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Take best possible emergency action: NOSCOP MC Head



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THE Golden Shield 2014 exercise which started off yesterday will also be able to strengthen ties between Brunei and Malaysia, said the director of Marine Department, Hj Matnor Hj Salleh (pic).

Speaking to The Brunei Times in his capacity as the chairperson of the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan Management Committee (NOSCOP MC), said that having such training will enable both countries to measure their capacities in handling incidents such as the Tier 3 oil spill.

"From then on, both of the countries will be able to improve if we (discovered) any other provisions that we need to acquire from other countries, if necessary," said Hj Matnor.

In his welcoming remarks, he also emphasised the importance of teamwork and integration between the agencies involved in the incident management exercise. "In managing a Tier 3 oil spill incident, we need to deepen our alignments and work as one team (and) by the end of the day, it is about safeguarding Brunei Darussalam's image and reputation," he said.

"In (combating) large scale incidents; it involves (all agencies) where sometimes it will also include international assistance (and) therefore, in facing the challenges of managing and deploying our resources, we have to be integrated as one team," he added.

As a responder, the chairperson urged participants to be wise in planning our strategies that are relevant and carry out the best possible action plans.

"We all have a mandate and a major commitment in handling the oil spill incident in the waters of Brunei Darussalam as stated in the NOSCOP document plan which was also recorded under the Prevention of Pollution of Sea Order 2005 Act for the banning of oil disposal," he said.

"Therefore I would like to seek cooperation from everyone involved in this exercise and take this opportunity to jointly explore the <u>standard operating procedures</u> or SOPs in carrying out the responsibilities entrusted to them by their respective agencies," he added.

The Brunei Times

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