



Information Sharing Centre

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2016



# MISSION & VISION STATEMENTS

## MISSION

To enhance regional cooperation through information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangements in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships.

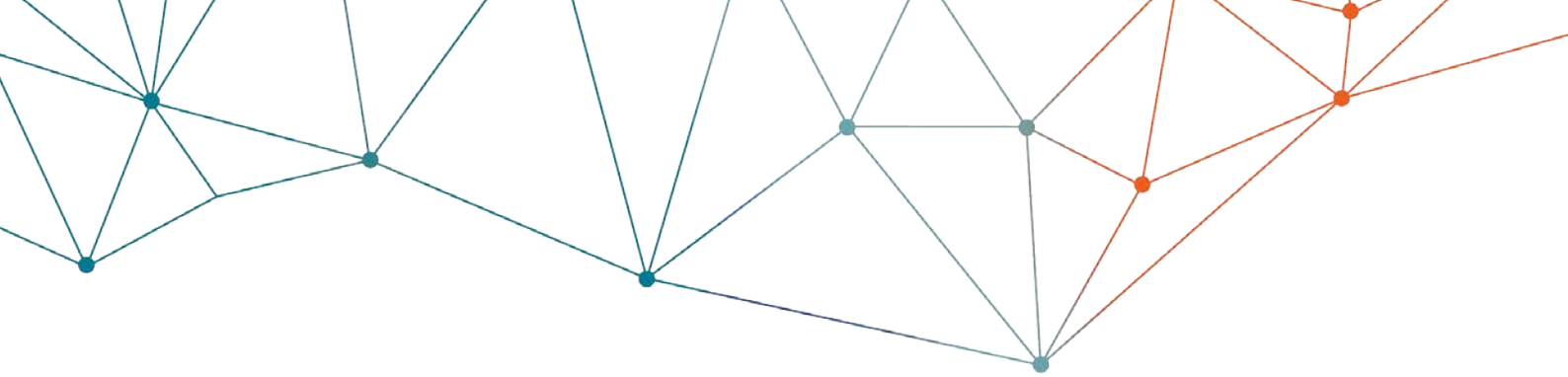
## VISION

To be the information hub for combating piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FORWARD MESSAGE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>WORKING GROUP MEETING ON FUTURE OF ReCAAP ISC</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>INFORMATION SHARING</b>	<b>9</b>
1 Overview	9
2 Situation of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in 2016	9
3 Incident Reported by the ReCAAP Focal Point and Other Sources	12
4 Real time 24x7 Information Sharing	14
5 Periodical Reports	14
6 Incident Alerts / Incident Update	15
7 Special Reports	16
8 Weekly Updates to IMO and DCoC ISCs	17
9 New Format of the ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report	18
10 Regional Guide to Combat Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia	19
11 Guidebook for ReCAAP Focal Points	19
<b>CAPACITY BUILDING</b>	<b>20</b>
1 Overview	21
2 Capacity Building Workshop	21
3 Focal Point Senior Officers' Meeting	23
4 Cluster Meeting	25



<b>COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS</b>	<b>26</b>
1 Overview	27
2 Engagement with Malaysia and Indonesia	27
2.1 Malaysia	27
2.2 Indonesia	29
3 Engagements with Multilateral Regimes including International Organisations	30
3.1 IMO Council and Maritime Security Committee (MSC) Meetings	30
3.2 Thai Maritime Enforcement Coordinating Centre (MECC) Maritime Security Conference	31
3.3 12 <sup>th</sup> Heads of ASIAN Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM)	32
3.4 INTERPOL 85 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly 2016	33
3.5 East Asia Summit Seminar on Maritime Security and Cooperation	34
3.6 Galle Dialogue 2016	35
3.7 G7 High Level Meeting on Maritime Security	36
4 Engagement with Private Industry	37
4.1 Nautical Forum 2016	37
4.2 25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Asian Shipowners' Forum (ASF)	38
4.3 Engagement with BIMCO	38
4.4 ReCAAP ISC Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2016	39
4.5 General Insurance Association Forum	40
4.6 Sarawak and Sabah Shipowners Association (SSSA) Dialogue Sessions and Anti-Piracy and Armed Robbery Forum 2016	41
4.7 31 <sup>st</sup> Interim Meeting of the Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA) & Safe Navigation & Environment Committee (SNEC)	42
4.8 Meeting with Industry and Academia on the Future of ReCAAP ISC	42
5 Engagement with Countries and Organisations Indicating Interest in the ReCAAP	43
5.1 Visit by German Navy	43
5.2 Visit by European Commission (EC)	43
6 Profiling and Publicity	44
6.1 Overview	44
6.2 Engagement with Media	44
6.3 Media Reporting	44

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FORWARD MESSAGE



The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2016. To commemorate this anniversary, the ReCAAP ISC organized a High Level Meeting on 18 March 2016 back to back with the 10<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting.

During the past 10 years, the ReCAAP ISC has made significant development as an information sharing centre to combat piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. The membership of the ReCAAP has expanded from the initial 14 Asian countries to 20 members including the Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, the United Kingdom, Australia and the United States.

This demonstrates that safe navigation in Asia is of keen interest to shipping industries in the world and that the relevance of collective endeavors of the ReCAAP ISC is recognized by international maritime community. The ReCAAP is also acknowledged as a model of regional cooperation. Its cooperative framework was emulated by the Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC). Three Regional Information Sharing

Centres in East Africa under DCoC were established with technical assistance of the ReCAAP ISC. The ReCAAP ISC has also engaged closely with international organizations as well as international and regional shipping associations. In particular, the interaction with shipping industry is very important for the ReCAAP ISC in order to improve its information sharing function and promote the cooperation between enforcement agencies and shipping industry.

Based on past 10 years' experiences and in order to further strengthen the role of the ReCAAP ISC, the 10<sup>th</sup> GC Meeting in March 2016 agreed to establish a Working Group to deliberate the Roadmap with Action Plan for the coming 10 years with an objective of the ReCAAP ISC to become a "Centre of Excellence" for information sharing. The ReCAAP ISC is expected to strengthen its key role of timely and accurate information sharing as well as deep analysis of the situation and to expand its network and profiling in the international maritime community.

At the 10<sup>th</sup> GC Meeting, I was appointed as the 4th Executive Director of the ReCAAP ISC for three years (from April 2016 to March 2019) to lead the Secretariat. During 2016, the ReCAAP ISC has continued its activities under its three pillars, namely information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangement.

Concerning information sharing, reporting and verification of incidents by ReCAAP FPs have improved. Based on reports from FPs, the ReCAAP ISC has issued ad hoc reports (Incident Alerts, Special Reports) proactively to give timely advisories to the shipping industry. One example is the Incident Alert dated 21 November 2016 on the abduction cases in the Sulu-Celebes Sea. This Alert triggered the advisories by the authorities of Contracting Parties to their shipping industries. In addition to the Monthly, Quarterly, Half-yearly and Annual Reports, we have started in December 2016 to issue Weekly Reports to the shipping industry to share more timely information.

We have made particular efforts on the capacity building of Focal Points, the key players of our information sharing network. In addition to the training of reporting skill and information sharing of updated situation of piracy and sea robbery, knowledge and expertise were shared with the FPs by experts on Law of the Sea, national piracy legislation and prosecution procedures. We have also started an intensive training program for newly appointed officers at FPs.

The ReCAAP ISC has participated actively in regional and international meetings and seminars and made presentations to share the latest situation of piracy and sea robbery in Asia and to profile its activities in the international community. We have continued to engage the shipping industry on various occasions such as the Nautical Forum, the Piracy Conference and the Cluster meetings. One significant achievement of our cooperation with the shipping industry was the publication of the “*Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia*” in February 2016. Regional and international shipping associations actively participated in the drafting of this Regional Guide. This Guide has been widely disseminated and is recognized as relevant and useful guidance by the shipping industry. The ReCAAP ISC will continue to disseminate this Regional Guide and complement it, when necessary, with Incident Alerts and Special Reports as the situation changes and evolves.

There has been a significant improvement in the situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia in 2016; this can be attributed to the effectiveness of the ReCAAP information sharing mechanism, close cooperation among all stakeholders. The ReCAAP ISC will build on the achievements made in the past decade and 2016 and pursue its endeavors in 2017 to achieve the goal of becoming a “Centre of Excellence” in information sharing by 2020 with the support and cooperation of Contracting Parties, Focal Points, partner organizations and stakeholders.

# 10<sup>th</sup> GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING



The 10<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting was conducted on 14-17 March 2016 at Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore with 66 participants from Contracting Parties and 12 External Participants.

The Governing Council commended the ReCAAP ISC on achieving further milestones in operations, research and analysis, capacity building, and engagement and cooperation with other organisations.

The Meeting noted the good cooperation at the operational level with the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) and Indonesian law enforcement agencies. Representatives from industry organisations also reaffirmed their commitment to the ReCAAP with their continual presence. Voluntary financial contributions towards the work of the ReCAAP ISC were pledged by the Governors/Governor Representatives from Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Thailand and the United States of America.



Details of these contributions are:

Contracting Parties		Amount
Republic of Singapore	SGD	1,814,000
Japan	SGD	542,853
Republic of Korea	KRW	150 million
Kingdom of Norway	USD	100,000
People's Republic of China	USD	80,000
Australia	AUD	100,000
Republic of India	USD	50,000
United States of America	USD	50,000
Kingdom of Thailand	SGD	50,000
Kingdom of the Netherlands	EUR	30,000

The Council also expressed appreciations to China, India, Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, and Thailand for their manpower contributions to the ReCAAP ISC based in Singapore.



# 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

THE ReCAAP ISC CELEBRATED  
ITS 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY ON  
18 MARCH 2016 AT SHANGRI-LA  
HOTEL IN SINGAPORE.

A High Level Meeting conducted in the morning was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, His Excellency Don Pramudwinai, with ReCAAP Contracting Parties being represented by high level representatives including more than half of them at Ministerial level. The Meeting introduced the *Developments of the ReCAAP over the Decade, the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Publication*, production of two Guidance for the shipping

industry, and report on the recent improving situation in our region. The adoption of the *Joint Statement* was welcomed and it gave important guidance for the future course of actions of the ReCAAP ISC for the next decade, aiming at becoming a Centre of Excellence in information sharing.

Statements given by the Delegates at the Meeting demonstrated their strong commitment to the ReCAAP.



