

CIL

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW
National University of Singapore

International Conference on Regional Cooperation for the Protection of the Marine Environment

15-16 January 2019, Singapore

Chatham House Rule Applies

Draft as of 11 January 2019

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Protection of the marine environment in Southeast Asia faces particular challenges, some of which may be more effectively resolved through the cooperative efforts of states in the region. This conference will investigate cooperative efforts by the numerous existing regional bodies and possible ways forward to improve the state of the marine environment in the region.

In order to explore this idea, there is a need to discuss the legal background, including the international and regional frameworks, and the institutional background in the region. An exploration of governance models from other regions, including the Mediterranean, the Arctic, the Baltic, the Caribbean, as well as a closer look at the OSPAR Convention and the Coral Triangle Initiative, may also provide insight into possible avenues in this region. It is also necessary to discuss the challenges and prospects in the region and key issues in marine pollution and environmental protection.

Thus, this conference will bring together experts in this area to discuss the current international and regional arrangements, and possible governance models and best practices from other regions. There will also be the opportunity to discuss plastics and ship source pollution as key marine environmental issues in Southeast Asia. The particular challenges and prospects in the region will also be explored, including legal and political issues, the role of science, and financial assistance. The final discussion will centre on the way forward and prospects for enhanced cooperation within ASEAN.

This conference is supported by the

————— JCLOS —————
K.G. JEBSEN CENTRE
FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA
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PROGRAMME (Chatham House Rule Applies)

TUESDAY, 15 JANUARY 2019

08:30–09:00	Registration and coffee
09:00–9:10	Opening Address Lucy Reed, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore
09:10–09:30	Welcome Tommy Koh, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore
Panel 1 / 09:30–11:15 Background and Legal Framework Moderator Robert Beckman , Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore	
Session 1 Legal Background: International Framework Speaker Aldo Chircop , Dalhousie University <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of the current legal framework regarding protection of the marine environment and regional cooperation• Level of adoption of the international legal framework and gaps (e.g. LC/LP)• Relationship between international framework and regional cooperative mechanisms (e.g. CMS which is timidly adopted as compared with the IOSEA MoU)• Challenges arising at international level	
Session 2 Legal Background: Regional Legal Framework Speaker Nilüfer Oral , Istanbul Bilgi University <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of development of regional cooperation in marine environmental protection and current regional mechanisms: Law of the Sea and regional seas, historical development	
Q & A Session	
10:45–11:15	Coffee Break & Panellist Group Photograph

Panel 2 / 11:15-13:00
Institutional Background

Moderator

Denise Cheong, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Session 1

ASEAN and ASEAN-related Bodies

Speakers

Soparatana Jarusombat, Thammasat University

- Discussion of institutional background in ASEAN and ASEAN+
- Overview of bodies and cooperative mechanisms in Southeast Asia included in CIL map of ASEAN bodies involved in the protection of the marine environment

Dita Liliansa, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

- Overview of cooperative measures adopted by ASEAN bodies for the protection of the marine environment
- Type, form and subject of such measures
- Discussion of the extent to which they can implement international law on the protection of the marine environment

Session 2

Other Global and Regional Bodies and initiatives

Speaker

Youna Lyons, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

- Description of the regional bodies in the context of the regional implementation of the international legal framework
- Discussion of role of COBSEA, PEMSEA, APEC etc.

Q & A Session

13:00–14:00

Lunch

Panel 3 / 14:00–15:30
Governance Models (1)
Moderator
Nilüfer Oral, Istanbul Bilgi University

Session 1

The Mediterranean Model

Speaker

Irini Papanicolopulu, University of Milano-Bicocca

- Description of institutional arrangements, membership and history
- Description of legal instruments, membership and history
- Overview of funding mechanisms
- Discussion of challenges faced and overall impact of mechanism
- Identification of possible relevant best practices

Session 2

The Arctic Model

Speaker

Elise Johansen, K G Jebsen Centre for the Law of the Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

- Description of institutional arrangements, membership and history
- Description of legal instruments, membership and history
- Overview of funding mechanisms
- Discussion of challenges faced and overall impact of mechanism
- Identification of possible relevant best practices

Commentator

Speaker

Ingvild Jakobsen, K G Jebsen Centre for the Law of the Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Q & A Session

