



Rear Admiral Cui Yuzhong Deputy Commander of East Sea Fleet, Chinese PLA Navy

Honorable Sri Lanka Minister of Defence ****
Honorable Sri Lanka Navy Commander Vice
Admiral TJJ SINNIHAH
All colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,
Good morning!

It gives me such a great pleasure to come to Colombo, the picturesque coastal city for sharing ideas with you about maritime security and cooperation. First of all, on behalf of the Chinese PLA Navy commander, Vice Admiral Shen Jinlong, I would like to extend our warm congratulations to the successful inauguration of the 8th “Galle Dialogue” conference, our heartfelt thanks for invitation from Sri Lanka Ministry of Defense and Sri Lanka Navy to Chinese PLA Navy, as well as our cordial greetings to all naval colleagues and friends present here today!

Since the first “Galle Dialogue” conference was held in 2010, we have witnessed more participants exploring more extensive research fields. It has become much more influential representing interests from related countries. This conference is now an important platform for various navies to enhance mutual confidence, build consensus and deepen cooperation. It is playing an active role in safeguarding maritime security and enhancing mutual development. This conference, under the theme of “Greater Maritime

Visibility for Enhanced Maritime Security” , will definitely promote the maritime security cooperation to a new high and new phase. Next I would like to make the following three points on this theme.

I. Chinese PLA Navy Advocates the Concept of Building a Community of Shared Future for Mankind in Maritime Security Cooperation

Currently the global maritime security situation is steady on the whole, but risks and challenges are getting increasingly diversified and complicated. Serious natural disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and tsunamis frequently occur. More accidents at sea happen, such as oil spilling, leakage of dangerous chemicals and shipwrecks, etc. Piracy, transnational crime, human smuggling and illegal fishing are not rare. Disputes between some countries over maritime rights and interests can not be solved for a long time. The regional conflicts and international terrorist activities rise one after another. The overall mutual trust of the international community in the security field is not sufficient. Facing these risks, challenges and threats, we hold that the international community should adhere to the concept of building a community of shared future for mankind in order to effectively

promote the coordinated action capability, tackle the maritime threats and challenges and jointly handle the global oceans.

On January 8th this year when the Chinese President Xi Jinping gave a speech at the UN headquarters in Geneva, he put forward the Chinese proposition of “Work Together to Build a Community of Shared Future for Mankind and Achieve Shared and Win-win Development.” This proposition is as follows: stay committed to building a world of lasting peace through dialogue and consultation; build a world of common security for all through joint efforts; build a world of common prosperity through win-win cooperation; build an open and inclusive world through exchanges and mutual learning; make our world clean and beautiful by pursuing green and low-carbon development. I believe that we could adopt his concept to the maritime security field, too. The main ideas are as follows:

We adhere to consultation, joint efforts and common development. The global maritime affairs should be handled by all nations through consultation. The global oceans should be governed by all related sides. The development achievements of oceans should be shared by all nations. China’s “21st-Century Maritime Silk Road” is put forward on the basis of this concept. We hope to build an all-dimensional, multi-levelled and wide-ranging blue partnership to achieve mutual development through policy communication, facilities connection, smooth trade, financing and shared morale. I believe only through development can we eliminate the maritime security threats.

We advocate a new concept of maritime security. The core of this concept is “common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security.” “Common security” focuses on coordination to safeguard maritime security and share well-being brought by maritime security. “Comprehensive security” means to adopt policies in a comprehensive way to solve traditional and non-traditional maritime security problems. “Cooperative security” attaches great importance to joint actions and mutual help to achieve mutual benefit and win-win. “Sustainable development”

means that we balance security with development, deepen convergence of interest and achieve the benign interaction.

We solve disputes through peaceful consultation. The principle of peacefully solving the international disputes, determined by the United Nations Charter, is a lesson learned by human mankind after painful experience from the two world wars. It has been proved by both history and reality that consultation is an effective policy for ironing out differences, and political negotiation is the fundamental approach for solving disputes. The Chinese civilization worships “harmony but not sameness” and “harmony is prized “. The Chinese government adheres consistently to solving maritime disputes through peaceful consultation, and Chinese people are deeply convinced that only a peaceful maritime order can facilitate the global prosperity and development.

We work for a green low-carbon ocean. Favorable marine ecological environment is the premise for building a community of shared future for mankind. It is our common responsibility to protect the marine ecosystem and biodiversity, strengthen marine environmental pollution prevention, enhance marine management and promote the orderly exploration of marine resources. China would like to join efforts with other nations to follow a green road of ocean development.

