



# MAKING WAVES

*A maritime news brief covering:*

- MARITIME SECURITY
- MARITIME FORCES
- SHIPPING, PORTS AND OCEAN ECONOMY
- MARITIME ENVIRONMENT
- GEOPOLITICS

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# MARITIME SECURITY

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## THE SINGAPORE INFORMATION FUSION CENTRE'S ROLE IN MARITIME SECURITY

The IFC was established in 2009 to collate relevant commercial shipping and maritime information to increase MARSEC awareness. Through the strong support of our partners, the IFC has established itself as a regional maritime security info-sharing hub, providing actionable information to cue operational responses for MARSEC incidents, including theft, robbery, and piracy at sea, maritime terrorism, maritime incidents, contraband smuggling, illegal fishing, irregular human migration, environment security, and maritime cyber security.

Source: [Here](#) 11 December 2022

## US GIVES PATROL BOAT TO MOZAMBIQUE TO IMPROVE MARITIME SECURITY

The US government gave a patrol boat to the Mozambican navy in the second week of December as part of its pledge to help Mozambique stabilise the troubled Cabo Delgado area. The \$700,000 33-foot high-speed boat will be utilised for marine boarding operations and interdictions. The Mozambican Navy authorities will also take part in training provided by SAFE Boat International, a company with a US base. The donation is part of a broader US-led security assistance program designed to enhance the resilience of the Mozambican Navy in fighting terrorism and transnational organized crime in the Mozambique Channel. These programs include International Military Education and Training, three Joint Combined Exchange Training programs, a Maritime Maintenance and Logistics Advisor program, and equipment donations designed to improve, maintain, and support the Navy in the execution of its defence strategy.

Source: [Here](#) 09 December 2022

## LITTLE INCIDENT ACTIVITY GLOBALLY NOTES MARITIME SECURITY UPDATE

On December 3, the European Council announced that it had decided to set an oil price cap for crude oil and petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals which originate in, or are exported from, Russia, at \$60 per barrel. The council said the level of the cap was established in close cooperation with the Price Cap Coalition and highlighted that it would become applicable as of December 5, 2022. In its previous MSTA, which was released on November 28, Dryad highlighted that a recent surge in maritime crime activity within the Strait of Malacca and Singapore had seen six incidents reported within the last reporting period.

Source: [Here](#) 06 December 2022

## **MARITIME SECURITY: CONFERENCE IN SEYCHELLES FOCUSES ON IORIS PLATFORM'S USE**

Around 80 senior officials involved in maritime security from 20 countries in the Indian Ocean region are meeting in Seychelles to discuss how the Indo-Pacific Regional Information Sharing (IORIS) platform can be used to effectively respond to maritime threats. During the two-day conference at the Seychelles Coast Guard auditorium, participants will also be looking at the challenges to maritime security in the Indian Ocean and how IORIS can support the coordination and decision-making process. Additionally, they will address maritime safety by looking at emergency prevention, preparedness, and response.

**Source:** [Here](#) 06 December 2022

## **ZANZIBAR VP CALLS FOR UNITY TO ENSURE MARITIME SECURITY**

Maritime security challenges refer to threats that prevail in the maritime domain, including inter-state disputes, terrorism, piracy, trafficking of narcotics, people and illicit goods, illegal fishing, environmental crimes, and maritime accidents and disasters. Zanzibar Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdulla has urged Tanzanians to join hands with other nations to maintain maritime security which is currently faces challenges.

**Source:** [Here](#) 05 December 2022

# **MARITIME FORCES**

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## **EGYPT TAKES COMMAND OF NEW RED SEA MARITIME TASK FORCE**

The Egyptian Navy has assumed leadership of the recently established multinational Combined Task Force 153 (CTF-153) in the Red Sea. The US Navy officially handed over the command to Egypt during a ceremony held in Bahrain on 12 December. The transition marks for the first time the Egyptian Navy have assumed command of a Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) operational staff since joining the maritime security coalition in 2021 as its 34th member. CTF-153 was officially stood up by the CMF in April 2022 to combat maritime security threats, such as smuggling and other illicit activities, and provide capacity building in the Red Sea, Bab al-Mandab, and the Gulf of Aden.

