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Fact Sheet: Maritime Security Task Force

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The Maritime Security Task Force (MSTF) is set up by the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) to enhance Singapore's abilities to combat the increasing maritime security threats and challenges. With representatives from key national maritime agencies co-located within the MSTF, Singapore's ability to respond swiftly and effectively to potential maritime security threats will be significantly strengthened. The MSTF's awareness of the regional maritime situation will also be significantly enhanced through information sharing with both national and international maritime agencies.

The MSTF comprises three groups:

a) **The Comprehensive Maritime Awareness (CMA) Group** builds and maintains a comprehensive maritime situation picture through its information-sharing networks. It works closely with national agencies, international partners and the shipping community (such as ship owners, ships charterers, agents and port operators) to share maritime information. The collated information helps in deciding the allocation of MSTF assets in day-to-day maritime operations and operational responses when required.

b) **The Operations Group**, comprising operations planners from the Army, Navy and Air Force, undertakes an integrated approach towards planning and execution of all maritime security operations. It conducts daily patrols, boarding and escort operations in the Singapore Strait and SLOC, to ensure maritime security and the protection of key installations and potential targets.

c) **The Inter-Agency Coordination Group** comprises representatives from the Police Coast Guard (PCG), the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA), and the Singapore Customs (Customs). This group ensures close coordination in the execution of maritime security operations at the national level.

Related Resources:

- New Maritime Security Task Force in Action During Exercise APEX 09 (MINDEF_20090223001.pdf)
- Fact Sheet: Exercise APEX 2009 (MINDEF_20090223003.pdf)
- Fact Sheet: Security Policy Review Committee (MINDEF_20090223003_2.pdf)

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