

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ReCAAP ISC Holds Dialogue with Shipping Industry to Discuss Efforts and Best Practices to Combat Piracy and Sea Robbery in Asia

The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) today held a dialogue with representatives from shipping companies and shipping associations to discuss efforts and best practices to combat piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia.

From January to September 2026, a total of 50 incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia were reported to the ReCAAP ISC. This represents a 58% decrease compared to the 120 incidents reported during the first nine months of 2025. The number of incidents in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS) dropped from 97 incidents from January to September 2025 to 23 incidents in the first nine months of 2026. In addition, there was a decline in pilferage incidents at sea in India, Indonesia and Vietnam from January to September 2026 compared to the same period in 2025.

Dialogue participants acknowledged that incidents of unauthorised boarding in the SOMS are preventable provided that robust onboard security measures are in place. The session also recognised the importance of deterrent measures by law enforcement agencies to sustain the current positive momentum of fewer incidents of armed robbery against ships in Asia.

Senior Lieutenant Colonel Lester Yong, Head of the Information Fusion Centre (IFC), emphasised that the shipping industry can support the prosecution of perpetrators by providing timely incidents reports, evidence and testimony to law enforcement agencies.

Captain Nazir Ahmed, Deputy General Manager (Health, Safety, Security, Environment and Quality), Fleet Management Limited, shared practical mitigation and operational lessons from bulk carrier security incidents, and recommended preventive measures during transit and anchorage.

Mr James Lu, Principal Surveyor and ISM/ISO Lead Auditor, DNV Maritime, briefed dialogue participants on potential cyber threats to maritime data and systems, and shared the importance of having multi-layered countermeasures to prevent cyberattacks.

ReCAAP ISC Executive Director, Mr Vijay D Chafekar, said, ““Maritime security threats continue to evolve in nature, tactics and complexity, requiring the shipping industry to remain vigilant, adaptable and prepared at all times. While tactics used by perpetrators may change, the need for shipmaster and crew to maintain strong situational awareness, adhere to preventive measures, and report incidents promptly remains unchanged. With the collective vigilance of the shipping industry and law enforcement agencies, incidents of piracy and sea robbery can be greatly reduced.”

– 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, 22 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>