**Source:** [Here](#) 14 December 2022

## **US NAVAL FORCES AND JAPAN MARITIME SELF-DEFENSE FORCE CONDUCT JOINT MINE WARFARE EXERCISE**

The US Navy and Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) conducted Mine Warfare Exercise (MIWEX) 3JA 2022 off the coast of south-eastern Japan, Nov. 10-20, 2022. MIWEX 3JA is part of an annual series of exercises between the US Navy and JMSDF designed to increase proficiency in mine countermeasure operations between the two forces. During the six-day exercise, participants worked together to clear a simulated minefield using unit-level mine warfare tactics to include mine hunting, detection, and neutralization. JMSDF Mine Warfare Force and MCMRON 7 commanders worked together throughout the exercise to direct mine-hunting tasks for US and JMSDF units.

**Source:** [Here](#) 14 December 2022

## **CTF 70 AND 71 CONDUCT BI-LATERAL ASW TRAINING AND LOGISTICS SUPPORT WITH JMSDF**

US Navy Sailors conducted numerous integrated ASW trainings with the JMSDF from Sept. 8-December 2022. The trainings involved familiarization with Trident Research's Secure Autonomous Datalink for Undersea Warfare Portable Range (SADL-UP) and Naval Undersea Warfare Detachment Pacific's Visual Interactive System for Training and Analysis (VISTA) ASW reconstruction and analysis. These two efforts directly support regional leadership's Western Pacific training support vision to train anytime, anywhere while simultaneously allowing forces to buy back Operational Availability.

**Source:** [Here](#) 11 December 2022

## **US NAVY SEIZES 50 TONS OF AMMUNITION IN THE GULF OF OMAN**

The US Navy announced on 3<sup>rd</sup> December that naval forces in the Middle East had intercepted a fishing trawler smuggling more than 50 tons of ammunition rounds, fuses, and propellants for rockets in the Gulf of Oman along a maritime route from Iran to Yemen. Forces operating from the expeditionary sea-base USS *Lewis B. Puller* carried out the interdiction, marking US 5th Fleet's second weapons seizure in a month. Forces from *Lewis B. Puller* found more than one million rounds of 7.62mm ammunition; 25,000 rounds of 12.7mm ammunition; nearly 7,000 proximity fuses for rockets; and over 2,100 kilos of propellant used to launch rocket-propelled grenades.

**Source:** [Here](#) 04 December 2022

# SHIPPING, PORTS AND OCEAN ECONOMY

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## CALIFORNIA LONG RULED US SHIPPING IMPORTERS ARE DRIFTING EAST

Sharpie maker Newell Brands Inc. is opening distribution centres in Pennsylvania and North Carolina to lessen dependence on seaports in California. Abercrombie & Fitch Co. is moving more merchandise through New York and New Jersey to avoid West Coast bottlenecks. Air-conditioning manufacturer Trane Technologies PLC is sending most of its cargo this year through ports in the South, instead of the Los Angeles area. The hierarchy of US ports is getting shaken up. Companies across many industries are rethinking how and where they ship goods after years of relying heavily on the western US as an entry point, betting that ports in the East and the South can save them time and money while reducing risk.

Source: [Here](#) 14 December 2022

## DPA KANDLA'S LIQUID JETTY NO.7 CONSTRUCTION IN FINAL STAGE, TO BE READY BY JAN 2023

Construction work of Deendayal Port Authority, Kandla's Liquid Jetty No. 7 at a cost of Rs. 58 crores, is in final stage and will be ready to be dedicated to serve the Nation from January 2023. Liquid Jetty No. 7 will be specifically dedicated for edible oil handling. The channel of Pipelines for edible oil handling have already been laid. The Port management regularly reviews the construction of the Liquid Jetty. The new Liquid Jetty No. 7 will prove to be beneficial, as it will ease the congestion of handling Liquid cargo at Port and serve the Nation's growing demand. Recently, Shri S.K. Mehta, IFS, Chairman-DPA along with Shri Nandeesh Shukla, IRTS, Dy. Chairman; Shri Raveendra Reddy, Chief Engineer; Shri Mahesh Gupta, President, Kandla Liquid Tank Terminals Association & other stakeholders visited the construction site to take review of the progress of work.

