



## **NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

02 July 2018

### **ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre and World Maritime University Strengthen Cooperation in Fight against Piracy and Sea Robbery**

ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) and World Maritime University (WMU) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen the cooperation between the two organisations in the shared interest in increasing the knowledge of the evolving situation of piracy and sea robbery in Asia.

The cooperation will see ReCAAP ISC share its Asian experience in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships with the next generation of maritime leaders pursuing their postgraduate studies at WMU's campus in Malmö, Sweden, and in turn host visiting students of WMU at ReCAAP ISC on their field studies to Singapore. The partnership will advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda, in particular Goal 4 focused on education, Goal 7 related to energy, Goal 8 regarding decent work and economic growth, and Goal 16 promoting peaceful societies.

“In 2015, ReCAAP ISC delivered the first lecture to students at WMU. Since then, both organisations have had useful mutual exchanges in the promotion of maritime safety and security as a vital topic for maritime leaders. ReCAAP ISC highly appreciates WMU's shared interest in having their students gain a better appreciation of the piracy and sea robbery situation in Asia, and this MOU provides a framework to deepen our mutual cooperation,” said Masafumi Kuroki, Executive Director of ReCAAP ISC.

Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry, President of the World Maritime University, stated, “The threat posed by piracy and armed robbery against ships has been a focus of the IMO's agenda from the early 1980s until today. This MoU with ReCAAP will advance the University's commitment to supporting IMO's work and strengthen our mutual effort with ReCAAP in fighting piracy at sea in Asia. The expertise shared by ReCAAP will inform maritime security research at the University as well as educate future maritime leaders from around the globe. It also follows on the heels of the ILO's recent adoption of Amendments to the MLC, 2006 providing for seafarers to continue to be paid if held captive as a result of piracy or armed robbery against ships, an important milestone in protecting the rights of seafarers.”



Mr. Masafumi Kuroki, Executive Director of ReCAAP ISC and Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry, President of World Maritime University sign a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen mutual cooperation between the two organisations



Mr. Masafumi Kuroki presents a memento of appreciation to Dr. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry

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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, 20 States (14 Asian countries, 4 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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>

### About WMU

The World Maritime University (WMU) in Malmö, Sweden is a postgraduate maritime university founded in 1983 by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a specialized agency of the United Nations. The mission of WMU is to be the world centre of excellence in postgraduate maritime and oceans education, professional training and research, while building global capacity and promoting sustainable development. WMU is an organization by and for the international maritime community and is committed to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Agenda.