The 32nd Oceans Conference

FREEDOM OF SEAS, PASSAGE RIGHTS
AND 1982 LAW OF THE SEA CONVENTION

January 9-10, 2008
Orchard Hotel, Singapore
CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

Twenty five years ago the 1982 U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea was opened for signature. The Convention entered into force in 1994 and now has 155 Parties. The 32nd annual Virginia Conference titled “Freedom of Seas, Passage Rights and 1982 Law of the Sea Convention” will be held in Singapore on January 9 and 10, 2008. The event’s primary sponsors are the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore and the Center for Oceans Law and Policy at the University of Virginia School of Law. Additional sponsors are the Center for Oceans Policy and Law in Xiamen, China, the Law of the Sea Institute in Iceland and the U.S. Naval War College.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The speakers include notable Third Conference leaders, officials directly involved in implementation of the Convention and scholars familiar with State practice. The panels cover background on freedom of navigation, scientific research and hydrographic surveys in EEZs, military activities in EEZs, transit passage through straits used for international navigation, archipelagic sea lanes passage, as well as vessel source pollution and non-Flag State enforcement concerning the marine environment.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Maintaining a proper balance between traditional navigational freedom and coastal State jurisdiction continues to challenge the international community especially in the Straits of Malacca and neighboring Archipelagic nations. Panelists in Singapore will offer detailed comments on pressing issues of ocean law and policy for the benefit of diplomats, government officials, enforcement officers and academicians.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Singapore is the center of the universe for Rule of Law in the world’s oceans as its very existence depends upon the stable regime found in the 1982 Convention. Its pivotal location is a gateway to the East Asia and Pacific region making it a natural springboard for visiting nearby nations.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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