

## **NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

23 June 2022

### **ReCAAP ISC Capacity Building Workshop 2022**

50 officers from 18 ReCAAP Member States as well as Indonesia and Malaysia participated virtually in the Capacity Building Workshop (CBW) 2022, organised by ReCAAP ISC, on 23 June 2022. At the Workshop, officers of ReCAAP Contracting Parties were appraised of the latest situation of piracy and armed robbery at sea in Asia. They also reviewed their roles and functions as ReCAAP Focal Points (FP)/Contact Point (CP), and shared best practices to enhance their law enforcement expertise. FPs/CP are the government agencies designated by ReCAAP Member States to be the primary points-of-contact for the ReCAAP information sharing network.

The programme consisted of presentations on “Situation of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia”, “Outline of Regional Guide 2”, “Main points of FP Guidebook and Case Study of Incident Report and Annual Report submitted by FP/CP” by ReCAAP ISC as well as “The Brief on the recent incident and measures to prevent re-occurrence” by the Bangladesh, Singapore and India FPs.

“The current situation of piracy and armed robbery at sea which is on a rise in some parts of Asia, requires us to be vigilant. The collective effort of all Focal Points and cooperation between coastal states have contributed immensely towards efforts in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea” said Mr. Krishnaswamy Natarajan, Executive Director of ReCAAP ISC.

“This CBW reminds us that central to the piracy issue is the need to ensure the apprehension of the perpetrators. Combatting piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea is a shared responsibility of all stakeholders. The timely and accurate reporting of incidents by ship masters to the relevant authorities is of extreme importance, as it allows the littoral states to respond to the incidents in a timely manner” added Mr. Natarajan.

The ReCAAP member countries represented at the virtual CBW included Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Denmark, Germany, India, Japan, Korea, Laos, Myanmar, Norway, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United States, and Vietnam.



Caption: Officers from ReCAAP contracting Parties and ReCAAP ISC gathered virtually at the ReCAAP ISC Capacity Building Workshop 2022.

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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>