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**Regulation on Navigation of Foreign
Vessels – Singapore's Practice**

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Overview

- **Singapore's Maritime Claims**
- **Regulation of Foreign Vessels**
- **Straits of Malacca and Singapore**
- **IMO Measures in the Singapore Strait**

Singapore's Maritime Claims



From: <http://www.marsecreview.com/2012/07/malacca-strait-cooperation/>

(NB: Tg. = tanjong = point; P. = pulau = island.)

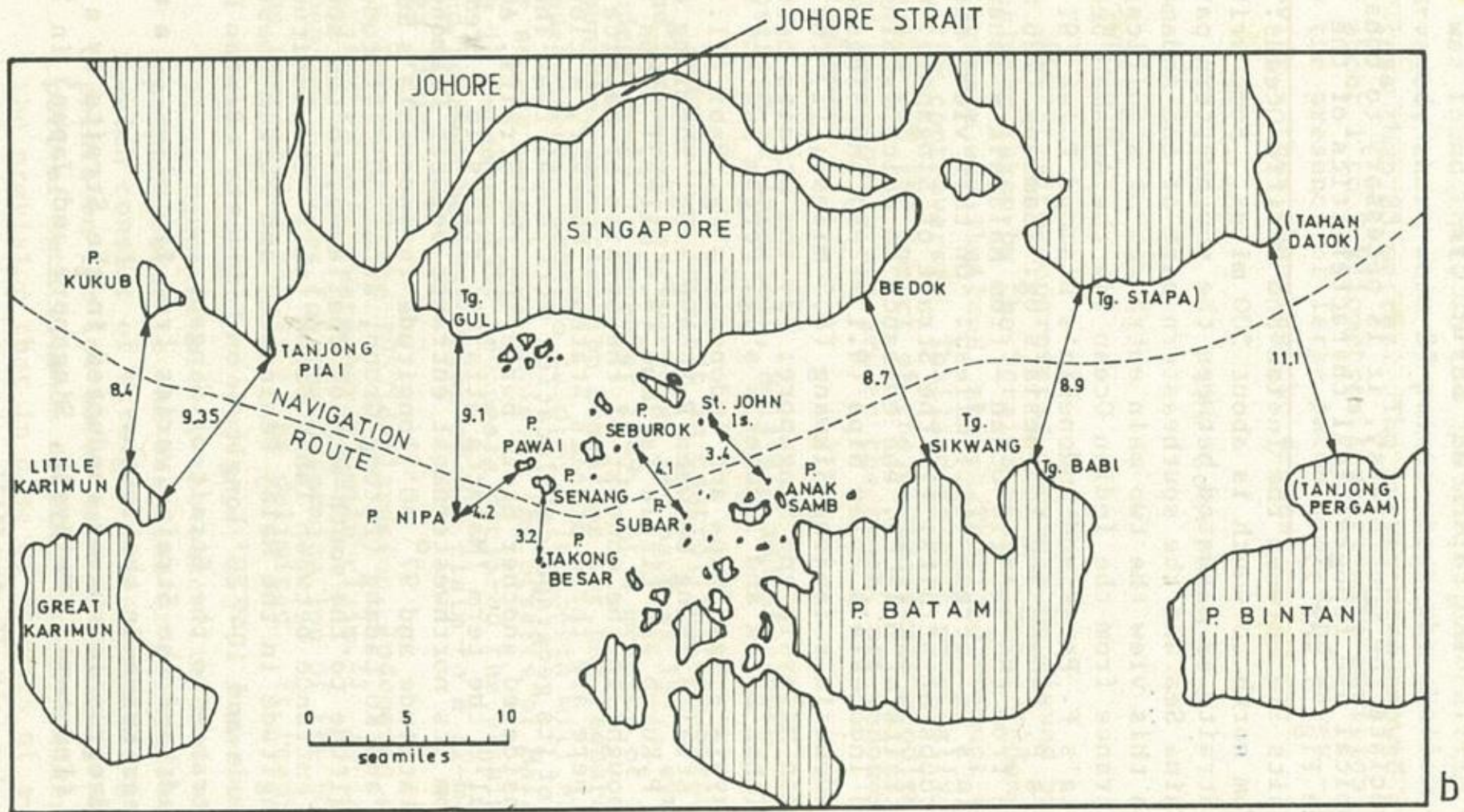
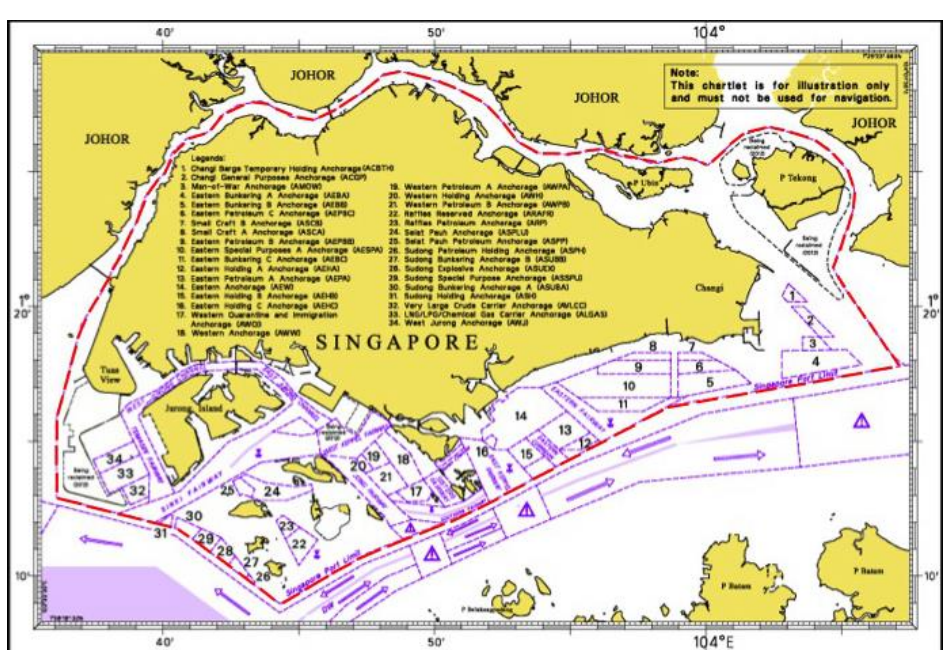
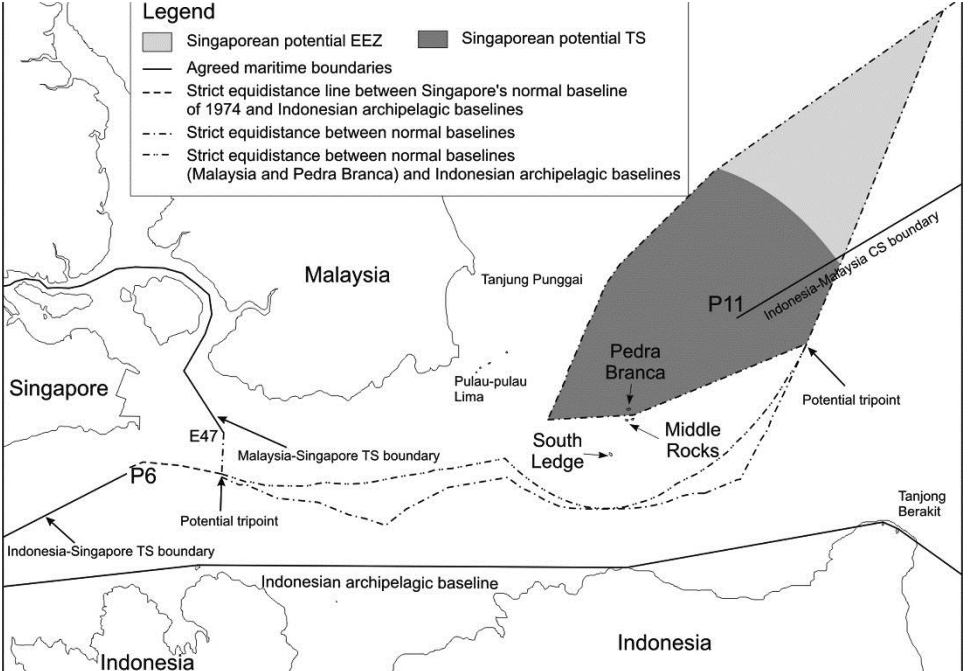