A *Symposium* was conducted in the afternoon of 18 March 2016 with the Keynote Address delivered by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, His Excellency Don Pramudwinai, followed by the two panel discussions respectively with the theme '*Enhancing regional cooperation against emerging maritime security challenges in Asia*', and '*Industry-supported initiatives and cooperation between the industries and the authorities in addressing piracy*

*and armed robbery against ships in Asia*'. The *Symposium* was attended by over 200 experts from a wide ranging global maritime community with the valuable inputs for the ReCAAP's future course of action.

The two events concluded with valuable deliverables reflected the strong relevance of the ReCAAP ISC to the regional and international maritime community.

# WORKING GROUP MEETING ON FUTURE OF ReCAAP ISC

The ReCAAP ISC conducted a Working Group meeting at Orchard Hotel, Singapore on 16-17 Nov 16 with members of the Working Group from eight Contracting Parties of the ReCAAP to discuss the future of ReCAAP ISC. The meeting deliberated on the Action Plan of the Roadmap for the future of ReCAAP ISC

covering a period of 10 years (2017-2027) with the objective of ReCAAP ISC becoming a Centre of Excellence for Information Sharing by 2020. A report of the Working Group, based on the outcome of the meeting and other consultations conducted by the ReCAAP ISC, will be presented to the 11th Governing Council Meeting in March 2017.



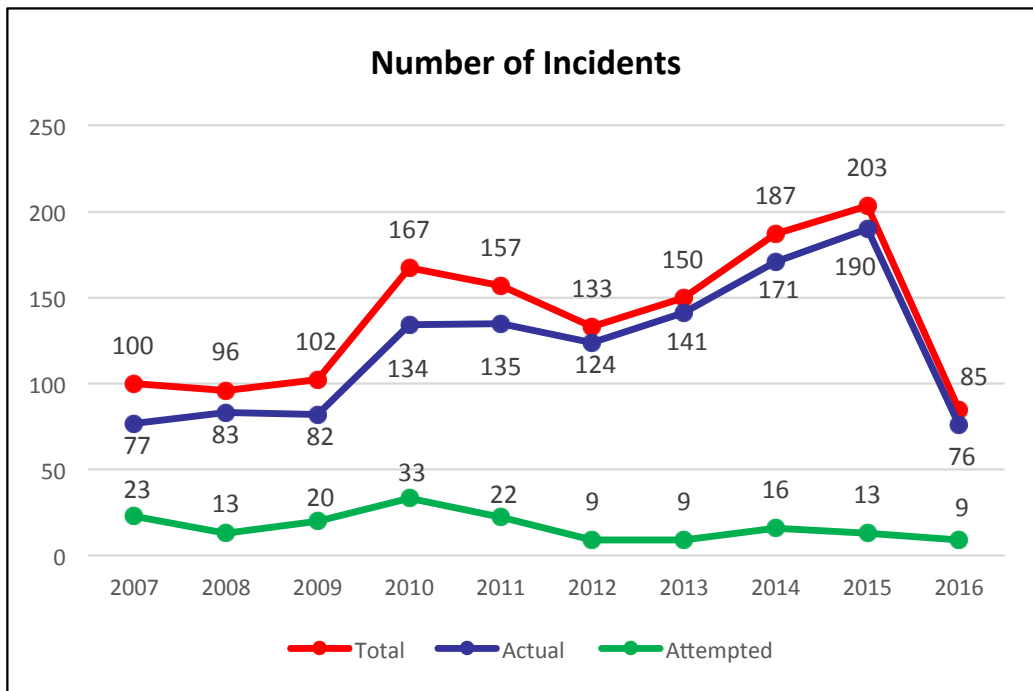
# INFORMATION SHARING

## 1 OVERVIEW

Information sharing is a key pillar of the ReCAAP ISC in its efforts of combating piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. Close cooperation among ReCAAP ISC, ReCAAP Focal Points, shipping industry and partner organisations is the foundation for information sharing. The aim of information sharing is to enable the ReCAAP ISC to make accurate categorisation of incidents to provide assessment and analysis of the situation. The ReCAAP ISC provides insights of the severity of the situation to enable enforcement agencies to deploy their resources more optimally, and Company Security Officer (CSO) and ship master to plan their route and make their own risk assessment.

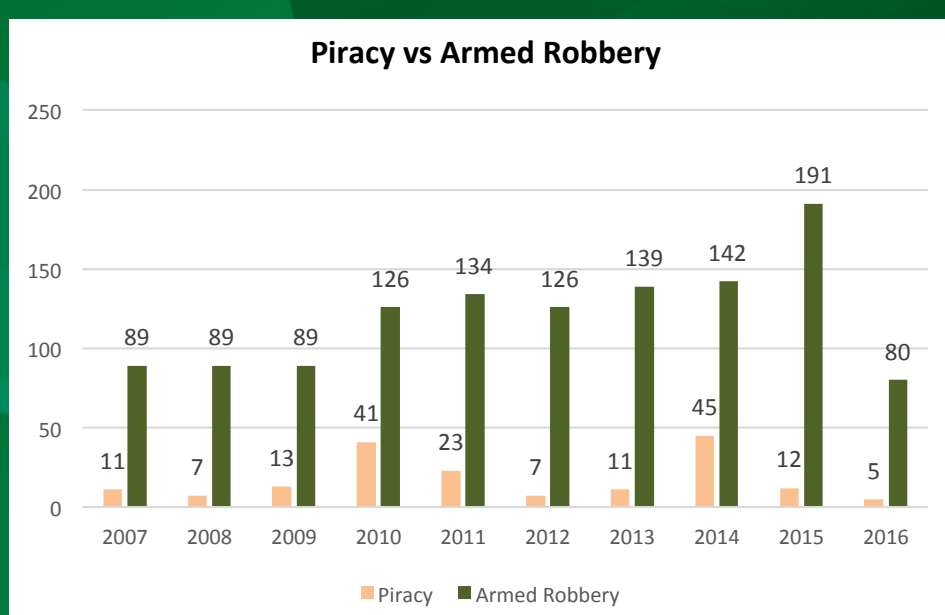
## 2 SITUATION OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS IN 2016<sup>1</sup>

There has been a significant improvement in the situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia in 2016. A total of 85 incidents were reported in 2016 comprising 76 actual and nine attempted incidents. It is the lowest number of incidents reported since 2007 when the ReCAAP ISC started compiling its statistics. This represents a decrease of 58% compared to 2015.



<sup>1</sup> More details of the situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia can be found in the ReCAAP ISC Annual Report for January-December 2016.

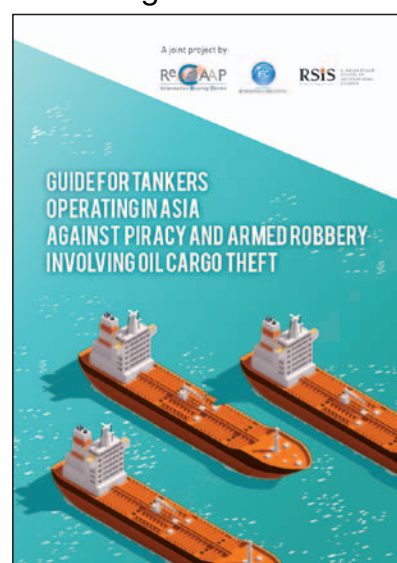
Of the 85 incidents, five were piracy incidents and 80 were armed robbery against ships. Piracy incidents account for 6% of the total number.



This improvement in the situation in 2016 demonstrates the effectiveness of the information sharing mechanism of ReCAAP; and the close cooperation among the ReCAAP ISC, ReCAAP Focal Points, regional authorities, partner organisations and the shipping community.

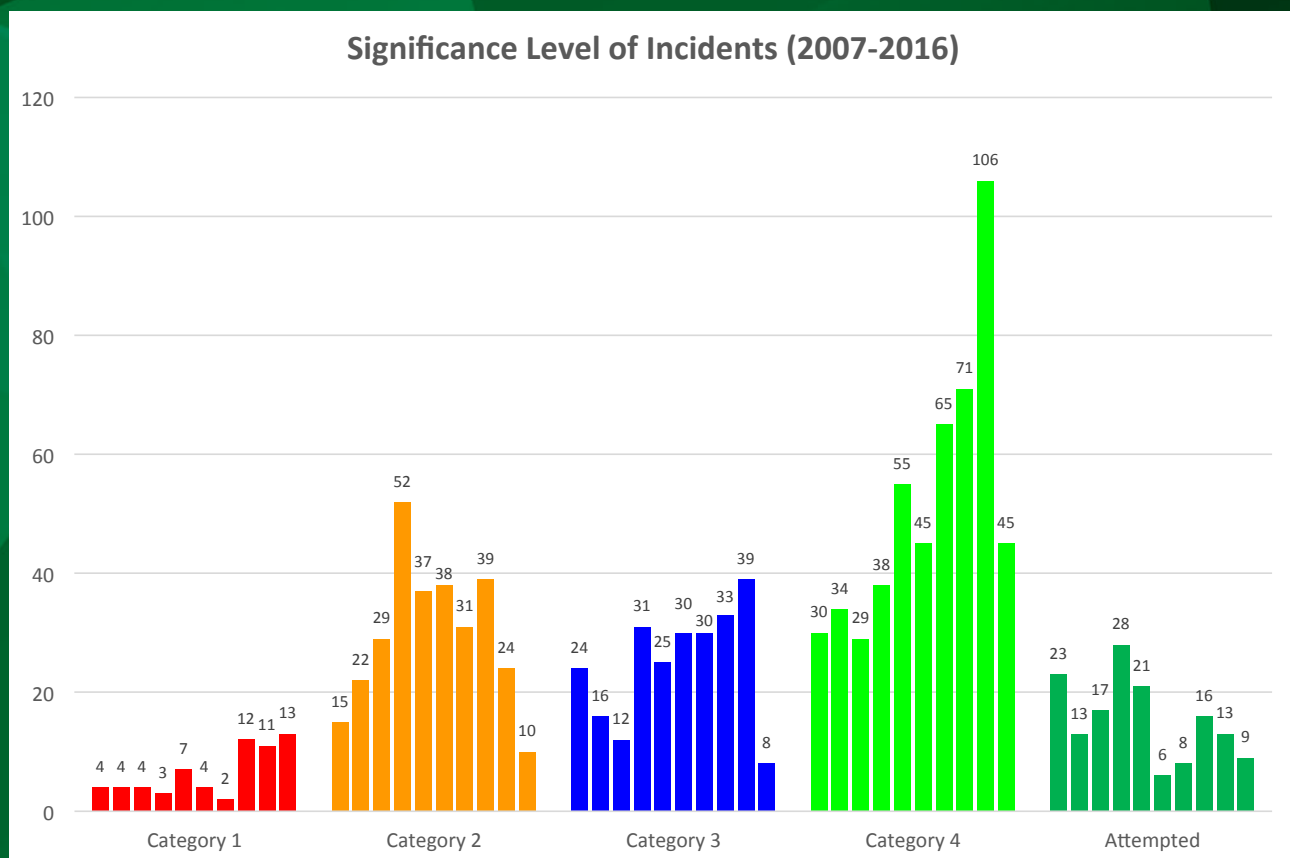
The improvement in 2016 was most apparent in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS). Two incidents were reported in 2016 compared to 104 incidents reported in 2015. The improvement in SOMS was due to joint coordinated patrols and enhanced surveillance by littoral States and stringent enforcement on land. This had resulted in several arrests of perpetrators responsible for the incidents occurred in 2015. There has

also been a significant reduction in number of incidents involving the hijacking of ships for theft of oil cargo.



