

## INDONESIA - INDIA DEFENSE DIPLOMACY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

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### Abstract

This study focuses on defense diplomacy between Indonesia and India in the Indian Ocean. This study used defense diplomacy concept and qualitative method with Soft System Methodology (SSM) and NVivo for the analysis technique. The data was collected through interviews and literature study. The results show that Indian Ocean has become important region in the geopolitic in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Indonesia and India view the Indian Ocean as their strategic environment. Diplomatic ties between Indonesia and India have built since 1951 and enhanced with Strategic Partnership open the opportunity for both countries to conduct defense diplomacy in the Indian Ocean. Forms of defense diplomacy between Indonesia and India are through Biennial Defense Minister Forum, Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC), Navy to Navy Talk, India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (Ind-Indo Corpat). The defense diplomacy activities aim to improve the Confidence Building Measures (CBM) and the defense capability.

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## INTRODUCTION

Indian Ocean is the third largest ocean in the world after the Pacific and Atlantic Ocean with the total area of 73.33 million km<sup>2</sup> and the coastline along 66,526 km. Indian Ocean covers 20 percent of the world ocean

and one third of the world population. Indian Ocean is bordered by India on the North, East African Coast and the Arabian Peninsula on the West, Thailand, the Malay Peninsula, Indonesia, and Australia on the East (Michel & Sticklor, 2012).

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Indian Ocean has become a very important region for the geopolitics in 21st century considering the potentials and the strategic value such as the source of energy and lanes for the world trade and shipping. Indian Ocean has the natural resources potentials such as the 65 percent of the crude oil, 53 percent of the natural gas, 80.7 percent of the gold, and 55 percent of the tin in this region (Roza, 2015). In the area of Indian Ocean there are some choke points such as the Strait of Hormuz, Bab el-Mandeb, Nine Degree Channel, Six Degree Channel, Malacca Strait, Singapore Strait, Sunda Strait, and Lombok Strait (Cole, 2013). Through these straits, Indian Ocean plays significantly as the trade and international shipping lanes because of its role as the main routes with 100,000 vessels in each year covering 30% of the world trade (Iram Khalid, 2013).

Indian Ocean also becomes an important region for Indonesia and India. For Indonesia, Indian Ocean is prioritized through the Policy of World Maritime Axis since the administration of President Joko

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 13th of November 2014, these pillars are the maritime culture, the management of marine resources, maritime connectivity, maritime diplomacy, and maritime power (Roza, 2015).

President Joko Widodo aims to direct Indonesia as the “power that wades through the two Oceans.” To realize it, Indonesia needs to extend its involvement in Indian and Pacific Ocean as the strategic environment for Indonesia in implementing the Policy of World Maritime Axis (Limbong, 2015). If during the administration of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, the foreign policy of Indonesia were focusing to the ASEAN and Pacific, during the administration of President Joko Widodo, the coverage is extended by involving the Indian Ocean as the strategic environment for Indonesia. It is reflected from the National Mid-Term Development Plan/*Rencana Pembangunan Jangka Menengah Nasional* (RPJMN) 2015-2019, stating that the Indian Ocean should receive more concern and serious response (Bappenas, 2014).

Later, India as one of the great power in Asia that bordered directly to the Indian Ocean, reaffirming the important role of Indian Ocean because of 97% of their trade is done by the sea (Cole, 2013). The most important sea route for Indonesia lies on the Indian Ocean. Since 2014, the policy of Act East implemented by the Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, India places the Indian Ocean as the first priority in their policy. Some of the principals of Indian policy toward the Indian Ocean are to make the Indian Ocean as a safe, peace, and stable region; improving the security cooperation among with their partners in the region; strengthening the regional mechanism to secure the ocean; developing sustainable economy in the region; and opening up for the cooperation with the external power in Indian Ocean (Cole, 2013).