FIG.2. The Malacca and Singapore Straits to a larger scale: (a) The Malacca Strait; (b) The Singapore Strait. (Based on the British Admiralty Charts, with the permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office and of the Hydrographer of the Navy.)

Type	Date	Source	Limits	Notes
Territorial Sea	1878	Territorial Waters Jurisdiction Act	3 M	UK colonial legislation
	2008	No.1485-Singapore Maritime Zones	Up to 12 M	MFA Statements dated 15 Sept. 1980 & 23 May 2008; Subject to delimitation
Fishing Zone/EEZ	1996	Fisheries Act	Fishing Zone	“maritime waters” is part of the seas adjacent to Singapore, within & outside territorial waters
	1980/2008	No.1485-Singapore Maritime Zones	EEZ	MFA Statements dated 15 Sept. 1980 & 23 May 2008; Subject to delimitation
Maritime Boundaries	1928/1995	Agreements	Malaysia	Johore Strait
	1973/2009/2014	Agreements	Indonesia	Singapore Strait



MPA: Port of Singapore – Anchorages chartlet



Prepared by ANCORS & Gadjah Mada Uni.

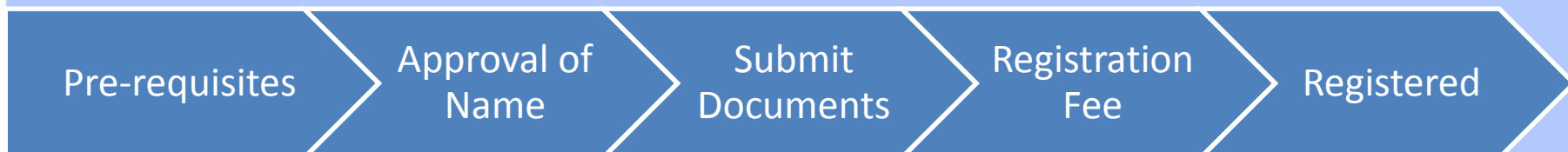
Regulation of Foreign Vessels

- **Basic Rights and Obligations of Foreign Vessels**
 - 1) Rights of innocent passage and transit passage;
 - 2) Any foreigners/foreign ships within Singapore waters will be subjected to all domestic laws;
 - 3) Piratical acts are punishable under the Penal Code;

Foreign Vessels Registration



- **Merchant Shipping Act 1995**, Part II ‘Singapore Registry’



The Owner:

- 1) **Companies incorporated in Singapore** that are either locally or foreign-owned (non-citizens own more than 50% of its equity);
- 2) A **foreign-owned company** may register a vessel with the Singapore flag under the following conditions:
 - The company must have a minimum paid-up capital of S\$50,000; and
 - The vessel must be at least 1,600 GT and be self-propelled.