Three incidents of oil cargo theft were reported in 2016 compared to 12 incidents in 2015. While the number of incidents in 2016 is at its lowest in the 10-year period of 2007-2016, the number of CAT 1 incidents was at its highest. Of the 13 CAT 1 incidents reported in 2016, 10 were incidents involving

abduction of crew and three incidents were hijacking of ships for theft of oil cargo. Except for the CAT 1 incidents, there was a decrease in number of incidents across all categories of incidents (CAT 2, 3 and 4) reported in 2016.



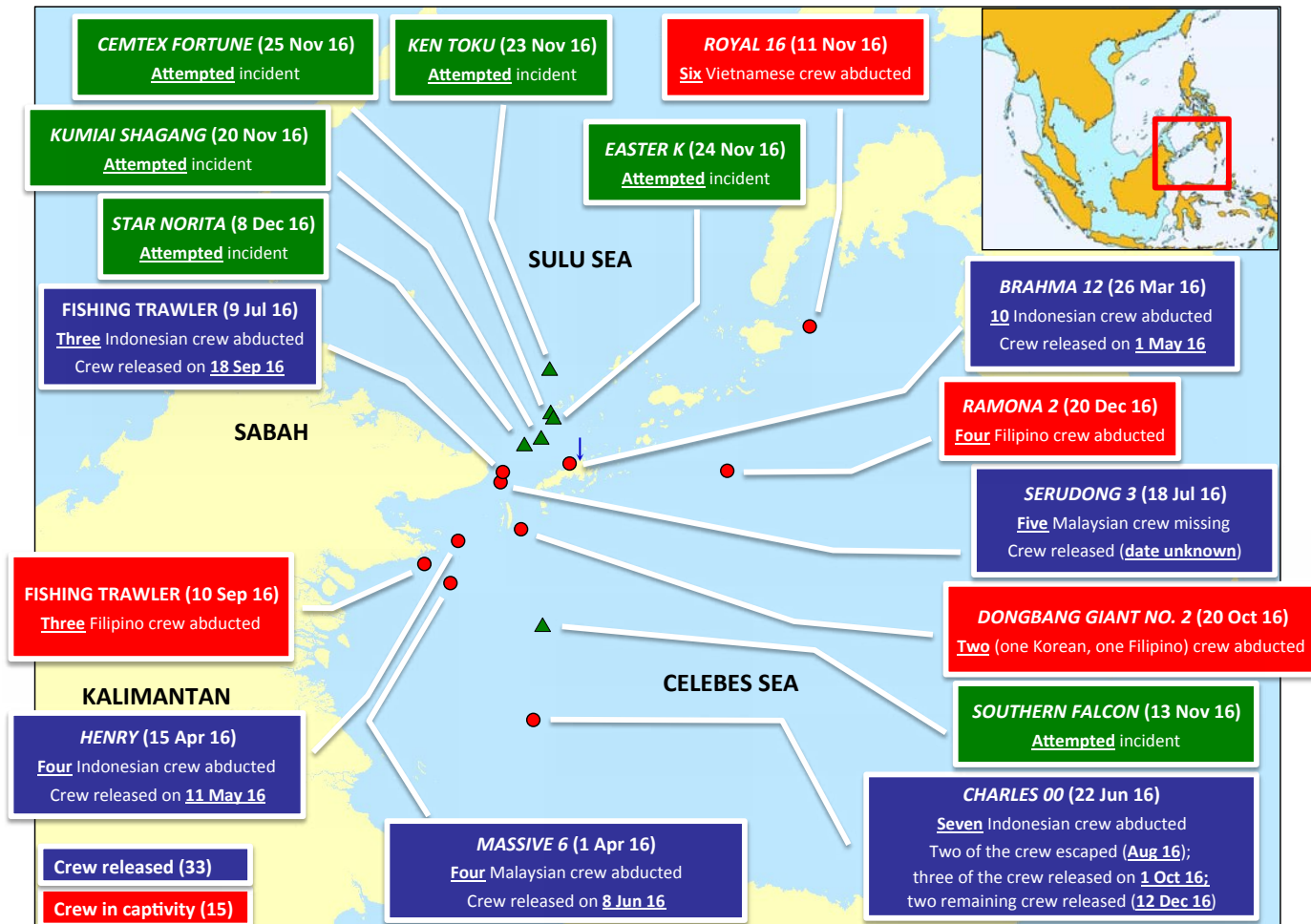


Of serious concern in 2016 was the abduction of crew from ships in the Sulu-Celebes Sea and waters off Eastern Sabah. Since March 2016, a total of 16 incidents of abduction of crew (comprising 10 actual and six attempted incidents) were reported to the ReCAAP ISC by the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG).

The map below shows the approximate location of the incidents and status of the abducted crew in 2016 (as of 31 December 2016).

### 3 INCIDENTS REPORTED BY THE ReCAAP FOCAL POINTS AND OTHER SOURCES

The ReCAAP Focal Points are the primary source of information. Information on incidents reported by ReCAAP Focal Points are submitted to the ReCAAP ISC via the Information Network System (IFN) after the verification by the Focal Points with their

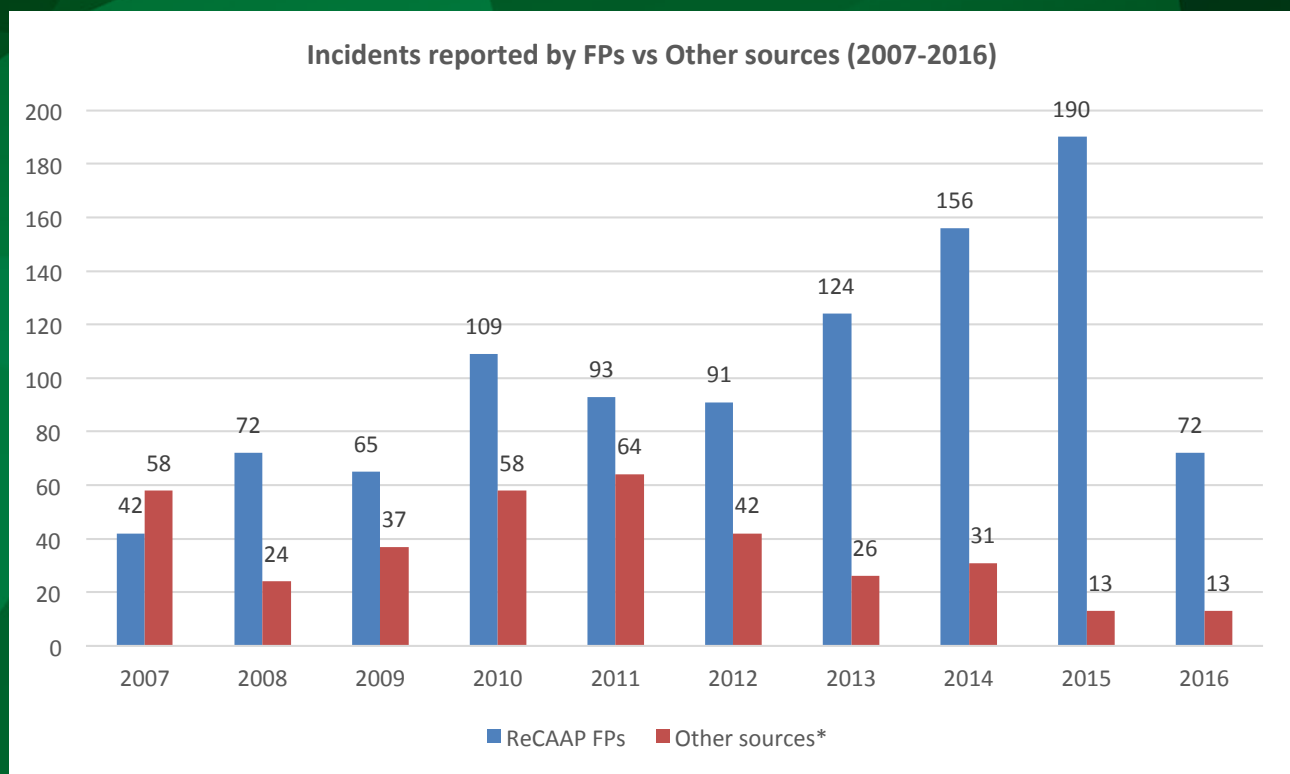


relevant governmental agencies and local shipping industry. Noting that not all ship masters or owners report incidents, the ReCAAP ISC asks the Focal Point to verify the incidents reported by other sources.

In 2007, only 42% of the total number of incidents reported to the ReCAAP ISC came from ReCAAP Focal Points. In 2016, 85% of the incidents were reported by the FPs and 15% came from other sources. The increase

in incidents reported by FPs demonstrates the enhanced competence of the Focal Points in collecting and verifying information and the confidence of the shipping industry and governmental agencies on the Focal Point.

Refer to Chart below on the reports by Focal Points vs Other sources.



## 4 REAL TIME 24X7 INFORMATION SHARING

Leveraging on technology, the ReCAAP ISC launched a Mobile Application (App) named “ReCAAP FOCAL POINTS” which offers a real time 24x7 platform for information sharing by the ReCAAP ISC and incident reporting by the shipping industry. The key features of the mobile application include “updated details and contact numbers of the ReCAAP ISC Focal Points” where the industry can contact the Focal Points. It is also a platform for the ReCAAP ISC to publish its Incident Alerts, Incident Updates, and Periodical Reports. It also provides a module for the shipping industry to make report of incidents to the ReCAAP ISC. The QR code of the App is shown on the right for downloading.

Launched in 2014, the App has reached out to a large audience and received positive feedback and suggestion from its users. The ReCAAP ISC is examining possible areas for its enhancement, taking into consideration the technical challenges of speed and efficiency.

