

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2025

## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

For information sharing in combating piracy and  
armed robbery against ships at sea



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## VISION

To be the information hub for combating piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia.



## MISSION

To enhance regional cooperation through information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangements.



## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

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# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD

Mr Vijay D Chafekar  
Executive Director, ReCAAP ISC



In April 2025, I had the honour and privilege of taking over as the 7<sup>th</sup> Executive Director of the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre after 37 years of service in the Indian Coast Guard. I would like to thank my predecessor, Mr Krishnaswamy Natarajan, for the excellent work he has done in raising the profile of ReCAAP ISC and strengthening the Centre's cooperation with ReCAAP member States, the shipping industry and maritime law enforcement agencies.

As I near the one-year mark of my tenure as Executive Director, I would also like to thank all ReCAAP ISC Governors for your unwavering support, as we work towards creating safer seas for the smooth flow of maritime trade.

In this report, I present the work done by the Centre in 2025 to combat piracy and sea robbery in Asia, by enhancing regional cooperation through information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangements.

## Situation of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

A total of 132 incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against ships (ARAS) were reported in Asia in 2025. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of increase in sea robbery incidents since 82 incidents were reported in 2021. 82% of the incidents occurred in the narrow waterways of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS). The incidents are mostly theft of ship stores and engine spares by opportunistic perpetrators who indulge in unauthorised boarding during the hours of darkness.

Consequent to the rapid increase in sea robbery incidents in the SOMS in the first half of 2025, Indonesian authorities undertook action in July 2025 to

arrest suspects involved in armed robbery against ships in the SOMS. This led to a noticeable drop in the number of incidents immediately after the arrests and in the second half of 2025.

In Bangladesh, stringent monitoring and enforcement by authorities, as well as the timely arrest of sea robbers, significantly reduced theft incidents in ports and anchorages from 13 in 2024 to 4 in 2025.

For the fifth consecutive year, no cases of abduction of crew for ransom by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) have been reported in the Sulu-Celebes Sea and waters off eastern Sabah, largely due to the dismantling of the ASG by the Philippine authorities in coordination with the littoral States.

## Revamping the Information Network System (IFN)

In January 2025, ReCAAP ISC embarked on a one-year project to revamp the Information Network System (IFN), used by ReCAAP Focal Points to submit Incident Reports and Amplifying Reports to the Centre for collation and analysis. The last refresh to the system was done in 2020.

The revamped IFN, which became operational in January 2026, introduced a modernised user interface and new functions designed to enhance user experience and operational efficiency. Focal Points can now view the details of incidents with greater clarity and submit incident reports with greater ease.

The cybersecurity of the IFN has also been strengthened, preventing unauthorised access. These enhancements facilitate more secure and efficient incident reporting and verification between ReCAAP ISC and Focal Points.

## Building Focal Points' capacity to combat piracy and sea robbery

ReCAAP Focal Points play a crucial role in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships in their areas of jurisdiction. With that in mind, the Centre continued to invest resources into organising capacity building activities.

In 2025, the Centre co-organised five capacity building meetings, including the Capacity Building Workshop (in Cambodia), Capacity Building Senior Officers' Meeting (in Thailand), Cluster Meetings (in Philippines and Vietnam) and Virtual Capacity Building Executive Programme.

These meetings, besides strengthening the knowledge sharing and the exchange of best practices among Focal Points, enhanced Focal Point officers' skills in incident reporting.

## Engaging the shipping industry and regional law enforcement agencies

To better understand shipping companies' operations and challenges, Team ReCAAP ISC conducted onboard visits to various ships in 2025. During the visits, the team learned about safety measures adopted by vessels transiting areas of concern in Asia, and communicated the importance of timely incident reporting by the crew. Every visit brings in clarity as well as new insight on maritime safety and security challenges faced by the ships. I would like to thank Pacific International Lines Ltd (PIL), HMM (SG) Pte Ltd and Ocean Network Express for hosting the visits.

In 2025, the Centre also organised several events in Singapore to engage the shipping industry. Through the conduct of the Nautical Forum, Anti-Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference, Maritime Roundtable, and two shipping dialogue sessions, the Centre was able to update shipping companies on the latest piracy and sea robbery incidents in Asia, and discuss effective mitigation measures to deter and combat unauthorised boarding and theft when vessels transit areas of concern.

As part of ongoing efforts to build closer links with Indonesia and Malaysia maritime law enforcement agencies, I made courtesy calls on senior leaders from BAKAMLA (Indonesian Maritime Security Agency) and Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) in 2025. Through these engagements, the Centre was kept updated on efforts made by the littoral States of the SOMS to combat sea robbery and other maritime incidents. The formal meetings and informal engagements allowed the Centre to build good rapport with BAKAMLA



and MMEA. We were also able to obtain the latest contact details of agencies in charge of operational response to maritime incidents and update the contacts on our posters for incident reporting.

## Strengthening dialogue with regional and international organisations

To stay engaged with regional and international institutions, ReCAAP ISC participated in various regional and international meetings and forums throughout the year.

Some of these meetings include the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) meeting, the Maritime Domain Awareness Workshop - Indian Ocean Region and 21<sup>st</sup> Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies High Level Meeting (HACGAM HLM) organised by the Australian Border Force, Galle Dialogue 2025 organised by the Sri Lanka Navy, the 34<sup>th</sup> Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA) International Shipping Forum, the South China Sea Conference organised by the Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA) and Prosecutors Forum organised by UNODC Global Maritime Crime Programme.

These meetings enabled the Centre to brief stakeholders on our initiatives in using data analytics to provide deeper insights and analysis into sea robbery incidents in Asia. We were also able to expand our network of contacts for cooperation and information sharing.

### Profiling ReCAAP ISC's work

In 2025, ReCAAP ISC continued to actively engage the local, regional and international media through briefings and interviews. During these engagements, the Centre shared the latest piracy and sea robbery trends in Asia, the modus operandi of perpetrators, recommended mitigation measures to prevent sea robberies, and our products and initiatives to enhance information sharing and incident reporting. The Centre also disseminated regular updates on our events and incident reports on piracy and sea robbery via our social media channels, to keep our Contracting Parties, Focal Points and partners updated on the latest developments.

Altogether, the Centre obtained 844 media mentions, and 1,330 social media mentions in 2025, higher than the 834 media mentions and 1,077 social media mentions in 2024.

The profiling efforts and media publicity generated reinforced ReCAAP ISC as a "Centre of Excellence" for information sharing in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea.

### Conclusion

The global maritime security environment in 2025 remained volatile, as the shipping industry continued to grapple with increased geopolitical risks and conflicts in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. Besides the rising number of sea robbery incidents in Asia, littoral States also had to contend with other critical transnational maritime challenges, such as drug and contraband smuggling, Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and illegal migration.

Against the backdrop of a more challenging maritime security environment and fragmented geopolitical landscape, ReCAAP's role as a neutral, multilateral platform for cooperation has become more relevant and reassuring.

As I embark on my second year of tenure as the Executive Director of ReCAAP ISC, I aim to foster closer collaboration between ReCAAP member States, as the Centre strives to fulfil its vision of being the information hub for combating piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia.

## Part I

# 19<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting of the ReCAAP ISC



## 01 | Overview

The 19<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting of the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre was held from 11 to 14 March 2025 in Singapore, with the participation of Governors from the 21 ReCAAP Contracting Parties.

The Council re-elected the Governor of Philippines, Admiral Ronnie Gil Gavan as the Chairperson of ReCAAP ISC Governing Council.

The Council reviewed ReCAAP ISC's activities in FY 2024, and commended the Centre on the progress made under the three main pillars, namely, information sharing, capacity building and cooperative arrangements.

The Council noted the Centre's engagement with the shipping industry, law enforcement agencies and other

stakeholders in 2024, through the conduct of the Nautical Forum, Anti-Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference, Dialogue Sessions with the shipping industry and capacity building activities. The Council also noted the Centre's engagement with international and multilateral organisations by participating in regional and international conferences and forums.

