Arrest of Suspects in Hijacking of Hai Soon 12

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**Name of vessel**: **Hai Soon 12**  
**Type of vessel**: Oil product tanker  
**Flag of vessel**: Kiribati  
**IMO number**: 9078751  
**GT**: 3243

**Background**

1. On 8 May 16, the ReCAAP ISC received information on the mobile app from a shipping company about the loss of communications with one of their ships, a Kiribati-registered oil product tanker, **Hai Soon 12**. The shipping company had lost communications with **Hai Soon 12** for about 12 hours and the ship did not respond to the company’s attempts to contact the ship.

2. **Hai Soon 12**, carrying 4,000 metric tons of Marine Gas Oil (MGO), had departed Singapore and was supposed to travel down via Sunda Straits to the Southern Ocean to conduct high seas bunkering/selling MGO to fishing vessels. However, the ship deviated from her planned route and travelled in a southeasterly direction towards Sulawesi instead.

**Actions by ReCAAP ISC and the Authorities**

3. Upon receipt of the information, the ReCAAP ISC immediately informed BAKAMLA, who in turn shared the information with the Indonesian Navy (TNI-AL).

4. The incident was also reported to the Information Fusion Centre (IFC), who worked closely with the shipping company to monitor the position of **Hai Soon 12**.

5. Two TNI-AL ships were despatched to locate **Hai Soon 12**, who maintained her course towards Bawean Island until on 8 May 16 at about 2211 hrs, she altered course tracking eastwards.

**Recovery of Ship and Arrest of Perpetrators**

6. On 9 May 16 at about 1430 hrs, the TNI-AL ships intercepted and boarded **Hai Soon 12**. Nine perpetrators were found on board the ship and were arrested. All 21 crew members of **Hai Soon 12** were safe and not injured. The cargo was also found to be intact. The ship was reportedly renamed to “AISO”.

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**Incident Update**
Initial Investigation

7. Initial investigations revealed that on 7 May 16 at about 2045 hrs, nine perpetrators climbed up the poop deck of *Hai Soon 12* from a small boat in waters off Pulau Belitung. The crew was tied up in the mess room. Arrangements were overheard stating the intent to sell the MGO in the night. *Hai Soon 12* has been detained and is being escorted to Surabaya for further investigation.

[Tracking of Hai Soon 12 (8-9 May 16)]

Comments by the ReCAAP ISC

8. This is the first attempted incident of hijacking of tanker for oil cargo theft in 2016. The last oil cargo theft occurred on board *Joaquim* on 8 Aug 15. The failed attempt can be attributed to the regional cooperation and collaboration in information sharing and operational responses among the ReCAAP ISC, IFC and Indonesian authorities; leading to the arrest of perpetrators and cargo remained intact. Most importantly the crew was safe and not injured.

9. The ReCAAP ISC commends the TNI-AL in apprehending the suspects involved in the hijacking of *Hai Soon 12*. The ReCAAP ISC will continue to work closely with the shipping company, IFC and Indonesian authorities to gather detailed information about the incident and update the shipping community.