Navy has escorted around 6000 ships in the Gulf of Aden and waters off Somalia.  
Chinese Navy is the largest independent deployer since 2009.**





THANK YOU !