In addition, the Council appreciated the ReCAAP ISC's plan to revamp the Information Network System (IFN), and commended the Centre's efforts in enhancing the effectiveness of the ReCAAP Data Visualisation Map and Panel (Re-VAMP) by automating the information update process.



## 02 | Voluntary Financial Contributions

The Centre received voluntary financial contributions from the below ReCAAP Contracting Parties for FY 2025 (1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026):

Contracting Parties	Singapore Dollars (SGD)	Remarks
Australia	\$83,941.70	AUD 100,000 received on 14 November 2025
China	\$66,185.15	USD 50,000 received on 17 March 2025
India	\$132,351.50	Received on 14 April 2025
Japan	\$132,194.69	Received on 22 October 2025
Republic of Korea	\$136,755.21	Received on 10 March 2025
Kingdom of the Netherlands	\$29,017.14	EUR 20,000 received on 19 July 2024
Kingdom of Norway	\$134,540.70	USD 100,000 received on 31 January 2025
Singapore	\$2,165,139.00	Received on 10 December 2025
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,880,125.09</b>	

## Part II

# Information Sharing



## 01 | Overview

Information sharing is one of the key tenets of ReCAAP ISC's efforts in combating piracy and ARAS in Asia. Through incident reporting and information sharing, the ReCAAP ISC (the Centre) endeavours to provide the shipping community with updated information and analytics that will enable them to make proper risk assessment and institute appropriate precautionary measures when navigating through areas of concern in Asia.

As far as ARAS is concerned, the Centre believes in enabling both preventive measures by the shipping industry as well as effective operational response by the law enforcement agencies to prevent any recurrence of unauthorised boardings.

The ReCAAP ISC on its part will continue to focus on disseminating information in a timely and accurate manner through various platforms. The shipping community can leverage on the ReCAAP Data Visualisation Map and Panel (Re-VAMP) interactive dashboard to obtain details on the locations and severity

of current and past piracy and sea robbery incidents, identify trends and insights, and understand factors that contribute to the occurrence of incidents in areas of concern. Using Re-VAMP, the shipping industry can do proper risk assessment and make safe voyage planning.

To aid the mariners and shipping community, the Centre has published various guide books and publications. These include the Identification of Fishing Boats in Asian Waters, and posters on guidelines and contact details for incident reporting in Asia. The aim is to strengthen onboard vigilance and preventive measures of ship crew, encourage the timely reporting of incidents to law enforcement agencies, and facilitate the arrest and prosecution of perpetrators.

## 02 | Situation of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

Two piracy incidents on the high seas were reported in 2025 while 130 incidents (125 actual and five attempted) of armed robbery against ships which fall under the coastal States jurisdiction were reported in Asia. This marks a 23% increase in the total number of incidents compared to 2024. Graph 1 shows the number of incidents reported for the period 2007-2025.

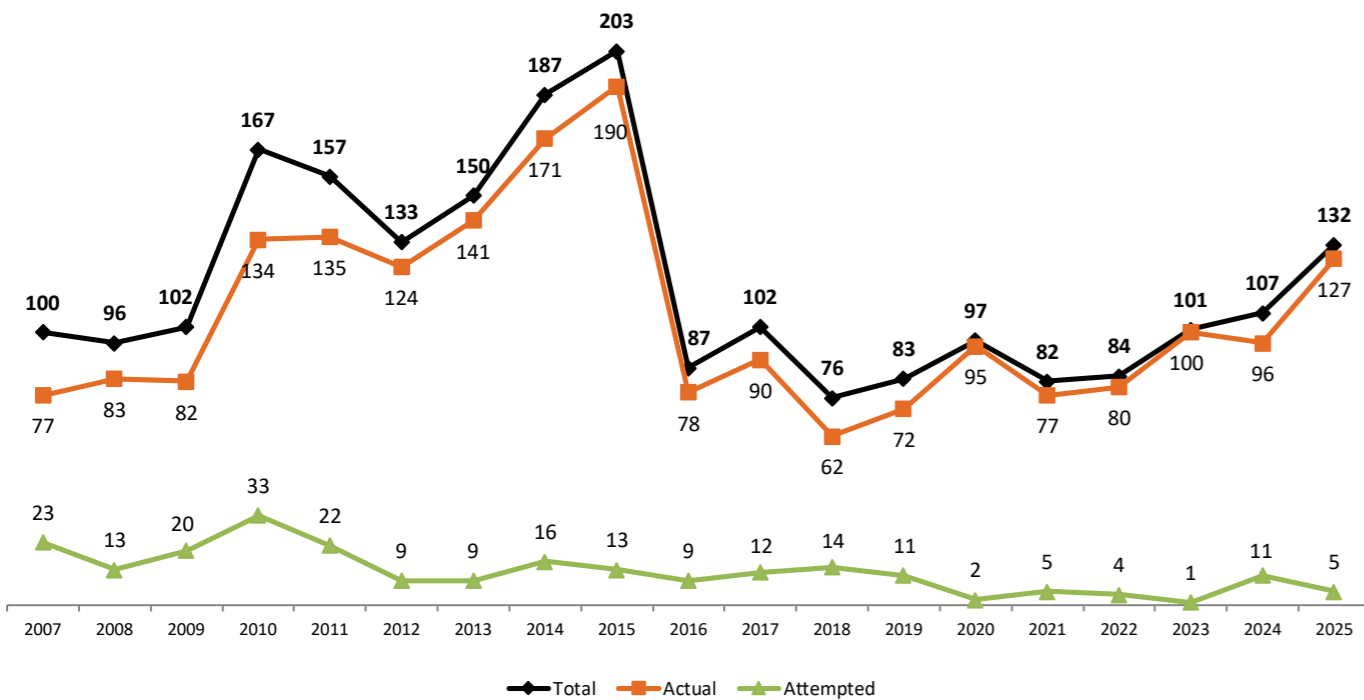
The Centre remains concerned with the continued occurrence of incidents in the SOMS, one of the world's busiest waterways. Being the convergence point for international shipping, ships transiting the waterways are susceptible to armed robbery as they need to slow down while navigating the narrow and congested straits.

To deter perpetrators, the law enforcement agencies of the SOMS have stepped up enforcement efforts both on land and at sea. Better information sharing has led to the arrest of several groups of perpetrators resulting in significant decline in the number of incidents. It is imperative that the stakeholders continue active collaboration and the law enforcement agencies sustain the current momentum to suppress armed robbery incidents in SOMS.

The Centre continues to engage members of the shipping industry, to keep abreast of the latest developments and to understand the concerns and challenges faced by the industry.

Combating ARAS is a shared responsibility and it is through the synergistic efforts of all stakeholders that the sea lanes in Asia can be kept safe and secure.

