

ReCAAP ISC Newsletter

From the
editorial

Amid the warm exchanges of Season's Greetings, 2011 came to an end. The ReCAAP ISC wishes all a *Happy New Year 2012*.

In this final issue for 2011, we keep you abreast of the happenings showcasing the Front-page event: '*Capacity Building Workshop 5/11*', followed by,

- page 3 '*Cluster Meeting 2/11, Dhaka/Chittagong, Bangladesh*', and

- page 4 '*SOP Signing Ceremony—Fostering a stronger ties with the Djibouti Code of Conduct Information Sharing Centres*'.

The "*Upcoming Events*" section tagged on page 4 shares with you a sneak preview of the important event(s) organised by the ReCAAP ISC in the next quarter.

As always, do feel free to write to us newsletter@recaap.org

Be connected!

Issue 7/11

Newsletter Date: Oct-Dec 2011

*To all at the ReCAAP Network
Sparkling H A P P Y N E W Y E A R Wishes*

Capacity Building Workshop 5/11

JOINTLY organised by ReCAAP ISC and Focal Point (India) - Indian Coast Guard (ICG), the Fifth Capacity Building Workshop (CBW) was successfully conducted on 15-17 November 2011 at the JW Marriott Hotel in Goa, India.

THE theme for the workshop was "*Building Capacity through Enhanced Information Sharing*". CBW 5/11 aimed to shared best practices and experiences of Focal Points in responding to incidents of piracy and armed robbery, and to foster closer working relationship and networking among Focal Points. In addition, it provided a platform to enhance operation cooperation among Focal Points and ReCAAP ISC.

AT the welcome address delivered by VADM Muralidharan, **Director General of the ICG**, stressed the significance of bringing together Focal Points and engagement of various stakeholders to work together in combating piracy and armed robbery

against ships.

WHILST LTC(Retd) Nicholas Teo, **Deputy Director of the ReCAAP ISC** emphasized the importance of Focal Point members to remain engaged and updated with various developments amid the evolving maritime crime.

OTHER than operational-level Officers from Focal Points and other relevant agencies, participants also included representatives from International Maritime Organization (IMO), Indonesian Maritime Security Coordinating Board (BAKORKAMLA), Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA), and Indian National Shipping Association (INSA). For the second time, representatives of Djibouti Code of Conduct Information Sharing Centres (DCoC ISCs) located in Dar es Salaam (Tanzania) and Mombassa (Kenya) were observers at CBW 5/11.



Capacity Building Workshop 5/11
15-17 November 2011, JW Marriott Hotel, Goa, India

cont..... **Capacity Building Workshop 5/11**

THE **grand finale** was an anti-piracy demonstration at sea by Indian Coast Guard (ICG). Two ICG ships, an Interceptor boat, a fixed wing aircraft and a helicopter participated in the coordinated responses to assist in the rescue mission. The boarding teams were also launched by both the ICG vessels. During the exercise the participant also witnessed the firefighting demonstration by the ships at sea. The short demonstration provided the participants an overview of the capabilities of the ICG in combating and suppression of piracy and armed robbery against ship at sea.



Participants on board ICG's advanced offshore patrol vessel *Sankalp* at the anti-piracy demonstration



Anti-piracy demonstration involving ICG's two advance offshore patrol vessels, one helicopter and a commercial vessel

Cluster Meeting 2/11, Dhaka/Chittagong, Bangladesh

SECOND Cluster Meeting was jointly organised by the ReCAAP ISC and with Focal Point (Bangladesh) on 11-13 October 2011 in Dhaka and Chittagong of Bangladesh.

THREE other Focal Points—India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka, who have common challenges in the geographical areas, also participated in the Meeting.

AT the session held in Dhaka focusing on inter-agency cooperation, **Governor (Bangladesh)**, Mr Md. Abdul Mannan Howlader, recognised no single agency can tackle sea robbery alone. He expressed appreciation in the conduct of Cluster Meeting as it provided an ideal platform to engage the various

stakeholders to share their perspectives, challenges, and ideas in enhancing cooperation.

