

From the
editorial

The issues features the *ReCAAP Focal Point Senior Officers' Meeting 5/13*. Other reports can be found on:

- page 3 '*9th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting*' and '*Visit to Japan*'.

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

Be connected!

ReCAAP ISC Newsletter

Issue 14/13

Newsletter Date: Oct-Dec 2013

ReCAAP Focal Point Senior Officers' Meeting 5/13 Guilin, China, 12-14 November 2013

The ReCAAP ISC and China Maritime Search and Rescue Centre (MRCC) of the People's Republic of China, jointly organised the fifth ReCAAP Focal Point Senior Officers' Meeting in Guilin, China on 12-14 November 2013.

Capacity Building, together with Information Sharing and Cooperative Arrangements, is one of the three pillars of the ReCAAP. In which, Senior Officers' Meetings are conducted to provide a platform for ReCAAP Focal Points and Contact Point to better understand, deliberate and coordinate measures in preventing and suppressing incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships.

Building upon the successful conduct of the previous four meetings held since 2008, the theme for the meeting this year was "*Enhancing Information Management*". The main objectives of this meeting were to share experiences of ReCAAP Focal Points and Contact Point on information management, reiterate their commitments on information sharing; and establish rapport and facilitate networking among the participants.



cont..... ReCAAP Focal Point Senior Officers' Meeting 5/13

Prior to the start of the meeting, Mr Yi Xianliang, Governor (China) of the ReCAAP Governing Council, and Mr Yoshihisa Endo, Executive Director of the ReCAAP ISC, jointly led the participants of the ReCAAP Focal Point Senior Officers' Meeting in expressing their condolences to the Government and the people of the Philippines, who is a member of the ReCAAP Contracting Parties on the loss of lives during the recent onslaught of the super typhoon Haiyan.



The modality of this meeting was different from the previous meetings whereby senior officers broke in groups to discuss information management and work processes, highlight concerns and challenges, and share ideas on the way forward by Focal Points towards the objective of further improving the situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia.



Following which, ED-ISC mentioned at his Opening Remarks that the strength of the ReCAAP mechanism lied in the high capacity of ReCAAP Focal Points. The continuous improvement in the situation of piracy

and armed robbery against ships in Asia since 2010 largely demonstrated the effectiveness of the ReCAAP information sharing mechanism. In this regard, he commended the important roles played and fulfilled by the ReCAAP Focal Points.



Speakers at the meeting included invited speakers from China Shipowner's Association (CSA) and Guangxi Maritime Safety Administration to share their experience and knowledge in



the suppression of piracy and armed robbery against ships, as well as ReCAAP ISC Research Department's presentation on Situation Update.



At the end of the meeting, the participants were treated to a river cruise. This helped in renewing friendship among them.



9th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting

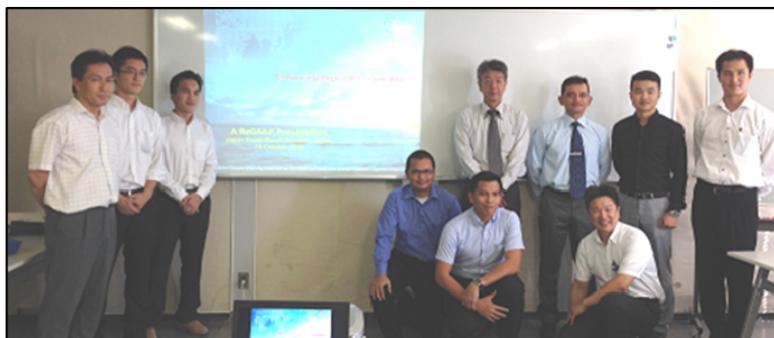
The ReCAAP ISC participated at the 9th Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) held at Pattaya, Thailand, on 28-30 October 2013. In which an intervention was made by ED-ISC reporting on the continuous improvement in piracy and armed robbery against ships situation in Asia since 2010.



The meeting was jointly hosted by the Thai Marine Department and the Thai Marine Police supported by the Japan Coast Guard (JCG), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Nippon Foundation via JAMS.

Focus of the meeting was in the formulation of the five pillars under the ambit of Cooperative Activity Roadmap proposed previously at the Working Level Meeting held in May 2013. It was also announced at the meeting that the 10th HACGAM will be held at Yokohama City, Japan, in 2014.

Visit to Japan



The ReCAAP ISC conducted a visit to Japan in October 2013 with a mission to provide lectures at the Japan Coast Guard (JCG) Academy located in Kure, and Kobe University, International Maritime Research Centre.

Provision of these lectures allowed the Centre in engaging JCG Academy's junior officers (from Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines and

Vietnam), as well as the undergraduates and professors at Kobe University.

Separately, ED-ISC participated at the Meeting cum Forum organised by the JCG and Ocean Policy Research Foundation (OPRF). The meeting focused on prospective measures to enhance maritime law enforcement capacity of the Federal Republic of Somalia, where ED-ISC shared the ReCAAP framework.

The meeting was attended by the Somali's Commandant of Coast Guard and Navy, IMO, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).



The ReCAAP ISC spoke at...

Several engagements with various stakeholders from governmental agencies and private industry were made in the last quarter of 2013. The notable ones were:

(1) **IMO General Assembly**, London, United Kingdom, 25 Nov-4 Dec 2013

The General Assembly was attended by more than 1,000 delegates from the IMO Member States, International Governmental and Non-governmental Organisation. ED-ISC made an intervention at the session to provide a report on the ReCAAP ISC's recent achievements in the Asia region.

(2) **2nd MARSEC COE Workshop**, Istanbul, Turkey, 6-9 Oct 2013

The ReCAAP ISC was invited to share the experience from the establishment of the Asian Initiative. The workshop focused on maritime risk issues, maritime situation awareness and legal related issues.

(3) **DCoC-ReMISC Meeting**, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 5-6 Nov 2013

The Government of Yemen and UAE, under the context of the Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC), held a 2-day working group meeting on the Regional Maritime Information Sharing Centre (ReMISC). The meeting was jointly organised by the Sana'a ISC and the EC MARSEC Project Team. The Centre shared its experience in the organisation structure / mechanism of the Governing Council and its related activities to sustain the function of the set-up. This was in line with the Centre's mandate to support the DCoC through the IMO.

(4) **Galle Dialogue 2013**, Galle, Sri Lanka, 25-26 Nov 2013

Organised by the Sri Lanka Navy under the aegis of the Ministry of Defence, the conference was held under the theme of "*Emerging Maritime Trends in the Indian Ocean*". Inaugurated in 2010, the series of conferences is to create a platform to discuss and exchange views on Indian Ocean region maritime security concerns.

(5) **Seminar on Piracy and Security Training**, Busan, South Korea, 17-19 Dec 2013

Organised by South Korea's Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, the seminar was aimed to engage the shipping industry. It was a good opportunity to profile the Centre and to engage the representatives from the shipowners' association and shipping companies.

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Mission

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

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