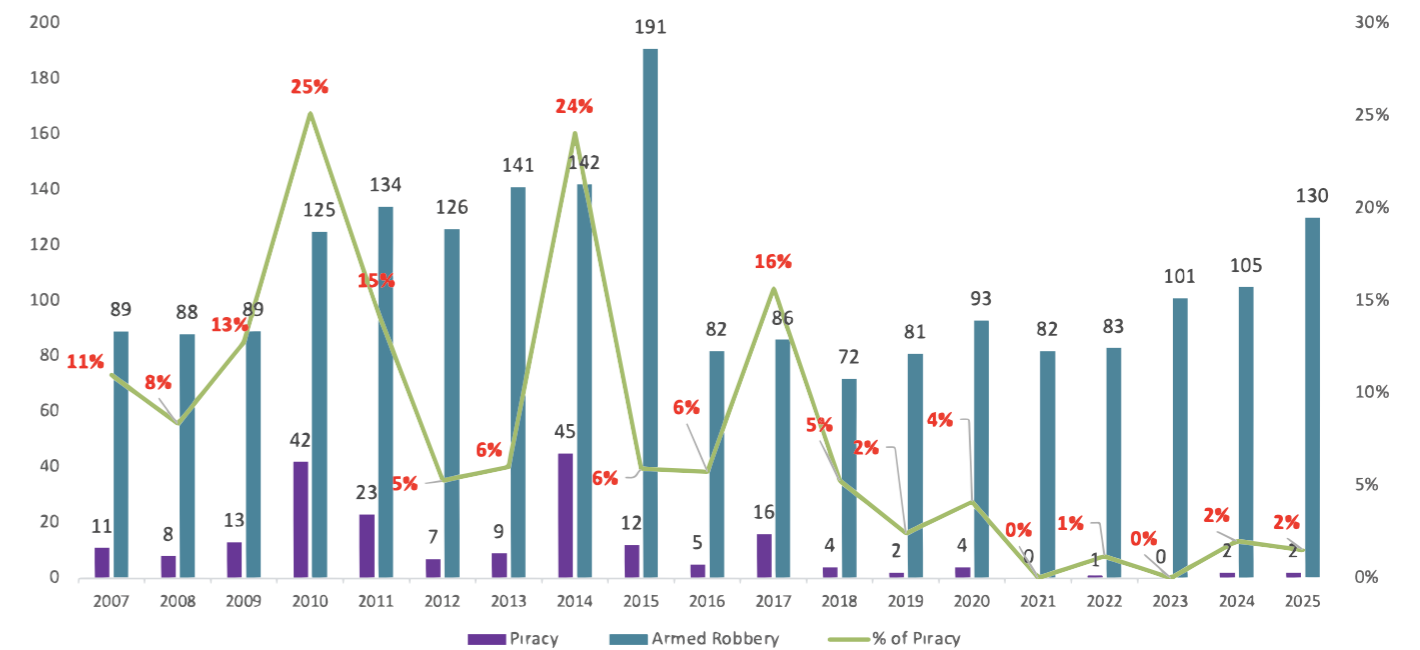
**GRAPH 1**  
Number of incidents (2007-2025)



## Piracy versus Armed Robbery Incidents

Based on data analysis over the 19-year reporting period from 2007-2025, it was noted that about 9% of incidents were piracy-related while 91% were armed robbery/petty theft incidents against ships. Chart 1 shows the number of incidents of piracy versus armed robbery against ships during this 19-year period.

**CHART 1**  
Piracy vs Armed Robbery Against Ships (2007-2025)



It may be noted that high seas piracy incidents that peaked in 2014 have steadily declined to almost nil over the years. The two piracy incidents in 2025 were actually petty theft cases which occurred beyond territorial seas necessitating their inclusion in piracy data.

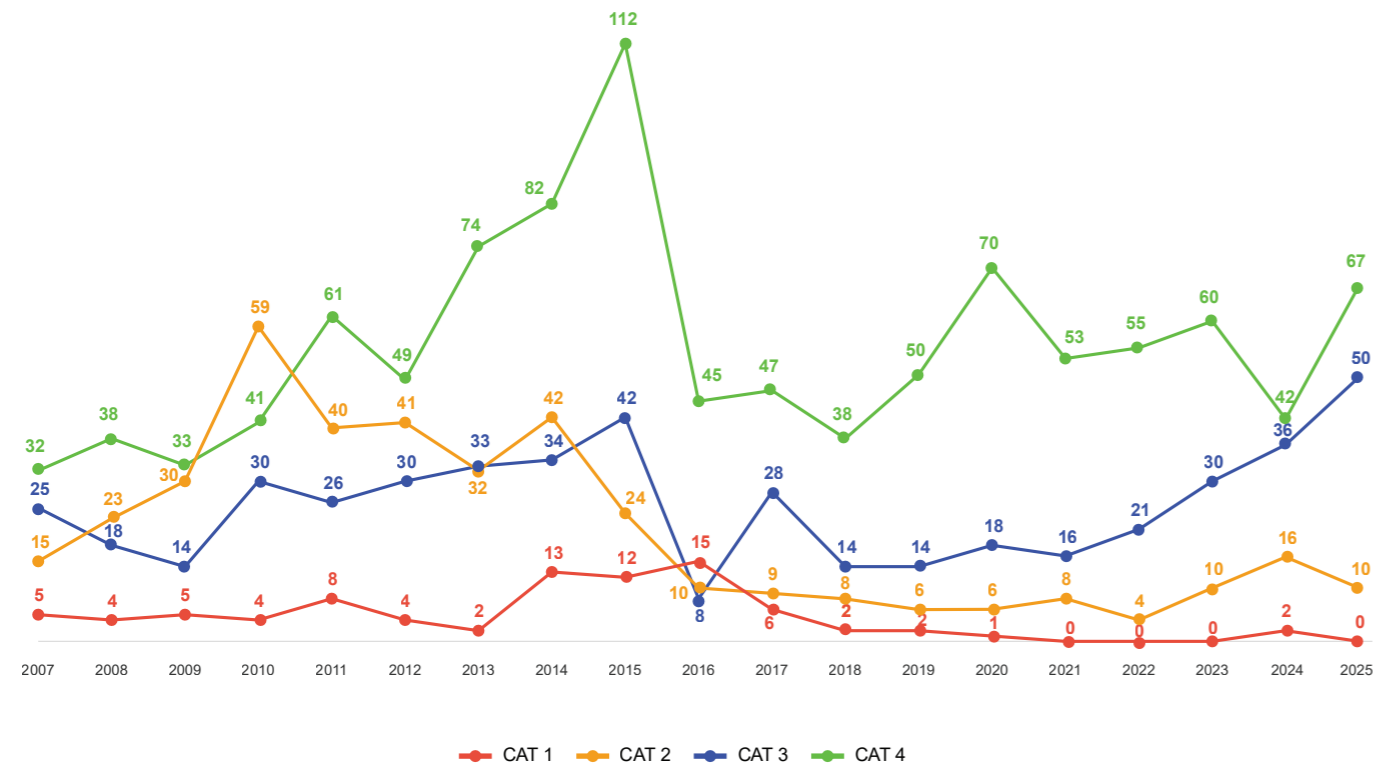
## Significance level of Incidents

The Centre adopts a categorisation system (CAT 1 to CAT 4) that considers the severity level of each actual incident using factors such as the level of violence of the perpetrators, the well-being of the crew; and the economic loss incurred by the ship.

Out of the 127 actual incidents in 2025, 10 were CAT 2, 50 CAT 3 and 67 CAT 4 incidents. There was no CAT 1 incident. In addition, there was a decrease in the number of CAT 2 incidents in 2025 compared to 2024. However, the number of CAT 3 and CAT 4 incidents has increased in 2025.

In keeping with past trends, CAT 4 incidents continue to account for the majority of actual incidents (53%) in which perpetrators were not armed, and there was no injury to the crew. Graph 2 shows the significance level of incidents reported during 2007-2025.