By placing Indian Ocean as the important region in the implementation of Indonesian and Indian foreign policy, the



**Figure 1.** The Map of Indian Ocean  
Source: Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc, 2012.

Widodo. The direction of Indonesia's development that previously depended to the land is changing to the maritime-basis. President Joko Widodo explained the five pillars of the Policy of World Maritime Axis during the 9th East Asian Summit in

national interest of both countries would be intersected each other. However, India responding Indonesia not as their threat, but the strategic partner for the cooperation in managing the Indian Ocean. India is open to strengthen the defense cooperation with other countries that having their interest in Indian Ocean (Cole, 2013).

Indonesia and India have been in diplomatic relations since the 3rd of March 1951. The development of the bilateral relations between Indonesia and India happened since 2005, marked by the sign of Strategic Partnership agreement by the Indonesian President, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and the Indian Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh. Strategic Partnership between Indonesia and India was improved in 2011. Later, in October 2013, the Indian Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh visited Indonesia to confirm five partnership initiatives aim to strengthen the Strategic Partnership, consist of the strategic engagement, defense and security cooperation, comprehensive economic partnership, cultural and people-to-people links, dan cooperation in responding common challenges (Kemlu, n.d.).

Strategic Partnership agreement between Indonesia and India become the history milestone for the bilateral relations of both nations because each of them perceive the other as the strategic partner. It opens the possibility for Indonesia and India to conduct the defense diplomacy in order to attain their national interest in Indian Ocean. This study focuses to discuss about the defense diplomacy between Indonesia and India in the Indian Ocean.

### **The Concept of Defense Diplomacy**

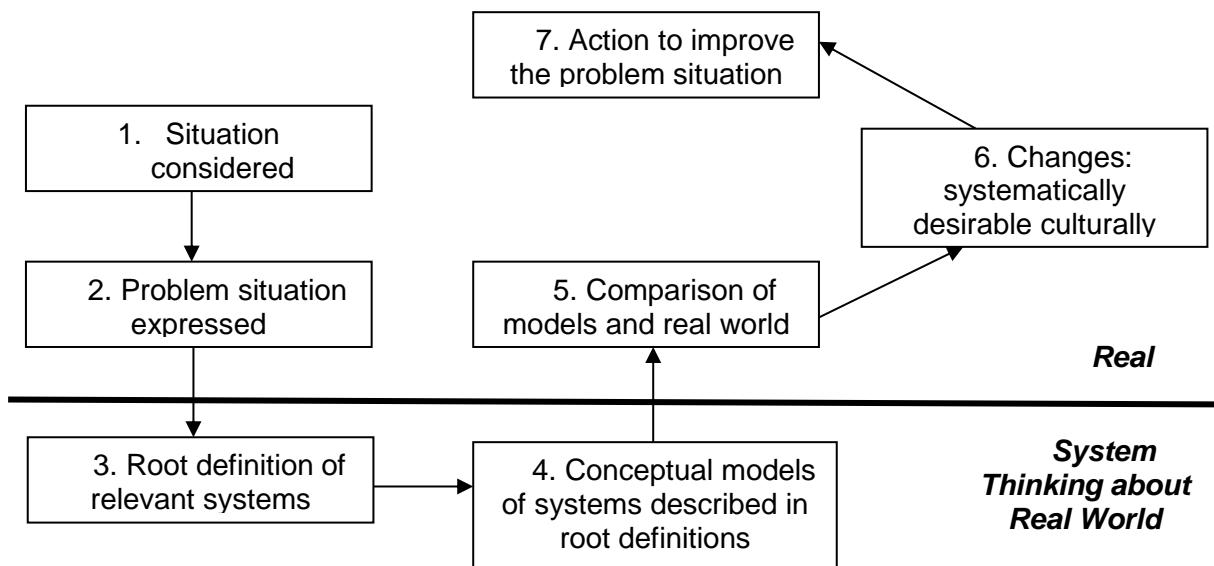
According to Cottey and Foster, the defense diplomacy is “the peace time use of armed forces and related infrastructure (primarily defense ministries) as a tool of foreign and security policy and more specifically the use of military cooperation and assistance.” (Cottey & Forster, 2013) The form of the defense diplomacy are :(a) bilateral and multilateral cooperation between senior

military officers and the civil officers of the ministry of defense; (b) the placement of the defense attaches in friendly countries; (c) training to the military and civil officers from the ministry of defense and armed forces; (d) the provision of expertise and advice to the armed forces control democratically, defense management and military technical field; (e) contact and the exchange of the military personnels and the units and visit to the warships; (f) placement of the military or civil personnels in the partner countries' ministry of defense or the armed forces; (g) appointment for the training; (h) provision of the military equipment and other military assistance; (i) bilateral and multilateral training (Cottey & Forster, 2013).