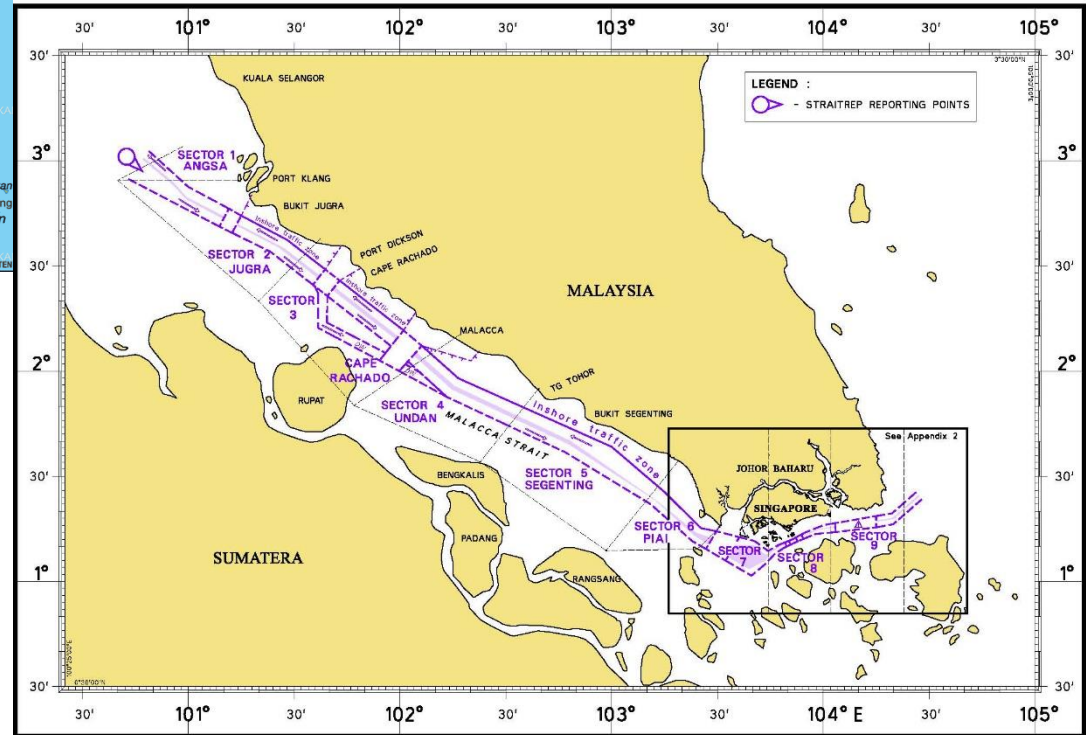
Port State Control

- **Authority:** Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) – Shipping Division – Ship Safety Department – PSC Officers
- **Purpose:** To check and ensure that visiting foreign ships are in compliance with international regulations – LL, SOLAS, MARPOL, STCW, Tonnage, AFS
- **Port Clearance Formalities:** Arriving/Departing
- **Procedures:** Inspection – Detain substandard ships (subject to appeal) – Follow-up inspection – Release

Straits of Malacca and Singapore



Operational Areas under IMO Measures



From: https://www.welt-atlas.de/map_of_strait_of_malacca_6-847

From: MPA <http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/port-operations/vessel-traffic-information-system-vtis/straitrep/operational-areas>

Duties of Ships during Transit Passage

- **Art.39 (2) Ships in transit passage shall:**
 - (a) comply with generally accepted international regulations, procedures and practices for **safety at sea**, including the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea;
 - (b) comply with generally accepted international regulations, procedures and practices for the prevention, reduction and control of **pollution from ships**.

Rights of Littoral States

- **Art. 42 – Littoral States may regulate:**
 - (a) the **safety of navigation** and the **regulation of maritime traffic** (Art. 41 – sea lanes and TSS);
 - (b) the **prevention, reduction and control of pollution**, by giving effect to applicable international regulations;
 - (c) with respect to fishing vessels, the **prevention of fishing**;
 - (d) the **customs, fiscal, immigration or sanitary** laws and regs;
- **Art. 233** – Littoral States may take **appropriate enforcement measures** for violations of Art.42(1)&(2), causing or threatening major damage to the marine environment of the straits.

