

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Signing of Memorandum of Understanding Between the ReCAAP Information Sharing (ISC) and International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (INTERTANKO)

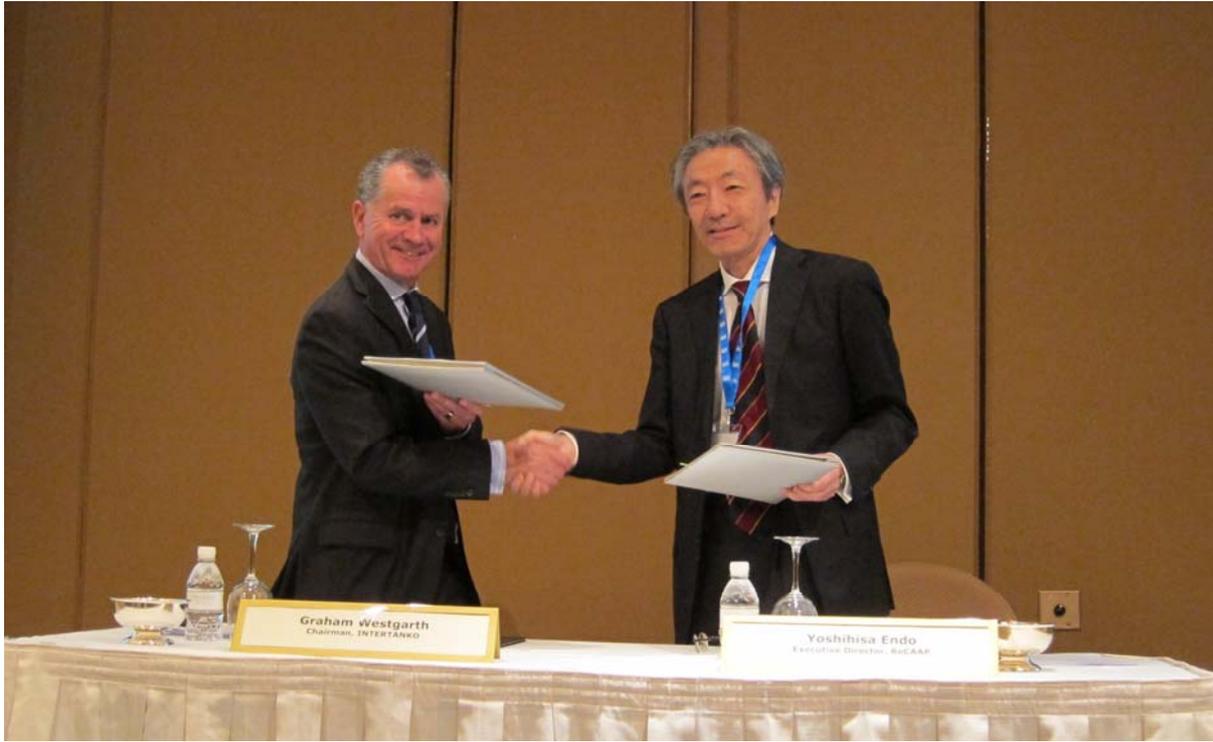
1. The ReCAAP ISC and INTERTANKO formalised their cooperation by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 11 May 2012. The Signing Ceremony took place at INTERTANKO's Annual Event organised for its members at Conrad Centennial Hotel in Singapore. The MoU records a mutual understanding on joint cooperation in the area of information exchanges and mutual support; and establishes a platform for future collaboration. It was signed by Mr Yoshihisa Endo, Executive Director of the ReCAAP ISC, and Capt Graham Westgarth, Chairman of INTERTANKO.

2. The ReCAAP ISC, launched in Singapore in 2006, has signed similar cooperative arrangements with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Asian Shipowners' Forum (ASF) and the Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO). Signing this MoU marks yet another step forward in furthering close collaboration between the Asian Initiatives to combat piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia and the international shipping association representing the tanker community.

3. At the opening of the signing ceremony, Capt Westgarth remarked, "With this MoU INTERTANKO and ReCAAP establish a framework for working together in the future built on the strong and positive cooperation since ReCAAP's establishment in 2006".

4. "Such a *Cooperative arrangement* is one of the three pillars of ReCAAP. It allows a variety of organisations to collaborate and cooperate with the ReCAAP ISC in sharing information, and participate in our capacity building programmes. We thank INTERTANKO for providing us with very strong and continuous support since 2009, as a co-organiser of the annual ReCAAP ISC Piracy and Sea Robbery Conferences for the past four years," says Mr Endo.

ReCAAP ISC and INTERTANKO
11 May 2012



(From left)

Capt Graham Westgarth, INTERTANKO Chairman, and Mr Yoshihisa Endo, ReCAAP ISC Executive Director
at the MoU Signing Ceremony

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FACT SHEET

About the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP), and the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC)

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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 in Asia. It was finalised on 11 November 2004 and entered into force on 4 September 2006. To date, 18 States have become Contracting Parties to ReCAAP.

The eighteen Contracting Parties to ReCAAP are the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, the Kingdom of Denmark, the Republic of India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, the Kingdom of Thailand, the United Kingdom and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ReCAAP ISC) was established under the Agreement, and was officially launched in Singapore on 29 November 2006. It was formally recognised as an international organisation on 30 January 2007.

The roles of the ReCAAP ISC are to:

- serve as a platform for information exchange with the ReCAAP Focal Points via the Information Network System (IFN); facilitate communications and information exchange among participating governments to improve incident response by member countries; analyse and provide accurate statistics of the piracy and armed robbery incidents to foster better understanding of the situation in Asia;
- facilitate capacity building efforts that help improve the capability of member countries in combating piracy and armed robbery in the region; and
- cooperate with organizations and like-minded parties on joint exercises, information sharing, capacity building programme, or other forms of cooperation, as appropriate, and agreed upon among the Contracting Parties.

The ReCAAP ISC facilitates exchange of information among the ReCAAP Focal Points through a secure web-based Information Network System (IFN). Through this network, the ReCAAP Focal Points are linked to each other as well as the ReCAAP ISC on a 24/7 basis, and are able to facilitate appropriate responses to incident. The agency receiving the incident report will manage the incident in accordance to its national policies and response procedures, and provide assistance to the victim ship where possible. The agency will in turn, inform their ReCAAP Focal Point which will submit an incident report to the ReCAAP ISC and its neighbouring Focal Points.

For more information about the ReCAAP and ReCAAP ISC, please visit <http://www.recaap.org>

About International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (INTERTANKO)

INTERTANKO has been the voice of independent tanker owners since 1970, ensuring that the oil that keeps the world turning is shipped safely, responsibly and competitively.

Membership is open to independent tanker owners and operators of oil and chemical tankers, i.e. non-oil companies and non-state controlled tanker owners, who fulfil the Association's membership criteria. Independent owners operate some 80% of the world's tanker fleet and the vast majority are INTERTANKO members. As of January 2012, the organisation had 240 members, whose combined fleet comprises some 3,100 tankers totalling 250 million dwt. INTERTANKO's associate membership stands at some 330 companies with an interest in shipping of oil and chemicals.