

A Monthly Maritime Bulletin and Perspectives of the Maritime Security Programme at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

## Featured MSP Perspectives:



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# MSP Perspectives

#### **AUSTRALIA'S NEW OCEAN PROTECTION ARRANGEMENTS**

By Sam Bateman Advisor, Maritime Security Programme

Australia's Commonwealth Government has recently released a new proposal for protecting the marine environment of Australia's exclusive economic zone (EEZ). This is a plan to proclaim the final Commonwealth Marine Reserves Network, which will bring some 3.1 million square kilometres, or about 40 per cent of the total EEZ, under some form of protection. The proposed network will be the largest system of marine reserves in the world.

The proposed reserves are in Commonwealth waters, not state waters. Under Australia's Offshore Constitutional Settlement between the Commonwealth Government and the state and territory governments, Commonwealth waters

generally start three nautical miles from shore and extend seawards out to the edge of the EEZ.

The primary objective in establishing the reserves is the conservation of biodiversity, while also allowing activities in some areas where doing so is consistent with this primary objective. The reserves network proposal is divided into different zones, including highly protected Marine National Park

Zones, Habitat Protection Zones, Conservation Park Zones, Multiple Use Zones and Special Purpose Zones.

The Habitat Protection Zones and Conservation Park Zones protect habitats, such as coral reefs. Some low impact extractive activities - including some forms of commercial fishing - are allowed in those areas, while recreational fishing and tourism are allowed. The Multiple Use and Special Purpose Zones allow for a greater range of activities, both recreational and commercial. Some activities, for example bottom trawl and gillnet fishing, are excluded.

The network is the result of a long process of stakeholder and public consultation. Considerable opposition to the proposal is evident, particularly from

Queensland fishing interests adjacent to the proposed Coral Sea Reserve. Interested parties now have until September 2012 to comment on the final proposal.

The final network proposal will help ensure that examples of different marine ecosystems and habitats, and the life they support, are included in protected areas. The proposed reserves will complete the Commonwealth waters component of the National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas (NRSMPA), being developed jointly with state and territory governments.

The NRSMPA is the practical outcome of Australia's Oceans Policy released in 1998. This policy was initially hailed as a milestone in oceans management, and an

example for the rest of the world. It was a bold attempt at whole-of-government strategic planning for the oceans. While the main focus was **EEZ** on policy management, the also addressed Australia's national interests in the high seas and maritime aspects of its relations with neighbouring countries. The policy sought to integrate sectoral and jurisdictional interests with

ecosystem-based management.

Unfortunately Australia's Oceans Policy did not achieve the high expectations originally set for it. Institutional barriers prevented integration across jurisdictions and sectors, and rather than reflecting an integrated approach to the oceans, the policy is now mainly an environmental policy focused on implementing a system of bioregional marine plans. The new marine reserves network represents the final stages of a long and controversial process to fulfil Australia's obligations to preserve and protect the marine environment of its EEZ.

Unfortunately Australia's Oceans Policy did not achieve the high expectations originally set for it....

# Naval Development & Policy

#### INDONESIA-SINGAPORE | 10 JULY | THE JAKARTA GLOBE

#### Singapore, Indonesia Ink Submarine Rescue Pact

Singapore and Indonesia signed a submarine rescue support and cooperation agreement on Monday, making it the first such arrangement between Asean countries. The arrangement means that the Republic of Singapore Navy's (RSN) submarine rescue system will be made available to the Indonesian Navy, whose resources will also support the RSN in the event of a submarine disaster.

Full Report See RSIS Commentary

PHILIPPINES-U.S. | 3 JULY | GLOBAL TIMES

#### Manila, Washington continue naval drill

The Philippines and the US started a nine-day joint naval exercise on Monday amid a continued row with China over disputed waters in the South China Sea. The joint naval exercise, the third of its kind between the two sides this year, which involves nearly 1,000 personnel from the two countries' navies and coast guards, is slated to run from Monday till next Tuesday near the Mindanao Sea, located in the southern part of the Philippines.

Full Report

TAIWAN | 7 JULY | ASIA ONE

#### Taiwan probes missing secret naval maps: Report

TAIPEI - Taiwan's military prosecutors were investigating the disappearance of two maps containing secret information on the island's naval deployments, reports said Saturday. The maps were found to be missing during an inventory check by naval officials when a fleet of ageing missile boats was

recently decommissioned, said the state Central News Agency.