Maritime Legislation of Singapore

- Fisheries Act 1966
- Customs Act 2004
- Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Act 1990
- Merchant Shipping Act 1995
- Merchant Shipping (Civil Liability and Compensation for Oil Pollution) Act 1998
- Merchant Shipping (Civil Liability and Compensation for Bunker Oil Pollution) Act 2008
- Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) Act 2014

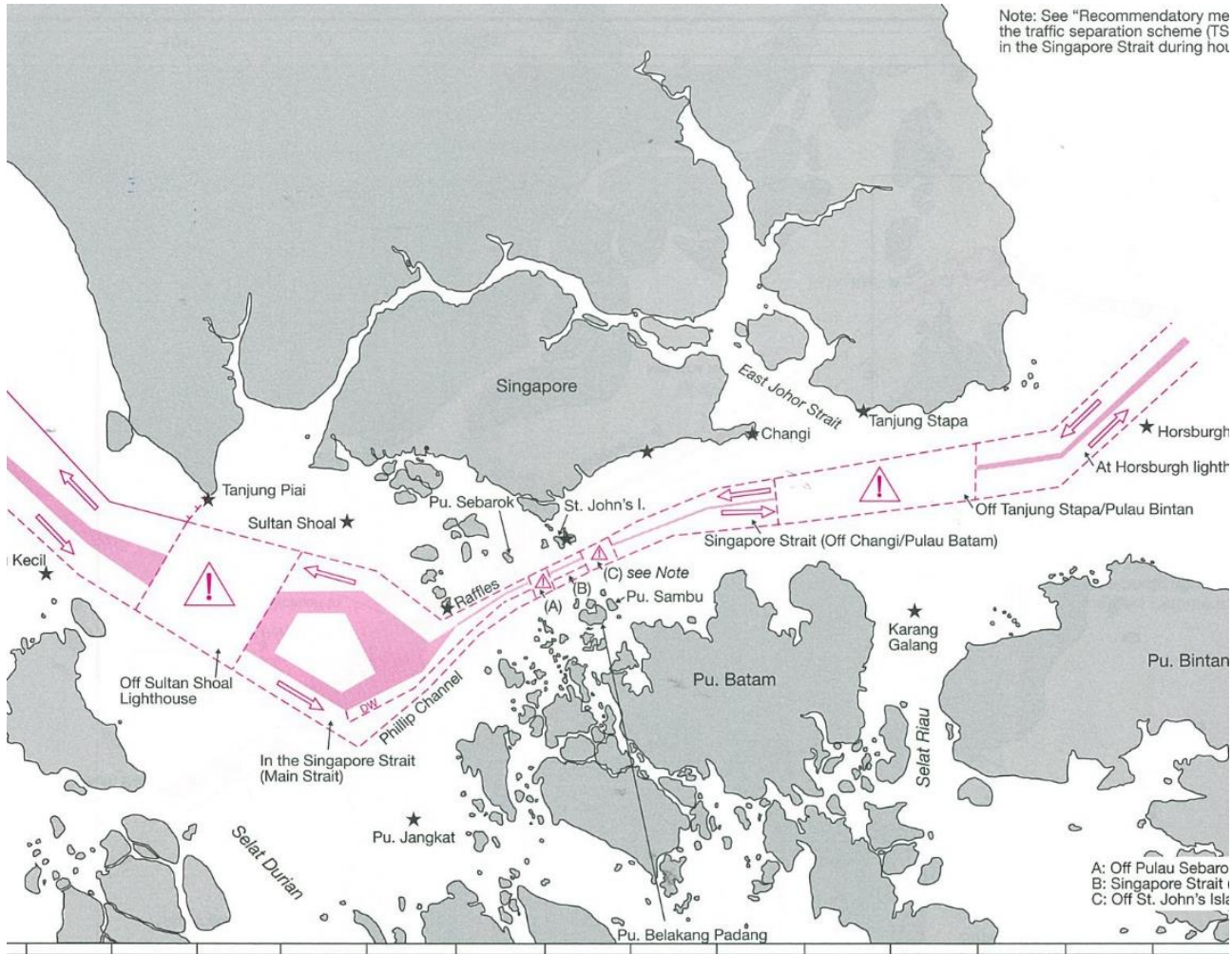
Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Act 1990

