

52nd SHADE

Shared Awareness and De-confliction

EVENT OVERVIEW

Welcome to the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), and Operation Commander EUNAVFOR ATALANTA co-chaired 52nd SHADE (Shared Awareness and De-confliction) Conference, being held in Bahrain on the 16th and 17th of December 2024.

The main purpose of this conference is to gather professionals and esteemed experts engaged in Maritime Security in the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas. The conference aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To facilitate the formation and development work of working groups to streamline operations coordination and de-confliction;
- To facilitate the sharing of lessons learnt, and threat awareness within the region;
- To foster the de-confliction of future activities; and
- To strengthen the professional network, exchange knowledge on the latest advancements in maritime security, and align objectives accordingly.

OPERATIONS INFORMATION

A. EUNAVFOR ATALANTA:

Operation ATALANTA is a critical maritime security operation under the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) of the European Union. Its primary mandate revolves around deterring, preventing, and repressing acts of piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia. Additionally, EUNAVFOR ATALANTA protects vessels of the World Food Programme and other vulnerable shipping, ensuring the delivery of food aid and the safety of maritime routes in the region.

Mission and Scope: Initiated in December 2008, EUNAVFOR ATALANTA was established in response to a deteriorating security situation, in particular due to increased pirate activities, in the West Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden. Its operations extend beyond direct confrontations with pirate actions to include monitoring fishing activities off the coast of Somalia and supporting comprehensive efforts to improve maritime security and local state capacity.

Operational Achievements: Over the years, EUNAVFOR ATALANTA has successfully reduced piracy incidents off the coast of Somalia from high-threat levels to more controlled situations through proactive patrolling and a robust presence. This operation has not only secured key international shipping lanes but also facilitated safer passage for humanitarian aid to Somalia by protecting the World Food Program vessels.

International Cooperation and Future Directions: Looking ahead, EUNAVFOR ATALANTA continues to adapt to the evolving maritime threat landscape, including emerging challenges like illicit weapons – and narcotics trafficking. It collaborates closely with regional partners and international stakeholders to sustain peace and security in the maritime domains of interest.

B. COMBINED MARITIME FORCES (CMF):

The Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) is a multinational maritime partnership, which exists to uphold the Rules-Based International Order (RBIO) by countering illicit non-state actors on the high seas and promoting security, stability, and prosperity across approximately 3.2 million square miles of international waters, which encompass some

of the world's most important shipping lanes. Headquartered in Bahrain with U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/U.S. 5th Fleet, Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) was established in 2001. The partnership focuses on maritime security, counter-piracy and training. CMF is a coalition of the willing and does not require a specific level of participation from any member nation. The contribution from each country varies depending on its ability and willingness to contribute assets, and the availability of those assets at any given time. The 46 nations that comprise CMF are not bound by either a fixed political or military mandate. CMF is a flexible organization. Contributions can vary from the provision of a Senior National Representative at CMF HQ in Bahrain to the deployment of warships or maritime reconnaissance aircraft. We can also call on warships not explicitly assigned to CMF to give Associated Support. This allows a warship to offer assistance to CMF while concurrently undertaking national tasking.

Mission and Strategy: CMF's main focus areas are counter-narcotics, counter-smuggling, suppressing piracy, encouraging regional cooperation, and engaging with regional and other partners to strengthen relevant capabilities in order to improve overall security and stability. This includes promoting a safe maritime environment, free from illicit non-state actors. When requested, CMF assets at sea will also respond to environmental and humanitarian incidents.

Operational Structure: CMF's operational strategy is executed through several Combined Task Forces (CTFs), each with specific mandates:

- **CTF 150** is responsible for Maritime Security Operations outside the Arabian Gulf.
- **CTF 151** focuses specifically on Counter-Piracy efforts.
- **CTF 152** conducts Maritime Security Operations inside the Arabian Gulf.
- **CTF 153** oversees Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Maritime Security.
- **CTF 154** is dedicated to Maritime Security Enhancement Training.

These task forces work under a unified command structure but have the flexibility to respond dynamically to emerging threats and situations, ensuring they can operate effectively across a vast geographic area.