**GRAPH 2**  
Significance level of incidents in Asia (2007-2025)



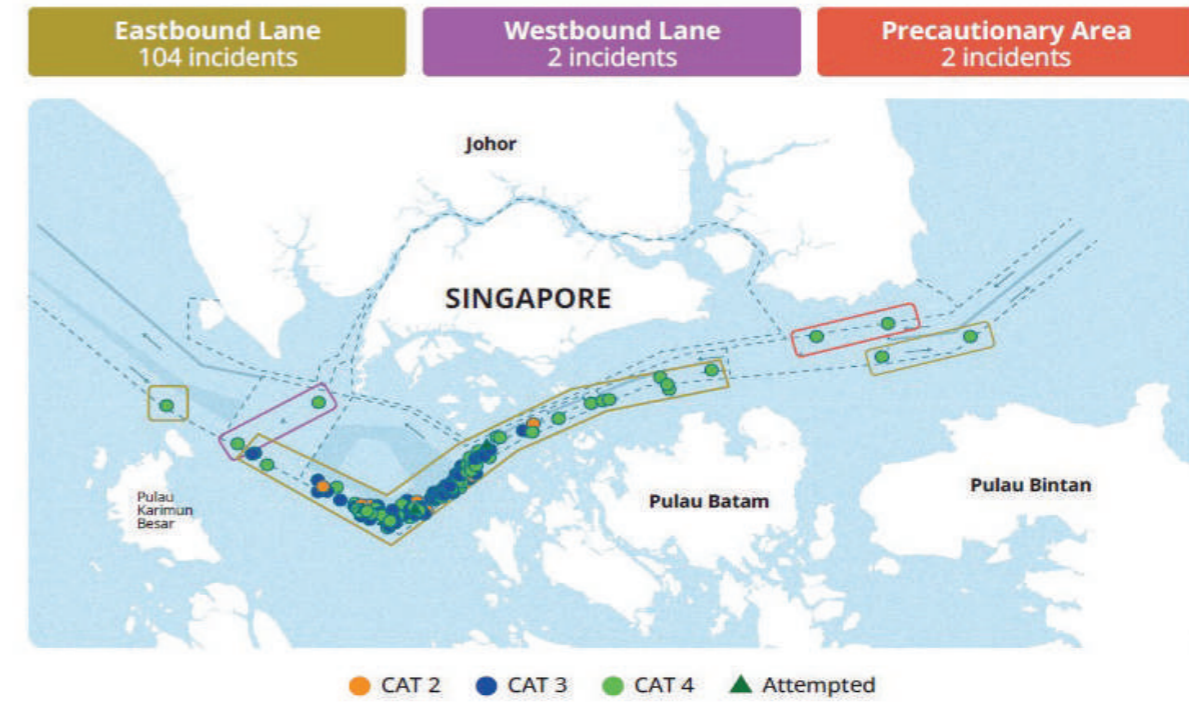
**Status of ships**

**Situation in SOMS – A Concern**

In 2025, 84% (111 incidents) occurred to ships while underway and 16% (21 incidents) occurred to ships while at anchor/berth. All 108 incidents in the SOMS occurred on ships while they were underway. Even though most of the incidents in SOMS in 2025 were of low severity, i.e. CAT 4 incidents, their occurrence against ships underway in the restricted waters of the busy strait remains a cause of concern.

**MAP 1**

Location of incidents in SOMS in 2025



The incidents in SOMS accounted for 82% of the total number of incidents in 2025 (108 of 132). Among the 108 incidents, 104 incidents occurred in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) in Singapore Strait (SS), two incidents took place in the precautionary area of the TSS, two incidents in the westbound lane of the TSS. Map 1 depicts the location of these incidents.

Following the sharp increase in sea robbery incidents in the SOMS in the first half of 2025, Indonesian authorities took action in July 2025 to arrest suspects involved in armed robbery against ships in the SOMS. This led to a noticeable drop in the number of incidents in the second half of 2025, after the arrests.

**Downgrading of Threat - Abduction of Crew in Sulu-Celebes Seas**

No abduction of crew for ransom by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) was reported in the Sulu-Celebes Sea and waters off eastern Sabah in 2025. The last known incident occurred on 17 January 2020. No crew is currently held in captivity by the ASG. In January 2025, the threat level of 'Abduction of crew for ransom in the Sulu-Celebes Seas' has been downgraded by the Philippine Coast Guard from 'MODERATE LOW' to 'LOW', which implies that 'No information or monitored activities suggest an impending attack; hence incidents are not expected to occur'.

14 February 2025

**Update of ReCAAP ISC Advisory - Abduction of Crew from Ships in Sulu-Celebes Seas**

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### General trends of incidents reported between 2007-2025

Based on an analysis of 2,246 incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia between 2007-2025, the Centre has identified the following trends.

- 35% incidents involved groups of 4-6 perpetrators and 28% involved 1-3 perpetrators.
- 57% incidents reported that the perpetrators did not carry weapons or there was no information on weapons carried; while 34% were armed with knives/machetes and 8% armed with guns and knives.
- 60% incidents reported crew were not injured.
- 66% incidents reported loss of items, while in 34% of incidents nothing was lost. In 3% of cases, losses were not stated. Stolen items included mainly ship stores, personal belongings, and engine spares.
- Tankers were the most boarded (33%) followed by bulk carriers (32%) and Tug boat/supply vessel (14%).
- 86% of incidents occurred during hours of darkness and 14% occurred during daylight hours.

### 03 | Accuracy and Timeliness of Information Sharing and Incident Reporting

#### Source of information

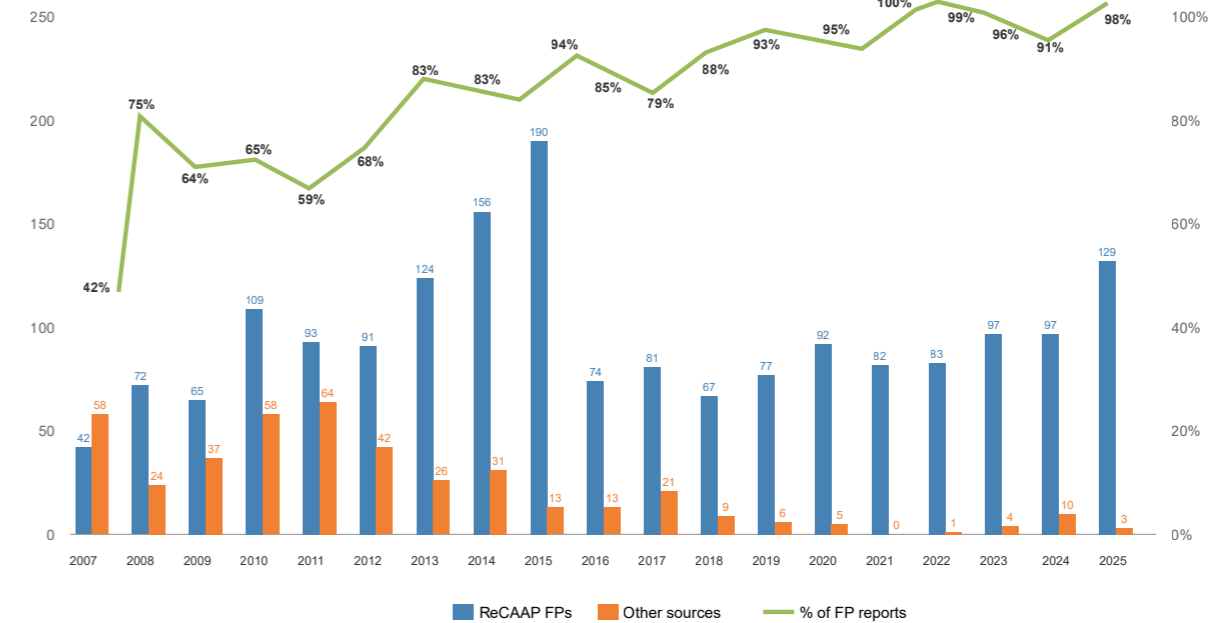
The primary source of information compiled by the Centre originates from ReCAAP Focal Points (FPs) and Contact Point (CP). Using the IFN, the FPs and CP submit and verify reports on incidents which take place within their territorial waters (armed robbery against ships) and beyond their territorial waters (piracy).

These Incident Reports (IRs) are based on information gathered from ship masters, shipping companies, local agents and maritime agencies. To ensure the reliability of the information, FPs/CP are required to verify the details before submitting IRs to ReCAAP ISC. Additional sources of information include the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and regional authorities.

Chart 2 illustrates the number of reports submitted by FPs/CP and other sources during 2007-2025. In 2025, 98% of the 132 reported incidents were submitted by FPs/CP, while the remaining 2% came from other sources.

