Research and Discussion on the Construction of Maritime Silk Road in the 21st Century

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Abstract: In recent years, China's social economy has developed vigorously. In order to establish a new development pattern, it is necessary to accelerate the pace of opening up around the country, and encourage neighboring countries to build each other and develop each other, and comprehensively build the 21st century Maritime Silk Road. In addition, the US economic model is developing towards exports, and many countries in Asia are experiencing sluggish export markets. Therefore, it has become an urgent task to build the free trade area between China and Asean. As for the construction of the 21st century Maritime Silk Road, the author thinks the following countermeasures should be taken.

1. Introduction

As early as the Qin and Han dynasties, in order to strengthen exchanges with the Western cultural economy, China has opened up the Maritime Silk Road. Southeast Asia is part of the Maritime Silk Road. Under such a historical background, Xi Jinping proposed the idea of establishing the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, hoping to achieve the goal of peaceful cooperation and common development.

2. What is the Maritime Silk Road?

The so-called Maritime Silk Road refers to the path of developing a trade economy at sea. It is not only the expansion of the land Silk Road, but also an important countermeasure for China to establish maritime cooperation with other countries. Since ancient times, many countries in Asia have been the hub of the Maritime Silk Road. China has always hoped to establish friendly relations with these countries and follow the basic principles of “common development and common construction” to establish a new direction of development with the overall situation in mind. From the perspective of historical development, General Secretary Xi Jinping put forward the development strategy of the Maritime Silk Road - “One Belt and One Road”. In 2014, China incorporated the Maritime Silk Road into its work plan for the year. Today, because of the complex world situation, there are some risks in the construction of the Maritime Silk Road. However, strengthening cooperation with countries along the route has become a major development trend.

3. Risks in Building the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road

3.1 The Investment Environment Needs to Be Built

The construction of the Maritime Silk Road requires a variety of different ships and marine equipment. And the production of these ships and equipment also need enterprises and industries to provide raw materials and technology. However, China’s development in this area is very backward, not only lacking advanced marine industrial production equipment, but also making rational use of resources. Therefore, it is not conducive to the construction and development of the Maritime Silk Road, which also affects the commercialization of marine advanced technological achievements. In addition, China still lacks professionals in marine industry and marine technology. The construction of the Maritime Silk Road requires information collection and processing of technology, industry and trade, so the investment environment needs to be built.
3.2 The Market is Increasingly Competitive

When the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road is established, it may face increasingly complex situations and environments. Because each country is constantly changing, the trade relations between countries will change. In the process of trade, the capture of regional target markets by these countries has become increasingly fierce. At the same time, the development focus of the United States shifted to the east, East Asian countries began to trade with ASEAN, and India and European countries began to develop economic relations, so they also strengthened their competitiveness. In addition, competition between the same industry in the same region is becoming increasingly fierce.

3.3 China and Other Countries Have Contradictions

A few years ago, China had conflicts and disputes with other countries over the south China sea issue, and the US also participated in the disputes, which made the settlement of these issues more complicated and intractable. Moreover, the construction focus of maritime silk road is to ensure the smooth maritime transportation. When carrying out trade business, the number of ships is large and the frequency of traffic is high, so the safety problem also needs to be guaranteed. For many Asian countries, the most important issue is the safe transport of the strait of malacca. The contradiction between China and other countries has also become an obstacle to the construction of the maritime silk road.

