

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

23 August 2022

ReCAAP ISC Conducts Capacity Building Virtual Lecture 2022

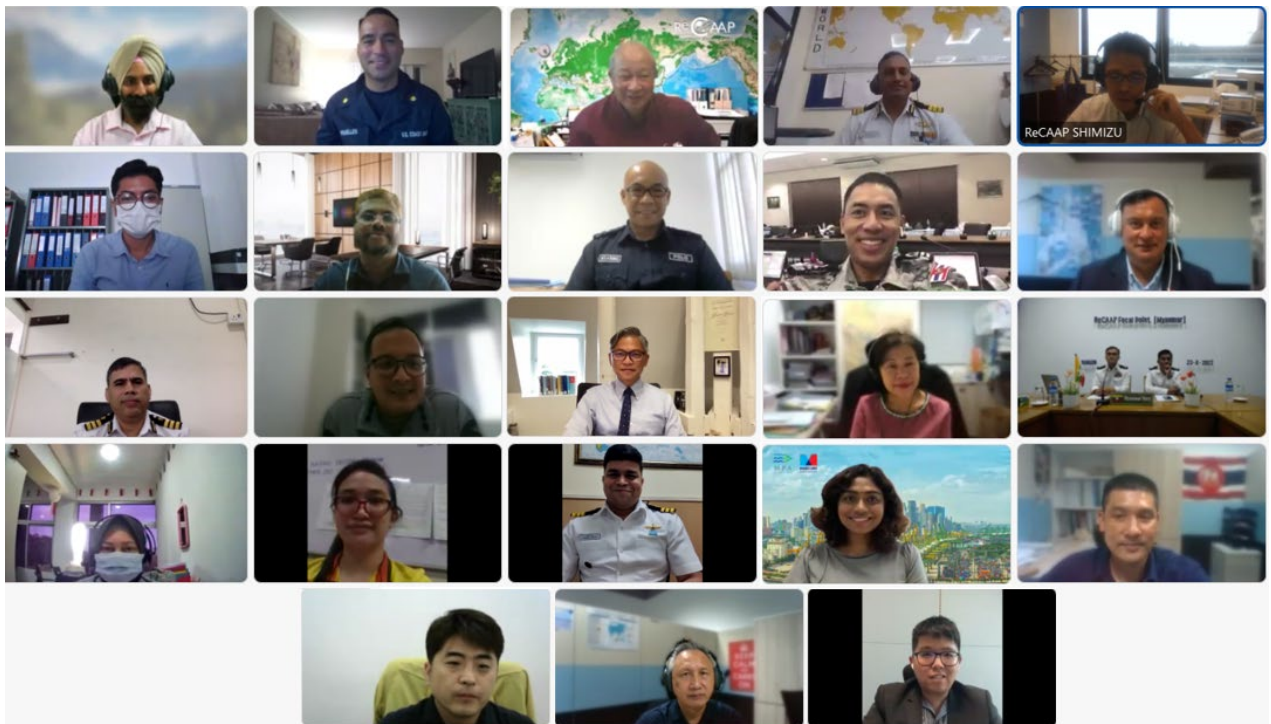
1. 41 officers from 16 ReCAAP Member States as well as Indonesia and Malaysia participated in the Capacity Building Virtual Lecture 2022 organised by ReCAAP ISC on 23 August 2022.
2. The aim was to provide a better understanding on the basics of international laws/regulations related to Piracy/ Sea Robbery for officers of Focal Points/Contact Point (FPs/CP) through a lecture, Case study as well as a discussion cum Q&A session.
3. The lecturer, Professor Maximo Q. Mejia Jr., Director of the PhD Program and Associate Academic Dean at the World Maritime University, shared the key points on the definitions/differences of piracy and sea robbery, maritime zones as well as rights and role of a coastal state and a case study featuring applicable maritime laws and regulations. Officers from ReCAAP Member States also shared their experiences and concerns on piracy and sea robbery during the Q&A session.
4. The ReCAAP member states represented at this virtual lecture included Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Hong Kong-China, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, and the United States of America.

Internal waters

- Waters on the landward side of the baseline, e.g.,
 - lakes
 - rivers
 - tidewaters
- Full sovereignty of the coastal state
 - Vessels in a coastal state's ports or other internal waters are within the full jurisdiction of the coastal state
 - The coastal may decline to exercise such jurisdiction – "internal economy" and comity concerns
- No right of "innocent passage"
 - exception: areas not historically internal waters, that are enclosed as such by straight baselines
- Access to ports and other internal waters
 - No rights at customary law for foreign vessels to enter a state's ports or internal waters (except perhaps vessels in distress)
 - Entry rights may be obtained by way of treaty law
- Coastal states have wide discretion to impose conditions for access to ports and limitations on vessels leaving its ports

Max Meija • Legal Framework for Piracy & Armed Robbery Against Ships • 23 August 2022 • ReCAAP-ISC

Caption: The lecture by Professor Max Meija.



Caption: Officers from ReCAAP member states and ReCAAP ISC at the virtual lecture.

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About ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ReCAAP ISC)

The Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP) is the first regional government-to-government agreement to promote and enhance cooperation against piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. The Agreement entered into force on September 4, 2006 with 14 Asian countries as Contracting Parties, and the Information Sharing Centre was established on November 29, 2006. To date, 21 States (14 Asian countries, 5 European countries, Australia, the USA) have become Contracting Parties to ReCAAP. To fulfil its vision as the Information Hub for combating piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, ReCAAP ISC enhances regional cooperation through information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangements. At the 12th Governing Council Meeting in 2018, the Council announced that ReCAAP ISC has met the criteria to be a Centre of Excellence for information sharing in combating piracy and armed robbery at sea. For more information about ReCAAP ISC, please visit <http://www.recaap.org>