**Full Report** 

CHINA | 9 JULY | AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

#### China launches naval war games

BEIJING — China's navy will on Tuesday begin annual military exercises off its east coast, state media reported, amid tensions over maritime territorial disputes with its neighbours. "According to our annual plan for exercises, the Chinese People's Liberation Army's navy will in the coming days hold exercise activities in the waters near the Zhoushan islands," the ministry said in a statement on Monday.

**Full Report** 

CHINA | 13 JULY | DEFENSE NEWS

#### **Chinese Frigate 'Stranded' in Disputed Waters**

BEIJING — A Chinese naval frigate has run aground while patrolling disputed waters in the South China Sea,

the defense ministry said July 13, amid tensions with Chinese ally Cambodia's dogged efforts to keep the the Philippines over territorial claims. The ship was on "routine patrol" when it became stranded near Half Moon Shoal in the Spratly Islands on July 11, the ministry said in a statement posted on its website.

**Full Report** 

INDIA-RUSSIA | 16 JULY | INDIA TODAY

#### Indian Navy eyes expansion with three more Russianmade Krivak IV class frigates

Indian Navy's quest to emerge as a global and regional sea power will receive a major boost with New Delhi and Moscow in negotiations to purchase three additional frigates from Russia. Military partnership has been the cornerstone of Indo-Russian ties and the Indian Navy has been using Russian-made frigates.

AUSTRALIA | 16 JULY | REUTERS

#### Australian navy signs up for wave power at its main base

Australia's navy is seeking not only to rules the waves but to harness them, too, signing a power supply deal for its largest base with cutting-edge wave energy company Carnegie Wave, Carnegie said on Monday. Carnegie Wave has completed the first stage of its project based in Perth, the capital of Western Australia state, and expects to supply all the electricity generated from the project to the base, HMAS Stirling, from the end of 2013, the company said in a Philippines Ratifies Australia Military Pact statement.

Full Report

ASEAN | 17 JULY | REUTERS

#### "ASEAN Way" founders in South China Sea storm

As Philippine Foreign Minister Albert del Rosario began to raise the sensitive issue of the South China Sea at one of last week's Asian summit meetings, his microphone went dead. A technical glitch, said the Cambodian hosts. Perhaps something more sinister, hinted some diplomats who were frustrated by

subject off the agenda.

**Full Report** 

CHINA | 23 JULY | BBC NEWS

#### China approves military garrison for disputed islands

China has approved the formal establishment of a military garrison on disputed South China Sea islands, state media reports. The command will be based in Sansha city on Woody Island in the Paracels; a city formed in June to govern the area.

**Full Report** 

Full Report CHINA-PHILIPPINES | 23 JULY | AL JAZEERA

#### Philippine president adamant over island

The Philippines will not back down from a South China Sea dispute with China, Benigno Aquino, the country's president, has said. While delivering the state of the nation address on Monday, Aquino also said that he would soon secure dozens of new aircraft and ships for maritime defence.

**Full Report** 

AUSTRALIA-PHILIPPINES | 24 JULY | DEFENSE NEWS

MANILA — The Philippine Senate ratified a sensitive military pact with Australia on July 24 that lays out rules for visiting troops, in a move politicians said would improve regional security. The agreement was first signed in 2007 but remained in legislative limbo amid political sensitivities, as the country's constitution explicitly bans the long-term stationing of foreign forces on its territory.

#### CHINA-JAPAN | 31 JULY | THE WASHINGTON POST

# Japan concerned by Chinese naval activity, lack of transparency in decision-making process

TOKYO — Japan voiced concern Tuesday about China's growing assertiveness in regional waters at a time when it is becoming less clear who in Beijing is making decisions about the country's military. In its annual white paper, Japan's Defense Ministry spoke of the "changing" influence of the Chinese military on foreign policy, although the document did not specifically say that the influence is growing.

**Full Report** 

CHINA-INDONESIA | 27 JULY | THE JAKARTA POST

#### China, RI begin missile talks

China and Indonesia have started talks on the ambitious local production of C-705 anti-ship missiles as part of Indonesia's efforts to achieve independence in weapons production. The defense cooperation reflects strengthening ties between both countries amid heightening tension in the South China Sea involving China and a number of Indonesia's ASEAN neighbors.