4. Countermeasures for the Construction of the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road

4.1 Develop a System for Cooperation and Win-Win with Other Countries

Different countries have different development situations and policy mechanisms. When building the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road with other countries, they must be tolerant and respectful. It is necessary not only to take care of these countries, but also to abandon the system of exclusive cooperation, so as to achieve win-win cooperation. In addition, we must not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. We must follow the principle of “joining together and developing together.” Moreover, in the process of construction, it is necessary to highlight the key points of cooperation. Because the Maritime Silk Road is related to the economic, people's livelihood, politics, and culture of various countries. Therefore, according to their own advantages, around the economic construction platform, the focus of cooperation and industry positioning, the key is to carry out the cooperation construction of Marine industry and promote the development of Maritime transportation, shipping, energy development and trade. Finally, we must promote humanitarianism and expand the scope of cooperation. The goal of improving the economic development speed of the people along the road will be extended to humanities, science and technology, and other aspects of cooperation. It will lead to the formation of interoperability between energy, transportation, economy, and society, and ultimately establish a transnational and cross-regional cooperation mechanism.

4.2 Do a Good Job in the Safety of Transportation and Access

So far, no country can independently guarantee the safety of waterways and maritime transport. Therefore, in order to better build and develop the Maritime Silk Road, it is necessary to cooperate with other countries to protect the safety of navigation and to ensure the safety of transportation and access. First of all, it is necessary to establish a communication system for maritime transport safety information. Secondly we should negotiate with other countries to jointly protect the coastal countries from maritime transport and avoid dangerous accidents. Finally, we must adopt the principle of proximity, establish a scientific mechanism, and divide the area so as to do a good job in rescue of marine accidents.

In addition, we must also do a safe transportation of the Straits of Malacca. Firstly, we must negotiate with other countries and sign contracts to require participating countries to protect nearby straits and roadways. Secondly, it is necessary to formulate other countermeasures for the detour
transportation after the blockade of the Straits of Malacca. Finally we need to introduce a maritime development plan for the excavation of Thailand.

4.3 Policy Improvements

Scientific and rational policies can play a guiding role in economic development. During the construction of the Maritime Silk Road, General Secretary Xi proposed to optimize and improve the policy, and cooperated with Indonesia to reach more than 20 billion US dollars in trade cooperation, which led to the phased results of the Silk Road construction. Therefore, China must use its own advantages to improve various policies, optimize customs and quarantine requirements, and shorten the process. At the same time, it is necessary to encourage cooperative countries to establish bilateral and sub-regional trade with each other, so as to promote smoother cooperation among countries. What's more, it is also necessary to establish a multilateral bilateral policy - coordination policy to facilitate trade between countries along the road. While developing and building the maritime silk road, China's coastal cities also need to establish economic cooperation policies and a new framework of economic cooperation situation in the park, comprehensively carry out transnational and trans-regional maritime trade cooperation, promote more frequent exchanges between economic personnel and tourists, and achieve the goal of win-win cooperation.

4.4 Extension of the Trade Area

At the same time, we must also negotiate with countries involved in maritime trade to formulate short-term plans and long-term strategies for economic development so as to lay the foundation for future development. In this process, it is necessary to clarify different responsible subjects and stakeholders. Since the growth of the world economy has been in a weak state in recent years, it is necessary to give full play to the development advantages of European and American countries and the technological advantages of developed countries, thus forming a situation in which China and European countries participate and invest together. It will reduce tariffs, speed up the flow of goods and funds, extend regional trade, quickly achieve the goal of economic integration, and break the limits of economic growth.

4.5 Promote the Circulation of Money

Financial cooperation is a very important part of the development of the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. Therefore, measures need to be taken to promote the circulation of money. First of all, we must comprehensively promote the settlement of bilateral currencies. If conditions permit, we can also build a multilateral settlement system for maritime trade. Secondly, it is necessary to promote the scope of currency swaps, comprehensively establish the currency swap mechanism of each participating country, and the capital operation system of joint investment and mutual benefit. Finally, we must establish a system in which the financial market is fully open, form a cross-border financial service network, and strengthen the management of finance.

5. Conclusion

To sum up, the construction of maritime silk road is an important development mechanism for coordination and cooperation among countries along the route. Only through joint cooperation, joint creation, construction of maritime routes and the formation of a high-standard free trade area can we achieve the goal of mutual benefit and achieve the fruits of economic development.

References