Source: [Here](#) 13 December 2022

## **JNPA ORGANIZED A ZONAL CONFERENCE ON IMPLEMENTING A CLAP; AIMED TO REDUCE LOGISTICS COST AND TIME**

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) India's best performing Port, organized a zonal conference on implementing a Logistic Action Plan (CLAP) with context to adopting the National Logistic Policy (NLP) for Terminal Operators and industry professionals, as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Gol, the conference aimed to apprise the representatives from different sectors about the National Logistics Policy (NLP). Representatives from DPIT the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, the Government of India, Maharashtra Maritime Board & the Government of Maharashtra, were the speakers at the zonal conference. They were welcomed by Shri Sanjay Sethi, IAS. Chairman, JNPA, and Shri Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS, in the presence of all the JNPA officials, Terminal Operators, and industry professionals.

**Source:** [Here](#) 12 December 2022

## **JNPA CONDUCTS WORKSHOP ON 'GREEN PORT INITIATIVE' TO STRENGTHEN COMMITMENT TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), India's best-performing Port organized a workshop on 'Green Port Initiative.' The workshop was inaugurated by Shri Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS, Dy. Chairman, JNPA in the presence of all the HODS and JNPA officials. The objective of the workshop was to create awareness about green shipping, the use of alternative fuels, and sustainable development. Speaking at the occasion, Shri Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS, Dy. Chairman, JNPA, stated, "JNPA has taken several green initiatives with a view to reducing carbon footprints which includes the use of solar power supply, e vehicles, Shore Power Supply, etc. In the workshop, experts from the industry took seminars on green shipping, the oil spill response system at JNPA, the Environmental Monitoring Plan of Jawaharlal Nehru Port, and Green Port initiatives at JNPA. During the workshop, it was highlighted that there is a need to use alternative fuels like LNG, Hydrogen, methanol, etc. for green shipping. Under the Maritime India Vision 2030, JNPA intends to use 60% of renewable energy. JNPA is developing an integrated Common Rail Yard Facility inside the Port for facilitating Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) rake handling, including construction/modification of ROB for the terminals. JNPA commissioned e-RTGCs to improve export efficiency and faster loading operation. This initiative has reduced diesel consumption and air pollution. We have taken up a lakes rejuvenation project. There are 4-5 lakes in the JNPA area which we will be revitalizing using biological techniques.

**Source:** [Here](#) 09 December 2022

# MARINE ENVIRONMENT

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## THE LOWDOWN ON THE 79TH MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE AND WHY YOU SHOULD CARE

Another global climate conference is upon us; this time, global representatives gathered to discuss how they can decarbonise the shipping industry while improving its safety measures, among other goals. This Committee moved nations a step closer to adopting its most ambitious climate action. From December 12 to December 16, 2022, the IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) convened its 79th session. Highlights include ongoing negotiations on the revision of the IMO GHG Strategy expected for 2023 as well as future technical and market-based measures. The establishment of a Sulphur Emission Control Area (SECA) in the Mediterranean Sea as of 1 July 2025 is another.

Source: [Here](#) 13 December 2022

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## GENERAL ASSEMBLY ADOPTS DRAFT RESOLUTION ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES, UNDERSCORING THREATS OF SEA-LEVEL RISE, LOSS OF MARINE BIODIVERSITY, MARINE DEBRIS

Commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, delegates at the General Assembly today considered two draft resolutions that address a diverse range of challenges, including climate change, loss of marine biodiversity, and sustainable fisheries. The Assembly adopted by consensus the draft resolution “Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments”, introduced by Norway’s delegate. By its terms, the Assembly called upon all States to apply widely the precautionary and ecosystem approaches to the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks.

Source: [Here](#) 09 December 2022

The 79th session of the IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 79) was held from 12 to 16 December 2022. Highlights include the adoption of a Sulphur Emission Control Area (SECA) in the Mediterranean Sea from 1 July 2025 as well as further discussions on the revision of the IMO GHG Strategy scheduled for 2023 and future technical and market-based measures.

**Source:** [Here](#) 19 December 2022

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## **MCCONALOGUE WELCOMES EU COMMISSION DECISION TO ADOPT THE €258 MILLION EUROPEAN MARITIME, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE FUND (EMFAF) PROGRAMME 2021-27 FOR IRELAND**

Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue, today welcomed the decision by the EU Commission to adopt the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) Programme 2021-27 for Ireland. The EMFAF supports the EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), the EU Maritime Policy and the EU agenda for international ocean governance. Building on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) 2014-2020, it provides supports to achieve food security through the supply of seafood products, growth of a sustainable blue economy and healthy, safe and sustainably managed seas and oceans.