**Full Report** 

CHINA | 30 JULY | THE MARITIME EXECUTIVE

#### China Launches the Country's Largest and Most Advanced Patrol Vessel

Over the weekend China launched their largest and most advanced patrol vessel, the Haixun 01, set to join the patrol fleet of more than 300 vessels for duty by the end of the year. The vessel was revealed at Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry Co. in Wuhan, Hubei Province as the new flagship vessel capable of maritime surveillance and rescue missions. Shanghai Maritime Bureau, who made the announcement, will manage the ship.

**Full Report** 

#### INDIA | 31 JULY | THE TIMES OF INDIA

# India quietly gate crashes into submarine-launched ballistic missiles club?

NEW DELHI: India in April yanked open the door of the exclusive ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile) club with the first test of Agni-V. Now, if DRDO is to be believed, India has quietly gate-crashed into an even more exclusive club of nuclear-tipped submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs).

# Maritime Safety and Security

#### ASEAN | 9 JULY | ASIA ONE

#### ASEAN navies strengthen maritime information sharing

SINGAPORE - About 60 personnel from the ASEAN navies will be participating in the inaugural ASEAN Maritime Security Information-Sharing Exercise (AMSISX) to be held from July 8 to 10. This marks the first time that ASEAN navies are coming together for an exercise to enhance maritime information sharing.

**Full Report** 

WORLD | 2 JULY | PLATTS EUROPEAN GAS DAILY

#### Pirates not seen as a major LNG threat

Piracy is not likely to become a major problem for LNG tankers, despite two attacks this month, say shipping experts, explaining that the ships' fast speeds and high "freeboards," the distances from the waterline to the deck, deter pirates. The two unsuccessful attacks on LNG tankers took place June 12 and June 20, according to the International Chamber of Commerce.

Full Report Available Upon Request

India | 5 JULY | OUTLOOK INDIA

## Indo-Pak Coast Guards to Hold Talks on Jailed Fishermen

With scores of fishermen languishing in jails in each other's country, heads of Indian Coast Guard (CG) and Pakistan's Maritime Security Agency (MSA) will meet here next month to work for their early release. During the talks scheduled on July 11, Directors General of the two forces will also hold discussions to evolve a joint cross-border fishing mechanism under

which the two countries would take a lenient view towards each other's fishing communities

**Full Report** 

S.KOREA | 6 JULY | THE NEWS

#### S Korea ship classifier defends Iran marine work

LONDON: A South Korean ship classification society on Thursday sidestepped calls from a US lobby group to halt its verification work in Iran, saying it was concerned that vessel safety and marine environment protection could be compromised by political issues. Without verification from such bodies, ships are unable to call at international ports.

#### WORLD | 8 JULY | THE HINDU BUSINESS LINES

#### **Armed Guards on Merchant Ships: A Necessary Evil?**

In the last couple of years, merchant shipping has witnessed the introduction of armed guards on ships, especially those transiting the high risk areas affected by Somalian piracy. The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and various national governments advised the shipping community to follow 'best management practices'. Countries deployed naval ships to protect merchant ships in vulnerable regions. Unfortunately, piracy continued unabated. Navies had to intensify their efforts and monitor and co-ordinate more effectively.

**Full Report** 

INDIA | 12 JULY | WEBINDIA 123

#### India welcomes expansion of ASEAN maritime forum

Asserting that evolving asymmetric threats in the form of maritime terrorism, piracy and drug trafficking have made maritime security issues a strategic priority, External Affairs Minister S.M Krishna on Thursday welcomed the proposal for expansion of the ASEAN maritime forum. Addressing the plenary session of the Second East Asia Summit (EAS) foreign ministers meeting here, Krishna said: "We are actively continuing our cooperation in the maritime area with ASEAN, ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) + members."

**Full Report** 

PHILIPPINES | 14 JULY | ABS CBN NEWS

#### **Coast Guards Hiring Personnel for New Patrol Ships**

MANILA, Philippines - The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) will hire 500 more personnel to form the crew of new patrol ships and rubber boats to keep up with the growing demands of maritime missions, including search and rescue operations. PCG spokesman Lieutenant Commander Armand Balilo yesterday said that the additional personnel would complement the

developments in the PCG such as the procurement of new rubber boats and patrol ships.

