

The Proliferation Threat and
Counterproliferation:
Why It Matters for the GCC

Setting the Stage

- Strategic threat that proliferation poses
- Why it is important to counter this threat
- Focus of the rest of the workshop: measures to combat proliferation

Proliferation: The Strategic Threat

- WMD/missile Use
- WMD/missile Presence
 - Threaten neighbors to extract concessions
 - Embolden aggression or terrorism
 - Risks promoting arms races

Examples

- Iran
- North Korea
- Syria
- Terrorist Groups

Why Counterproliferation Matters

- Proliferators try to misuse our countries for their purposes:
 - acquire items directly from us
 - use us as false destinations
 - falsify export paperwork;
 - diverting imports to our countries elsewhere
 - use brokers and front companies in our countries
 - misuse transit and transshipment
 - use banks in our countries

Impact of Misusing Us

- Directly threatens our security
- Subverts legitimate trade
- Undermines reputations of companies/ports
- Undermines confidence needed for legitimate trade to grow
- Directly inhibits our economic prosperity

Proliferators Not Standing Still

- seeking alternative suppliers
- using front companies, cut-outs, and brokers
- falsifying documentation, end-users, and end-uses
- using circuitous shipping routes and multiple transshipment points
- Increasingly procuring items not on multilateral lists

Tools to Combat Proliferation

- global and multilateral bases
- national trade controls
- catch-all controls and transshipment best practices
- combating proliferation financing
- building capacity

Cooperation is the Answer

- between different ministries
- between government and industry
- between neighbors within a region
- with friends and trading partners from outside the region
- with the broad international community