**Source:** [Here](#) 09 December 2022

## **TOWARDS AN AGREEMENT ON PLASTIC POLLUTION: INC-1 TOOK PLACE IN URUGUAY**

The first round of intergovernmental negotiations for the Plastics Treaty (INC-1) took place from 28 November to 2 December in Punta del Este, Uruguay and online. In addition, a dedicated Multi-Stakeholder Forum Day was held on 26 November. IUCN participated actively as a delegation to INC-1, and WCEL was represented by Dr Alexandra R Harrington, Chair of the WCEL Agreement on Plastic Pollution Task Force. Prior to INC-1, the Task Force published 5 policy briefing notes for negotiators, focusing on 1) definitions and key terms for the Treaty, 2) core elements of the Treaty, 3) regime interaction between the Treaty and existing international treaties, 4) potential structures for the Treaty, and 5) the role of the circular economy and plastic lifecycle from a legal perspective.

**Source:** [Here](#) 09 December 2022

# **GEOPOLITICS**

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## **INDO-PACIFIC CONCEPT CREATED BY US TO ROPE IN INDIA & OTHER ALLIES TO CONTAIN CHINA: CHINESE DIPLOMAT**

According to a prominent Chinese diplomat, the Asia-Pacific region is insufficient to restrict China, so the US came up with the "Indo-Pacific" idea to include India and its other allies. The western and central Pacific Ocean, including the South China Sea, and the Indian Ocean make up the biogeographic area known as the Indo-Pacific. In light of China's expanding military manoeuvres in the resource-rich area, the US, India, and a number of other world powers have been discussing the need to guarantee a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

**Source:** [Here](#) 15 December 2022

## **SHREWD OIL POLITICS PLAYED OUT IN EUROPE WITH RAMIFICATIONS FOR ALL**

The EU-wide ban on Russian oil came into effect a few days ago when the Group of Seven (G7) advanced economies and Australia agreed on a \$60-per-barrel price cap on Russian seaborne oil and petroleum products. The cap and the EU sanctions both came into effect on December 5. The price cap has been introduced as a safety valve against the harsh impacts of the oil ban on the global economy and oil flows. The price cap has three broad objectives—control volatility in energy prices, impede the revenues Russia earns from energy sales, and for countries outside of Europe, ensure a reliable supply of Russian petroleum products in the global market so that developing markets are not cut off from Russian oil supplies.

**Source:** [Here](#) 14 December 2022

## **GEOPOLITICAL SHIFTS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION**

The greater region around the Black and Caspian Seas has up until now played a limited role as a corridor for trade, transport, and energy routes between Asia and Europe. However, with Russia's war against Ukraine and the blockade of Ukrainian ports in the

Black Sea, this region is gaining geopolitical and geoeconomic importance. Russia had already shifted the security balance in the Black Sea in its favor by annexing Crimea in 2014 and taking control of the Sea of Azov. The Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 turned the Black Sea into a flashpoint. It will preoccupy European politics for years to come.

**Source:** [Here](#) 06 December 2022

## **MEDITERRANEAN IN THE GAME**

Italy likes to think of itself as crucial to setting Europe's agenda on the Mediterranean. In recent years, Russia's presence in Syria and Libya – not to mention China's eyeing of ports around the Med – has made the body of water shared by Europe, Africa and the Middle East an increasingly significant space in geopolitics. These realities underpinned the annual Rome Med conference, which took place from 1 to 3 December – as did Italy's long-standing belief that more co-operation between Europe and its wider Mediterranean neighbourhood is necessary to address their common challenges.

**Source:** [Here](#) 05 December 2022

## **BOSPHORUS TANKER BACKLOG COULD BECOME SERIOUS GEOPOLITICAL CRISIS, ANALYSTS WARN**

A huge oil tanker logjam in Istanbul's Bosphorus Strait could spark a major geopolitical crisis, analysts have warned, as 20 tankers wait to progress through one of the world's busiest maritime trade passages. The crisis was sparked by stringent new rules imposed by Ankara at the beginning of December which require proof of insurance before vessels can pass through Turkey's straits and dock at its ports.

**Source:** [Here](#) 10 December 2022