The defense diplomacy has three main characteristics, the first one, defense diplomacy for confidence building measures, conducted to improve the good relations among nations, reduce the tension and misperception, openness and transparency in developing the military capability so that other parties might not see it as a threat and develop the trust among nations. The second one, defense diplomacy for defense capabilities aims to improve the defense capability of a nation in facing the potential threats. It relates to the cooperation in the defense field such as the joint-training, export-import of weapons, and military personnels education and exchange. The third one, defense diplomacy for defense industry aims to develop the state defense industry. It is conducted by the partnership in defense industry, transfer of technology, license purchase, and investment in defense industry (Multazam, 2010).

### **METHODS**

This study uses the qualitative method, the research is done through understanding the individual and group meaning of the social problems (Creswell, 2009). The author uses the data processing technique with NVivo and the data analysis technique with Soft System Methodology (SSM). The datas that



**Figure 2.** Working Stage of SSM

Source: Checkland, P., & Scholes, J. (1990). *Soft System Methodology in Action*. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd, p. 27.

have been collected are then processed with the software application of NVivo. NVivo's application is functioning to process and organize the qualitative data efficiently and effectively (Bandur, 2016). The data processing with NVivo application is started by grouping the sources such as book, document, journal, interview, and website. After that, the author would import the data based on their sources. The next process is the data coding, to classify the data based on the sub-themes in the writing. From the coding process, the analysis result from the research question might be seen.

After the data processing, the datas are analyzed using the Soft System Methodology (SSM). SSM is the qualitative method used to analyze the complex phenomenon, unstructured problems, and the different views toward a phenomenon. The approach is action research which the author might try to find the problem situation and do the action to solve it (Checkland & Poulter, 2010). Thus, SSM is an organized method to solve the social problem situation and act based on the solution or to correct the problem.

On the application of this writing, there are seven stages of SSM. On these stages, there would be separated between the real world and system thinking (Checkland & Poulter,

2010). These are the seven application stages of SSM. The first stage of SSM , problem situation considered problematic means, is the stage to describe the problems, as explained by the introductory part. The second stage, problem situation expressed, is the stage to correlate the relations among problems with actors and their interest, consist of the first analysis, second analysis, and the third analysis. First analysis consist of Clients (C), Marina Ika Sari as the researcher, Practitioners (P) is the researcher, and Owners (O) are Indonesia and India.

Second analysis consist of the role, norm, and value. In the arrangement of this article, Indonesia and India are the two countries with the role to conduct the defense diplomacy by the representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense, and the Navy of both countries. Related to the norm, the defense diplomacy of Indonesia and India is under the legal basis of Laws No. 21 of 2006 concerning of the Agreement on Cooperative Activities in the Fields of Defense. Through this regulation, Indonesia and India are expected to improve the bilateral cooperation in the field of defense to attain the national interest of each countries and the collective interest in Indian Ocean.

Further, the value related to this article is that the defense diplomacy activity between Indonesia and India in Indian Ocean as the part of Indonesia's and India's foreign policy implementation aim to attain the national interest of each countries and the collective interest in the region.

Third analysis consist of the disposition of power and nature of power. Disposition of power in this article means the organization structure made hierarchially from each institutions that having role in the defense diplomacy between Indonesia and India in Indian Ocean such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense, and the Navy from both countries, the job distribution from each of the institutions is according to their field, the coordination is needed among those institutions so that the policy might be aligned. Nature of power in this article is that each of the institutions affect the defense diplomacy implementation between Indonesia and India in the Indian Ocean.