Collaboration and Impact: CMF's success is rooted in its collaborative approach, not just with the naval forces of member countries, but also working closely with international organizations, non-member nations, and the commercial shipping sector. This broad cooperative framework enhances the collective ability to maintain open and secure sea lanes that are crucial for global trade and energy supplies.

Commitment to International Laws and Cooperation: The operations of CMF adhere strictly to international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). CMF also supports global efforts against piracy and armed robbery in regions that are critical to maritime trade. By doing so, CMF contributes significantly to the stability of these strategic maritime areas, fostering international security and economic development.

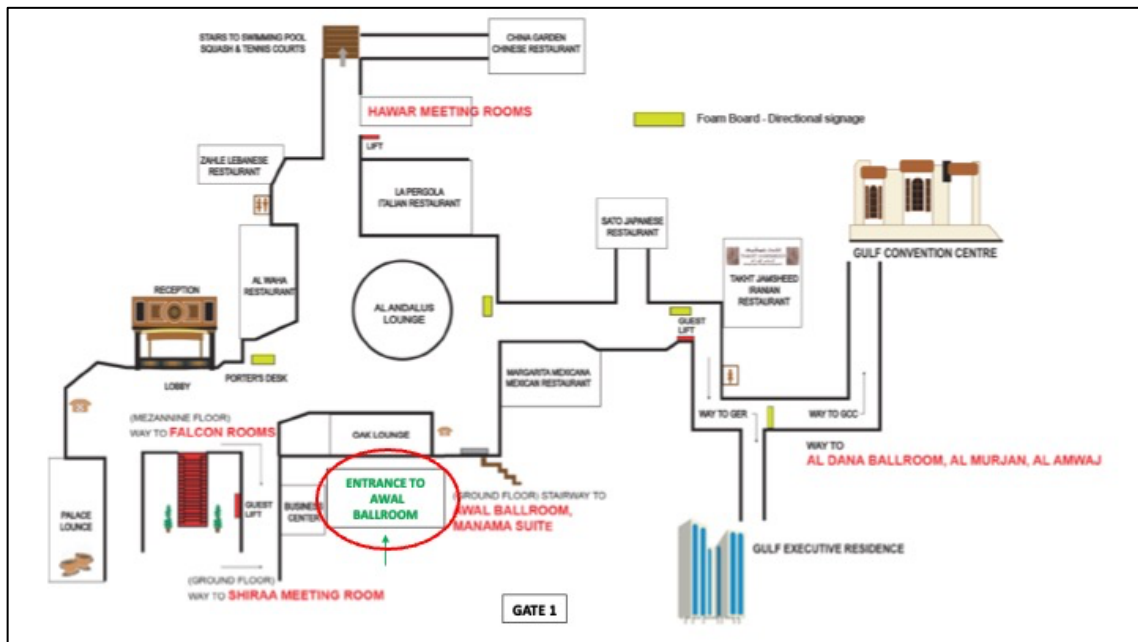
MAIN AGENDA

Date	Time	Event	Location	Special Notes
15 Dec	1800 – 2000	Ice Breaker Social	Awal Ballroom Reception	Hosted by EUNAVFOR ATALANTA
16 Dec	0800 – 0845	Event Check-In	Awal Ballroom	Tables will be set up in the Awal Ballroom reception area
	0845 – 0900	Admin Brief: requests guests by seated at 0845		Arrival of Co-Chairmen 0850 – 0900
	0900 – 0920	Opening Address by Op Commanders		CMF followed by ATALANTA
	0925 – 0945	Red Sea Operations Insights		
	0945 – 1015	Working Group Lead Facilitators Pre-Breakout Brief on Objectives to Co-Chairmen		Ops, Intel and Information Sharing (10 min each) WG lead facilitators Ops WG – CMF DOPS + ATALANTA CJ3 + SHELL Intel WG – ATALANTA CJ2 Info Sharing WG – CMF Hd JMIC
	1015-1030	Coffee & Tea Break		Coffee, Tea & Pastries available
	1030 – 1100	Industry Insights		Industry Representative to present insights on the region, and conference expectations
	1100 – 1130	Academia Insights		Dr Christian Bueger Mr. Wolf-Christian Paes
	1130 – 1300	Lunch	ZAHLE	Hosted by ATALANTA
17 Dec	1300 - 1700	Working Group Breakouts	Assigned Breakout Rooms	Coffee & Tea Break at 1500 in Awal Reception Area
	0800 – 0900	Arrival of Participants		No scheduled programming
	0900 – 1100	Working Groups Breakouts Coffee & Tea Break at 1100 in Awal Reception Area	Assigned Breakout Rooms	Request Wrap-Up 1000 – 1100 Arrival of Op Commanders: 1120 – 1130
	1130 - 1230	Working Groups Back Briefs to Op Commanders	Main Conference Room	<u>Working Groups Briefs:</u> Ops Working Group (CMF DOPS) Intelligence (ATALANTA CJ2) Info Sharing (CMF JMIC Director)
	1230 – 1250	Closing Remarks by Op Commanders		<u>Closing Remarks:</u> ATALANTA followed by CMF
	1250 – 1300	Conference Photo Taking		Op Commanders + WG Leads + Industry Participants as Assigned