The QR code of the App is shown on the right for downloading.



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## 5 PERIODICAL REPORTS

In 2016, the ReCAAP ISC published 12 periodical reports every month providing assessment of the situation on a monthly, quarterly, half-yearly and annual basis. The aim is to provide better situation awareness and insight into the modus operandi of the perpetrators, to share best practices and lessons learned, and to provide recommendations to shipping industry and enforcement agencies.



## 6 INCIDENT ALERTS / INCIDENT UPDATE

Incident Alerts are issued to share information about an incident with the maritime community on a timely basis with the intention to alert mariners transiting through the area of incident to exercise vigilance and adopt appropriate countermeasures.

Incident Updates are issued to provide the relevant enforcement agencies and ship owner/operator with the updated information on the incident and the action taken by the ReCAAP ISC.

In 2016, the ReCAAP ISC published a total of two Incident Alerts and three Incident Updates. Noting the timeliness of the reports made by the ReCAAP Focal Points,

the Incident Alerts were issued within 24 hours of the occurrence of the incident. The first Incident Alert was on the “*Abduction of crew of Royal 16*” issued on 11 Nov 16 and the second Incident Alert was on the “*Increasing Cases of Abduction of Crew Form Ships*” published on 21 Nov 16.

Some governmental agencies published their own advisories making reference to the ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert published on 21 Nov 16. They are:

- United States Maritime Administration (MARAD)
- Japanese Foreign Ministry
- UK Department of Transport
- MRCC Mumbai - India

Incident Alert

**Incident Alert** : 01/2016

**Name and Type of Ship** : *Royal 16* / bulk carrier

**Date/Time of incident** : 11 Nov 16 at about 0330 hrs (local time)

**Location of Last Known Position** : 06°40.45'N, 122°29.05'E

**Area Description** : Approximately 8.3 nm southeast off Coco Island, Basilan Strait, Philippines

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**Detail of Incident**

On 11 Nov 16, the ReCAAP ISC received inputs from the Vietnam Maritime Security Information Centre (MSIC) about an SSAS alert from a Vietnam-registered ship, *Royal 16*. The ReCAAP ISC informed all its Focal Points and Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA). The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) which is also the Focal Point (Philippines) and the Vietnam Coast Guard (VCG) which is also the Focal Point (Vietnam) reported to the ReCAAP ISC that at or about 0330 hrs, the bulk carrier while enroute from Hai Phong, Vietnam towards Davao, and when in the vicinity of 8.3 nm southeast off Coco Island, Basilan Strait at 06°40.45'N, 122°29.05'E, an unidentified number of armed men boarded the ship and abducted six crew members (comprising the master, chief mate, 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer, 3<sup>rd</sup> officer, bosun and assistant bosun) and fled in a speed boat. The remaining 13 crew was left on board *Royal 16* which reportedly proceeded to Zamboanga port.

**Reported by:** Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Vietnam Coast Guard (VCG) and Vietnam Maritime Security Information Centre (MSIC)

Page 2

Incident Update

**Name of ship** : *Dong Bang Giant No. 2*

**Type of ship** : General cargo ship

**Flag** : Korean

**Gross Tonnage** : 11,391

**IMO no** : 9481788

Photo courtesy of ReCAAP Focal Point (Korea)

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**BACKGROUND**

- Upon receipt of a satellite alarm from *Dong Bang Giant No. 2*, the ReCAAP Focal Point (Korea) reported to the ReCAAP ISC that on 20 Oct 16 at or about 1400 hrs, six armed perpetrators wearing black shirt boarded the general cargo ship from a (green with white stripes) speed boat with 2 OBM. The perpetrators took away the ship captain (Korean) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> officer (Filipino) at 04° 34'N, 119° 34'E (see map below on the approximate location), and was heading towards Sibutu. The remaining crew was safe on board the ship. A total of 20 crew comprising four Koreans and 16 Filipinos were on board *Dong Bang Giant No. 2* when the incident occurred. It is alleged that the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) was involved.

Approximate location of the boarding of *Dong Bang Giant No. 2*

- The ship's last port of call was Australia and she was underway to Korea at a speed of 8 knots when the incident occurred. The local shipping company agent in the Philippines, Korphil Shipping Corporation is also coordinating with the Coast Guard Action Centre located in the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) Headquarters in Manila.

2

Incident Alert

Page 3


Monday, 21 November

## 7 SPECIAL REPORTS

Special Reports are made to share observations and analysis on the spate of incidents reported frequently in the similar locations. Following the Special Reports, the ReCAAP ISC has been working closely with the shipping industry, governmental agencies, international organisations and ReCAAP Focal Points in sharing latest situation updates, case studies for the purpose of highlighting good practices and lessons learned, and encouraging proactive actions by respective agencies in addressing the situation collectively.

Two *Special Reports* were published by the ReCAAP ISC in 2016. The first report published on 22 April 2016 provided an analysis on incidents involving “*Abducting of Crew from Tug Boats in Waters off East Sabah and South Philippines*”, thereby sharing the background, case studies of the incidents on board Tug Boats, and the actions by the littoral states.

The second Special Report was published on 27 July 2016 on “*Abducting of Crew from Ships in Waters off Eastern Sabah and Southern Philippines*”, provided an analysis of the situation, the modus operandi of the perpetrators, status of the abducted crew and actions by the littoral States and the ReCAAP ISC.




**Special Report on  
Abducting of Crew from Tug  
Boats in Waters off East  
Sabah and South Philippines**

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Special Report



SR 02/2016 27 July 2016

**Abducting of Crew from Ships in Waters off Eastern Sabah and Southern Philippines (Part II)**

Following the spate of incidents involving the abducting of crew from ships in waters of eastern Sabah and southern Philippines, the shipping industry is advised to adopt the following measures when in the vicinity:

- Enhance vigilance and increase security watch rotations
- Sound alarm when sighted unknown people on board ship or suspicious boats in the vicinity
- Maintain a continuous watch to the advisories issued on NAVTEX
- Report all incidents in accordance with the IMO circular MSC.1/Circ.1334 on ‘Revised guidance to ship owner, ship operator, ship master and crew on preventing and suppressing acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships’
- Maintain continuous communication with shipping company and enforcement agencies
- Avoid confrontation with the perpetrators
- Refer to ReCAAP ISC’s website at [www.recaap.org](http://www.recaap.org) for updates on incidents and trends
- Conduct risk assessment
- Reroute/Avoid area if feasible

The shipping industry is advised to report to Philippine Coast Guard’s Operations Centre when their ships are transiting the area, for monitoring by the Philippine Coast Guard and immediate response in any eventualities:

Philippine Coast Guard District  
Southwestern Mindanao Operation Centre  
+63 929886 4129  
+63 916626 0689  
Email: [hogdswm@yahoo.com](mailto:hogdswm@yahoo.com)

## 8 WEEKLY UPDATES TO IMO AND DCOC ISCS

Since 2009, the ReCAAP ISC shares the details of incidents reported by ReCAAP Focal Points with the IMO on a weekly basis. The IMO includes this information in

its monthly reports accrediting the ReCAAP ISC as the source of information.

The ReCAAP ISC also shares the same information with the three Regional Information Sharing Centres of Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC) on a weekly basis.

ReCAAP ISC  
Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships  
15-21 November 2016

NO	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Local time of Incident (LT)	Position of the Incident	Details of the Incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or International Organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>ACTUAL INCIDENTS</b>									
1.	<b>Fishing Trawler</b> Indonesia	5/11/16 1230 hrs	5°45' N 118°54' E  Pegasus Reef, 40 nm southeast of Taganak Island Tawi-tawi	While sailing, an unnamed fishing trawler of unknown number of crew was allegedly intercepted by about five men armed with guns. They boarded the fishing trawler and abducted an Indonesian crew and fled towards an unknown direction.	One crew was abducted  No item stolen.	No information available.	Yes  The Malaysian Navy based in Kota Kinabalu	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	The Malaysian Navy informed the Philippine Navy (PN) about the incident  The PN informed the PCG, and the law enforcement agencies in the Phil; and were extensively validating the reported incident
2.	<b>Mighty Servant 1</b> Heavy load semi-submersible Netherlands 29193 8130875	15/11/16 0100 hrs	1°25.62' N 104°41.05' E  Tanjung Berakit, Pulau Bintan Anchorage, Indonesia	While at anchor, an unknown number of perpetrators boarded the ship and stole the ship's engine spares. There was no confrontation between the perpetrators and crew.	Engine spares were stolen.	Notified the Singapore port authority through email about the incident.  Maintain strict watch keeping	Yes  Indonesian Authority	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore Port Operations authority initiated a navigational broadcast regarding the incident and notified Indonesian authority and other relevant agencies.
<b>A. ATTEMPTED INCIDENTS</b>									
3.	<b>Southern Falcon</b> Oil/Chemical/ Gas Tanker Panama 5551 94149993	13/11/16 1620 hrs	3°40.4' N 119°51.6' E  65 nm off Sibutu Island, Philippines	While sailing, the tanker was approached and chased by six speed boats with one armed person in each boat. The master started to manoeuvre the ship away from the speed boats, and after 15 mins, the boats moved away.	The crew was not injured.  No item stolen	The master alerted the ships in the vicinity and commenced manoeuvring the ship away.	No information available	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Japan)  IMO	No information available

## 9 NEW FORMAT OF THE ReCAAP ISC WEEKLY REPORT

Recognizing the usefulness of a weekly report for timely information, the ReCAAP ISC revamped the format of its weekly report on 13 Dec 16 by including an overview of the situation in Asia for the week, a map showing the location of incidents, recommendation to the community and a table containing details of the incidents. To share with a wider audience, the ReCAAP ISC has expanded the recipients of the weekly report beyond IMO and DCoC ISCs, and included all ReCAAP Focal Points, international and regional shipping associations and some governmental agencies. The ReCAAP ISC also posts the weekly report on its website.



Website : [www.recaap.org](http://www.recaap.org)  
Tel : +65 6376 3063  
Fax : +65 6376 3066  
Email : [info@recaap.org](mailto:info@recaap.org)



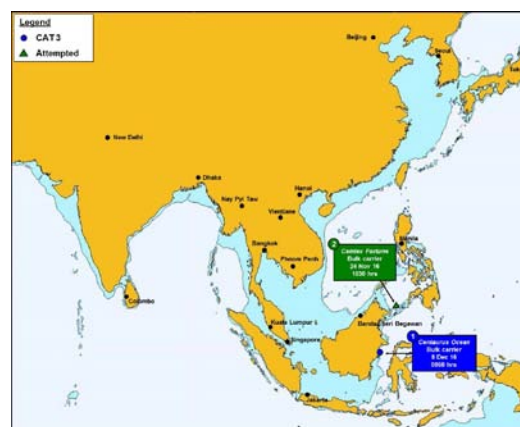
### ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 27 December 2016 – 2 January 2017

#### Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

##### OVERVIEW

For the period of 27 Dec 16 - 2 Jan 17, one actual and one attempted incident of armed robbery against ships were reported to the ReCAAP ISC.