The third stage of the SSM is the root definition. Based on this focus study, root definition is the activity of defense diplomacy between Indonesia and India that could be improved by renewing the Bilateral Agreement of Defense Cooperation Activity to extend the defense cooperation area related to the Indian Ocean. Further, the root definition is analyzed by Customers, Actors, Transformation process, Worldview, Owner, Environment constrains (CATWOR) and 3E (Efficacy, Efficiency, dan Effectiveness).

*Customer* : Indonesia, India

*Actor* : Indonesian Ministry of Defense, Indian Ministry of Defense

*Transformation*: Bilateral Agreement of Defense Cooperation Activity that has expired, so that it needs to be renewed.

*Worldview*: Defense diplomacy is the peace time use of armed forces and related infrastructure (primarily defense ministries) as a tool of

foreign and security policy and more specifically the use of military cooperation and assistance.

*Owner* : Indonesian Minister of Defense, Indian Minister of Defense

*Environment*: Bureaucracy

*Efficacy*: Bilateral Agreement of the Defense Cooperation Activity signed by both countries in 2001 and ratified by Indonesia in 2006. In December 2016, the validity has expired, so that it needs to be renewed.

*Efficiency*: Renewal process of Bilateral Agreement of the Defense Cooperation Activity between Indonesia and India only involves the Ministry of Defense

*Effectiveness*: Bilateral Agreement of Defense Cooperation Activity between Indonesia and India could be used to extend the defense cooperation area related to the Indian Ocean.

The fourth stage of SSM is the conceptual models of the system. The formulation of the conceptual model is based on the root definition that has been made previously. Root definition contains about the system that should be made for the transformation, meanwhile the conceptual model contains about what to do with the system (Hardjosokarto, 2012). There are seven activities in conceptual model, such as:

*Activities*

1. Realizing that the Bilateral Agreement of the Defense Cooperation Activity between Indonesia and India has expired since December 2016.
2. Realizing the urgency of Bilateral Agreement of the Defense Cooperation Activity renewal.
3. Indonesia and India could extend the defense cooperation area related to the Indian Ocean.

4. Indonesia and India conducted the defense diplomacy through the formulation negotiation of the new Bilateral Agreement of the Defense Cooperation Activity.
5. Indonesia and India sign and legitimize the new Bilateral Agreement of the Defense Cooperation Activity
6. The implementation of Bilateral Agreement of the Defense Cooperation Activity could improve the defense diplomacy between Indonesia-India to attain the national interest of both nations in Indian Ocean.
7. The defense diplomacy activity Indonesia-India aims to increase the confidence building measures (CBM) and the defense capability for both countries.

The fifth stage of SSM is the comparison of models and real world or the conceptual model comparison with the real-world situation. The conceptual model comparison in this article tries to compare the activities of the conceptual models that have been made previously to the real-world conditions. According to the activities from the conceptual models as explained earlier, the comparison in real world consist of the first until fourth activities that have been done by Indonesia and India. Meanwhile the fifth and sixth activity have not been done by India and Indonesia. The seventh activity is the goal to be accomplished from the implementation of defense diplomacy between Indonesia and India in Indian Ocean.

The sixth stage of SSM, are changes: systematically desirable, culturally feasible. This stage will determine the desired changes. The explanation about the desired changes would be explained below.

## DISCUSSION

### **The Forms of Defense Diplomacy between Indonesia and India in Indian Ocean**

#### *Biennial Defense Minister Forum*

Biennial Defense Minister Forum is the biannual meeting among the Ministers of Defense. Indonesia and India have agreed to improve the defense cooperation through the Biennial Defense Minister Forum or the biannual meeting between Indonesian Minister of Defense and Indian Minister of Defense since October 16th 2012. This meeting is the follow-up of the agreement between the leaders of both countries on January 2011, during the visit of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to India (Kementerian Pertahanan, 2014).

