OVERVIEW

The ReCAAP ISC did not receive report of incident of piracy or armed robbery against ships that occurred in Asia during 18-24 Dec 18.

SITUATION OF ABDUCTION OF CREW IN THE SULU-CELEBES SEAS

As the threat of abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and off eastern Sabah remains, ReCAAP ISC maintains its advisory issued via the ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert dated 21 November 2016 to all ships to reroute from the area, where possible. Otherwise, ship masters and crew are strongly urged to exercise extra vigilance while transiting the Sulu-Celebes Seas and eastern Sabah region, and report immediately to the Centres as shown in map below. Please be informed that there has been an update in the contact numbers of Philippine Coast Guard District Southwestern Mindanao Operation Centre and Philippine Navy Littoral Monitoring Station Bongao, Tawi Tawi.
RECOMMENDATION

The ReCAAP ISC urges ship master and crew to report all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships to the nearest coastal State and flag State, exercise vigilance and adopt relevant preventive measures taking reference from the *Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia*. 