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## ReCAAP ISC Weekly Report 22-28 Dec 2020

### Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

#### OVERVIEW

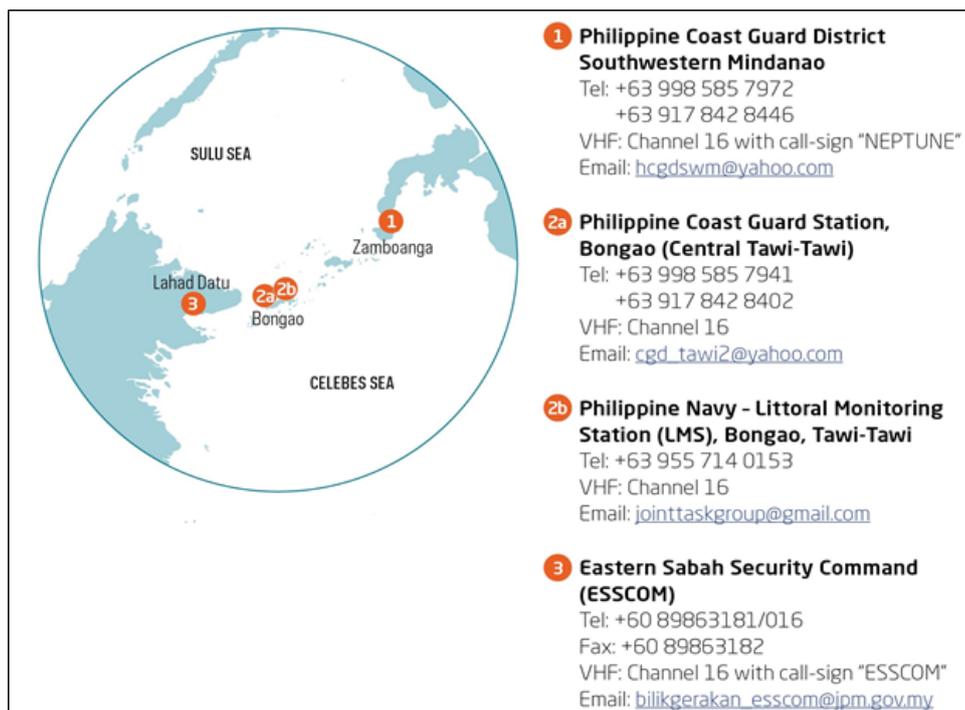
During 22-28 Dec 20, no incident of armed robbery against ship in Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. However, the ReCAAP ISC would like to advise ships to continue to exercise utmost vigilance, and littoral States to increase patrols and enforcement in areas of concern, including the Singapore Strait and at ports and anchorages.

#### INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA

During 22-28 Dec 20, one attempted incident outside Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC by ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore). The incident occurred on 22 Dec to a LNG tanker while underway off the Gulf of Guinea. 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):



- 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)

**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](mailto: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](http://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  
22-28 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	State Action
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<b>INCIDENT OUTSIDE ASIA</b>										
<b>ATTEMPTED INCIDENT</b>										
1.	<b>BW Pavilion Leeara</b> LNG tanker Singapore 105945 9640645	22/12/20 1115 hrs	2° 26.5' N, 5° 24.9' E  Off Gulf of Guinea	While underway, the master of the tanker reported the sighting of a suspicious craft approaching the ship's port quarter. He immediately increased the speed of the ship and altered course. The suspicious craft followed by changing its course, increased speed and continued to pursue the ship. The general alarm was raised and all crew mustered to the citadel except the master, duty officer and watchmen. The master continued to increase speed, altered course and alerted his company and the Maritime Domain Awareness for Trade – Gulf of Guinea (MDAT-GOG). The suspicious craft stopped its pursuit after 45 mins. The crew was not injured, and ship not damaged.	The crew was not injured, and the ship not damaged	The master increased the speed of the ship and altered course.  The crew was mustered to the citadel except the master, duty officer and watchmen.	MDAT-GoG and shipping company	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	No information	