The location of the two incidents are shown in the map below; and the detailed description of the incidents are tabulated in attachment.



Locations of incident reported to the ReCAAP ISC (27 Dec 16 – 2 Jan 17)

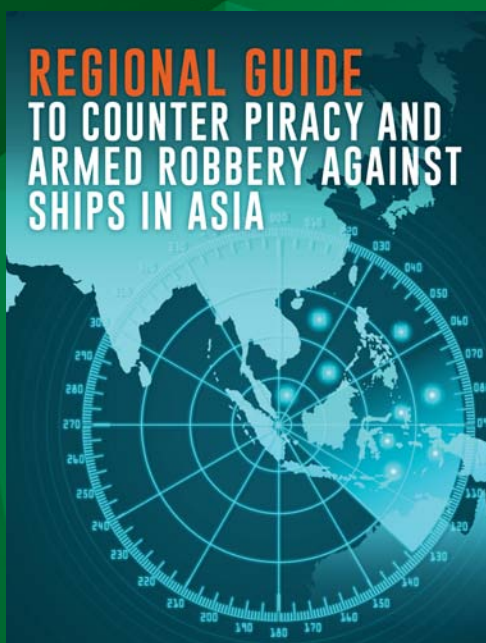
## 10 REGIONAL GUIDE TO COMBAT PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS IN ASIA

In response to the request for a regional guide to address the threats and concerns faced by seafarers operating in the Asian region made at the 24<sup>th</sup> Asian Shipowners Association (ASA) Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in May 2015 in Republic of Korea, the ReCAAP ISC led a working group comprising the Asian Shipowners Association (ASA), Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF), Singapore Shipping Association (SSA), Information Fusion Centre (IFC), Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) and jointly produced a guide entitled “*Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia*”. The


group also gathered views from shipping companies, INTERPOL, IMO, the MMEA and experts in the maritime fields for making a comprehensive, useful and relevant guidance for seafarers. The e-copy of the Guide is available online at the ReCAAP ISC website [www.recaap.org](http://www.recaap.org)

## 11 GUIDEBOOK FOR ReCAAP FOCAL POINTS

On 17 December 2013, the ReCAAP ISC developed the *Guidebook for ReCAAP Focal Points*. This Guidebook continues to serve as the reference material for Focal Points in discharging their roles and responsibilities. With the inputs from Focal Points, the Guidebook was last updated at the Capacity Building Workshop held on 21-23 Jun 16.



RESTRICTED

  
**GUIDEBOOK FOR ReCAAP FOCAL POINTS/CONTACT POINT**

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**CONTENTS**

- Introduction – The Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP)
- Obligations of Contracting Party
- Relationship between Contracting Party and Focal Point
- Responsibilities of Focal Point
- Functions of Officer-in-charge of Focal Point
- Functions of Operational Officer of Focal Point
- Information flow (Reporting and Verification)
- Reporting of incident by Focal Point via
  - IFN
  - Email
  - Fax
  - Phone call
- Verification processes between ReCAAP ISC and Focal Points
  - Possible scenarios
- Sharing of investigation findings of an incident by Focal Point
- Focal Points' Mobile Application (App)
- Focal Points to share and disseminate periodical reports, incident alerts, publications, posters, other materials
- Roles of Focal Point participating in ReCAAP ISC's organized activities
  - Capacity Building Workshop
  - Senior Officers' Focal Point Meeting
  - Cluster Meeting
- Focal Point's cooperation and engagement with inter-governmental ministries, enforcement agencies, local shipping industries, maritime institutes, etc.
- Conclusion
- References
- Annexure I - Focal Point Work Process Stage I (Incident Reporting) & Focal Point Work Process Stage II (Incident Verification)
- Annexure II – Possible scenarios arising from verification processes



# CAPACITY BUILDING

## **1 OVERVIEW**

In 2016, the ReCAAP ISC has conducted two key capacity building events which aimed to improve the competency of ReCAAP Focal Points to operate effectively within the ReCAAP framework. The key purposes of these events were to enhance the capabilities of the Focal Points in timely information sharing, to strengthen cooperation among the Focal Points, and to foster trust between the Focal Points and the shipping industry. The Capacity Building Workshop was held in Manila, Philippines with the participation of representatives from ReCAAP Focal Points and an observer from the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency.

The ReCAAP Focal Point Senior Officers' Meeting was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia with great support from the Cambodia Merchant Marine Department. The Meeting involved guest speakers who shared their knowledge and expertise on, among others UNCLOS, law enforcement, prosecution and evidence preservations.

The Cluster Meeting was jointly organised with the Thai Ministry of Foreign (MFA), National Security Council and the Royal Thai Navy (RTN). The Cluster Meeting was held back to back with the Regional Maritime Security Conference led by the Thai agencies and the ReCAAP ISC's Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference.

## **2 CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP (21-23 JUNE 2016, PHILIPPINES)**

The ReCAAP ISC has organised the 9<sup>th</sup> Capacity Building Workshop in Manila, Philippines on 21-23 Jun 16 with a total of 20 participants, including ReCAAP Focal Points and Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA). The aims of the 2½-day workshop were to develop and enhance the capabilities of ReCAAP Focal Points representatives by sharing best practices, experiences on piracy and armed robbery countermeasures, and to further enhance rapport and facilitate networking among the participants. During the Workshop, IFN training for Focal Points was conducted. We organised a breakup group discussion to get inputs from Focal Points on the future of ReCAAP in order to contribute to the deliberations of the Working Group.

As part of sharing of information, best practices, experiences and challenges, the Workshop incorporated presentations on the Situation Update, the "*Guide for small tanker operating in Asia against fuel/oil siphoning*" and the "*Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia*". In addition, there were three invited guest speakers from IMO, Philippine Coast Guard and Philippine Maritime Industry Authority. MMEA participant also shared their views and experience on the situation off Sabah and Southern Philippines. The Workshop concluded with a visit to the National Coast Watch Centre located at the PCG Headquarters.



### 3 FOCAL POINT SENIOR OFFICERS' MEETING (25-26 OCTOBER 2016, CAMBODIA)



The ReCAAP ISC Focal Point Senior Officers' Meeting 2016 was held on 25-26 Oct 16 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. The Meeting was supported by the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Kingdom of Cambodia, which is also the agency appointed as the ReCAAP Focal Point for Cambodia. The Meeting provided a platform for the ReCAAP Focal Points/Contact Point to share knowledge on recent incidents, latest situation and best practices, and to strengthen the information sharing network. A roadmap on the Future of the ReCAAP ISC to become a "Centre of Excellence" for Information Sharing was also discussed.

Apart from presentations by the ReCAAP Focal Points, guest speakers from Indian Coast Guard, Indonesia Gadjah Mada University, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), and Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA) were invited to share their views and knowledge. Interesting and enlightening sharing included UNCLOS in relation to piracy and armed robbery; enforcement, prosecution and evidence preservations; thoughts on the past, present and future of ReCAAP; and concerns from Asian shipowners with regards to the latest piracy and armed robbery situation.



Through the conduct of this meeting, the working relationship between the ReCAAP ISC and the ReCAAP Focal Points/Contact Point were further strengthened and enhanced for better cooperation in the suppression of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia.



#### 4 CLUSTER MEETING (13-15 JULY 2016, THAILAND)

The ReCAAP ISC, Thai Ministry of Foreign (MFA), National Security Council and the Royal Thai Navy (RTN) jointly organised the *Cluster Meeting and Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2016*, on 13-15 July 2016 at the Millennium Hilton Bangkok, Thailand. The Cluster Meeting held in conjunction with the Regional Maritime Security

Conference led by the Thai agencies discussed the legal prosecution process and its challenges as well as intra-governmental and inter-governmental cooperation. 11 agencies from the ReCAAP Focal Points, INTERPOL, research institutes / academia and regional government agencies participated actively in sharing their experiences and challenges. The outcome of the discussions was shared on the second day, with the shipping industry.



# COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS



# COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

## 1 OVERVIEW

As an inclusive international organisation, the ReCAAP ISC promotes cooperative arrangements among Contracting Parties, governmental and non-governmental organisations, shipping industries, maritime and research institutes which share ReCAAP ISC's mission in enhancing regional cooperation through information sharing in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships.

The cooperative arrangements also take the form of networking and working relationship with other stakeholders through participating in anti-piracy conferences, international conferences and forums which contribute to profiling ReCAAP ISC as the successful model of regional cooperation. Activities undertaken by the ReCAAP ISC in 2016 to be highlighted were the engagement of other relevant international and regional bodies, such as Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency, Indonesia Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia Coast Guard, INTERPOL, international shipping industry, well-established and internationally reputable research and maritime institutes with the objectives of widening the ReCAAP ISC information network, promoting situation awareness amongst ReCAAP ISC and Focal Points, and further reinforce the brand name of ReCAAP ISC at international maritime arena.

## 2 ENGAGEMENT WITH MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA

### 2.1 MALAYSIA

The ReCAAP ISC has continued good working relationship with Malaysia achieving good engagement results in 2016 with the government agencies as well as shipping industry. The interaction was most encouraging with a positive attitude of enhanced cooperation and collaboration. In continuing with ReCAAP ISC's commitment to engage Malaysia and for the new ED-ISC, Mr Masafumi Kuroki to introduce himself and reiterate ReCAAP ISC's commitment on enhancing cooperation and strengthening friendship, a visit to key maritime authorities in Malaysia was conducted on 14 Jun 16. The meetings were fruitful and enlightening with sharing of views on the current situation in Asia, identifying possible areas for improvement and exploring avenues for future cooperation and collaboration. Besides attending all our invited capacity building events, there is also regular and swift information exchange; support and cordial exchanges were also forthcoming with MMEA representatives at regional meetings, such as the Head of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) and other conferences.



