



(For immediate release)

PRESS RELEASE

ReCAAP ISC CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP 8/15

1. The Information Sharing Centre (ISC) of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against ships in Asia (ReCAAP) organises the eighth Capacity Building Workshop in Singapore, on 4-6 Aug 2015. The theme for the Workshop is “*Addressing Challenges Together*”.
2. Capacity Building, together with Information Sharing and Cooperative Arrangements, are the three pillars of the ReCAAP. In which, Capacity Building Workshops are conducted to enhance the ReCAAP Focal Points’ capability in combating piracy and armed robbery in the region and to bridge operational gaps among the Focal Points. The Workshop is designed for operational-level Officers from the ReCAAP Focal Points and other relevant agencies which include Officers from Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency (Malaysia), and the two Information Sharing Centres (Tanzania and Yemen) established under the Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC)¹.
3. The aims of the 2-day Workshop are to develop and enhance the capabilities of ReCAAP Focal Points representatives through sharing of best practices, experiences on piracy and armed robbery countermeasures, and to further enhance rapport and facilitate networking among the participants. One other key component of the Workshop is a table-top exercise using the Information Network System (IFN) aims to strengthen the participants’ knowledge in the system as well as to further enhance the information sharing and information management among the ReCAAP Focal Points and with the ReCAAP ISC. As part of sharing of information, best practices, experiences and challenges, the Workshop incorporated a presentation on Situation Update

¹ As a continuous effort in providing assistance to the Djibouti Code of Conduct member countries, invitations were extended to the three Djibouti Code of Conduct Information Sharing Centres, and Djibouti Regional Training Centre to attend the Workshop as observers.



4. At the same time, against the background about the frequency of siphoning incidents that continues to be of concern, and in order to demonstrate ReCAAP ISC's willingness and capability to address this issue as a reliable body of relevance to the interests of both regional and international maritime community, taking this occasion, the ReCAAP ISC carries out several activities focusing on the emerging challenge. They are, for example, engagements of relevant stakeholders, such as, INTERPOL, Republic of Singapore Navy, Shell International Trading, and Shipping Companies. Among these, the outstanding is to carry out dialogue as a follow-up of the *ReCAAP ISC Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference* held in April 2015. On the side-line of the Workshop, the ReCAAP ISC organises the second round of meeting between the authorities such as the INTERPOL and the Republic of Singapore Navy – MSTF that are relevant to the siphoning incidents with a view to further promote the cooperation mechanism among the stakeholders involving both governmental and non-governmental entities. The ReCAAP ISC continues to play a role of conduit among various stakeholders, as a responsible legal set-up in the Asia region for our shared objectives, namely, *"make the seas in Asia safe"*.

ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre
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