

ReCAAP ISC Newsletter

From the editorial

This is the inaugural issue of ReCAAP Newsletter with a primary objective of keeping abreast with the happenings within the ReCAAP Family on a quarterly basis and in a light reading fashion.

The ReCAAP ISC is now in its fourth year of operation since its inception on 29 November 2006. Much has developed in terms of progress, profile, and more importantly — cooperation with various stakeholders.

There are indeed much more to accomplish while moving forward. So allow us to present this issue to you as a humble start, and cordially invite you in moving on with us — share with us your suggestions, a story on happenings at your end, etc. Do send them to: newsletter@recaap.org

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The 4th Annual Meeting of the ReCAAP ISC Governing Council

The 4th Governing Council Meeting was successfully conducted on 9-11 March 10 at the Mandarin Orchard Hotel, Singapore with 50 participants from Contracting Parties and 18 External participants. Governors commended the ISC on achieving further milestones in research and analysis, capacity building, and engagement and cooperation with other organisations with an interest in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships. The Council also welcomed the Kingdom of Norway, represented by its Governor, Mr Gaute Sivertsen, at the meeting for the first time since becoming a member of ReCAAP on 29 August 2009.

The meeting also noted the steady progress of the Kingdom of the Netherlands towards joining ReCAAP and the formal notification from the Kingdom of Denmark of its intention to accede to the agreement. These were testimony of the ReCAAP's growing

credibility and shows greater recognition from international players that more cooperation is needed to deal with the problems of piracy and armed robbery. Representatives from industry organisations also reaffirmed their commitment to the ReCAAP initiative, with MoUs endorsed with the Asian Shipowners' Forum (ASF) and the Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO).

Voluntary contribution towards the work of the ReCAAP ISC was pledged by the various Governors/Governor Representatives. These include the following:

- Singapore S\$1,560,000
- Japan S\$642,000
- Republic of Korea 100 million won (approximately US\$100,000)
- Norway US\$100,000
- China US\$50,000
- India US\$50,000



The 4th Annual Meeting of the ReCAAP ISC Governing Council
9-11 March 2010, Mandarin Orchard Hotel, Singapore

Change of Helm at the ReCAAP ISC

While bidding goodbye to the outgoing Executive Director, Mr Yoshiaki Ito, the ReCAAP ISC welcomes the new Executive Director, Mr Yoshihisa Endo who was appointed on 1 April 2010 at the 4th Governing Council Meeting.

Much thanks to Mr Ito for successfully steering the ReCAAP ISC through its initial three years of operation. He has moved on to the next appointment as the Counsellor in The Embassy of Japan in Ethiopia.



Handing over the appointment of Executive Director of the ReCAAP ISC, conducted at the 4th Governing Council Meeting



At the farewell party for Mr Ito, bidding goodbye from the past and present staff at the ReCAAP ISC



Mr and Mrs Yoshihisa Endo arrived Singapore on 22 April 2010

Expansion of Membership

Following the announcement made at the 4th Governing Council Meeting, the Kingdom of Denmark officially notified the Depository (The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore) of the ReCAAP Agreement of its interests to accede to the Agreement. Following that, the depository announced on 10 June 2010, that no written objection by any Contracting Party to the Agreement has been received within the 90 days provided for under Article 18.5 of the said Agreement. The Kingdom of Denmark may proceed to deposit the instrument of accession with the Depository, to become a party to the Agreement 60 days thereafter.

In a similar process, the Kingdom of the Netherlands deposited an instrument of accession to the ReCAAP Agreement at the Depository on 4 May 2010. They shall thus become a party to the Agreement by 3 July 2010.



