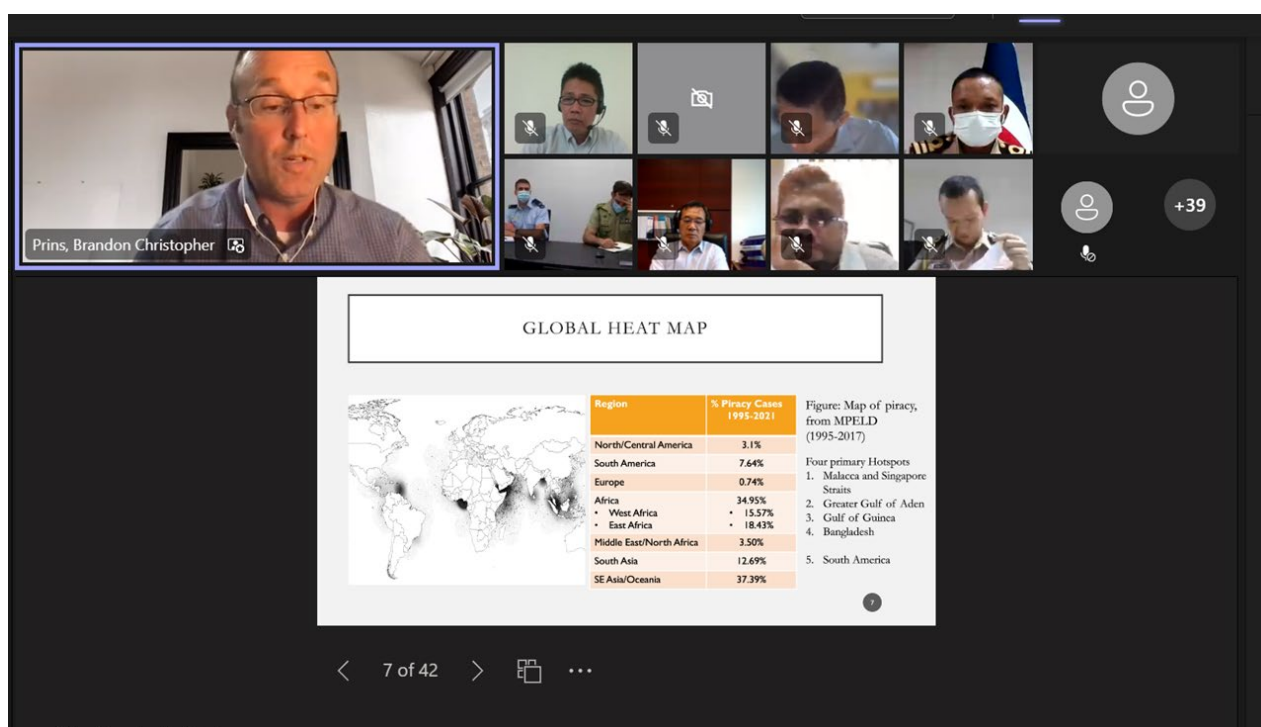**NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

19 October 2021

ReCAAP Member States gather to deepen their knowledge on the root cause of piracy at second Capacity Building Virtual Lecture 2021

45 officers from 17 ReCAAP Member States participated virtually in a second Capacity Building Virtual Lecture 2021 organised by ReCAAP ISC on 19 October 2021.

2.   The aim of the lecture was to provide a better understanding on the root causes of piracy, how to effectively address it and to enhance the capabilities of Focal Points (FPs)/ Contact Points (CP) (FPs/CP) in managing maritime crime. FPs/CP are the government agencies designated by ReCAAP Member States to be the primary points-of-contact for the ReCAAP information sharing network.

3.   The lecturer, Professor Brandon Prins from the Department of Political Science at the University of Tennessee, shared the key insights from his research activities on the main causes conducive to piracy and sea robbery. Professor Prins is co-author of the book titled "*Pirate Lands: Governance and Maritime Piracy*".

4.   The ReCAAP Contracting Parties that participated in this virtual lecture included Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, Myanmar, the Netherlands, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, and United Kingdom.

Caption: The online talk by Professor Prins.

Caption: Officers from ReCAAP contracting Parties and ReCAAP ISC gathered virtually at the virtual lecture.

– End of Release –

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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, 21 States (14 Asian countries, 5 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