



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



June 9, 2008

Global Maritime Partnerships (GMP)

"I have seen the amount of knowledge that has been given to African Navies ... The [Cameroon] Navy will be able to use this training to better secure their waters and the safer the Gulf of Guinea is, the safer the world will be."

-- Lt. Cmdr. Clement Fru Fron, Cameroon Navy

GMP represents the overarching framework by which the U.S. maritime services in conjunction with the Interagency, other U.S. military services, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private industry will foster and sustain cooperative relationships with more international partners to promote maritime safety and security. GMP was approved by the Deputies Committee of the National Security Council in February 2008 making it an official U.S. Government initiative with U.S. interagency support. GMP is voluntary, non-binding, and self-organizing; it respects national sovereignty and the rule of law.

GMP in Action - Past, Current, and Future

- 2007 SOUTHCOM Global Fleet Stations (GFS) deployment – Mil-to-mil training emphasis on building partner capability and capacity with seven Latin American and Caribbean nations. Teamed with Department of State to implement innovative Surge Political Advisor (POLAD) program to enhance planning and execution with partner nations; planning for next GFS in progress.
- 2007-2008 Africa Partnership Station (APS) deployment – Multinational staff from 10 African and European nations; partnered with five government and non-government organizations to build partner capacity in 15 African nations; U.S. interagency and NGO team included the Department of Commerce, Department of State, and Department of Energy; and NGOs such as Catholic Relief Services, Project Handclasp, Project HOPE, and Wildlife Conservation Society; planning for fiscal year (FY) 2009 APS in progress.
- Pacific Partnership (PP) – Joint, interagency, multinational, and NGO support provided engineering and medical training with humanitarian medical, dental, and veterinary care to populations in the Pacific region. USNS Mercy is underway for PP-08 with plans to team with seven cities in five countries to conduct GMP activities.
- Continuing Promise (CP) – CP-08 continues the USNS Comfort proactive humanitarian assistance mission in Central/South America in 2007. Currently, USS Boxer is deployed for CP-08 Pacific Phase and will team with three partner nations. USS Kearsarge will team with six partner nations during the Atlantic Phase.
- 2008 NGO Conference – OPNAV is planning the first Navy-sponsored NGO event in Washington, D.C., to communicate the new maritime strategy and GMP principles and opportunities.

Vision

International maritime partners leading GMP activities consistent with local and regional requirements, with and without U.S. participation/involvement. The U.S. will incorporate GMP activities in its international engagements to further advance cooperative relationships and GMP principles.

Key Messages

- Building cooperative relationships helps establish security and prosperity, and is the foundation for maritime safety and security.
- GMP is a key enabler of a maritime strategy imperative to foster and sustain cooperative relationships with more international partners.
- USN supports GMP through various deployments and activities that promote maritime safety and security.

Facts & Figures

- APS 2007-2008 – Six month deployment led by a multinational staff from 10 African and European nations; partnered with five government and non-government organizations to engage with 15 African nations.
- May 2008 – State Department cable to all diplomatic and consular posts discussing GMP principles and soliciting post/host nation dialogue and participation.
- For more information, email: gmp.cno.fct@navy.mil.