

INTERPOL visits the ReCAAP ISC

Upon invitation extended by ReCAAP ISC's Executive Director, Mr Yoshihisa Endo, a Delegation from INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI), led by its Executive Director, Mr Noboru Nakatani, visited the ReCAAP ISC's new office located in Infinite Studios in Singapore.

2. Mr Nakatani briefed about their relocation to Singapore against the background of the increasing needs to address the transnational crime in Asia. Mr Endo welcomed the relocation of IGCI to Singapore and mentioned sea piracy is also one of the transnational crimes for the regional and international community to tackle. He expressed the wishes that the relocation of IGCI in beefed up manner to Singapore creates further opportunities of the enhancement of cooperation between the two agencies within the framework of the existing Cooperation Agreement between the ReCAAP ISC and the INTERPOL signed two years ago.

3. During the meeting, the ReCAAP ISC briefed to the INTERPOL team the latest development regarding piracy and armed robbery against ships in our region, in particular, focusing on the recent frequency of siphoning incidents which are the issues of serious concerns for the many stakeholders, and introducing the recent article¹ encouraging cooperation between the ReCAAP ISC and the INTERPOL in addressing such concerns. He emphasized that, in light of the nature of the incidents, it is an issue of interest for not only the ReCAAP ISC but also the INTERPOL.

4. Mr Nakatani acknowledged the briefing made by the ReCAAP ISC and active discussions between the two sides followed. Both sides also exchanged their views of their action plan and shared the view that there are many areas of cooperation between the two agencies such as in the field of information sharing, capacity building, networking and introduction of advance technology to combat such crimes. They agreed that the meeting was useful, productive and mutually beneficial. In concluding the visit, Mr Nakatani invited Mr Endo and his staffs to visit IGCI's new premises next month with a view to continue the useful dialogue. Mr Endo thanked again Mr Nakatani and his delegations for their visit to the ReCAAP ISC's new office and cordially accepted the IGCI's invitation.

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¹ RSIS Commentary No. 227: *Syphoning Confidence: Piracy and Fuel Theft in Southeast Asia*, by Euan Graham <https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/rsis/co14227-syphoning-confidence-piracy-and-fuel-theft-in-southeast-asia/#.VHSD8E0cTIU>



Meeting in progress



Mr Yoshihisa Endo (left) receiving a token presented by Mr Noboru Nakatani