The FPs/CP serve as an effective and timely channel for gathering, verifying, and reporting incidents to the Centre. This also reflects the strong collaborative relationship between the FPs/CP and other information providers in facilitating information sharing.

**CHART 2**  
Incidents reported by FPs/CP vs other sources (2007-2025)



#### Timeliness of Reporting

The Centre emphasises on time-bound reporting of the incidents. The timeliness of reporting is assessed by the duration between the occurrence of an incident and the submission of the IR by the FPs/CP. During 2007-2025, 35% of IRs were submitted within 24 hours, 25% between 1 and 5 days, and 40% were submitted more than 5 days after the incident. Chart 3 illustrates the number of IRs and the duration taken by the FPs/CP to submit IRs to the Centre during 2007-2025.

Overall, 60% of incidents were reported within five days of their occurrence. Delays in submitting IRs can hinder the response efforts of relevant law enforcement agencies, as timely reporting is crucial for facilitating timely action, including the apprehension of perpetrators.

**CHART 3**  
Number of IRs submitted vs timeliness of submission (2007-2025)

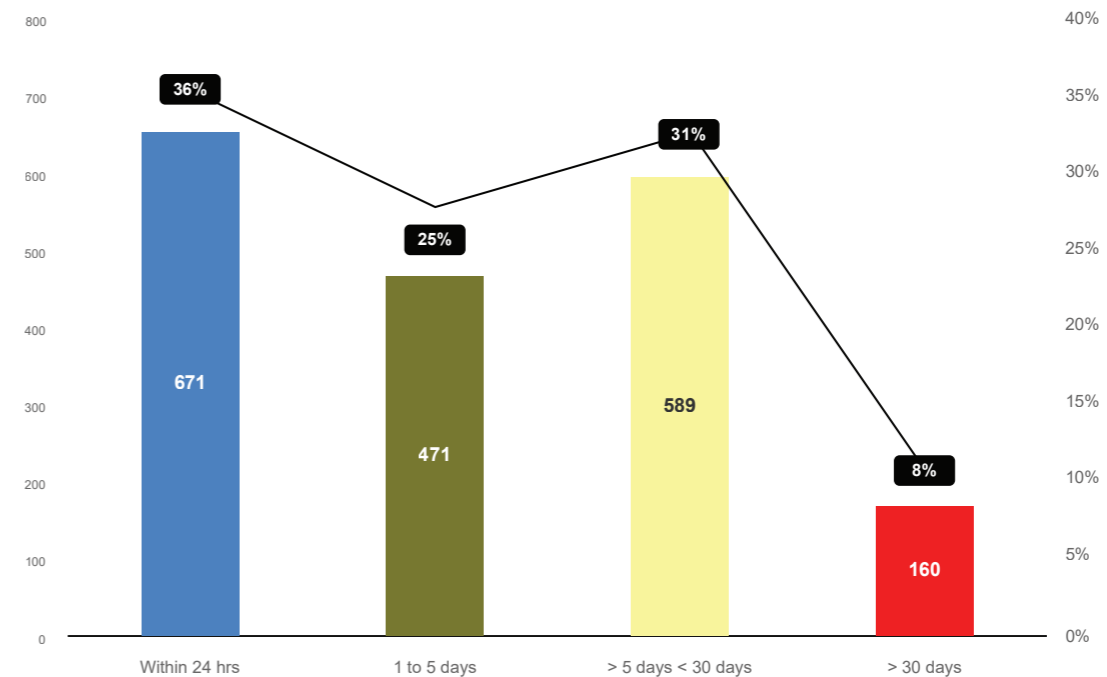
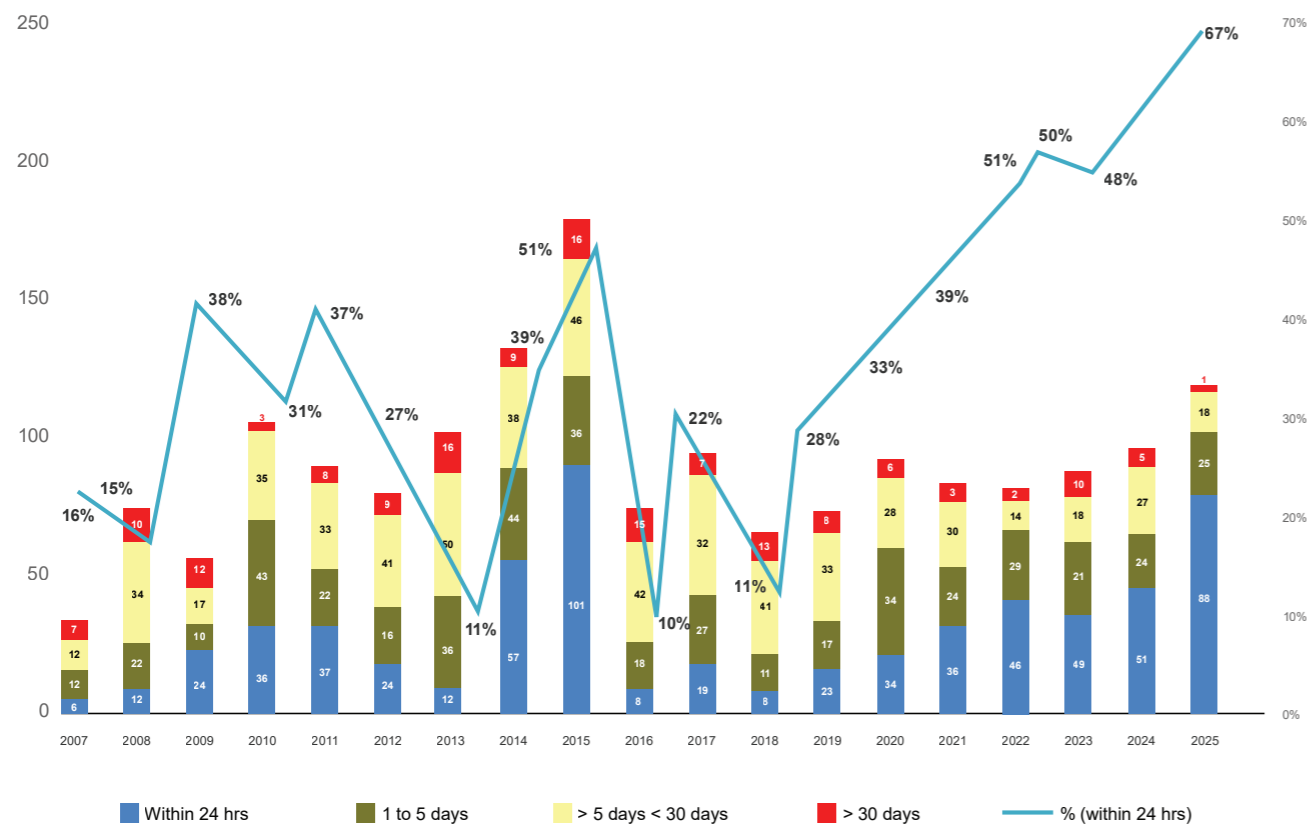


Chart 4 illustrates the yearly breakdown on the timeliness in submission of IRs by FPs/CP during 2007-2025. In 2025, 67% of the IRs (88 of 132) were submitted within 24 hours of the incident, marking a notable improvement from 2024, when only 48% of the IRs were submitted within the same timeframe. This also represents the highest proportion of IRs submitted within 24 hours across the entire reporting period.

Of the 88 IRs submitted within 24 hours in 2025, 83 were from the Singapore FP, two from the Republic of Korea FP, two from the Hong Kong CP, and one from the India FP. Notably, only one IR submitted 30 days or more after the incident occurred.

