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ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 1-7 Dec 2020

Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

OVERVIEW

During 1-7 Dec 20, the ReCAAP ISC did not receive report of incident of piracy or armed robbery against ships in Asia. However, the ReCAAP ISC would like to advise ships to continue to exercise utmost vigilance, and littoral States to increase patrols and enforcement in areas of concern, including the Singapore Strait and at ports and anchorages.

INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA

During 1-7 Dec 20, one incident outside Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC by ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore). The incident occurred on 5 Dec on board a supply vessel while anchored at Outer Anchorage, Luanda, Angola. The detailed description of the incident is tabulated in the attachment.

SITUATION OF ABDUCTION OF CREW IN THE SULU-CELEBES SEAS AND WATERS OFF EASTERN SABAH

As the risk of the abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off Eastern Sabah is high as demonstrated by the abduction incident on 17 Jan 20, information of planned kidnapping in Sabah and Semporna, Malaysia (as reported in ReCAAP ISC's Warning issued on 2 Jul 20), and the latest operation on 3 Nov 20 by the Philippine authorities in preventing a kidnap-for-ransom incident; the ReCAAP ISC reiterates its advisory issued via 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 the Philippines and ESSCOM of Malaysia (updated by ReCAAP ISC on 3 Jan 19) are as shown (next page):



The map shows the Sulu Sea to the north and the Celebes Sea to the south. Three numbered red circles indicate contact points: 1 is near Zamboanga, 2a and 2b are near Bongao, and 3 is near Lahad Datu.

- 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
- 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
- 2b Philippine Navy - Littoral Monitoring Station (LMS), Bongao, Tawi-Tawi**
Tel: +63 955 714 0153
VHF: Channel 16
Email: 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

Contact details

In the event that the ship master is not able to establish contact with the Operation Centres of the Philippines as listed in the ReCAAP ISC Advisory, he can contact the **Philippine Coast Guard Command Centre** at the following contact details:

Tel: +632-8-527-8481 (ext: 6136/37)
 +632-998-585-5327 (mobile)
 +632-917-842-8249 (mobile)
 +632-8-527-3877 (fax)
 Email: pcgcomcen@coastguard.gov.ph

The ReCAAP ISC advises the shipping industry and ships to enhance their situation awareness by referring to the *Guidance on Abduction of Crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and Waters off Eastern Sabah* produced by ReCAAP ISC in July 2019. The Guidance is available at www.recaap.org.

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
1-7 December 2020**

	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 coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or International Organization	Coastal State Taken	Action
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA										
ACTUAL INCIDENT										
1.	Name withheld Supply vessel Singapore 4059	5/12/20 0234 hrs	8° 44.59' S, 13° 17.2' E Outer Anchorage, Luanda, Angola	While at anchor, the duty officer noticed a perpetrator at starboard forward freeing port passing a hose down to another perpetrator on a rowboat alongside the ship. The duty officer shouted at the perpetrators and retreated to the accommodation area. The perpetrators escaped with the hose and the rowboat sailed away. The crew was not injured.	The crew was not injured. A hose was stolen.	No information available	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information available	