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## ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 26 Feb- 4 Mar 19

### Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

#### OVERVIEW

During 26 Feb- 4 Mar 19, an incident of armed robbery against ship was reported to ReCAAP ISC. The location of the incident is shown in the map below; and detailed description of the incident is tabulated in attachment.




Location of incident

#### Incident outside Asia

The ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) reported to ReCAAP ISC an attempted incident of piracy outside Asia. The incident occurred while the ship was sailing on the high sea in the Gulf of Guinea on 21 Feb 19. Detailed description of the incident is tabulated in attachment.

## SITUATION OF ABDUCTION OF CREW IN THE SULU-CELEBES SEAS

As the threat of abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off eastern Sabah remains, ReCAAP ISC maintains its advisory issued via the *ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert* dated 21 Nov 16 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 area, and report immediately to the Operation Centres of Philippines and Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM) of Malaysia. The contact details of the Operation Centres of Philippines and ESSCOM of Malaysia (updated by ReCAAP ISC on 3 Jan 19) are as follows:



The map shows the Sulu Sea to the north and the Celebes Sea to the south. Key locations marked include Lahad Datu (point 3), Bongao (points 2a and 2b), and Zamboanga (point 1).

- 1 Philippine Coast Guard District Southwestern Mindanao**  
Tel: +63 998 585 7972  
+63 917 842 8446  
VHF: Channel 16 with call-sign "NEPTUNE"  
Email: [hcgdswm@yahoo.com](mailto:hcgdswm@yahoo.com)
- 2a Philippine Coast Guard Station, Bongao (Central Tawi-Tawi)**  
Tel: +63 998 585 7941  
+63 917 842 8402  
VHF: Channel 16  
Email: [cgd\\_tawi2@yahoo.com](mailto:cgd_tawi2@yahoo.com)
- 2b Philippine Navy - Littoral Monitoring Station (LMS), Bongao, Tawi-Tawi**  
Tel: +63 955 714 0153  
VHF: Channel 16  
Email: [jointtaskgroup@gmail.com](mailto:jointtaskgroup@gmail.com)
- 3 Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM)**  
Tel: +60 89863181/016  
Fax: +60 89863182  
VHF: Channel 16 with call-sign "ESSCOM"  
Email: [bilikgerakan\\_esscom@jpm.gov.my](mailto:bilikgerakan_esscom@jpm.gov.my)

## 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*.

**Description of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships  
26 February- 4 March 2019**

	<b>Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number</b>	<b>Date Local time of Incident (LT)</b>	<b>Position of the Incident</b>	<b>Details of the Incident</b>	<b>Consequences for crew, ship, cargo</b>	<b>Action taken by the master and crew</b>	<b>Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?</b>	<b>Reporting State or International Organization</b>	<b>Coastal State Action Taken</b>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>ACTUAL INCIDENT IN ASIA</b>									
1.	<b>Sung Fatt 31</b> Tug boat Malaysia 135 9434008  <b>Sung Fatt 36</b> Barge Malaysia	05/03/19 1110 hrs	1° 12.08' N, 103° 34.62' E  Straits of Malacca and Singapore	While sailing, the ship's crew spotted 11 perpetrators boarding the barge that was being towed by the tug boat from two small crafts. The tug boat and barge were carrying scrap iron, bound for Penang, Malaysia.  At about 1145 hrs, the master reported that the 11 perpetrators have escaped in their small crafts with some scrap iron being stolen. There was no confrontation with the crew. All crew are safe.	The crew was not injured.  Some scrap iron was stolen.	The master of the tug boat reported the incident to the Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS) via VHF.	Yes  Coastal State	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore VTIS initiated the safety navigational broadcast and notified the Police Coast Guard and the Navy.
<b>ATTEMPTED INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA</b>									
2.	<b>Kota Satria</b> Container ship Singapore 41567 9645487	21/02/19 0116 hrs	2° 59.9' N, 5° 56.6' E  High sea, Gulf of Guinea	While sailing, more than four perpetrators armed with guns onboard an unlit fast boat tried to board the ship. Two of the perpetrators attempted to hook a ladder to ship's hull but was not successful hence slowed down the pursuit.  The perpetrators then fired two-gun shots toward the ship's bridge and subsequently to the ship's accommodation.  The master-initiated security procedure and contacted company security officer via Shore Emergency Contact Number (SECN) as well as the company's armed escort vessel and the Nigerian Navy and carried out evasive manoeuvre as per company procedure.	The crew was not injured.  No items were stolen.	The master did the following:  1. initiated security procedure;  2. contacted the company security officer via Shore Emergency Contact Number (SECN) and informed the company's armed escort vessel and the Nigerian Navy; and  3. carried out evasive manoeuvre as per company procedure.	Yes  Coastal State (Shore Emergency Contact Number (SECN)) and Flag State (Singapore)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available.

	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Local time of Incident (LT)	Position of the Incident	Details of the Incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or International Organization	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				<p>All the 27 crew and ship are safe, no injury reported, and the fast boat aborted the pursuit.</p> <p>The Master arranged to rendezvous with armed escort ship approximately 30 nm away. At 0330 hrs (local time), the ship met the escort and both ships proceeded to Port of Onne.</p>					