**Full Report** 

HORN OF AFRICA | 17 JULY | INFOMARINE.NET

# **EU Launches New Piracy-Monitoring Mission In Horn of Africa, India Ocean States**

The European Council on Monday approved the launch of a new civilian Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) mission, EUCAP Nestor, to support regional maritime capacity-building in the Horn of Africa and Western Indian Ocean states. EUCAP Nestor is part of the EU's comprehensive approach to fighting piracy and instability in the region. A team of around 175 people will work to reinforce the capacity of states in the region to effectively govern their territorial waters. Djibouti, Kenya, the Seychelles and Somalia have accepted the EU's offer of assistance, the Council said in a press release. The mission will be extended to support Tanzania as soon as possible.

**Full Report** 

INDIA | 15 JULY | BUSINESS STANDARD

# More Indian Ships Flout International Safety Standards

The number of Indian ships detained on the international waters for poor adherence to safety and environmental standards has doubled. In 2011, 14 vessels were detained under various port-state-control (PSC) inspections. In 2010, it was seven. With this dismal record, India has entered the grey list of the Tokyo memorandum of understanding (MoU) with no chance of making it to the white list anytime soon. The black, grey and white lists under various port state control MoUs make a distinction after assessing the safety of a ship with black denoting highest-risk zone.

#### **Congested Waters a Recipe for Tension and Tragedy**

DUBAI: Countries and navies must re-examine the use of lethal force and naval security forces must be equipped with better intelligence and understanding of the areas in which they operate, experts say. Monday's incident "could have been an over-reaction because of tension and security worries and that must be investigated", said Khaled Abdullah Al Bu-Ainnain, a retired general and former commander of UAE air defence.

**Full Report** 

SOMALIA | 18 JULY | TIMES LIVE

#### Somali Pirate Kingpins enjoy 'Impunity': UN Experts

Somalia's president has shielded a top pirate leader from arrest by issuing him a diplomatic passport, according to a United Nations investigation which criticises the "climate of impunity" enjoyed by pirate kingpins in Somalia and abroad. The UN Monitoring Group on Somalia said in a report to the Security Council, seen by Reuters, that senior pirate leaders were benefiting from high level protection from Somali authorities and were not being sufficiently targeted for arrest or sanction by international authorities.

Full Report

ASIA | 19 JULY | WEBINDIA 123

#### Asian Coast Guard Chiefs to Discuss Piracy, Security

Chiefs of coast guard agencies of 17 Asian nations will meet here in October this year when they are expected to discuss issues ranging from piracy in the region to law enforcement, maritime crimes and disaster management. The meeting on Oct 1 and 2 will be hosted jointly by the IndianCoast Guard (ICG) and the Japanese Coast Guard under the auspices of Nippon Foundation, a Japan-based non-profit organisation working in the field of maritime security, education and public health.

DUBAI | 19 JULY | TRADE ARABIA

#### **Dubai Group to Boost Maritime Security**

Global Maritime Security Solutions (GMSS), a leading maritime security company in Dubai, will deploy LRV-17, the first nano-composite manned boat, for maritime security including piracy protection, off the coast of Africa and surrounding areas. The LRV-17 manufactured by US-based Zyvex Marine is an advanced long range vessel designed for fuel efficiency and rough sea stabilization with a sprint speed over 40 knots and a range of over 1,500 nautical miles, more than three times the range of comparatively sized vessels.

**Full Report** 

INDIA | 24 JUILY | THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS

#### **Securing our Port**

Despite the enhancement of security measures post 26/11, with India's compliance of the ISPS (International Ship and Port Facility Security Code) in July 2004, Commodore RS Vasan, head, strategy and security, feels "There is no guarantee that incidents similar to the hijacking of the chemical tanker off Oman will not happen again... As in the case of MV Kuber, the chances of the terrorists using smaller vulnerable vessels for anti national/terrorist activities are high and the challenge is that much more difficult for the state, port and law enforcement agencies."

