

Port Authority of Jamaica OAS Maritime Award Submission

Joint Port Security Committees – Executive Summary

Executive Summary

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Background

All ISPS certified ports are mandated to convene Port Security Committee (PSCs) meetings quarterly as they are considered an essential part of any security regime.

It allows all relevant stakeholders the opportunity to discuss security issues, identify threats and develop appropriate responses, thus ensuring a consistent and collaborative approach to port security.

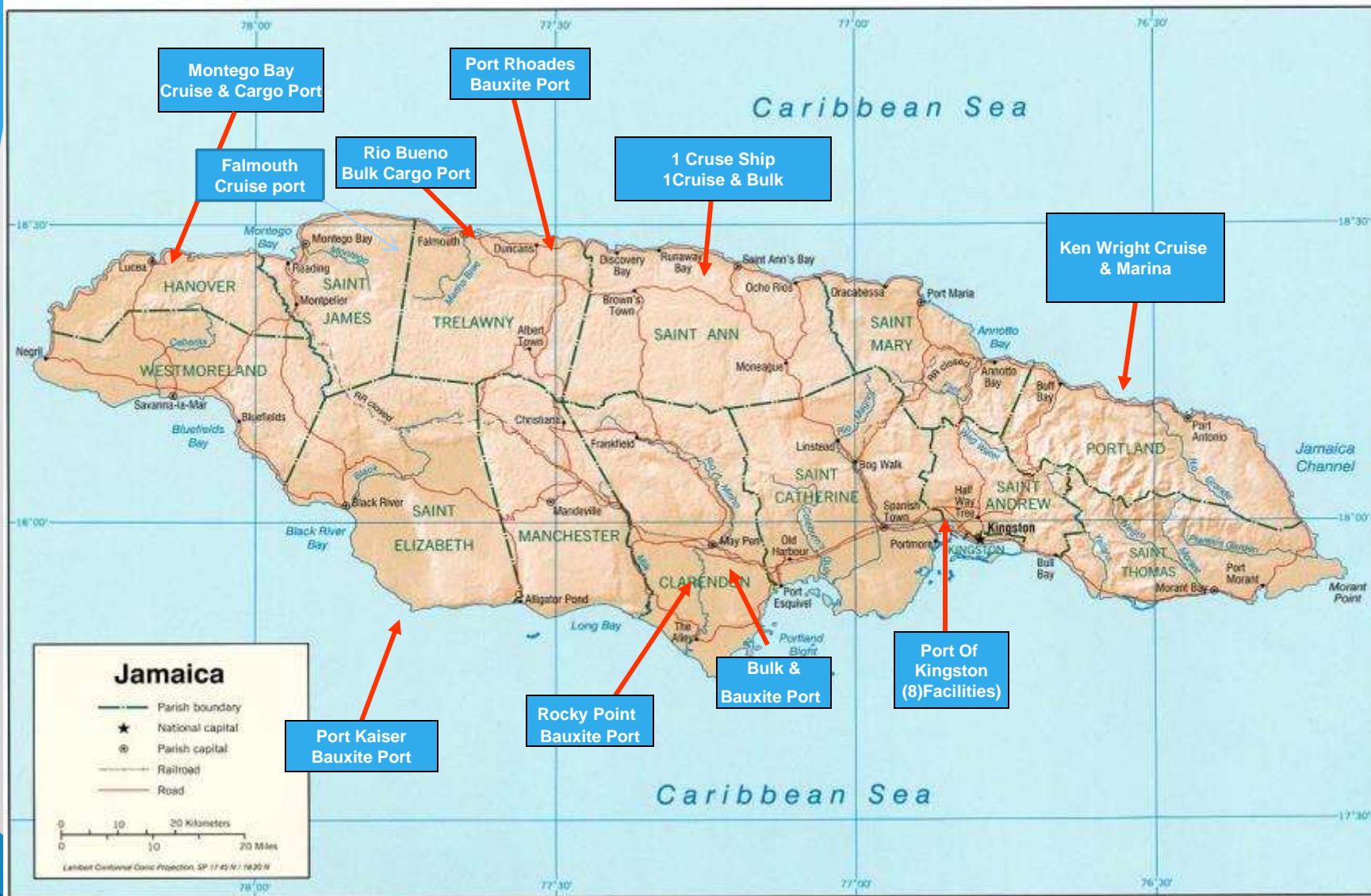
Overview of Ports in Jamaica

There are eighteen (18) ISPS certified ports in Jamaica that engage in international trade.

They are categorised as follows:

- Containerised Cargo – (Public ports) – 2
- **Cruise (only)** - 3
- Bulk carrier (including bauxite) - 9
- Oil tanker /gas carrier -1
- Multi purpose - Cargo/container /cruise/ oil/gas –warehouse – 1
- Bulk and oil - 1
- Bulk carrier and cruise- 1

PORT LOCATIONS IN JAMAICA



Purpose & Objectives

The purpose of combining port security committees where practicable was as follows:

- Efficient use of state resources in a country where resources are already strained due to national security constraints. The requirement for quarterly meetings for each port was resulting in regular absences of state representatives .
- Cost of meetings, conducting exercises, and the personnel support needed to organise and plan these events can be burdensome for some ports. Combining efforts reduces costs as they are shared.

Purpose & Objectives

- Cooperation, collaboration and integration of efforts was necessary to detect and deter security threats at neighbouring facilities, across which syndicates operated.
- PFSOs needed to develop partnerships to reduce risk , enhance response capabilities , and support capacity building .

Joint Port Security Committee Meetings

- In response to this directive four (4) joint committees were formed. Three (3) in the Kingston Metropolitan Area, and one on the north coast .
- The two following slides demonstrate the groupings and their locations.

