

April 22, 2005

**Speech by Mr. Jiro Hanyu,  
President, Japan International Transport Institute  
at the Seminar on Maritime Security Measures for Non-SOLAS Vessels**

1. Members of the delegations, Secretary General Mitropoulos and staff members of the IMO, and ladies and gentlemen, I wish to extend to you a very warm and cordial welcome to this seminar on behalf of its hosts. To begin with, I would like to thank the people who played an essential role in making the holding of this seminar possible.

2. First, I would like to express my deep respect for the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of Japan and the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore for sharing the common awareness of the need for establishing security measures for small vessels and co-sponsoring this seminar.

3. In addition, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Efthimios Mitropoulos, Secretary General of the IMO, who not only fully agreed with the objective of this seminar and kindly offered the use of the IMO's meeting rooms and various help in response to our request for cooperation, but who will also will give a speech on this issue as a guest of honor. Let me also express my sincere thanks to the staff of the IMO for their cooperation.

4. Furthermore, we are extremely grateful for the leaders and researchers of maritime security policy from various countries who understand the importance of this seminar's theme and took time out of their busy schedule to give keynote speeches and attend the panel discussions. Allow me to introduce them in the order of their appearance.

**Mr. Koichi Fujiwara:** Deputy Director General for Engineering Affairs, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

**Mr. Lui Tuck Yew:** Chief Executive, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore

**Mr. John Grubb:** Deputy Director, Maritime and Land Transport, Transport Security and Contingencies Directorate, Department for Transport

**Rear Admiral Thomas H. Gilmour:** Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection, United States Coast Guard

**Mr. Frank Wall:** Consultant, Former Chairman of the Security WG of MSC of IMO

**Rear Admiral Peter Brady:** Director General, Maritime Authority of Jamaica

**Mr. Kazuhiro Tabuchi:** Deputy Director, Japan International Transport Institute

**Commander Cynthia L. Stowe:** Chief, Vessel and Facility Security Division, Port Security Directorate, United States Coast Guard

5. Next, please allow me to briefly explain the purpose of this seminar.

6. This seminar has been given the difficult title of “Seminar on Maritime Security Measures for Non-SOLAS Vessels.” Simply put, it is a seminar on security measures for small vessels under 500 tons. I do not have to say why such security measures are necessary today. Recent frightful incidents are reason enough.

7. In March of this year, the Japanese tugboat “Idaten-maru” was attacked by pirates in the Malacca Strait, and three crewmembers including the captain were kidnapped for ransom. In this incident, the pirates’ boat and the attacked boat were both small vessels under 500 tons.

8. In fact, this incident was nothing out of the ordinary. According to a survey by the International Maritime Bureau (IMB), 445 incidents of armed robbery against ships occurred around the world in 2003. The number of incidents has indeed more than quadrupled over the past ten years. In all of these incidents, the attacks have been made by small boats.

9. The story does not end there. It is well known among authorities that small vessels are often used for criminal acts, such as smuggling and illegal entry.

10. As you know, the IMO has taken a remarkable initiative in taking security measures for large vessels. The SOLAS Convention was amended in December 2002 and measures to mandate installation of an automatic identification system (AIS) and to comply with the ISPS Code have been steadily put into practice.

11. As for small vessels, a supplementary resolution at the conference for adopting the amended convention invites the contracting governments to independently take necessary security measures. I believe this resolution was realistic and reasonable considering the vastness in the number and types of small vessels and the diversity in the usage of vessels according to areas.

12. However, now that security measures for large vessels have been put on track, we have come to the time to take yet another step forward in thinking about security measures for vessels up to 500 tons.

13. The focus of the security measures for large vessels was on protecting the vessels from attacks. However, small vessels are far more likely to be the ones making attacks compared to large vessels. Therefore, we must not only think about protecting vessels, but also take a new viewpoint, namely, measures to identify small vessels that engage in illegal acts.

14. As is clear from the IMO's supplementary resolution, security measures for small vessels are not something that must be uniformly implemented in all sea areas around the world. Rather, measures would have to be earnestly discussed in sea areas where exchanges of goods and people are active, the traffic of small vessels and large vessels is busy, and crime is likely to occur geographically.

15. In other words, there would be a need to discuss inter-regional cooperation in these sea areas and cooperation between the flag states of the vessels passing through those sea areas and the coastal states, as well as cooperation of the IMO, which has rich experience and knowledge on maritime security. From such a viewpoint, we felt it necessary to hear the opinions of leaders and researchers of maritime security measures about security measures for small vessels. That is the reason we organized this seminar.

16. I will not go into any further details, because it would be far more effective and beneficial to hear what the participants, who are the leading experts of maritime security policy, have to say. Therefore, I would like to end my speech here and move on to the seminar.

17. But before I finish, let me say one more thing. After the seminar, we welcome you to a brief reception at the delegates lounge. There, you will also be able to enjoy various interesting exhibitions and demonstrations by the Japanese and Singaporean private organizations that offered cooperation in line with the objective of this seminar.

18. Lastly, I would like to mention that the activities of our institute, including this

seminar, are fully supported by the Nippon Foundation, which is world renowned for assisting activities in the public interest. I wish to express my deep gratitude and respect for the assistance of the foundation.

Thank you for your attention.