LTC(Retd) Nicholas Teo and Mr Jacob van Hekke

cont.....Expansion of Membership

In preparation, a ReCAAP ISC team comprising the Deputy Director, LTC(Retd) Nicholas Teo and Senior Manager (Operations/Programmes), LTC(NS) Toong Ka Leong, has since conducted an Ops/Training Visit to the Netherlands to make an official call to the Governor (Designate) for the Netherlands, Mr Jacob van Hekke, at Den Haag in early May 2010. Mr van Hekke is currently the Assistant Director of Maritime Shipping and Security, Ministry of Transport for the Netherlands. At the same courtesy call, the team met the Deputy Director General, Mr Roel Gans, at the Ministry of Transport.

The Netherlands Coast Guard is the designated Focal Point (Netherlands). The ReCAAP ISC team visited the Director of the Netherlands Coast Guard, CAPT Trimpe Burger; Head of Operations, Mr Gerrit Miedema; and Nautical Affairs and Operations, Mr Jan Ricken. Mr Ricken has also been appointed as the point of contact with regard to works relating to the ReCAAP ISC.

During the same visit, an introduction of the Information Network System (IFN) was presented to the Focal Point (Netherlands) Officers.

The ReCAAP family welcomes the Kingdom of the Netherlands to becoming its 16th Contracting Party on 3 July 2010.



**Governor for
The Kingdom of
the
Netherlands**
Mr Jacob van
Hekke



**Head of
Focal Point
(Netherlands)**
Mr Jan Ricken



(From Left)
CAPT Trimpe Burger, Director of the Netherlands Coast Guard, and
Mr Gerrit Miedema, Head of Operations



Senior Manager (Operations/Programmes), LTC(NS) Toong Ka Leong, introducing the Information Network System (IFN) while visiting the Netherlands' Coastguard Base located in Den Helder.

Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2010

The ReCAAP ISC and BIMCO jointly organised the Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2010 on 29 April 2010 at Swisotel Merchant Court Hotel, Singapore. The Conference, the second to be organised by the ReCAAP ISC, was held in conjunction with the Singapore Maritime Week 2010. The theme of this year's conference was "Sharing Information, Enhancing Security". The aim of this conference was to bring together stakeholders, to share perspectives on the piracy and sea robbery situation, and to explore ways and measures to improve the situation. The conference provided a platform for sharing of perspectives and an opportunity to foster closer cooperation among various stakeholders, to collectively address the challenges of combating piracy and sea robbery.

The conference was opened by Mr Lam Yi Young, Governor (Singapore) of the ReCAAP ISC Governing Council on behalf of the Chairperson, Dr Pornchai Danvivathana. The keynote address was delivered by Mr Robert Lorenz-Meyer, President of BIMCO. The conference brought together a mix of speakers from the public and commercial sectors.

cont..... **Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2010**

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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.

Values

Reliability
excellence
Cohesiveness
Alertness
Adaptability
Professionalism

Integrity
Sustainability
Commitment



Getting Ready



Mr Lam Yi Young



Mr Robert Lorenz-Meyer



The Panelist for Q&A Session

The conference also incorporated the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Mr Endo, the ReCAAP ISC and Mr Skaanild, BIMCO which was witnessed by some 200 attendees. The MoU records the mutual understanding on joint cooperation in the area of information sharing and mutual support and to institutionalise a platform for future collaboration, among others.



Signing of MoU between the ReCAAP ISC and BIMCO



The speakers at the Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2010

- a. **Mr Yoshihisa Endo**, Executive Director, ReCAAP ISC
- b. **Ms Lee Yin Mui**, Assistant Director (Research), ReCAAP ISC
- c. **Professor Robert Beckman**, Director of Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore
- d. **Mr Yuichi Sonoda**, Secretary-General, Asian Shipowners' Forum (ASF)
- e. **Mr Giles Noakes**, Chief Maritime Security Officer, BIMCO
- f. **Captain Chris Chambers**, Chief of Staff, Combined Maritime Forces
- g. **Captain Alexey Matskovich**
- h. **Captain Abelardo M Pacheco**, Master of MT Stolt Strength who was held by pirates in Somalia for a stint of 162 days