AT the later session held in Chittagong focusing on engagements with members from shipping industry, **Chairman of Chittagong Port Authority**, Commodore Md. Anwaruls Islam reiterated the need for close coordination and cooperation between port authority, enforcement agencies and shipping industries.

RECIPROCATE the good efforts, shipping companies at the Port of Chittagong shared their views on seafarers' challenges and proposed more avenues for information exchange processes.



Gathering of Focal Points—Bangladesh, India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka, ReCAAP ISC, and other relevant Bangladesh government agencies in Dhaka, Bangladesh



Meeting with Bangladesh Shipping Association and shipping companies in Chittagong, Bangladesh

SOP Signing Ceremony—Fostering stronger ties with the Djibouti Code of Conduct Information Sharing Centres

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Mission

To enhance regional cooperation through information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangements in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships.

Vision

To be the information hub for combating piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia.

Values

Reliability
excellence
Cohesiveness
Alertness
Adaptability
Professionalism

Integrity
Sustainability
Commitment

SUPPORTED and endorsed by the IMO, Representatives of the Djibouti Code of Conduct ISCs and ReCAAP ISC agreed and signed a set of standard operating procedures (SOP) to establish communication linkages and exchanging piracy related information to pave the way for the Centres' operational link-up in furtherance of their effort to address the growing challenges.

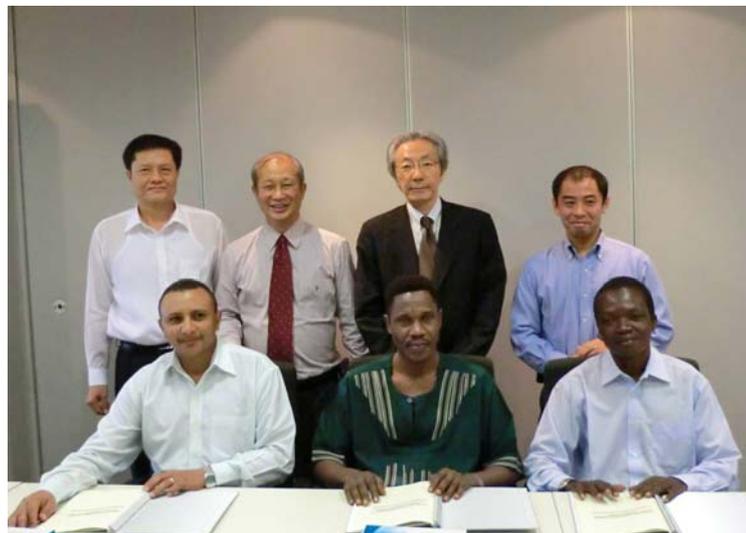
THE initiative stamped from the *Centre-to-Centre Dialogue* held in Dubai on 19-21 September 2011.

IN marking its support to the three DCoC ISCs, the Singapore Govern-



ment sponsored a **training programme** for the Representatives of these DCoC ISCs, The training programme, held on 10-11 November 2011 in Singapore, included lectures, sharing of best practices, case study, and visit to the Information Fusion Centre (IFC) and Port Operations Control Centre (POCC).

EXECUTIVE Director of ReCAAP ISC, Mr Yoshihisa Endo, remarked that this was indeed a step forward towards greater cooperation in information sharing across the regions in Asia and the Western Indian Ocean; and allowing a more seamless flow of relevant information and coordinated response,



Upcoming events... up to March 2012

... The Sixth Governing Council Meeting of the ReCAAP ISC

THE **Sixth Governing Council Meeting** of the ReCAAP ISC will be held on **6-8 March 2012**, at Pan Pacific Singapore. Broadly, the Meeting will have a Pre-GC Meeting, CLOSE Session, and OPEN Session held on these three days respectively.

The **17 Governors** (or their appointed representative) will review the works of the ReCAAP ISC, set policies for ReCAAP ISC's management, approves the work plans and budget for the following years, and provide guidance to the ReCAAP ISC Secretariat.