

Experts' Forum on Critical Maritime Infrastructure

Towards Stronger Global Governance and Cooperation
to Protect Critical Maritime Infrastructure



Date:

08 Sept. 2026



Time:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM



Location:

DoubleDragon Plaza at DD Meridian Park,
Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard corner
EDSA Extension, Pasay City, Metro Manila

08:00-09:00 AM	Registration and Networking Session Venue for Registration: DFA Ground Floor Lobby
09:00-10:30 AM	Opening Session Venue: Plenary Hall, G/F Welcome Remarks by The Hon. Leo M. Herrera-Lim, Undersecretary for Policy, Department of Foreign Affairs Photo opportunity with the Undersecretary for Policy Speaker: Atty. Dennis Arvin L. Chan, Chief State Counsel, Department of Justice Topic: What lies beneath the Philippines as a Maritime and Archipelagic State: Dealing with Critical Underwater Infrastructures and the Abyssal Gaps in the Law Speaker: Undersecretary Giovanni Carlo J. Bacordo, Department of Energy Topic: Energy Security & Critical Maritime Infrastructure Video Message: H.E. Arsenio Dominguez, Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Speaker: George P. Tardio, Division Chief, National Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-PH), Department of Information and Communications Technology Topic: ARF workshop on Critical Information Infrastructure
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	Lunch

12:00-2:30 PM	Breakout Sessions		
	Breakout Session 1 Closed-door session: Submarine cables	Breakout Session 2 Closed-door session: Security of Ports and Strategic Shipping Routes	Breakout Session 3 Closed-door session: Closed-door session: New Approaches to Protecting CMI
	Venue: Plenary Hall, G/F	Venue: 2A-2C, 2F	Venue: Exec. Lounge, 2F
	Moderator: Asec. Marshall Louis Alferez, DFA-ASPAC	Moderator: Sérgio Bryton, EU-Cybernet	Moderator: Atty. Ana Cosme, UP Institute for Maritime Affairs and Law of the Sea
	<u>Australia</u> Speaker: Mr. Stuart Kaye, Professor, Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS) Topic: Approaches to submarine cable protection	<u>Singapore</u> Speaker: Dr. Zhen Sun, Co-Head of the Ocean Law and Policy (OLP) Programme, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore (NUS CIL) Topic: Securing Critical Shipping Lanes in an Age of Hybrid Maritime Conflict	<u>Japan</u> Speaker: Daisuke Hayashi, Director, Telecommunications Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) Topic: Japan's new approach to Subsea cable protection
	<u>EU</u> Speaker: Mr. Gilles Marhic, Legal Expert at the European External Action Service of the European Union Topic: The international law of the sea framework for the protection of submarine cables and pipelines	<u>Philippines</u> Speaker: Luisito U. Delos Santos, Director II, Enforcement Service Maritime Industry Authority Topic: Securing Strategic Shipping Routes: Strengthening Maritime Governance, Regulatory Oversight and Resilience	<u>United States</u> Speaker: Hayley Steffen, Assistant Chief, Office of International Affairs, Federal Communications Commission Topic: US Approaches to Submarine Cable Regulation and Vendor Security
	<u>Netherlands</u> <u>Online Presentation</u> Speaker: Jerry Paisley, Regional Sales Director, Fugro Topic: The Philippines Critical Seabed Infrastructure - An overview	<u>Philippines</u> Speaker: Vice Admiral Allen Dalangin Topic: The Philippine Coast Guard's Role on Security of Ports and Strategic Shipping Routes	<u>Viet Nam</u> Speaker: Mr. Vu Hai Dang, Director, Centre for ASEAN and Maritime Cooperation, East Sea Institute, Diplomatic Academy of Viet Nam Topic: ASEAN Joint Venture for a Safe and Resilient Southeast Asia Submarine Cable Network

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	<u>Canada</u> Speaker: Geoffrey Tasker, Analyst, Safety and Security, Marine Safety and Security, Legislative, Regulatory & International Affairs, Transport Canada Topic: Public/Private Coordination in the event of a disruption	<u>EU-Cybernet</u> Speaker: Omar Ramadan Topic: Profiling the Port - Cyber, Physical & Psychological security as one	<u>United Kingdom</u> Speaker: Mr. Kerry Burrows, Counter Sabotage and Offshore Resilience (CSOR) State Threats, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) Topic: UK Energy Security: A discussion on UK energy security: deterrence, resilience, and partnerships in the North Sea.
	<u>Netherlands</u> <u>Online Presentation</u> Speaker: Commodore Eduard de van der Schueren, Programme Director for the North Sea Protection Program Topic: Dutch approach of the North Sea Infrastructure Protection Program on protecting CMI		<u>IMO</u> Speaker: Johanna Diwa Acallar, Regional Coordinator, International Maritime Organization (IMO), Regional Presence Office for East Asia Topic: From Maritime Security to Maritime Resilience

2:30-4:00 PM	Plenary Session: Synthesis
	Facilitator: Asec. Robespierre Bolivar, OPPC, DFA Topic: Moderator for each session will be requested to present / Summary of discussions Open Forum Speakers: Asec. Marshall Louis Alferez, Mr. Sérgio Bryton, and Atty. Ana Cosme
4:00-4:15 PM	Health break
4:15-4:45 PM	The Ways Forward: Remarks by H.E. Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro, Secretary of Foreign Affairs
4:45-5:00 PM	Awarding Ceremony by H.E. Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro, Secretary of Foreign Affairs
	Awarding of Certificates of Appreciation
	Group photo opportunity
5:00 PM	End of Forum