The specific engagements included the following events:

- ED-ISC visited Malaysia on 14 Jun 16 as his introductory visit. He met the leadership of three key maritime organisations, namely ADM Dato' Ahmad Puzi bin Hj AB Kahar, Director General of Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA), FADM (Retd) Dato' Chin Yoon Chin, Director General of Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA) and Mr Nordin Mat Yusoff, Chairman of Malaysia Shipowners' Association (MASA).
- The Piracy and Sea Robbery Forum jointly organised by the ReCAAP ISC with Sabah and Sarawak Shipowners Association (SSSA) on 30 Aug 16 in which Mr Nordin Mat Yusoff, Chairman of MASA was the invited speaker.
- At 12th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) held on 11-14 Oct 16 in Jakarta, Indonesia; ED-ISC had the opportunity to interact again with the Director General of MMEA ADM Maritime Dato' Ahmad Puzi Bin Hj Ab Kahar where there was frank exchange of views on the situation in Asia.
- MMEA officer participated in the ReCAAP ISC's Capacity Building Workshop in 2016.



## 2.2 INDONESIA

There was much less progress with Indonesia compared with Malaysia; several engagements were made with Indonesian Ministry, Coast Guard Agency and shipping industry on the occasions of the 12<sup>th</sup> HAGAM held in Jakarta on 11-13 Oct 2016.

The specific engagements included the following events:

- ED-ISC had a meeting with Ambassador Ferry Adamhar, Director-General for Legal Affairs and International Treaties, Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 10 Oct 2016.
- ED-ISC had a meeting with the Chief Executive of Indonesia Coast Guard (BAKAMLA), VADM Ari Soedewo on 11 Oct 16. There was frank exchange of views on the current situation in Asia and how operational cooperation can be enhanced.
- ED-ISC had a meeting with Mr Budhi Halim, Secretary-General of Indonesia National Shipowners Association on 10 Oct 2016.



### 3. ENGAGEMENTS WITH MULTILATERAL REGIMES INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

#### 3.1 IMO COUNCIL AND MARITIME SECURITY COMMITTEE (MSC) MEETINGS



The ReCAAP ISC attended the IMO Council 116<sup>th</sup> Session held in Jul 16 where ED-ISC made an intervention to highlight the piracy and armed robbery situation in Asia, in particular the

concerns on the abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and eastern Sabah region. The ReCAAP ISC was also represented at the 96<sup>th</sup> and 97<sup>th</sup> MSC meetings in May 16 and Nov 16 respectively; in which an information paper was tabled on the progress and achievements of the ReCAAP ISC and again highlighted the concerns on the abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and eastern Sabah region.



The Secretary-General of the IMO, Mr Lim Ki-Tack, who was visiting Singapore as the Speaker for the MPA Academy Distinguished Speaker, visited the ReCAAP ISC's Office on 29 Aug 16 accompanied by Mr Andrew Tan, Chief Executive of MPA. Mr Lim had a meeting with Mr Kuroki, the Executive Director and staff of the ReCAAP ISC. This is the fourth visit to the ReCAAP ISC made by Secretary-Generals of the IMO. The meeting covered wide ranging issues of mutual interest, among others, the situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, cooperation between the ReCAAP ISC and IMO, and the Future of the ReCAAP ISC in the next decade. Mr Lim commended the good achievement and steady development of the ReCAAP ISC in the past 10 years, which has contributed to safer seas in Asia; and reaffirmed IMO's commitment to continue extending its cooperation to the ReCAAP ISC.



# COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

## 3.2 THAI MARITIME ENFORCEMENT COORDINATING CENTRE (MECC) MARITIME SECURITY CONFERENCE (28-29 MAR 2016, THAILAND)

The Thai MECC Maritime Security Conference was held on 28-29 Mar 16 in Pattaya and a forum with the Thai Shipowners' Association in Bangkok, Thailand. The Conference aimed to enhance regional collaboration on maritime piracy as well as providing participants including local government agencies and shipping industry

with opportunity to discuss and propose solutions to the problems associated with armed robbery in the Malacca Strait and South China Sea. The ReCAAP ISC was invited to make presentation on the recently launched "Tanker Guide" and "Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia". There was good discussion among Thai law enforcement agencies and shipping industry. The programme also included a visit to the Thai-MECC Operations Centre located at the Royal Thai Navy Headquarters.



### 3.3 12<sup>th</sup> HEADS OF ASIAN COAST GUARD AGENCIES MEETING (HACGAM), (11-13 OCT 2016, INDONESIA)

The 12<sup>th</sup> HACGAM was jointly hosted by the Indonesia Coast Guard and Japan Coast Guard on 11-13 Oct 16 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Executive Director of the ReCAAP ISC (ED-ISC) presented on the latest situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, highlighting the concern about

the abduction of crew from ships in Sulu-Celebes Sea and the combined effort of the littoral States that had contributed to the overall improvement of the situation in Asia. This marks the first time that the ReCAAP ISC made a presentation at the HACGAM plenary meeting. The meeting ended with a Joint Sea Exercise on 13 Oct 16, with eight ships from Japan Coast Guard, Indian Coast Guard and Indonesian Coast Guard / Police participating in the exercise.

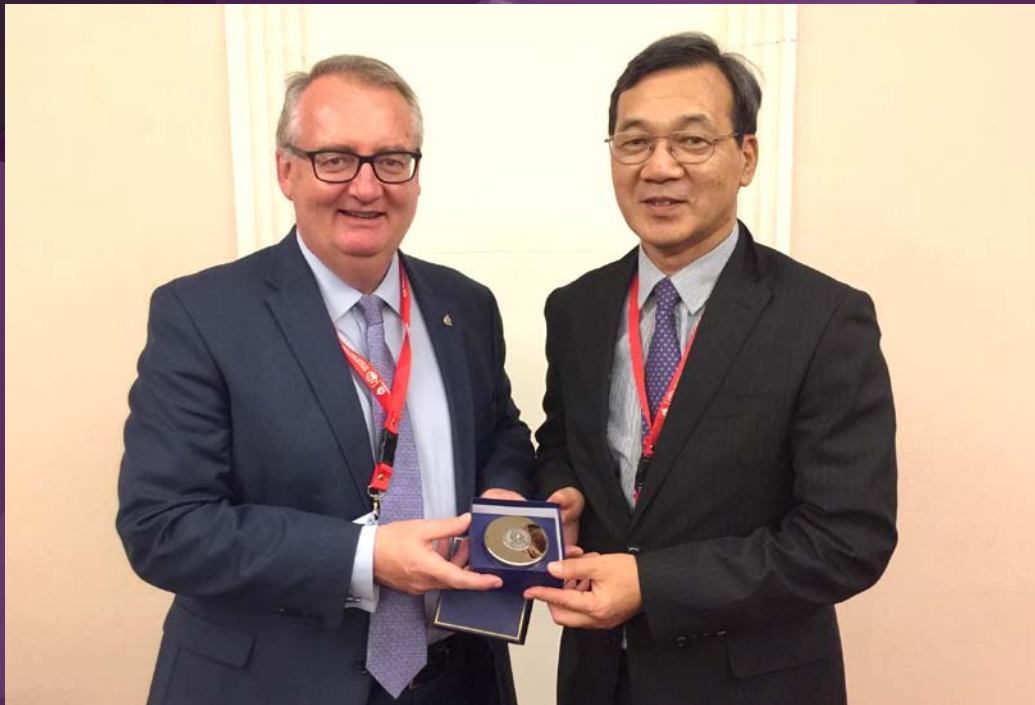


# COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

## 3.4 INTERPOL 85<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY (7-10 NOV 2016, INDONESIA)

The INTERPOL 85th General Assembly was held on 7-10 Nov 16 in Bali, Indonesia. The focus of this general assembly was identifying and meeting member countries' security needs in the face of an ever-changing threat landscape. With increased concerns about foreign terrorist fighters

returning from conflict zones, a key issue during the four-day conference was the need for enhanced information sharing via INTERPOL, particularly biometric data, to assist countries identify and prevent these potential threats. The ReCAAP ISC attended this meeting and had a bilateral meeting with Mr Tim MORRIS, Executive Director Police Service and Mr Patrick Stevens, Director of Counter Terrorism.



### **3.5 EAST ASIA SUMMIT (EAS) SEMINAR ON MARITIME SECURITY COOPERATION (23-25 NOV 2016, AUSTRALIA)**

The ReCAAP ISC was invited by the Government of Australia to participate in the EAS Seminar on Maritime Security Cooperation, co-chaired by the Foreign Ministries of Australia and Indonesia. The main theme of the Seminar was “Enhancing

information sharing on commercial vessels”. The seminar was 1.5 track meeting with the participation of Government representatives of EAS member countries and academia. ED-ISC participated in the Seminar and made a presentation on the activities of the ReCAAP ISC as regional cooperation for information sharing on piracy and robbery. The result of the seminar will be reported to the EAS meeting.



# COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

## 3.6 GALLE DIALOGUE 2016 (27-29 NOV 2016, SRI LANKA)

The Galle Dialogue 2016 was held on 27-29 Nov 16 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The purpose of this conference was to provide a common platform for stake holders of national and international repute to discuss maritime related issues and to enhance the cooperation on maritime security and sharing of knowledge and information. The theme of the conference was “Fostering Strategic Maritime Partnerships”. The ReCAAP ISC participated as panellist to speak about enhancing cooperation in Asia. The conference was attended by more than 170 participants from 41 countries and 12 International Organisations. The conference was graced by the President, Mr Maithripala Sirisena, with welcome remarks by the VADM Wijegunaratne, Commander of Sri

Lanka Navy and HE Ruwan Wijewardene, Minister of Defence. Several presentations highlighted the ReCAAP as a successful model for regional cooperation.