- **Article 6 Prohibition of discharge of refuse, garbage, wastes, effluents, plastics and dangerous pollutants from ships**
- ‘6.(1) ... if any disposal or discharge of refuse, garbage, waste matter, trade effluent, plastics or marine pollutant in packaged form occurs **from any ship into Singapore waters**, the master, the owner and the agent of the ship shall each be guilty of an offence ...’
- **Article 7 Prohibition of discharge of oil and oily mixtures from ships**
- ‘7.(1) ... if any discharge of oil or oily mixture occurs from a Singapore ship into any part of the sea or **from any ship into Singapore waters**, the master, the owner and the agent of the ship shall each be guilty of an offence ...’

IMO Measures in the Singapore Strait

<p>Recommendatory measure for vessels crossing the TSS and precautionary areas in the Singapore Strait in dark hours</p>	<p>SN.1/Circ.317 Annex (11)</p>	<p>1 June 2013</p>
<p>Associated new rules and procedures for ships transiting and using the anchorage and the separation zone of the TSS in the Singapore Strait</p>	<p>SN.1/Circ.238</p>	<p>1 January 2005 Amended in 2008, 2011, 2012</p>
<p>Straits of Malacca and Singapore (amended and new TSS, ITZ, DW and precautionary areas; navigation rules)</p>	<p>SN/Circ.198; MSC 69/22/Add.1 Annex 6</p>	<p>1 December 1998 Amended by MSC 78/26/Add.2 Annex 21 2005</p>
<p>Mandatory Ship Reporting system in the SOMS</p>	<p>MSC.73(69) Annex 1</p>	<p>1 December 1998</p>
<p>Navigation through the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (TSS, DW and navigation rules)</p>	<p>Resolution A.375(X) Annexes I-V</p>	<p>14 November 1977 Amended by A.476(XII) 1981</p>

Ships' Routeing Measures



Traffic Separation Scheme:

Separation Zones;

Traffic Lanes;

Anchorage Areas;

