

**Chief of Naval Operations  
Adm. Jonathan Greenert**

**International Seapower Symposium Closing Remarks  
19 September 2014**

**Admiral Greenert:** I share with you a few of the things that I took away, that I think we've agreed to or at least I'll tell you I have agreed to take on here.

One is cyber. We've got to, in my view, study this thing and see how does that apply to the collective group here. It's very national, and that's really not specifically our business, but it's also one truly international and transnational. So I really appreciate Admiral [Lahey] agreeing to, when we do [IMDEX] here, those of us that will be there, and while we've got the whole group here, that we take this on and get into some substance of that in Singapore next May for the interested panel members that will be there.

CUES, I for one am very pleased at how we've grabbed a hold of this and said what are we going to do with this? And I was taken by the Indian Ocean group, the Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea, Caspian Sea and the Pacific group, everybody commented on it but I heard those groups saying look, let's take a hard look at this, consider a governing body and make sure CUES is address.

I will tell you, it will be in this forum's agenda next time, that whatever condition CUES is in. We know it's adopted in the Pacific. Twenty-one nations signed to it and they're in. And you heard Admiral Wu and others say we are training, we are pushing this to our people. I'm the same way about that. The other nations did the same.

So what I will need, we're going to -- I'm going to suggest, I'm going to promote, you're either in or you're not, I'll leave that up to you, a working group of experts. We will pull some people. We need some people from the regions to come together and look at the document and study it and get comments. I'll get to how we pass those comments around to all of us.

Some of you in the regions are going to take it on. You said so and you can use your regional fora to do that. That's fine. I'm telling you that this body will bring CUES to the table for discussion. So more on how we'll get that working group going.

Information sharing. There are a lot of systems out there in use today. I think we need to continue to nurture and see how do we get these documented and cataloged so that people can plug and play. That we take these information systems to the lowest common denominator so we don't get tripped up in a lot of interoperability memoranda of agreement that we can't get by policies. Now that may require a regional approach. I understand that. But if we can catalog that, then folks can go reach out to them and say how does this thing work? It seems to work so well in the Atlantic region. It seems to work pretty darn well in the Indian Ocean region, maybe perhaps as an example. So how do we allow everybody Gulf of Guinea, et cetera, to take aboard that what they can.

It was suggested on the first day that we post best practices somewhere. That we take, for example, where are we on CUES. Take, for example, where are we on information sharing. And put it somewhere so people can read it, so you all can get to it.

So the War College here, this Naval War College will build and populate and provide for you the access to a probably web-based lessons learned site. A repository of best practices and sort of status. What we'll do is we'll build it here. We'll have this done certainly well within six months. We'll have that built and we'll get it out to you. We will need contacts, there are a lot of contacts here to get it to you. And by the way, the fact that you registered here, we have a point to get that data out to you and then we will allow you to have access to this site where we can continue to get to that.

High-end topics. It's my opinion, and I will push to including in this, an opportunity in this forum to talk about continuous talks about energy and security and access. To talk about the Arctic from the perspective of the security there, where and what remains a security threat and where it applies in the international solution.

I think the fact of the matter is, ladies and gentlemen, there is ice there today and there's going to be an ocean tomorrow. Sometime. And we're going to have to deal with it and we ought to understand and shake out the implications to a point that we are satisfied with that.

There may be other high-end issues that we talk about. Those are two that I think are worthy of it.

So we need to come forward with tangible solutions where they need to apply in our respective regions or globally. I think that's how we move from here. We'll move at a speed that makes sense for all of you, and you know that none of this is binding, it's voluntary. And you wouldn't be here if you weren't interested in gasping that and becoming a part of that. We'll have that challenge to apply what we learned here and come up with some solutions.

I'd like to reiterate what I said the first day. This is a continuum. This is one of several fora that we have, symposia that we have. There is the IMSS that was last in Jakarta, as I recall. [IMDEX] will be in Singapore. [DIMDEX] was in Doha in the spring. The RSS I believe [Admiral D'Georgio] made it clear that that will be in [Venice] here in 2015. The Western Pacific Naval Symposium rotates. The Indian Ocean Naval Symposium rotates. And of course the Inter-America Naval Conference. So lots of opportunities for us to continue to talk about these matters.

The next event that I'm aware of is right around the corner, a few weeks away, in Victoria, Canada, 6-9 October, the Maritime Security Challenges of 2014.

I will publish soon for you when this next ISS 22 is going to take place. I recognize we've got a lot to accomplish but I think we're well on our way and I appreciate very very much you all being here. Some of you won't be here at the next ISS because you're changing in one way or another and going to another chapter in your book. I pass to those of you that I've had the honor and privilege to serve with my very best wishes for you to continue to have a happy life, a very healthful life continuing from here and continue to be successful.

To all of you, please travel safely. Please stay in touch. And remember, that trust and confidence are the key words here. My very best to you. And as Admiral D'Georgio passed along, I say the same. Fair winds and following seas to all of you. Thank you very much.

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