



SIOS NEWS BRIEF (29 September-3 October)

Seychelles to hold presidential run-off after vote fails to produce clear winner (Sept 30)

Seychelles is Africa's smallest country and is set to hold a rerun of presidential elections, after no outright winner was announced. A run-off election has been scheduled for next week, as a candidate must obtain more than 50% of the vote, according to electoral rules. One of the archipelago's eco-sensitive territories assumption island, surfaced as an electoral touchpoint, following the island's leasing to a hotel developer.

URL: <https://clubofmozambique.com/news/seychelles-to-hold-presidential-run-off-after-vote-fails-to-produce-clear-winner-292615/>

Australia-U.S. training in South China Sea supports Free and Open Indo-Pacific (Oct 2)

The US Navy and RAN (Royal Australian Navy) trained together in the South China Sea in support of a free and open Indo-Pacific. In mid-September over two days, the navies conducted information sharing, combined transit of the sea, fire, and communication drills. The U.S. Navy Cmdr. Ivan Dobrev said, "Deepening our interoperability with our allies and partners here in the Indo-Pacific is the key to enhancing our collective deterrence against any adversary threatening peace and stability in the region."

URL: <https://ipdefenseforum.com/2025/10/australia-u-s-training-in-south-china-sea-supports-free-and-open-indo-pacific/>

US, allies unite to defend free seas; \$55M aid pledged for Indo-Pacific partners (Oct 3)

The US has announced \$55 million funding to help regional partners counter illicit activities, safeguard freedom of navigation, strengthen law enforcement at sea, reaffirming its commitment to maritime security in the Indo-Pacific. Since 2017, the US has poured over \$1.5 billion into maritime security initiatives. The announcement of the fund came during a ministerial meeting convened by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on maritime security, co-hosted with counterparts from Australia, Japan, Estonia, the Philippines, Romania, the UK, and others.

URL: <https://thephilbiznews.com/2025/10/03/us-allies-unite-to-defend-free-seas-55m-aid-pledged-for-indo-pacific-partners/>