

AMSA's Technical Cooperation Strategy 2010-2015



Australian Government

Australian Maritime Safety Authority

A few words from AMSA's Chief Executive Officer, Graham Peachey



'We live in a region which is a major driver of world trade - a region where shipping is absolutely essential to that trade. But the international nature of shipping means we really need to address the sorts of issues affecting a viable and sustainable maritime industry together.

The skills needed to command a ship, navigate it in often busy or environmentally sensitive waters, to safely load it with commodities and to look after the crew and cargo are considerable.

Building capacity and promoting safe shipping in the region remains a challenge but is made easier if we can collectively share our expertise, resources, information and experiences.

Australia and AMSA are committed to helping our region prosper and grow through a safe, efficient and environmentally sensitive maritime industry.'

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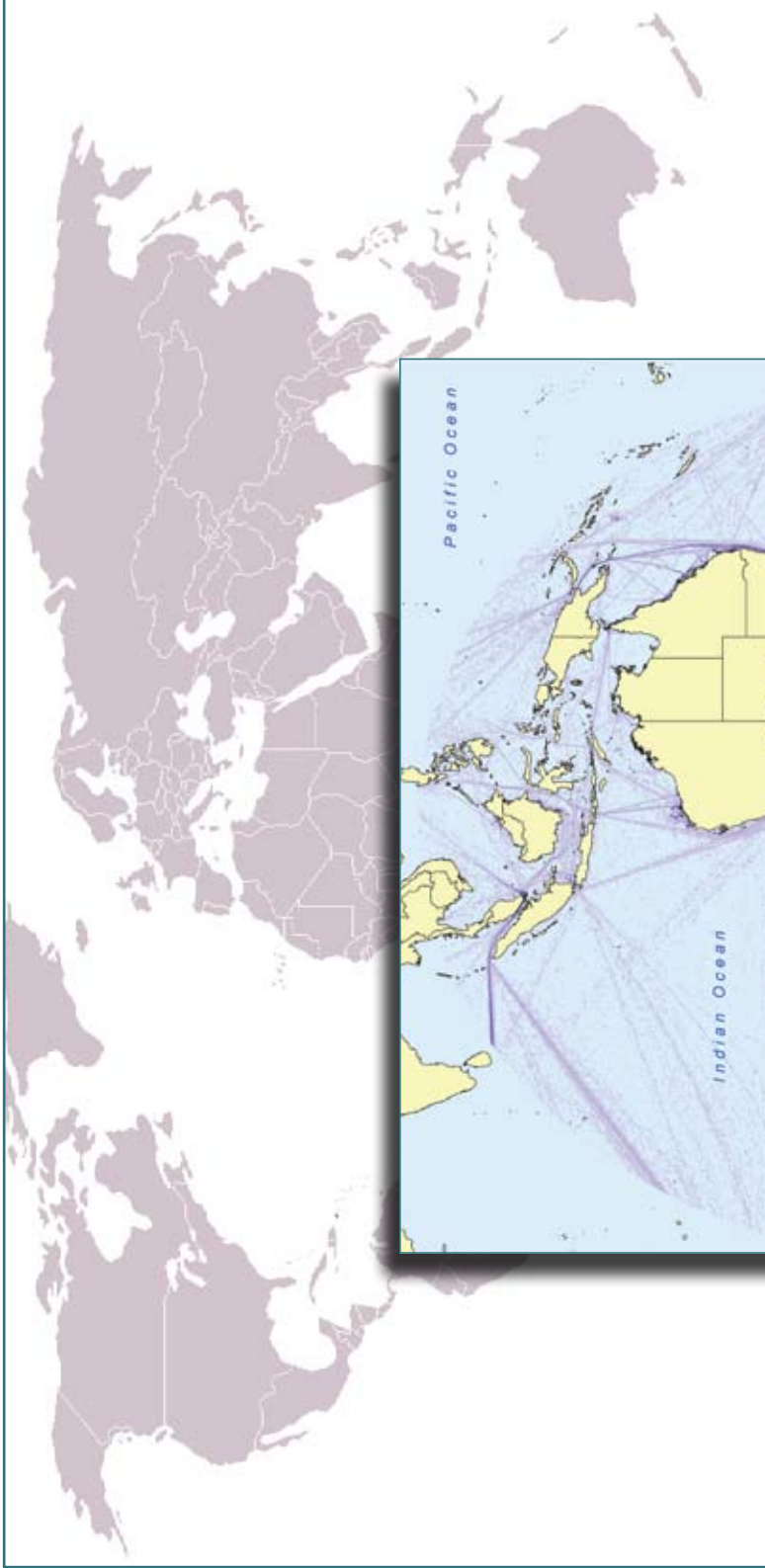
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Our interests in the broader regional and international shipping community

The Asia Pacific region accounts for some 40 per cent of the world's cargo carrying fleet and around half of the world's seafarers. Australia places a high priority on regional prosperity, security and development. 'Safe, secure and efficient shipping on clean oceans' is critical to our nation's economic prosperity and environmental future, and central to meeting Australia's broader geopolitical objectives.

AMSA can help achieve these objectives by strengthening our close relationship with maritime agencies and training institutions in the Asia Pacific region as well as the work of other international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations.





Vessel traffic patterns around Australia

Regional issues and challenges

Key human and institutional capacity building challenges for improving maritime safety in the region include:

- ▶ bottlenecks in drafting and implementing national legislation;
- ▶ labour shortages on ships and in maritime administrations;
- ▶ lack of funding for the development, maintenance and upgrading of national maritime infrastructures;
- ▶ information sharing to address piracy and maritime security matters generally; and
- ▶ sharing of lessons learned from significant oil spill incidents in Australia, Singapore and the United States.