15:30–16:00	Coffee Break
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Panel 4 / 16:00-17:30
Governance Models (2)

Moderator
Aldo Chircop, Dalhousie University

Session 1

The Coral Triangle Initiative

Speaker

Sharifah Nora, Coral Triangle Initiative Regional Secretariat

- Description of institutional arrangements, membership and history
- Discussion of challenges faced and overall impact of mechanism
- Identification of possible relevant best practices

Session 2

The Caribbean Model

Speaker

Michelle Scobie, Institute of International Relations, The University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine

- Description of institutional arrangements, membership and history
- Discussion of challenges faced and overall impact of mechanism
- Identification of possible relevant best practices

Commentator

Speaker

Nengye Liu, University of Adelaide

Q & A Session

17:45	Workshop Barbecue Buffet Dinner The Best Brew, Level 1, Four Points by Sheraton <i>No pork or lard is used in the food but there will be two-hour free flow of alcoholic drinks.</i>
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WEDNESDAY, 16 JANUARY 2019

08:30–09:00 Registration and coffee

Panel 5 / 09:00–10:30

Key Issues (1)

Moderator

J Ashley Roach, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Session 1

Ship Source Pollution: Current State of Play in Southeast Asia

Speaker

Robert Beckman, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

- Overview of current state of play in Southeast Asia regarding ship source pollution
- Overview of international legal regime and gaps in adoption
- Overview of regional initiatives
- Implementation challenges and Port State Control
- Prospects of regional plan for reception facilities

Session 2

Panel on Ship Source Pollution: Possible Models

Speakers

Brenda Pimentel, Phil. Maritime Research Studies and Services, Inc.

Cheryl Rita Kaur, Maritime Institute of Malaysia, and **Mohd Fairoz Rozali**, Marine Department, Ministry of Transport, Malaysia

- Panel discussion on possible models for future development of ship source pollution regime with focus on regional cooperation
- Overview of MEPSEA and other regional mechanisms
- Discussion of funding possibilities

Q & A Session

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

Panel 6 / 11:00-13:00

Key Issues (2)

Moderator

Nilüfer Oral, Istanbul Bilgi University

Session 1

Plastics and Land-based Pollution: Current State of Play in Southeast Asia

Speaker

Karen Raubenheimer, Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security, University of Wollongong

- Overview of current state of play in Southeast Asia regarding plastics and land-based pollution, making reference to legal regime, implementation challenges...

Session 2

Panel on Plastics and Land-based Pollution: Possible models

Speakers

Daud Hassan, International Centre for Ocean Governance (ICOG), Western Sydney University

Linda Finska, K G Jebsen Centre for the Law of the Sea, UiT The Arctic University of Norway

- Panel discussion on possible models for future development of land-based pollution regime with focus on regional cooperation

Q & A Session

13:00-14:00

Lunch

Panel 7 / 14:00-15:30

Challenges and Prospects in the Region

Moderator

Youna Lyons, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore

Session 1

Legal and Political Challenges and Prospects

Speaker

Jay Batongbacal, Institute for Maritime Affairs and Law of the Sea, University of the Philippines

Muhammad Taufan, Directorate of Legal and Territorial Treaties, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia

Session 2

The Role of Science

Speaker

Chou Loke Ming, Tropical Marine Science Institute, National University of Singapore

- Discussion of marine science and specific challenges to be addressed in marine environmental protection in this region

Session 3

Funding sources and donors

Speaker

Torsten Thiele, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies

- Discussion of financial assistance programmes in place, donor landscape and relevant issues

Session 4

Role of NGOs

Speaker

Sharifah Nora, Coral Triangle Initiative Regional Secretariat

- Discussion of potential role of NGOs and challenges faced

Q & A Session

15:30–16:00	Coffee Break
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Panel 8 / 16:00-17:30
**Final Discussion - The Way Forward:
Prospects for Enhanced Cooperation within ASEAN**
Moderator
Mrs Mary Seet-Cheng, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

Treaty, a new body or strengthening existing bodies?

Speakers TBC

- Wisdom of 'pollution first' approach?
- Importance of institutional development, such as regional activity centres
- Difficulties linked to donor funding for institutional development
- Definition of 'the region'?
- Necessity of a legally binding treaty?
- Reevaluation of the potential strengths of the 'ASEAN way'

17:30

Conference close