In 2012, the Indian Minister of Defense, Shri AK Antony visited Indonesia to conduct a meeting with his partner, Indonesian Minister of Defense, Purnomo Yusgiantoro as a good turning and starting point. Through the first execution of the Biennial Defense Minister Forum, Indonesia and India discussed about the effort to improve the bilateral cooperation on defense. Based on the statement from the expert Purnomo Yusgiantoro, through this forum, Indonesia and India discussed about the cooperation related to the Indian Ocean. Both parties shared their views on the issue related to the regional and global security, bilateral training, defense technology production, government summits, terrorism, and the contestation in the Indian Ocean (Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, 2012).

The second Biennial Defense Minister Forum has been executed in India on January 2018. During this meeting, Indonesian and Indian Government have agreed to improve the defense cooperation through the joint-training among Air Force, Navy, and Army. Other than that, defense cooperation is also conducted in weapons industry and by intensifying the summits of both countries officials (Purwanto, 2018).

Based on the defense diplomacy concept by the Cottey and Foster, Biennial Defense Minister Forum is the form of defense diplomacy, specifically the bilateral cooperation among senior military officers and civil officers from the Ministries of Defense. Biennial Defense Minister aims to build the Confidence Building Measures (CBM) between the Indonesia and India by involving the Ministry of Defense from both countries. By the existence of the forum and discussion, both countries become more open and transparent in discussing about the defense cooperation problems and the issues that might be handled collectively. The second Biennial Defense Minister Forum should be executed immediately because of the postponement since 2012. Biennial Defense Minister Forum is the high level forum among Ministers of Defense, so that it becomes very important for the improvement of defense cooperation between Indonesia and India.

#### *Joint Defense Cooperation Committee (JDCC)*

Indonesia and India have agreed to improve the military-to-military cooperation through the establishment of Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC). JDCC is the defense cooperation committee in its implementation is the meeting between the Secretary General of the Ministry of Defense of Indonesia and the Secretary General of the Ministry of Defense of India (Jha, 2011). JDCC is the bilateral forum in the field of the defense on Secretary General level of both countries Ministry of Defense.

During the forum, the technical execution is divided into two of Joint Working Groups, consist of the Joint Working Groups I and Joint Working Groups II. Joint Working Groups I discuss about the defense policy and the military cooperation between Indonesia and India. Meanwhile the Joint Working Groups II discuss about the military facility, logistics, defense industry, and the research

and development (Kementerian Pertahanan, n.d.-b).

According to the data from the defense cooperation report of Indonesia-India received from the Sub Directorate of the Bilateral Cooperation Ministry of Defense, during the first JDCC meeting in Jakarta, on 11th-14th of June 2007, the delegations of India led by the SecGen of Indian Ministry of Defense, Shekhar Dutt and the delegations of Indonesia led by the LetGen of National Army Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin. Both parties conducted the meeting in the Indonesian Ministry of Defense and have agreed to open the opportunity for the cooperation in defense production, the research related to the defense and scientist training would be conducted in India. Shekar Dutt stated that the dialogue marked the circumstances of hope, trust, and belief. JDCC produced a framework to extend the cooperation on defense between Indonesia and India. One of the discussion was about the effort to handle the piracy through the coordinated patrols by the Navy of both countries. India aspires to have a role in maintaining the security along the trade route of the Mallaca Strait. For Indonesian government, external countries might contribute to the security of Mallaca Strait by giving technical assistance (Suryanarayana, 2016).

Later, the second JDCC meeting conducted in New Delhi on June 17th-18th 2010. During the meeting, Indonesia and India examined the urgency of both countries to promote the peace in the region and officially agreed on the annual India-Indonesia strategic dialogue (Ghoshal, 2011). The third JDCC conducted in Jakarta on October 14th – 17th 2012. Indonesia was represented by the SecGen of Indonesian Ministry of Defense, Mid-Marshall of the National Army Eris Herryanto and India was represented by the SecGen of the Indian Ministry of Defense, Shri Shashi Kant Sharma. According to the second meeting of JDCC in New Delhi on 2010, the third meeting should be conducted in 2011. However considering the position of