Some of the key challenges with regional cooperation are:

- ▶ different or higher standards in the Asia Pacific;
- ▶ development of a regional pool of expertise;
- ▶ duplication of work in some areas; and
- ▶ a desire for a strong regional voice for the Asia Pacific on maritime issues.

Priorities for technical cooperation in the region over the next five years are:

- ▶ Port State Control;
- ▶ safety of domestic shipping;
- ▶ maritime and aviation search and rescue training and agreements;
- ▶ pollution prevention and management of oil and noxious and hazardous spills
- ▶ support for the International Labour Organization's Maritime Labour Convention of 2006 to improve the welfare of seafarers;
- ▶ International Safety Management audits;
- ▶ Indonesian Transport Safety Assistance Program; and
- ▶ improved governance in the maritime sector generally.

A technical cooperation strategy

AMSA's Technical Cooperation Strategy aims to help address the risks substandard shipping poses to regional interests – from industry and trade to protection of the marine environment.

The Strategy is a tangible expression of AMSA's commitment to build capacity and provide technical assistance to other maritime nations in the Asia Pacific region to:

- ▶ be a respected world leading regulator and provider of maritime safety, marine environment protection, and provider of maritime and aviation search and rescue , and environment response (AMSA's Strategic Vision 2010-2025);
- ▶ help ensure that ships sailing to and from Australia and in the Antarctic are operated to the highest possible standards;
- ▶ build upon and enhance AMSA's involvement in the International Maritime Organization, other regional fora and strategic plans such as the Pacific Plan for Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration to deliver outcomes of mutual benefit to maritime administrations in the Asia Pacific region;
- ▶ share AMSA's expertise, resources, information and experiences; and
- ▶ highlight our contributions to the broader maritime community including through effective implementation of bilateral and multilateral agreements.

The types of assistance AMSA can offer include:

- ▶ expert missions;
- ▶ mentoring /twinning placements;
- ▶ staff exchange; and
- ▶ accessing funding to provide assistance for attendance at meetings and seminars.

Regional benefits

- ▶ Assistance with adoption, effective implementation, consistent application and enforcement of international instruments across the region;
- ▶ Development of human and institutional resources in the Asia Pacific region to address capacity constraints in seafarer and ship safety; search and rescue; and marine pollution prevention and response strategies; and
- ▶ AMSA's technical cooperation activities are well targeted and directed towards current and emerging priority issues.



Examples of AMSA engagement in regional technical cooperation activities

Seafarer and Ship Safety

- ▶ AMSA has hosted Port State Control inspectors from the Pacific Islands at AMSA's regional offices around Australia. This has allowed an exchange of tips and techniques for ensuring clear and concise reporting of deficiencies in a manner consistent with other members of the Tokyo MOU.
- ▶ A two year auditor exchange program with the China Classification Society has improved exchanges of data, networking and sharing of expertise. Auditors participated in port visits and observations of Australia's port and flag state inspections and ISM audits.
- ▶ Experts from AMSA contributed to a regional training course run by Maritime New Zealand for auditors in the Pacific islands region from 31 May to 4 June 2010, Wellington, New Zealand. The objectives of the course were to promote audit requirements and determine to what extent Member States are implementing and enforcing applicable IMO instruments to which they are a party.



- ▶ AMSA assisted the IMO in the delivery of a seminar on the STCW 'Manila Amendments' and their implementation, from 19 to 22 July 2010 in Shanghai. The seminar discussed the issues affecting the implementation of the SCTW amendments.
- ▶ AMSA helped students from the Asia Pacific region prepare action plans for implementing the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) in their home countries as part of a training course at the Australian Maritime College, Launceston in April 2010.
- ▶ AMSA provided support for six Indonesians in Port State Control and dangerous goods handling through a series of two week train-the-trainer courses held in Jakarta and Surabaya. Follow up mentoring was provided to the participants to gauge the level of uptake and practical application from the classroom exercises.



Environment Protection

- ▶ In April 2010, AMSA provided experts to a seminar on Regional Cooperation for Preparedness for and Response to Maritime Pollution Incidents and the Bunker Convention for the Pacific Islands. The seminar was run by the Pacific Regional Environment Programme and helped raise awareness of the importance of the Pacific Marine Spill Contingency Plan as the regional framework and mechanism for Tier III response and arrangements.

Maritime and Aviation Search and Rescue

- ▶ Search and rescue training was conducted as part of Australia's Pacific Patrol Boat Program. The training involved basic plotting, search planning and related procedures and exercises.
- ▶ An annual joint Australia-Indonesia search and rescue exercise was held in Lombok in May 2010. The exercise improved search and rescue coordination and cooperation between Australia and Indonesia for incidents close to the shared search and rescue border.



Aiding Safe Navigation

- ▶ Over the last 10 years, assistance has been provided to the Papua New Guinea National Maritime Safety Authority with their aids-to-navigation management framework, tendering processes and documentation.
- ▶ Maritime domain awareness in the region has been enhanced in the last few years through the establishment of a Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) Australian Cooperative Data Centre (AusCDC).

Governance and Regulatory Measures

- ▶ In late 2009, two experts from AMSA participated in an IMO mission to assist the Timor Leste Government in establishing and strengthening the country's maritime administration.
- ▶ The 10th Asia Pacific Heads of Maritime Safety Agencies Forum was held from 31 May to 3 June 2009 in Sydney. The forum aimed to improve cooperation, coordination and liaison among maritime safety agencies in the Asia Pacific region. AMSA also assisted with the organisation of the 11th meeting held in the Philippines from 16 to 19 June 2010.

AMSA's engagement in technical cooperation activities



Further information

www.amsa.gov.au/about_amsa/Coprprate_information/technical_cooperation

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