

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

10 June 2021

### **ReCAAP ISC virtual Capacity Building Workshop 2021**

**Officers from ReCAAP Contracting Parties gathered virtually today in to Share Updated Situation and Best Practices in Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships**

Twenty-eight officers from 18 ReCAAP Member States participated in virtual Capacity Building Workshop (CBW) 2021 organised by ReCAAP ISC.

The main aim of this workshop is to share the latest situation of piracy and sea robbery in Asia as well as in other areas of concern, and to further improve the function of Focal Points/Contact Point (FPs/CP) thorough sharing experiences and best practices. FPs/CP are the government agencies designated by ReCAAP Member States to be the primary points-of-contact for the ReCAAP information sharing network.

The programme of the workshop was consisted of the presentations on “the situation of piracy and sea robbery in Asia”, “the situation in the Gulf of Guinea” and “the situation of abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and the nexus between maritime terrorism and piracy”. The ReCAAP ISC presented the role and function of FPs/CP, indicating some areas of improvement to be made by FPs/CP. A panel discussion by participants was also conducted to exchange views on how to further promote inter-agency cooperation and engagement with the shipping industry, particularly for timely reporting of incidents.

“While the piracy and sea robbery situation in Asia saw an overall improvement from January to May 2021 compared to the same period over the past ten years, some areas of concern still remain. As Focal Points of ReCAAP Member States play a primary role for timely and accurate information sharing on piracy and sea robbery, ReCAAP ISC will continue to build the capability of its Focal Points to effectively deal with maritime crimes for the safety of maritime transport and well-being of seafarers,” said Masafumi Kuroki, Executive Director of ReCAAP ISC.

“CBW provides a timely opportunity for the maritime regulatory and law enforcement authorities across Asia, Australia, Europe and the United States to come together to gain common understanding of the situation, share best practices, and strengthen mutual cooperation in the fight against maritime crimes,” concluded Mr. Masafumi Kuroki.

The ReCAAP member countries represented at the virtual CBW were Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Denmark, India, Japan, Korea, Laos, Myanmar, the Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and United Kingdom.



Officers from ReCAAP Contracting Parties and ReCAAP ISC gathered virtually at ReCAAP ISC virtual Capacity Building Workshop 2021 to share situation update and best practices in combating piracy and sea robbery against ships.

– End of Release –

Media Contact

Laurel Felicia Lee

E-mail: [laurel\\_lee@recaap.org](mailto:laurel_lee@recaap.org)

Tel: +65 8126 1127

**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 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>