**CHART 4**  
Timeliness of submission of IRs by Year (2007-2025)



**04 | Reports**

To keep the maritime and shipping community posted regarding the latest Piracy and ARAS situation in Asia, ReCAAP ISC has produced various reports including both periodic and ad-hoc reports. The periodic reports which contain statistics and analytics of the situation in Asia, are produced on a weekly and quarterly basis.

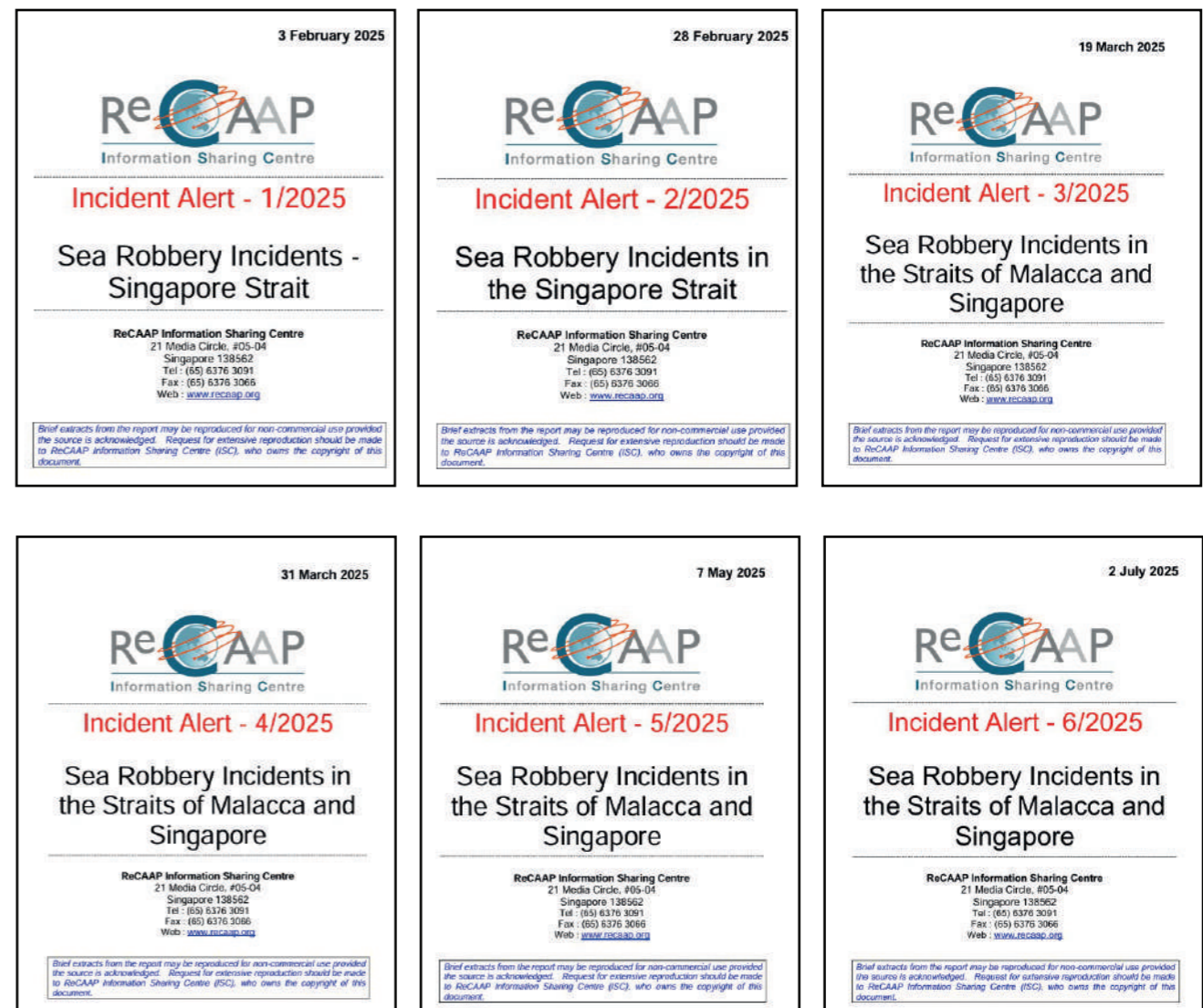
The Centre also issues timely updates and alerts in the form of Warnings, Incident Alerts, Advisories and Special Reports, particularly for serious incidents or successive incidents that warrant concern.

These updates and information are disseminated via email to the Centre's stakeholders and also via the Centre's digital platforms including website, mobile app and social media channels.

**Incident Alerts**

An Incident Alert (IA) is issued for a serious incident or successive spate of incidents occurring at the same location and the IA will be based on verified information of the incident as reported by the relevant FP.

In 2025, ReCAAP ISC issued six Incident Alerts to warn and keep the maritime community updated on the continued occurrence of incidents in the Singapore Strait. The shipping industry is advised to adopt the appropriate preventive measures and for the littoral States to increase their patrols by the relevant law enforcement agencies, particularly in areas of concern.



### Periodic Reports

The Centre issues Weekly, Quarterly, Half-Yearly and Annual Reports to share updates on the latest Piracy and ARAS situation in Asia. The information contained in the reports include statistics, modus operandi of the perpetrators, trends of incidents, best practices, and recommendations.

Details of incidents in the Weekly Reports are also submitted to IMO for inclusion in its database known as the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS).



**Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia**  
Weekly Report (23-27 December 2025)

**OVERVIEW**  
One CAT 4<sup>1</sup> incident of armed robbery against ships<sup>2</sup> in Asia was reported to the ReCAAP ISC. The incident occurred onboard a tug boat and barge while underway in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) of the Singapore Strait (SS). The crew members were not injured while some scrap metals were stolen. Details of the incident are shown in table 1<sup>3</sup>.

Location	Waters of Malacca and Singapore (SOMs) in the eastbound lane of TSS
Date/Time	25 Dec 2025 at 13:00 hrs & 13:10 hrs
Type of ship	Tug boat and barge
Number of perpetrators	9
Weapons	Not stated
Treatment of crew	Not injured
Significance level	CAT 4
Other notes	Scrap metal

**AREA OF CONCERN**  
With this incident reported in SS, a total of 107 incidents were reported in SOMs since January 2025. The ReCAAP ISC advises ships to exercise enhanced vigilance when transiting SOMs and the littoral States to increase patrols and enforcement in these areas.

**SITUATION OF ABDUCTION OF CREW IN THE SULLU-CELEBES SEAS AND WATERS OFF EASTERN LAHAAN**

**Situation Update**  
For a 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, there has been no report of incident of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off Eastern Laahaan. The last incident reported on 17 Jan 2020. In January 2025, the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), coordinated with other stakeholders and counterparts further investigated the threat level of abduction of crew for ransom in the Sulu-Celebes Seas to LOW, meaning 'No information or mentioned activities suggest an impending attack; hence, incidents are not expected to occur'.

**ReCAAP ISC Advisory**  
The ReCAAP ISC, in its Advisory on 14 Feb 2025 advised ships to 'exercise vigilance when transiting the Sulu-Celebes Seas and report incidents to the Operation Centres of the Philippines and Eastern Laahaan Security Command (ESLASC)'.  
Also, to maintain communication with the relevant authorities when transiting the area. The Contact Details of the Operation Centres of the Philippines and ESLASC of Malaysia are as shown in Picture 1.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**  
Ship master and crew are to report all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships to the nearest coastal State and flag State, referring to the Report on the Contact Details for Reporting of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, preventive vigilance and where appropriate preventive measures taking reference from the Regional Guide 2 in Quarter Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, both produced by the ReCAAP ISC.

