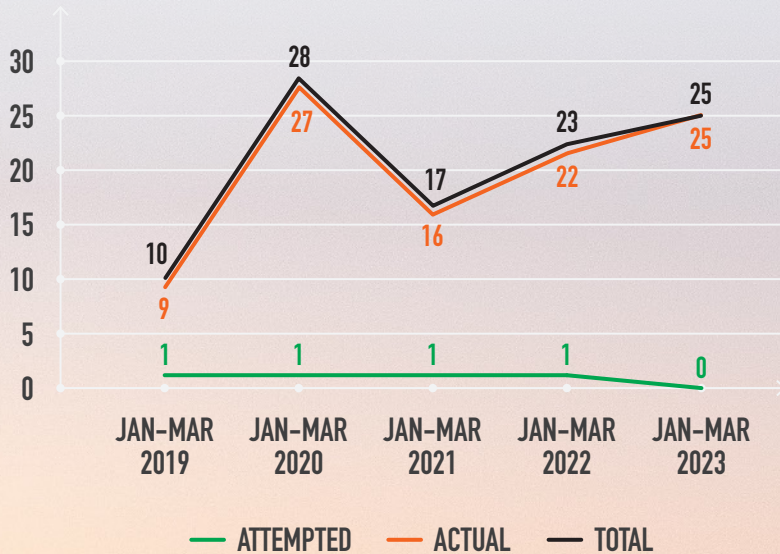


PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS IN ASIA

JANUARY-MARCH 2023



25 TOTAL INCIDENTS of armed robbery against ships

9% INCREASE IN TOTAL INCIDENTS Compared to Jan-Mar 2022

STATUS OF SHIPS

26% **6 INCIDENTS** on board ships at anchor/berth

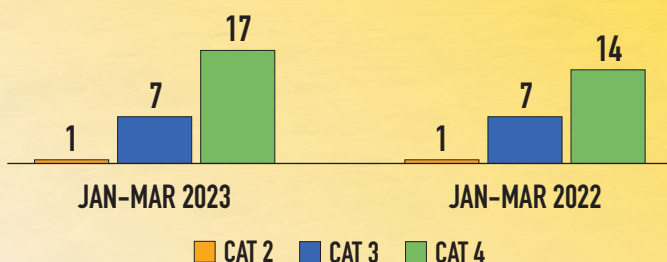
74% **19 INCIDENTS** on board ships while underway

JAN-MAR 2023 Vs JAN-MAR 2022

CONCERNS

- Continued occurrence of incidents in Straits of Malacca and Singapore
- Threat of abduction of crew for ransom in Sulu-Celebes Seas (moderate)

SEVERITY OF INCIDENTS



MAJORITY OF INCIDENTS during Jan-Mar 2023 were **CAT 4** incidents (perpetrators not armed, crew not injured)

68%

Number of **CAT 2** & **CAT 3** incidents remained same

STRAITS OF MALACCA AND SINGAPORE



- 18 incidents in Singapore Strait (SS)
- 1 incident in Malacca Strait (MS)

RECOMMENDATIONS

LITTORAL STATES

- Increase patrols and enforcement
- Respond promptly to incidents
- Strengthen coordination and promote information sharing
- Arrest and prosecute perpetrators

SHIP MASTER AND CREW

- Maximise alertness of lookouts and increase vigilance
- Take rounds of ship's compartment and lock it prior entering area of concern
- Sound alarm when sighting unauthorised persons on board ship or suspicious boats in the vicinity
- Report all incidents to nearest coastal State immediately – refer to Poster on Contact Details
- Keep abreast of latest situation, advisories & navigational broadcasts

ABDUCTION OF CREW IN SULU-CELEBES SEAS AND WATERS OFF EASTERN SABAH



No abduction of crew incident reported during Jan-Mar 2023



Last known incident occurred in Jan 2020, no crew held in captivity



DOWNGRADING OF THREAT ASSESSMENT LEVEL

- Philippine Coast Guard recommends downgrading of the threat of 'Abduction of crew for ransom in the Sulu-Celebes Seas' from 'POTENTIALLY HIGH' to 'MODERATE' - 'Incidents are possible to occur but are relatively less severe in nature'



ADVISORY AND GUIDANCE

- Refer to updated ReCAAP ISC Advisory dated 15 Sep 2022 to all ships to consider re-route from the area as an option based on its prerogative
- Ship masters & crew transiting the area are encouraged to:
 - Exercise enhanced vigilance and alert look out on watch
 - Adopt piracy countermeasures to mitigate risk
 - Maintain communications with coastal authorities
 - Make timely report to national reporting centres of Philippines and Malaysia

Refer to *Guidance on Abduction of Crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and Waters off Eastern Sabah*