II. Chinese PLA Navy Stays Committed to Safeguarding International Maritime Security

China adheres to the concept of building a community of shared future for mankind and sticks to the path of peaceful development. We have always pursued a national defense policy that is defensive in nature and remained a staunch force in maintaining regional and world peace. The Chinese PLA navy will positively implement a new model of maritime security concept and carry out exchanges with other navies in a more open and more responsible attitude to unswervingly safeguard maritime security and enhance marine prosperity.

We stick to the principle of carrying out military actions on the premise of authorization from the United Nations and within the framework of international laws. Since 2008 we have dispatched 86 naval ships in 27 escort task groups to the Gulf of Aden and escorted more than 6000 Chinese and foreign ships, among which foreign ones accounted for over 50%. We escorted ships for WFP and ships removing Syrian chemical weapons for many times.

We stick to the principle of fulfilling mutual maritime security obligations and duties. The Chinese PLA Navy evacuated the overseas Chinese from Libya and Yemen, provided fresh water for Maldives in emergency and searched the missing Malaysian plane in the southern Indian ocean. Our hospital ship “Peace Ark” has carried out “Harmony Mission” for 6 times, providing medical services for dozens of thousands people in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Not long ago this hospital ship arrived in Colombo and provided medical service to your Sri Lankan people.

We actively build and participate in maritime security cooperation mechanisms. The Chinese PLA Navy has established bilateral maritime security and cooperation mechanisms with many navies, for example, Military Maritime Consultation Agreement with the US Navy, joint patrol mechanism in the Beibu Gulf with the Vietnamese Navy and dialogue mechanism with Indonesian Navy, etc. We actively take part in Western Pacific Naval Symposium, Indian Ocean Naval Symposium, ASEAN Defense Minister’s Meeting-Plus, International Seapower Symposium and other international multilateral mechanisms. Through these mechanisms, we have made effective exchanges with various sides, explored ways of cooperation and enhanced our coordination capabilities.

We actively explore ways to develop a new model of relationship with other navies. Through reciprocal visits by high-rank naval officers, professional exchanges, joint exercises and training, exchanges of port calls and institution education, we have carried out all-dimensional, multi-levelled and wide-ranging exchanges and

cooperation, striving to establish a new model of naval relationship with “Cooperation, trust and win-win” as its core. Take exchanges of port calls for example. So far we have received 300 naval ships from over 40 countries and sent 200 naval ships to make port calls in over 80 countries.

III. Chinese PLA Navy Expects More Extensive and In-depth Maritime Security Cooperation

Currently we are facing more diversified and complicated maritime security threats, which call on various navies to take a more active attitude, more pragmatic measures and broader mind to conduct closer security cooperation. We would like to make joint efforts with all navies to deal with maritime security threats. For this purpose, I have the following proposals:

First of all, we will enhance strategic mutual trust. Frequent closer exchanges of high-level visits can consolidate friendship and trust between naval leaders, avoid strategic misjudgment and properly manage their differences. We will carry out more exchanges in terms of national defense and security policies, naval strategies and other issues to get a better understanding of each other and pay due respect to maritime concerns and policy direction of each other. We will strengthen exchanges between naval officers and experts of different levels to lay a solid foundation for mutual trust.

Secondly, we will strengthen cooperation planning. More practical and feasible programs will be conducted to pave the road of cooperation with tangible results. We will constantly enrich contents and fields of joint exercises and training, promote cooperation in anti-piracy and maintain security for strategic maritime channels. We will establish emergency response mechanisms for maritime SAR, salvage and disaster relief, explore in-depth ways about force access, information sharing, coordinated command for international SAR actions to enhance coordinated action capabilities.

Thirdly, we will adhere to technical support. In view of restraints of technical

equipment differences from various navies on deepening of cooperation, we will enhance our technical cooperation in the fields of anti-piracy, marine anti-terrorism, air and sea SAR, focusing on maritime domain awareness, marine communication and information sharing. In the meantime, we will cooperate more with maritime law enforcement agencies to promote coordinated capabilities so that our cooperation can go further.

Fourthly, we will explore the rules of actions. We should follow principles of the United Nations Charter, combined with regional maritime security situations, actively explore

specific achievable force rules applicable to certain regions. We could explore to work out relevant procedures and rules in the fields of humanitarian rescue and disaster assistance, maritime anti-terrorism, and law enforcement assistance at sea.

All friends, ladies and gentlemen,

Oceans are the shared wealth and home of mankind. Safeguarding the maritime peace and security is the common pursuit of all nations and accords with our mutual interests. Let us work together to meet challenges, share marine opportunities and achieve marine prosperity.

Thank you.