**‘Fostering Strategic Maritime Partnerships’**

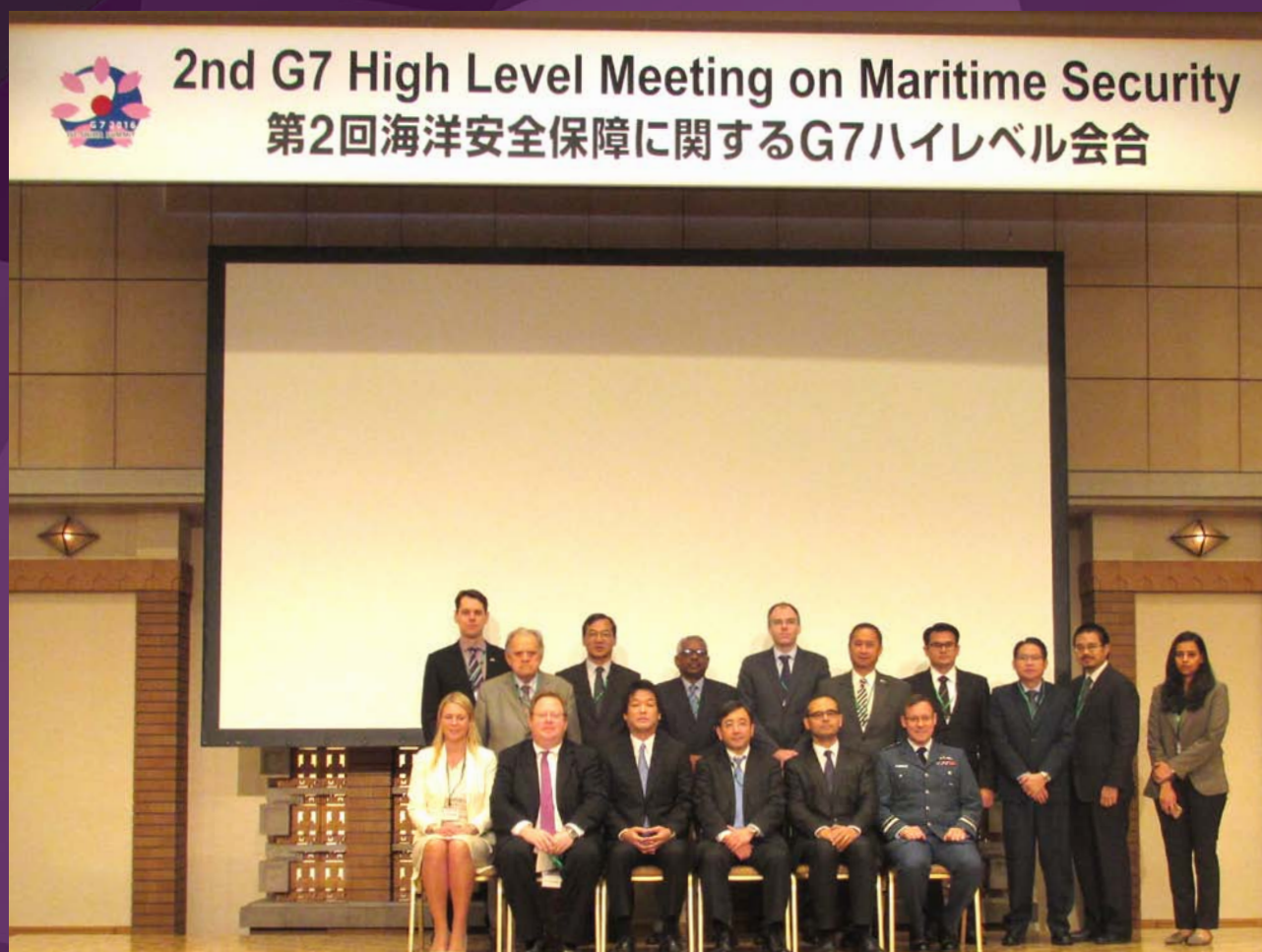
28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016  
at Galle Face Hotel Colombo, Sri Lanka



### 3.7 G7 HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON MARITIME SECURITY (8 DEC 2016, JAPAN)

The ReCAAP ISC was invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, assuming the Presidency of G7, to participate in the 2nd G7 High-Level Meeting on Maritime Security. The first G7 High-Level Meeting was held in Germany in December 2015.

ED-ISC participated in the meeting in Japan and made a presentation on the theme “Preventing illegal maritime activities: Strengthening capacity building and regional ownership and responsibility”. The ReCAAP ISC was presented as a model of regional cooperation and information sharing on maritime threat. The meeting was attended by representatives of G7 countries and Embassies of EAS in Japan.



## 4 ENGAGEMENT WITH PRIVATE INDUSTRY

### 4.1 NAUTICAL FORUM 2016 (12 JAN 2016, SINGAPORE)

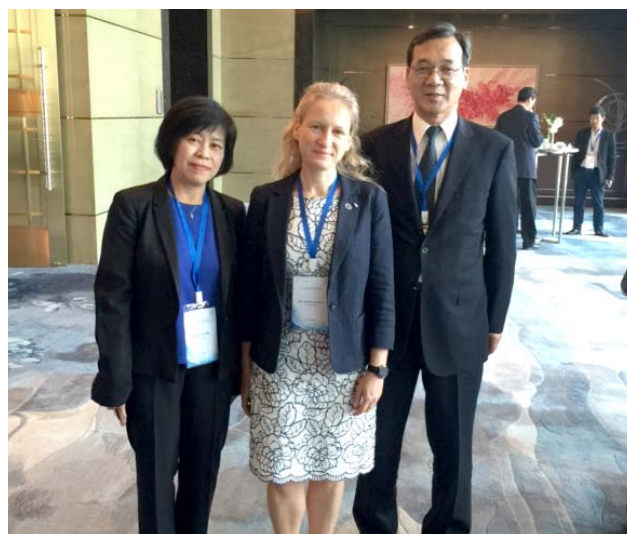
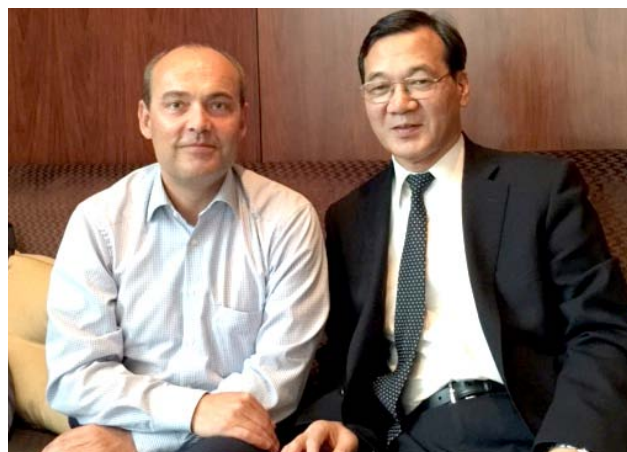
The Nautical Forum was conducted successfully on 12 Jan 16 at STI Auditorium, Capital Tower, Singapore. Jointly organised by the ReCAAP ISC with Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) and Singapore Shipping Association (SSA), the Forum attracted close to 200 participants

from the shipping industry, law enforcement agencies, governmental agencies, research academia and like-minded individuals. Serving as a prelude to the release of the Annual Report, the ReCAAP ISC presented the annual statistics for the piracy and sea robbery situation in Asia for 2015; and also informed the participants about the progress of the *Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia*, which the ReCAAP ISC was working with its partner organisations.



#### **4.2 25<sup>th</sup> ASIAN SHIPOWNERS' FORUM (ASF) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM), (18-20 MAY 2016, CHINA)**

In conjunction with the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Asian Shipowners' Forum (ASF), the ReCAAP ISC was invited to make a presentation on the latest situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships highlighting best practices and lessons learned; and shared the newly launched Regional Guide for Asia. The participation of the event allowed the ReCAAP ISC team, particularly the new ED, to network and interact with members of the ASF; and to meet representatives from BIMCO, INTERTANKO, MASA and INSA to discuss areas of cooperation and collaboration. On the whole, it was a successful and fruitful meeting to profile the ReCAAP and its work; and establish contacts with the Asian ship owners and members of the Asian shipping industry. At the meeting, the ASF officially declared to change its name to "Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA)".



#### **4.3 ENGAGEMENT WITH BIMCO (7 JUL 2016, DENMARK)**

Taking the opportunity of the IMO Council Meeting, ED-ISC made a visit to BIMCO head office in Copenhagen, Denmark on 7 Jul 16 to meet the top management of BIMCO. The Deputy Sec-Gen, Mr. Lars Robert Pedersen hosted the visit with Mr. Michael Lund at BIMCO House. There was frank and candid exchange of views on some issues related with piracy and both sides expressed their intention to promote cooperation.



# COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

## 4.4 ReCAAP ISC PIRACY AND SEA ROBBERY CONFERENCE 2016 (14 JUL 2016, THAILAND)

The Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2016 led by the ReCAAP ISC was held on 14 Jul 16 in Bangkok, Thailand with the theme of 'A Safer Sea: Addressing Challenges Together'. Some 120 participants from a wide variety of fields and many regions attended the conference. The aim of this Conference was to provide a platform for sharing of views, best practices, lessons learned and challenges among the ReCAAP ISC, local and regional shipping associations, shipping companies, enforcement agencies, international organisations and academia. Amongst the topics discussed were: situation of piracy and sea robbery in Asia, the *Regional Guides* produced by the ReCAAP

*ISC, incidents involving abduction of crew off East Sabah and Southern Philippines, cooperation and collaboration between enforcement agencies and shipping industry, and model of inter-agencies cooperation and collaboration in information sharing and operational coordination.* Speakers on the topics from Enforcement Agencies were Royal Thai Navy, Indonesian BAKAMLA, Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, Philippine Coast Guard and the Information Fusion Centre (IFC). From the Shipping Industry were representatives from the Thailand Shipowners' Association, PTT Public Company Limited, Federation of ASEAN Shipowners' Associations / Singapore Shipping Association (FASA/SSA), Indonesia National Shipowners Association (INSA) and Sarawak and Sabah Shipowners Association (SSSA).





#### **4.5 GENERAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION FORUM (26 AUG 2016, SINGAPORE)**

ED-ISC was invited to speak at the Maritime Knowledge Shipping Session (MKSS) on 26 Aug 16 at the STI Auditorium, Capital Tower. MKSS is a quarterly briefing session to the shipping, insurance and business communities, jointly organised by the Singapore Maritime Foundation (SMF) and the General Insurance Association of Singapore (GIA). ED-ISC gave an introduction of the ReCAAP and ISC with its main activities, the structure of information sharing network, trends and situation update on piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. He underscored the importance of cooperation with the stakeholders,

particularly the shipping industry, and cited the two Guidebooks that the ReCAAP ISC promulgated as a testimony of its close cooperation with the stakeholders. The session gave a good opportunity to profile ReCAAP ISC with the private sector, particularly the insurance industry with which the ISC does not have close contact.



# COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

## 4.6 SARAWAK AND SABAH SHIPOWNERS' ASSOCIATION (SSSA) DIALOGUE SESSIONS AND ANTI-PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY FORUM 2016 (25-30 AUG 2016, MALAYSIA)

The ReCAAP ISC and the Sarawak and Sabah Shipowners' Association (SSSA) have worked well in the past four years in enhancing cooperation between government agencies and shipping industry in the Sarawak and Sabah region. The SSSA organised a series of dialogues in several cities in Sabah with the ReCAAP ISC. The SSSA and ReCAAP ISC team visited Tawau, Lahad Datu, Sandakan, Labuan, Kota Kinabalu, and Miri on 25-29 Aug 16 for dialogues with the Shipowners, Marine Department, and the Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM). The entire programme culminated with a Forum held on 30 Aug 16 in Miri, Sarawak.