LOCATION DETAILS

Venue and Address:

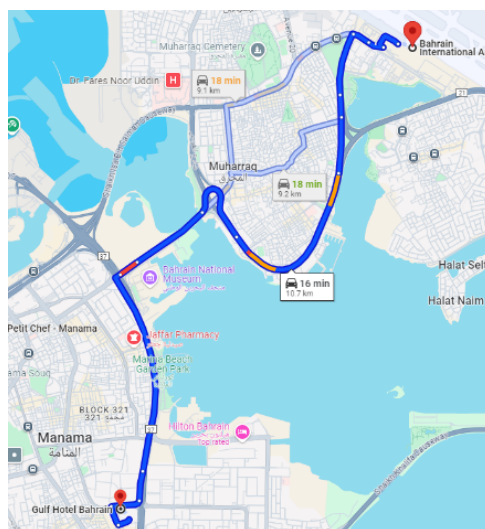
Awal Ballroom, Gulf Hotel in Manama (Bahrain)



How to Get There:

- **By Plane:** Bahrain International Airport is the main international gateway. From the airport, attendees can take a taxi or Uber to the city (~BHD10).
- **By Car:** There is parking available for participants at the Gulf Hotel. Participants driving to the venue are advised to plan their journey taking into account peak hour traffic delays. Please follow signs to the Awal Ballroom.

Map and Directions: Please click on the map below to access detailed directions to the venue on Google Maps.



ADMINISTRATIVE REMARKS

Event Fee: Please be prepared to provide a conference fee of €60 (or equivalent) in cash only. Payment will be collected at the event check-in in the Awal Ballroom Reception area upon arrival and check-in. (EUNAVFOR and CMF staff are excluded).

ACCOMMODATION

Participants are responsible for arranging their own accommodation. To assist in this process, we have negotiated with Gulf Hotel to accord corporate rates for rooms booked through the following contact:

Gezelle Pereira, Banquet Sales Coordinator, P.O. Box 580 - Manama - Kingdom of Bahrain Tel: (+973) 17713000. Direct: (+973) 17746436. Email: gezelle.pereira@gulfhotehbahrain.com

Breakfast and Accommodation for Superior Single Room BD 45.000+++ (BD 60.472 Net)

MEALS

The Gulf Hotel has a number of restaurants available on-site, however the ice-breaker on the 15th and lunch on the 16th will be hosted for conference attendees.

DRESS CODE

Required Attire: All participants are required to wear business casual throughout the event. Please note no uniforms, business casual (suit jacket optional)

CONTACTS

Event Coordination:

- Captain (United States Navy) Krista Sturbois, Chief of Staff Combined Maritime Forces, Naval Support Activity Bahrain.
- LTC (Republic of Singapore Navy) Andrew Sim Singapore. Senior National Representative, Head Secretariat for 52nd SHADE. NSA Bahrain. Email: kianyongandrew.sim.fm@us.navy.mil. Cell: +973 3356 9928.
- LT (Spanish Navy) Antonio Martorell Dominguez, CJ3 Shipping Advisor / JOC Coordinator OHQ EUNAVFOR ATALANTA, ROTA, Spain. Email: interagency-shipping@mschoa.org. Cell: +34 670 51 83 56.

General Inquiries: For any immediate questions or additional information needs, please contact the event coordinators via the emails provided.