JOINT COMMITTEES KINGSTON



Public Ports
Joint PSC

Public/
Container
Warehouse

Public
Container

Oil & Gas

Port
Joint PSC

Bulk

Eastern Division
Joint PSC

Gas & Bulk

Bulk

Bulk

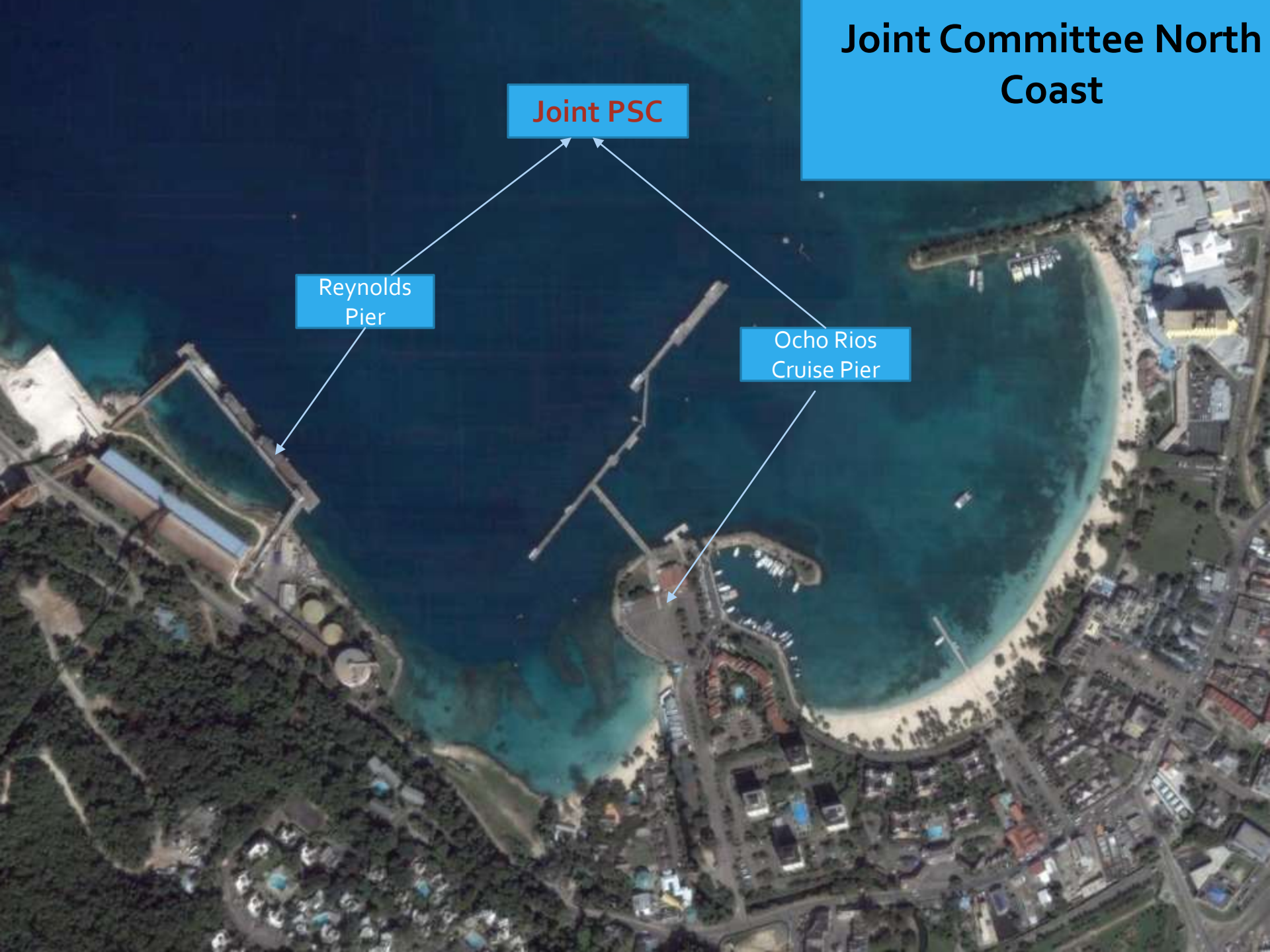
Bulk

Joint Committee North Coast

Joint PSC

Reynolds Pier

Ocho Rios Cruise Pier



Challenges

The following challenges were anticipated and demonstrated:

- Some ports more than others were burdened with the administrative duties.
- Joint exercises were not balanced as some ports did not adequately exercise all areas of their plan.

Deliverables

The following actions were required by the ports to achieve the stated objectives:

1. Preparation of Terms of Reference outlining clearly how the PSC will operate ensuring that each port is equally tasked.
2. Quarterly meetings held and minutes sent to the Designated Authority.
3. Conduct of an annual joint security exercise with each port exercising all elements of its Plan.

Results

The success of the committees was measured by the following indicators:

- Successful joint ISPS exercises conducted by ports in the joint committee.
- Improvement in the attendance and involvement of the state response agencies e.g. Police and Fire.
- Trust developed between PFSOs facilitated intelligence and information sharing.

Results

- Costs incurred from meetings and exercises are shared by ports; so are also costs for secretariat services.
- Ports forming part of the committee develop partnerships with the state agencies and contribute to the state resources to improve their working conditions and ability to respond. Doing this as a group is more cost effective.

Summary

- The Joint Port Security Committees has, over time, proven to be a successful practice introduced by the Port Authority of Jamaica .
- In the areas they have been introduced, the partnerships and collaborative efforts have reaped many benefits both for the ports, the state agencies, and the local maritime community.