Indonesia as the ASEAN leader on 2011, the Minister of Defense should facilitate the ASEAN Defense Ministerial Meeting (ADMM) during the year of 2011, so that the third meeting of JDCC was postponed until 2012. During the third meeting of JDCC, both countries discussed about the peacekeeping operation, counter terrorism, and the Indian role in the Indian Ocean. This meeting becomes a moment to improve the defense cooperation between Indonesia and India by exploring the possible activities in the future. Other than that, JDCC also gives the opportunity for the defense cooperation evaluation by both countries (Kementerian Pertahanan, n.d.-b).

Later, according to the defense cooperation report data of the Indonesia-India from the Sub Directorate of the Bilateral Cooperation Ministry of Defense, the fourth JDCC conducted in New Delhi on December 20th 2013. Indonesian delegations led by the Mayor General of National Army Sonny E.S.Prasetyo, meanwhile the Indian delegations led by Smt. Smita Nagaraj. Based on the statement from the Head of Sub Directorate of India, Directorate of the South and Middle Asia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the fifth meeting of JDCC was postponed in 2016. The meeting was then conducted later in January 2017. During the meeting, the Indonesian delegations explained about the trilateral cooperation on Sulu Ocean, the procurement process in the Ministry of Defense and the National Army, and National Defense Policy. Meanwhile the Indian delegations explained about the logistics cooperation between India and the US, and the borderline management and maritime security. The fifth JDCC was closed by the signing of Minute of Meeting by the SecGen of Indonesian Ministry of Defense and the SecGen of Indian Ministry of Defense (Kementerian Pertahanan, n.d.-a).

According to the defense diplomacy concept by Cottey and Foster, JDCC is the form of the defense diplomacy as the bilateral cooperation among senior military

and civil officers of the ministries of defense, delegated by the Secretary General of Indonesian and Indian Ministry of Defense. The fifth JDCC conducted in January 2017, is the form of the defense cooperation implementation between Indonesia and India which was aligned with the result of the Indonesian President visit to New Delhi on December 2016.

#### *Navy to Navy Talk*

Navy to Navy Talk is the forum to discuss about the defense cooperation between the Indonesian Navy and Indian Navy. Navy to Navy Talk Forum is conducted biannually. Referring to the defense diplomacy concept by the Cottey and Foster, Navy to Navy Talk as the defense diplomacy of Indonesia and India is conducted by the contact among the military personnel, especially the Indonesian and Indian Navy. The contact or interaction between Indonesian Navy and Indian Navy could be seen as by the cooperation area of Navy to Navy Talk consist of the coordinated patrol, hydrography cooperation, education, training, and information sharing.

During the implementation of Navy to Navy Talk between Indonesian Navy and Indian Navy conducted in New Delhi on June 10th 2015, the activity was led by the Admiral Dhiren Vig and the First Admiral Didik Wahyadi. Some of the things being discussed were the coordinated patrol, joint-training, hydrography cooperation, and training cooperation (Indian Navy, 2015).

Thus, Navy to Navy Talk is the forum to discuss about the implementation of cooperation between Indonesian Navy and Indian Navy, how was the implementation of coordinated patrol and what to evaluate, and what needs to be prepared for the next coordinated patrol. Later, there are education cooperation and the training through the military personnel exchange, and the warships visit of Indonesia to India and vice versa.

The cooperation of Indonesian Navy and Indian Navy through the Navy to Navy Talk

is the form of the most advanced and significant defense diplomacy. Through this forum, Indonesia could improve the CBM by the interaction of Indonesian and Indian Navy to share the information, communication, and coordination for the security of Indian Ocean. Other than that, Navy to Navy Talk could improve the defense capability of Indonesia especially the Navy through the education and training.