Description of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships  
23 - 29 December 2025

Ship Name	Type of Ship	Date	Local Time of Incident (LST)	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 Action Taken
1. JAK Tug & Tug boat	Singapore	25/12/25	13:00 hrs	1° 12.30' N, 103° 54.80' E	While sailing, nine perpetrators from three sampans were sighted alongside the barge, removing scrap metals while the tug and barge were enroute from Singapore to Vietnam. After observing that all nine perpetrators had departed the barge, the Master requested the eastbound passage. At 15:10 hrs, three sampans with nine perpetrators were again observed alongside barge taking scrap metals. At 15:25 hrs, the three sampans departed from the barge. The crew were not injured.	Some scrap metals were stolen.	The master immediately reported the incident to the shipping company and Singapore VTS.	Yes. The incident was reported to Singapore VTS.	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Safety broadcast on anti-piracy watch was initiated to remind all vessels to maintain vigilance.

**ACTUAL INCIDENT**

### Single-sheet Summaries

The Centre also produced single-sheet summaries that are infographics with the inclusion of graphs, charts and maps to provide key highlights of incidents, based on the Centre's Quarterly, Half-yearly and Annual Reports.

**ReCAAP** PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS IN ASIA  
January-March 2025

**NUMBER OF INCIDENTS** 43  
Compared to January-March 2024 29 incidents **48% INCREASE**

**SEVERITY OF ACTUAL INCIDENTS**  
Jan - March 2025 VS Jan - March 2024

- No CAT 1 incident reported
- Increase in CAT 3 incidents (perpetrators carrying gun-like objects & knives - 6x increase crew)
- Bulk of the incidents involved 4-6 men
- Engine spares commonly stolen; 42% of incidents reported perpetrators escaped empty-handed

**Status & Location**

Status of ships: Anchored/Berthed 5, Underway 38

Location of incidents: SOMs 6, Indonesia 3, India 2, South China Sea 2

**ReCAAP** PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS IN ASIA  
JANUARY - JUNE 2025

**NUMBER OF INCIDENTS** 95  
Compared to January-June 2024 52 incidents **83% INCREASE**

**SEVERITY OF INCIDENTS** Jan-Jun 2025 VS Jan-Jun 2024

- No CAT 1 incident reported in 2025
- Increase in CAT 3 incidents (perpetrators carried knives, gun-like objects & other objects to threaten rather than harm the crew)
- Increase in CAT 4 incidents (perpetrators not armed & crew not injured)
- Crew not injured 60%
- Involved smaller groups of perpetrators - 1-4 men 81%
- Engine spares commonly stolen 64%
- Perpetrators escaped without stealing anything 64%

**ReCAAP** PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS IN ASIA  
JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 2025

**NUMBER OF INCIDENTS** 119  
Compared to January-September 2024 71 incidents **68% INCREASE**

**SEVERITY OF INCIDENTS** Jan-Sep 2025 VS Jan-Sep 2024

- No CAT 1 incident reported in 2025
- Increase in CAT 3 (perpetrators carried knives, gun-like objects & other objects to threaten rather than harm the crew)
- Increase in CAT 4 incidents (perpetrators not armed & crew not injured)
- Crew not injured 60%
- Involved smaller groups of perpetrators (1-6 men) 83%
- Engine spares commonly stolen 67%
- Perpetrators escaped without stealing anything 44%

**STATUS & LOCATION**

Status of ships: Anchored/Berthed 19, Underway 100

Location of incidents: SOMs 9, Bangladesh 3, South China Sea 2, Philippines 1, Indonesia 8, India 3, Vietnam 2, Malaysia 1

**ReCAAP** PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS IN ASIA (2025)

**NUMBER OF INCIDENTS** 132  
Compared to 2024 107 incidents **23% INCREASE**

**SEVERITY OF INCIDENTS** NO CAT 1 INCIDENT REPORTED IN 2025

2025 VS 2024

- Increase in CAT 3 (perpetrators carried knives, gun-like objects & other objects to threaten rather than harm the crew) 38% vs 35%
- Increase in CAT 4 (perpetrators not armed & crew not injured) 63% vs 45%
- Crew not injured 60% vs 74%
- Involved smaller groups of perpetrators (1-6 men) 81% vs 79%
- Engine spares commonly stolen 69% vs 31%
- Perpetrators escaped without stealing anything 40% vs 28%

**NUMBER OF INCIDENTS** 132

**STATUS & LOCATION**

Status of ships: Anchored/Berthed 21, Underway 111

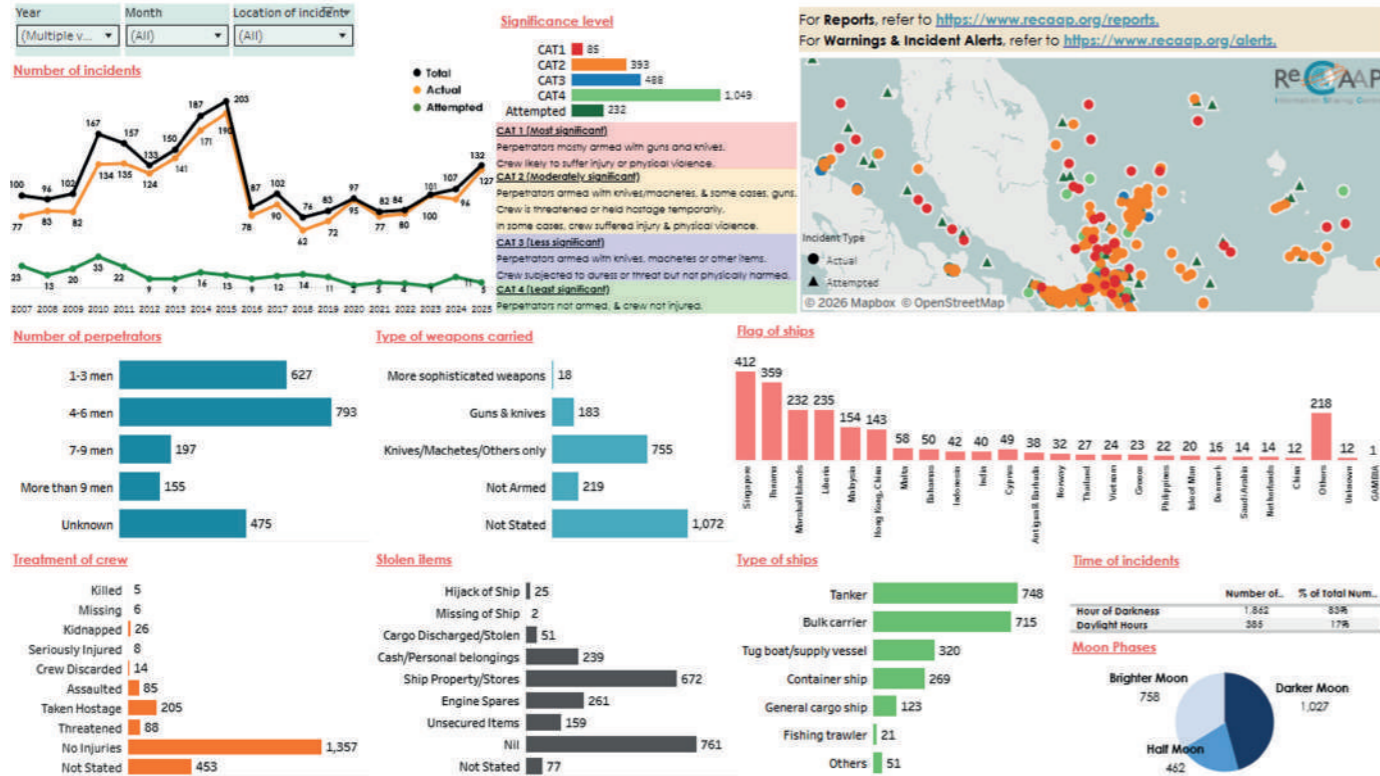
Location of incidents: SOMs 10, Bangladesh 4, Philippines 2, Vietnam 2, Indonesia 10, India 3, South China Sea 2, Malaysia 1

<sup>1</sup> CAT (Category) if incident is classified as 'least significant' in nature. Under the category, the perpetrators are not armed, and the crewed report.  
<sup>2</sup> Armed Robbery Against Ships is defined in accordance with the Code of Practice for the Investigation of Cases of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), Annex to Resolution A.1025(25).  
<sup>3</sup> Table 1.1.1.1. <https://www.recaap.org/quarterly-reports/2025-12-27-2025-12-27> for details of the incidents.