Deep-water

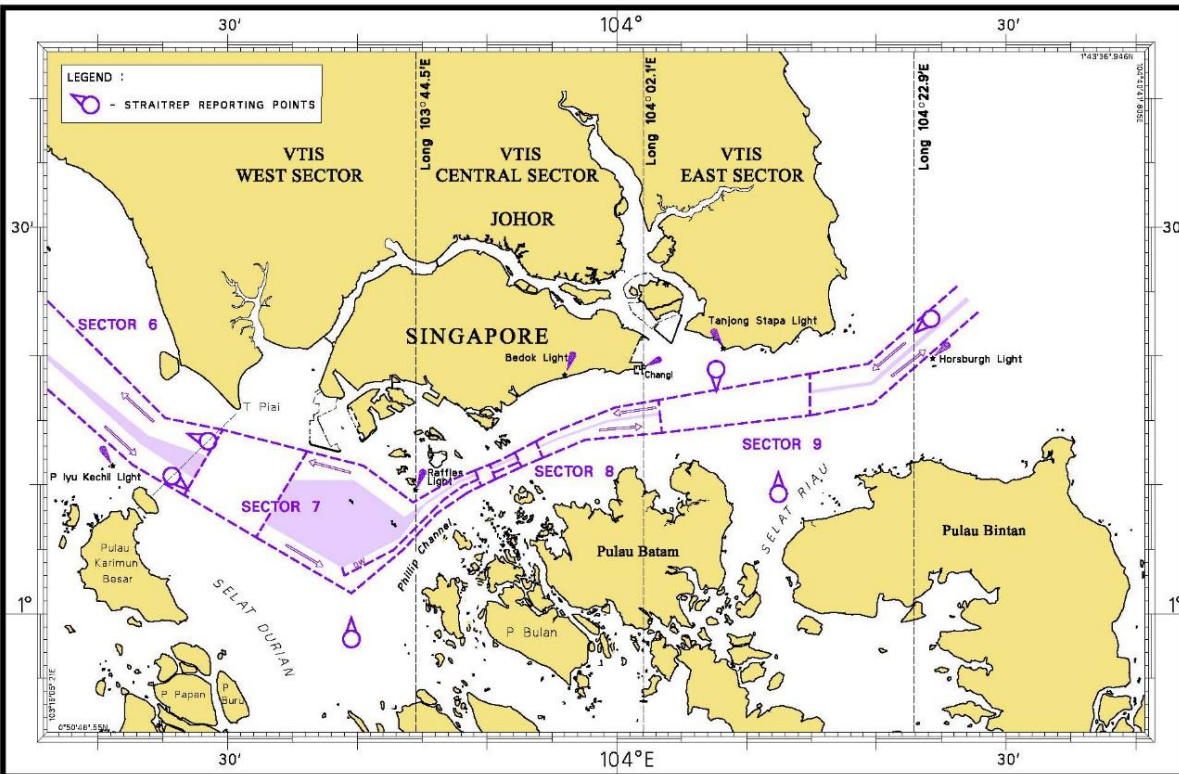
Routes;

Precautionary Areas;

Areas to be

Avoided;

STRAITREP



From: MPA <http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home/port-of-singapore/port-operations/vessel-traffic-information-system-vtis/straitrep/operational-areas>

Sectors 7-9 report to Singapore VTS

Subject Vessels:

≥ 300 GT;

≥ 50 meters;

Towing or pushing vessels with a combined GT ≥ 300 or ≥ 50 M;

Carrying hazardous cargo; All passenger vessels with VHF;

Any vessels with VHF using the TSS;

Information Required:

Name, Call sign, IMO No.;

Position; Hazardous cargo, class; Breakdown, damage and/or deficiencies; Course and Speed;

STRAITREP OPERATIONAL AREA (SECTORS 7 TO 9) Appendix 2

Rules of Navigation

- **Rules for Vessels Navigating through the SOMS**
 - Deep-draught vessels & VLCC – must keep a 3.5m under-keel clearance; recommended to use the pilotage; proceed under 12 knots; advised to broadcast navigational information 8 hours ahead;
- **Recommendatory Measures for Vessels crossing the TSS and Precautionary Areas in Singapore Strait in Dark**
 - ≥ 300 GT; ≥ 50 meters; Towing or pushing vessels with a combined GT ≥ 300 or ≥ 50 M – report to the VTIS; display night signals;
- **Prohibition of Indiscriminate Anchoring**
- **Regulation of Smaller Craft/Fishing Vessels**

Vessel Traffic Information System



Operational Area:

Port of Singapore;

TSS;

STRAITREP Sectors 7-9;

Information Source:

Radars, AIS-A/B, CCTV,

Ship database;

Capacity:

Up to 10,000 vessel
tracks at any one time;

From: <http://www.mot.gov.sg/About-MOT/Sea-Transport/Maritime-Safety---Security/>

Monitoring &
Communicating



Violation of TSS,
Rules;
Danger/Collision



Notify the Flag
State



Enforcement
upon enter in
ports

Conclusions

- Limited maritime zones;
- Bordering a strait used for international navigation;
- Future Developments in the Straits:
 - Finalize the boundary delimitation with Malaysia and Indonesia;
 - Enhancing the safety of navigation and the protection of marine environment;
- MPA: <http://www.mpa.gov.sg/web/portal/home>