**Full Report** 

INDIA | 28 JULY | DECCAN CHRONICLE

#### **ICG Inducts New Hovercraft**

I (ICG) and To check the sea-board infiltration, the Indian Coast uspices of Guard (ICG) is strengthening its maritime surveillance non-profit with the induction of a new hovercraft in its newly-resecurity, created region, the North East covering the vast coastline along West Bengal. Air Cushion Vehicle, the

hover craft designed by the UK-based Griffon Hoverwork Limited, arrived at Haldia on Thursday from Chennai via AP and Orissa. Chief public relations officer (Eastern Command) Group Captain T.K. Singha told this newspaper: "The ACV (H-188) is expected to start operating from August following commissioning. At present, the ICG uses two hovercrafts built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE)."

# Shipping, Ports, and the Waltitine Economy

WORLD | 12 JULY | NBC NEWS

#### **Canal Expansion Sets Up Battle of the Ports**

For the first time since its completion a century ago, the Panama Calal is being widened, setting up a long and costly battle among U.S. ports for the business of handling supersized container ships filled with goods from Asia. When the project is completed in 2015, ports on the East Coast and gulf Coast will be able to compete for business that unitl now has been dominated by West Coast ports.

**Full Report** 

#### SAUDI ARABIA | 2 JULY | MANILA BULLETIN

#### **National Shipping, Aramco Merge Fleets**

National Shipping Co. of Saudi Arabia and the country's state-owned oil company signed an initial agreement to merge their fleets in a combination worth \$1.3 billion. National Shipping said today in a stock-exchange statement it will pay \$832.8 million to Saudi Arabian Oil Co.'s Vela International Marine Ltd. unit. It also will issue 78.8 million new shares to the subsidiary at 22.25 riyals (\$5.93) each under the non-binding accord, giving Vela a 20 percent stake in National Shipping after the stock is issued.

**Full Report** 

JAPAN | 2 JULY | REUTERS

#### Japan's Sanko Steamship files for bankruptcy

TOKYO, July 2 (Reuters) - One of Japan's oldest shipping firms, Sanko Steamship, filed for bankruptcy on Monday after months of battling with ship owners over the restructuring of \$2 billion in debt, becoming the latest casualty of the four-year-old shipping industry downturn. The dry bulk and tanker shipping

firm, started in 1934, joins U.S.-based General Maritime Corp, the Containership Company, and South Korea's Korea Line in seeking bankruptcy protection amid rock bottom freight rates, an oversupply of vessels and high bunker fuel prices.

**Full Report** 

DUBAI | 5 JULY | CHINA ECONOMIC NET

#### **DP World cashes in on Australian transaction**

Dubai Ports (DP) World, globally the third largest maritime port operator, sold through its Australian unit its share in the Adelaide Container Terminal for 134 million Australian dollars (138 million U.S. dollars), the firm said in a media release on Wednesday.DP World Australia, in which DP World owns a quarter, has sold all of its 60 percent shareholding in the Adelaide container port in the south-east of the fifth continent to Flinders Ports Adelaide Container Terminal.

SRI LANKA | 10 JULY | LANKA BUSINESS ONLINE

#### Sri Lanka targets US\$15bn into Colombo 'port city'

Sri Lanka is expecting 15 billion US dollars of investments to pour into a 'port city' on reclaimed beachfront land bordering the island's main port in Colombo, during the next 10 years, an official said. Reclamation of the 243 acre site is set to begin in October and is expected to be completed in 39 months, Sri Lanka Ports Authority chairman Priyath Bandu Wickrema said.

**Full Report** 

HONG KONG | 10 JULY | THE HINDU BUSINESS LINE

#### Hong Kong's TS Lines Helps Expands China, India Network

Hong Kong's TS Lines has joined hands with Korea's Hyundai Merchant Marine (HMM) to launch the CIX string covering Korea, China, Singapore and India, according to shipping industry sources. Deploying five vessels of the capacity of 4,250-TEU each, the Far East-India CIX loop has calls at Busan, Shanghai, Ningbo, Shenzhen-Yantian, Singapore, Port Kelang, Nhava Sheva, and back to Singapore and Busan. This string, according to the company, offers shippers a fast and direct service between the Far East and the west coast of India, thus helping expand the China-India network.

