

A.

Bill

*to provide for constitution and regulation of the
Joint Maritime Information Organization*

WHEREAS it is expedient to constitute a Joint Maritime Information Organization to synergize efforts of all organizations and agencies, information sharing for Maritime Security and to provide for matters connected therewith or ancillary thereto;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. **Short title, extent, application and commencement.**-(1) This Act may be called the Joint Maritime Information Organization Act, 2018.

(2) It extends to the whole of Pakistan.

(3) It shall apply to all Ministries, Divisions, Departments and Agencies related to maritime sector including the law enforcement agencies at sea specified in Schedule-I to this Act.

(4) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Definitions.**- (1) In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-

(a) "JMIO" means the Joint Maritime Information Organization established under section 3;

(b) "JMICC" means the Joint Maritime Information and Coordination Centre, established under clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 5;

(c) "Maritime Interests of Pakistan" includes rights, control, jurisdiction and sovereignty over Maritime Zones and the sovereign rights of Pakistan to explore, exploit, conserve, manage the living and non-living resources and other activities

for economic exploitation, exploration and to safeguard the unauthorized exploitation of resources of Pakistan seas, sub-soil and prevention thereof from damage through pollution or any other means;

- (d) "Maritime Zones" means the Territorial Sea, the Contiguous Zone, Continental Shelf and Exclusive Economic Zone of Pakistan as defined in the Territorial Waters and Maritime Zones Act, 1976 (LXXXII of 1976), or any other zone or area declared as such by the Federal Government and includes the internal waters;
- (e) "Maritime Domain Awareness" means the effective understanding of anything associated with the maritime domain that could impact the security, safety, economy or environment of the country;
- (f) "Concerned Agencies" means those agencies, departments, Ministries which are specified in Schedule-I;
- (g) "Director" means the officer in command of JMIOC appointed under sub-section (2) of section 3;
- (h) "prescribed" means prescribed by the rules made under this Act; and
- (i) "rules" means rules made under this Act.

(2) All words and expressions used but not defined in this Act shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the same meanings as assigned by Pakistan Navy Ordinance, 1961 (XXXV of 1961).

3. **Constitution of Organization.**-(1) The Federal Government may by notification in the official gazette, constitute a Joint Maritime Information Organization (JMIO).

(2) The JMIO shall consist of a Director to be appointed by the Naval Headquarters from amongst the officers of Pakistan Navy and such other officers and members of the staff for smooth functioning of the organization as may be prescribed.

(3) The head of Concerned Agency shall be authorized to appoint, depute or attach officers including civilian officers and other members of the staff to JMICC. Duties to be performed by these officers or staff may be determined by the Director.

(4) The JMIO shall be manned by officers and staff of Pakistan Navy and representatives of Concerned Agencies on deputation or attachment from the respective Concerned Agency.

4. Control, superintendence, command and administration of JMIO.- Subject to overall control and superintendence of the Federal Government, the command and administration of JMIO shall vest in JMICC, and shall be exercised by the Director as its chief executive in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder.

5. Powers and functions of JMIO.- (1) All Concerned Agencies as specified in Schedule—I to this Act shall be responsible to share information with JMICC on terrorism, subversive and criminal activities which include human trafficking, illegal arms transportation, smuggling of contraband goods, drug trafficking, unauthorized exploitation of marine resources, and marine environmental degradation and illegal fishing. JMICC shall be responsible to coordinate and disseminate actionable information with the Concerned Agency to generate immediate and effective response.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of sub-section (1), the functions of JMIO shall be to-

- (a) establish JMICC at Pakistan Navy Ship QASIM at Karachi under the auspices of Pakistan Navy;
- (b) manage and maintain the expeditious flow of information relating to incidents of maritime terrorism, piracy, distress at sea, environmental protection, illegal fishing and any other illegal activity within Pakistan's maritime jurisdiction;
- (c) collect, collate and analyze the information received from any of the Concerned Agencies or organization including other relevant information, if any, relating to individuals and transnational organized criminal groups intend committing illegal activities along the coastal areas including act of terrorism against ships within Maritime Zones including ports and harbours;