#### *India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (Indo Indo Corpat)*

India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (Indo Indo Corpat) is the defense cooperation of Indonesia and India in the form of coordinated patrol between Indonesian Navy and Indian Navy, conducted twice a year for the duration of two until three weeks along the maritime border of both Ind-Indo Corpat is executed in Andaman countries in Andaman Ocean (Supriyanto, 2016). Coordinated patrol is conducted to secure the maritime borderline of both countries. Maritime security is related to the threats of transnational crimes such as

piracy, illegal migrant, drugs trade, and human trafficking. The objective of the Navy joint-training is to improve the relations between Indonesian Navy and Indian Navy in promoting the maritime security in Indian Ocean (Brewster, 2010).

Ocean. In Andaman Ocean, there are Andaman and Nicobar Islands which lie 1,200 kms from the Mainland of India and 160 kms from the Aceh Province, Indonesia. Andaman Island is located near to the entry gate of Mallaca Strait where the route is the strategic choke point for the international trade and shipping (Mukherjee, 2016).

Principals of the coordinated patrol implementation would be different with the joint-patrol. Coordinated patrol is conducted in the borderline of each countries, both countries will coordinate to report the condition during the operation. Meanwhile the joint-patrol is conducted by entering the specific area and conduct the patrol altogether. Ind-Indo Corpat is conducted in the jurisdiction areas of each countries by implementing the preventive operation or the early detection towards the threats and inspection to the marine-users.



**Figure 3.** Indonesian and Indian Vessels during the Ind-Indo Corpat  
Source: Indian Navy. "CORPAT- India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol", in  
<https://www.indiannavy.nic.in/content/corpat-india-indonesia-coordinated-patrol> retrieved January 18th 2017.

Other than that, they also conduct the search, arrestment, and investigation the legal-breaker marine-users and will be proceeded according to the implemented laws (TNI AL, 2011).

Ind-Indo Corpat was conducted for the first time in 2002. It was because of the anxiety that the Andaman Ocean might become the communication route for the extremist and separatist groups (terrorist and separatist group of Aceh). Indonesia and India had agreed to conduct the coordinated patrol in the entry gate of North Mallaca Strait. Until 2016, it was conducted for 28 times. During the operation, Indonesia and India used the weapons of a warship and an airplane from each countries. Warship and airplane conducted the patrol in each of the areas of borderline of both countries to prevent the illegal activities, share and coordinate the information about the condition in patrol areas (Brewster, 2010). The implementation of Ind-Indo Corpat aims to maintain the shipping security in the area of Indian Ocean as the route for the international shipping and trade (Indian Navy, n.d.).

According to the concept of diplomacy by Cottey and Foster, Ind-Indo Corpat is the defense diplomacy between Indonesia and India in the form of bilateral military training. According to the author, Ind-Indo Corpat is the most advanced and significant form of defense diplomacy for Indonesia since it was conducted for 28 times from 2002. The implementation of Ind-Indo Corpat aims to improve the CBM and Indonesian defense capability through the communication and coordination between Indonesian Navy and Indian Navy for preventing the threats of transnational crimes in Indian Ocean.

## CONCLUSION

This part is the seventh stage of the SSM, action to improve the problem situation means the stage to do the action to improve the existing problem situation. In this stage, explained about the action and recommendation for the Indonesian and

Indian government in conducting the defense diplomacy in Indian Ocean.

The forms of the defense diplomacy conducted by Indonesia and India in Indian Ocean is based on the defense diplomacy concept of Cottey and Foster such as the bilateral cooperation between senior military and civil personnels from the Ministry of Defense, the placement of the defense attaches in friendly countries, contact and the exchange of the military personnels, the warship visit, and the bilateral military training. The defense diplomacy of Indonesia and India in Indian Ocean aims to build the Confidence Building Measures (CBM) and improve the defense capabilities for both countries.

To improve the defense diplomacy between Indonesia and India in Indian Ocean, both countries need to renew the Bilateral Agreement on the Defense Cooperation Activity to extend the area of cooperation between Indonesia and India related to the Indian Ocean. Indonesia and India need to continue the negotiation of bilateral maritime cooperation Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to initiate the non-existing cooperation such as the joint-research to capitalize the natural resources in Indian Ocean and logistics cooperation in the coordinated patrol area.

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