The one-day Forum had the theme of “*Enhancing Cooperation between Government Agencies and Shipping Industry*” with a view to provide a platform for regional cooperation through better sharing and exchange of views involving the ReCAAP ISC, regional government agencies and shipping industry. The participants heard from the ReCAAP ISC on “Trends

on Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia”, and Regional Guidebook. The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) speaker talked about the Abu Sayaaf Group and the situation off the Sulu Seas while the Marine Departments from Sarawak and Sabah spoke on the latest measures implemented. Some 50 participants from Sarawak and Sabah regions, actively discussed with the speakers on preventive measures against abduction incidents while operating in the Sabah region.





#### **4.7 31<sup>st</sup> INTERIM MEETING OF THE ASIAN SHIPOWNERS' ASSOCIATION AND SAFE NAVIGATION & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (23 SEP 2016, SINGAPORE)**

The ReCAAP ISC was invited by Singapore Shipping Association (SSA), the active Chair for the Safe Navigation & Environment Committee (SNEC), to the 31<sup>st</sup> Interim meeting of the ASA SNEC held in Singapore on 23 Sep 16. The ReCAAP ISC apprised the committee about the piracy and armed robbery situation in Asia, the abduction of crew in the Sulu Sea and the precautionary measures and contact number to call when transiting the area. The meeting was attended by representatives from regional shipping associations of Japan, Korea, China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and Singapore.

#### **4.8 WORKING GROUP MEETING WITH INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA ON FUTURE OF ReCAAP ISC (18 OCT 2016, SINGAPORE)**

The ReCAAP ISC invited representatives from the shipping industry and academia based in Singapore for a meeting at the office of ReCAAP ISC on 18 Oct 16 to solicit their views on the future of ReCAAP ISC as a "Centre of Excellence" for information sharing on piracy and sea robbery. Attendees of the meeting included representatives from ASA, BIMCO, Singapore Shipping Association (SSA) and RSIS. The meeting was fruitful with frank exchange of views on areas such as improving ReCAAP ISC's timely reporting, strengthening rapport with the maritime community, expansion of memberships and increasing publicity and profiling efforts of the ReCAAP ISC.



# COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

## 5 ENGAGEMENT WITH COUNTRIES AND ORGANISATIONS INDICATING INTEREST IN THE ReCAAP

### 5.1 VISIT BY GERMAN NAVY (7 JUL 2016, SINGAPORE)

A team of German Navy officers consisting CDR Kai Michael Knafla, LCDR Christian Präkels and COL Rainer Schwickart, the Defence Attaché of German Embassy in Singapore, visited the ReCAAP ISC on 7 Jul 16. The German team presented their organisation structure and working processes. They indicated that the German government was still discussing the accession issues.

### 5.2 VISIT BY EUROPEAN COMMISSION (EC) (28 OCT 2016, SINGAPORE)

The Director-General for European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE), Mr Henrik Hololei, visited the ReCAAP ISC and had a meeting with ED-ISC and his team on 28 Oct 2016. The meeting covered wide ranging issues of mutual interest. About the recent developments of the situation in the Asian region, Mr Hololei expressed his positive views on the ongoing situation and actions taken by the regional maritime community. In the course of meeting, Mr Hololei applauded good work done by the ReCAAP ISC and expressed his appreciation to its steady development in the past ten years which has enormously contributed to the safe navigation in Asia. He reaffirmed the EC's interest to explore the possibility of joining ReCAAP, while promoting concrete cooperation.





## 6 PROFILING AND PUBLICITY

### 6.1 OVERVIEW

The ReCAAP ISC has gained considerable recognition of its work both locally and at the international front. Our profiling efforts are targeting at selected entities that command respectable influence in the maritime community, possess the expert knowledge on piracy and sea robbery and able to contribute to the expansion of the ReCAAP ISC's information network and outreach. They include close working rapport with the media and maritime trade publications, and sharing experience and knowledge through engagement of international maritime bodies, research institutes and think tanks.

### 6.2 ENGAGEMENTS WITH MEDIA

Building on past close working relationship with the various media reporters, the ReCAAP ISC continues its presence in the media reports throughout the year. The reporters also recognise and appreciate that

the ReCAAP ISC provides its insight and presents objective perspectives of piracy and sea robbery situations in Asia. As part of our continuous efforts in engaging the media, the ReCAAP ISC commenced a new initiative of conducting bi-annual ED-ISC Meet-the-Media Sessions in January and July 2016. The Sessions aimed to provide the Head of ReCAAP ISC with a platform to share the situation updates and to convey key messages. The ReCAAP ISC continues to work with international marine magazines such as IHS Maritime 360, Janes Defence, Kyodo News, Lloyd's List, Platts, Safety at Sea International, Seatrade, Tradewinds as well as the wire news agency, in particular, Thomson Reuter.

### 6.3 MEDIA REPORTING

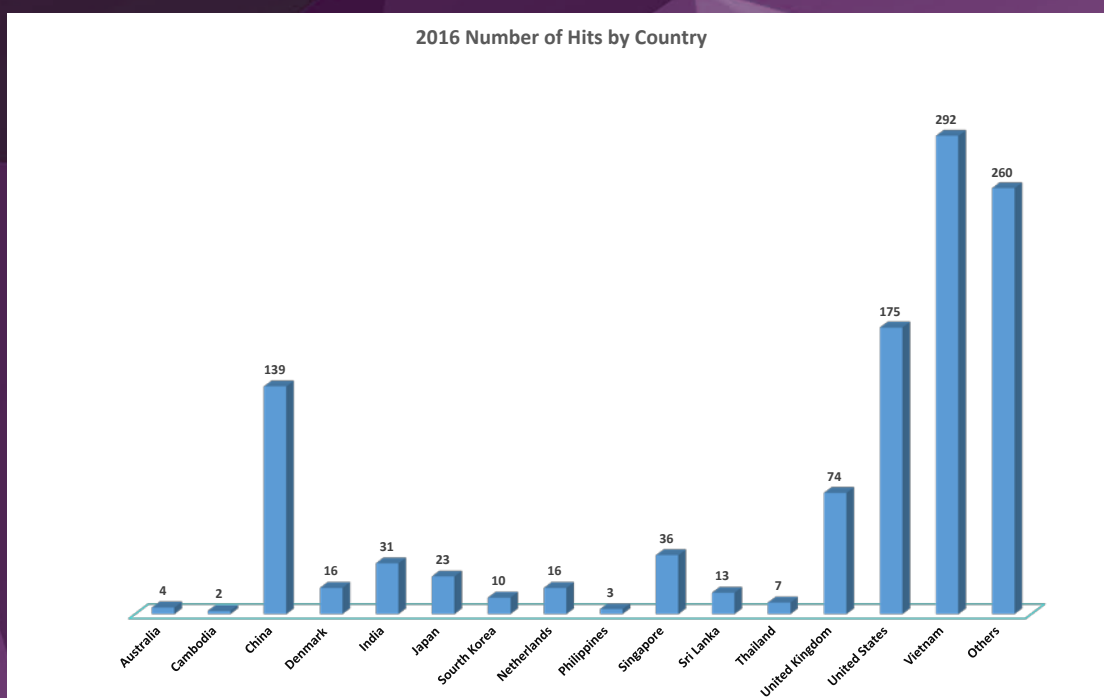
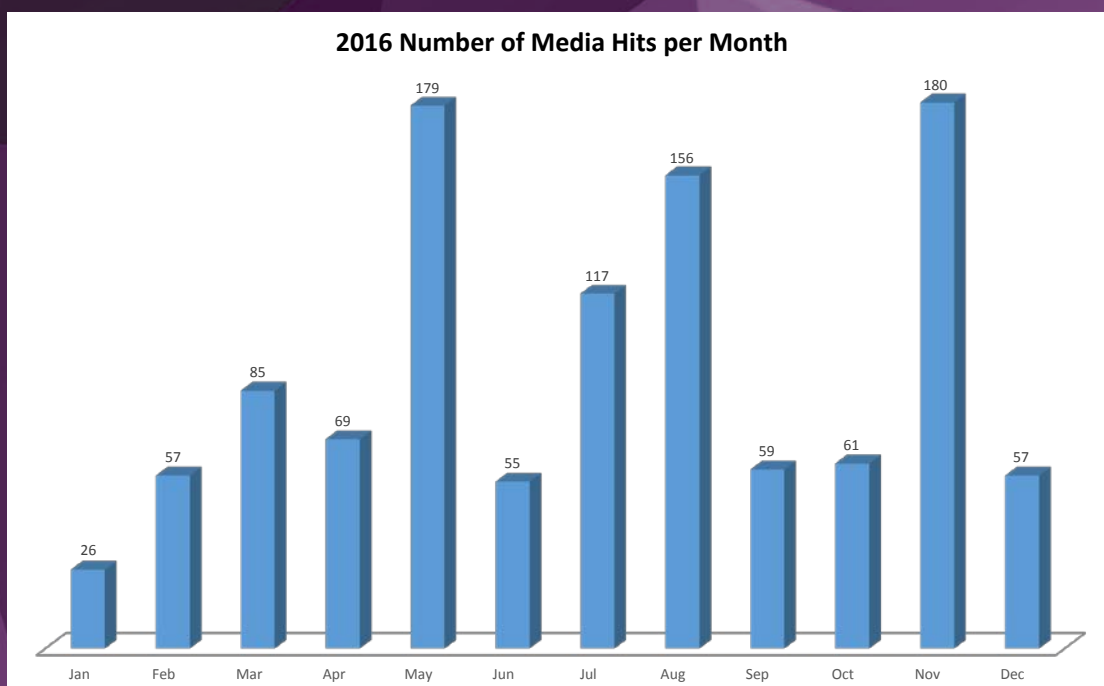
The total number of hits for media covering ReCAAP and ReCAAP ISC was 1,198 in 2015 which was 52% increase compared to that of 2014. The total number of hits in 2016 was 1,101. This is three press/media coverage per day for the period of January to December 2016.

### 5-YEAR COMPARISON

Year	Total Number of Hits	Number of Hits per Day (366 days / 2012, 2016 365 days / 2013-15)
2016	1,101	3.01
2015	1,198	3.28
2014	789	2.16
2013	326	0.89
2012	505	1.38

# COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

The coverage sorted “by Month” and “by Country” is as follow:







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