Full Report

WORLD | 12 JULY | BYM MARINE AND MARITIME NEWS

# Andy Tung to Succeed Retiring Philip Chow on World Shipping Council Board

At its June 2012 meeting in Washington, DC, the World Shipping Council (WSC) board of directors confirmed the election of Mr Andy Tung, Chief Executive Officer, Orient Overseas Container Line (OOCL) to fill the WSC

board of directors' seat vacated by Mr Phillip Chow upon his retirement. The World Shipping Council is an association of liner shipping companies with offices in Brussels and Washington, D.C. Its members transport over 90% of international containerized trade.

**Full Report** 

PHILIPPINE | 16 JULY | SUN STAR BACOLOD

#### Firm tells DOTC Chief: Stop Banago Roro Port

THE Bacolod Real Estate Development Corporation (Bredco) is asking Transportation and Communications Secretary Manuel Roxas to stop the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA)-Port Management Office (PMO) in Pulupandan from constructing a port for Roll On, Roll Off (Roro) vessels in Barangay Banago, Bacolod City.

**Full Report** 

THAILAND | 16 JULY | PHUKET NEWS

#### Phuket Deep Sea Port 'Not Deep Enough'

PHUKET: In an effort to kick-start the stalled Phuket Deep Sea Port expansion project, the head of the local Marine Department Office escorted representatives from two major cruise line companies to a meeting with Governor Tri Augkaradacha on July 12 to discuss the problems encountered by large ships using the facility. Located at Cape Panwa, the deep sea port has long been criticized as too small to accommodate large vessels, both cargo and passenger, for docking.

Full Report

AUSTRALIA | 18 JULY | STOCK & LAND

#### **Asciano to Cast OFF Half its Sydney Wharfies**

Asciano will more than halve the number of wharfies at its Patrick container operations at Sydney's Port Botany once it completes plans to automate a large portion of the work within the next two years. As it steps up efforts to prepare for stiffer competition from newcomer Hutchison Ports, Australia's largest listed ports operator announced today \$348 million in spe

nding on expanding its terminal at Port Botany.

Full Report

which mandates improving the port system and road network within and around the port community to create a world-class logistics and investment hub for Southeast Asia.

S. KOREA | 24 JULY | MAEIL BUSINESS NEWSPAPER

**Full Report** 

#### S.Korea's Shipping Industry gets Boost in Q2

South Korea's shipping industry is expecting an improved performance, buoyed by growing container traffic in the American and European routes. Domestic shipping companies are projected to swing to a surplus in the second quarter (Q2) of this year after having suffered a massive deficit which is caused by the global economic downturn, surging oil prices and falling shipping charges.

Full Report

INDIA | 23 JULY | LIVE MINT

MALAYSIA | 28 JULY | BUSINESS TIMES

#### Privatisation vital for long-term survival of Penang **Port**

PETALING JAYA: Penang Port Sdn Bhd must be privatised to boost competitiveness, efficiency and create new business opportunities. Former Penang Port Commission chairman Datuk Seri Zahrain Mohamed Hashim said privatisation can help ensure the port's long-term survival.

**Full Report** 

#### Law ministry: ABG Ports cannot withdraw from PSA consortium

Bangalore: ABG Ports Pvt. Ltd cannot withdraw from the consortium that won a contract to build a new container loading facility at Jawaharlal Nehru port, India's law ministry has said, adding a fresh twist to the uncertainty surrounding the project. Singapore's PSA International Pte Ltd along with ABG Ports was awarded the project on 26 September 2011 after the consortium quoted the highest revenue share of 50.828% in a public tender for the Rs. 6,700 crore terminal.

AUSTRALIA | 31 JULY | MARINE LINK

#### Australia NSW Ports to be Privatised

The New South Wales State Government plans to privatise Port Kembla & Port Botany to increase funds for infrastructure projects. Of the \$500 million expected to be generated from the Port Kembla lease. \$100 million will be spent on infrastructure in the Illawarra. The rest will be spent on other projects throughout the state.

**Full Report** 

**Full Report** 

PHILIPPINES | 27 JULY | BAIRD MARITIME

#### **Subic Bay Port Upgrading Facilities to Fill Shortages**

The Port of Subic Bay, with its strategic location in northern Philippines, continues to modernise its facilities and expand its infrastructure to establish itself as a regional gateway to the growing Asean market and fill the capacity shortage in the region. The ongoing modernization efforts are part of the national government's Subic Bay Port Development Project,