### 05 | ReCAAP ISC Data Visualisation Map and Panel (Re-VAMP)

In November 2023, the Centre introduced an interactive dashboard that offers a comprehensive visual overview of historical and current incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. Through data visualisation, users can extract key insights and compile information to support informed risk assessments and decision-making.

Since its launch, Re-VAMP has consistently received positive feedback on its intuitive interface and the depth of data available, which has helped shipping companies develop vessel-specific guidance for navigating areas of concern. The Centre is committed to regular upgrades of the interactive dashboard to ensure that Re-VAMP continues to serve the evolving needs of the maritime community effectively.

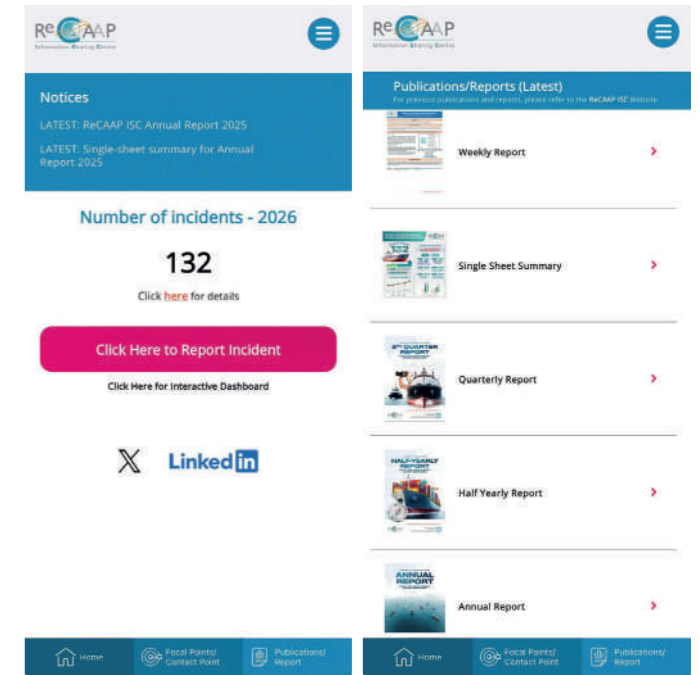


### 06 | Mobile Application

The Centre launched the one-stop incident reporting and information sharing platform in 2024. The enhanced Mobile Application (M-App) offers a user-friendly interface that allows direct reporting of incidents and provides easy access to periodic reports, incident alerts, warnings, guidebooks, and posters. The M-App enables users to report incidents anytime and anywhere, and can be downloaded from the Google Play Store and Apple App Store.

In 2025, the Centre introduced the enhanced Mobile App to crew members and representatives from shipping companies during the team visit onboard three container vessels - *Kota Sejarah* on 13 June 2025, *HMM Algeciras* on 19 September 2025, and *ONE Integrity* on 21 November 2025.

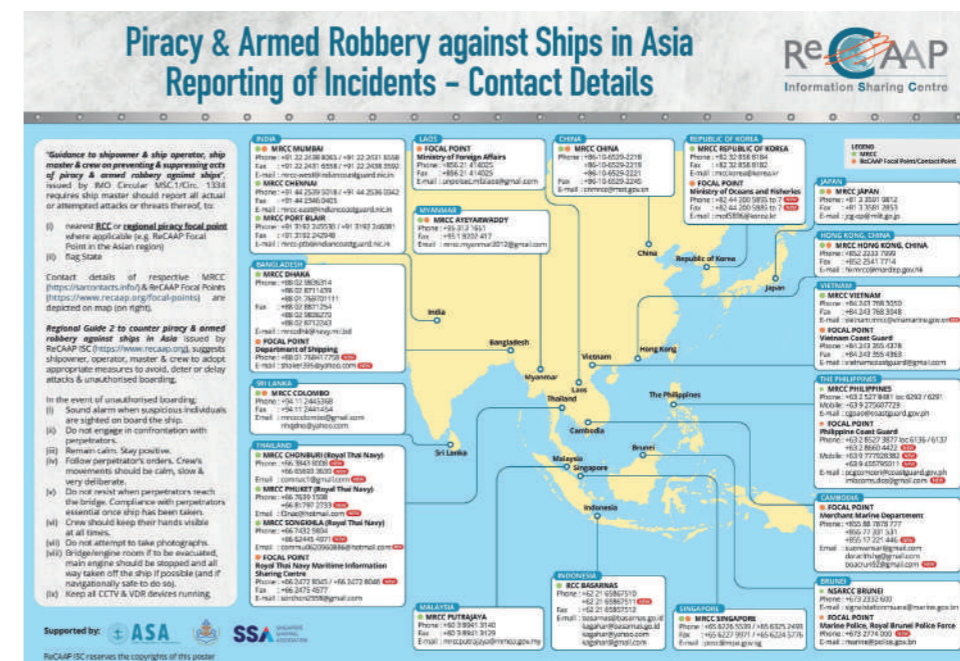
Additionally, the Centre plans to conduct a survey on the usefulness of the Mobile App in 2026 to ensure it meets users' requirements.



### 07 | Guide Books and Posters

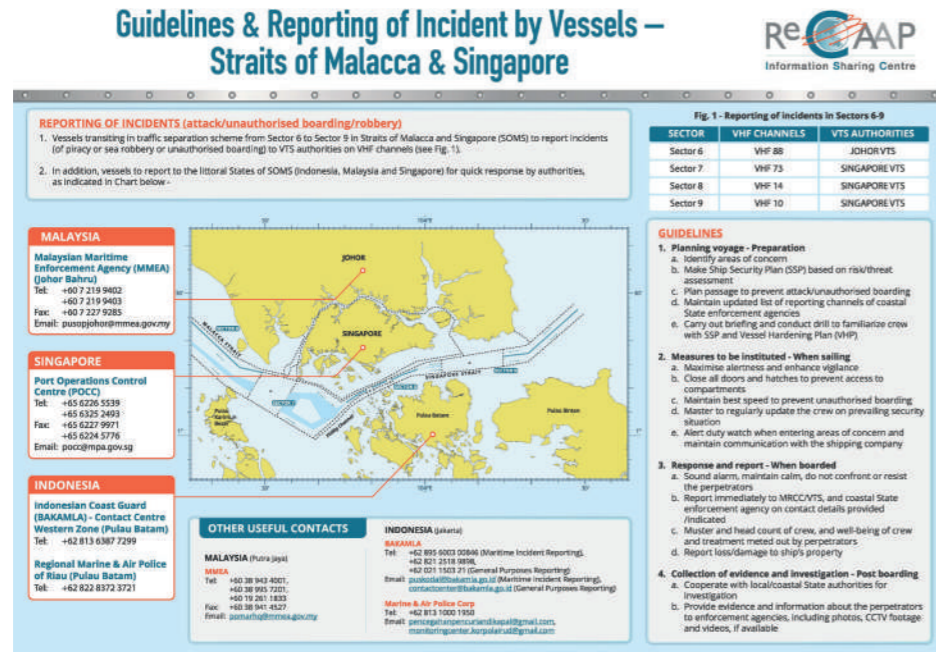
#### Updated Poster on Guidelines for Incident Reporting in Asia

In October 2024, the Centre published the updated poster on the contact details of MRCCs and ReCAAP Focal Points of coastal States in Asia and guidelines to ships transiting areas of concern. It enables timely reporting of incidents by ships and faster response by coastal States. The poster can be accessed via [www.recaap.org](http://www.recaap.org).



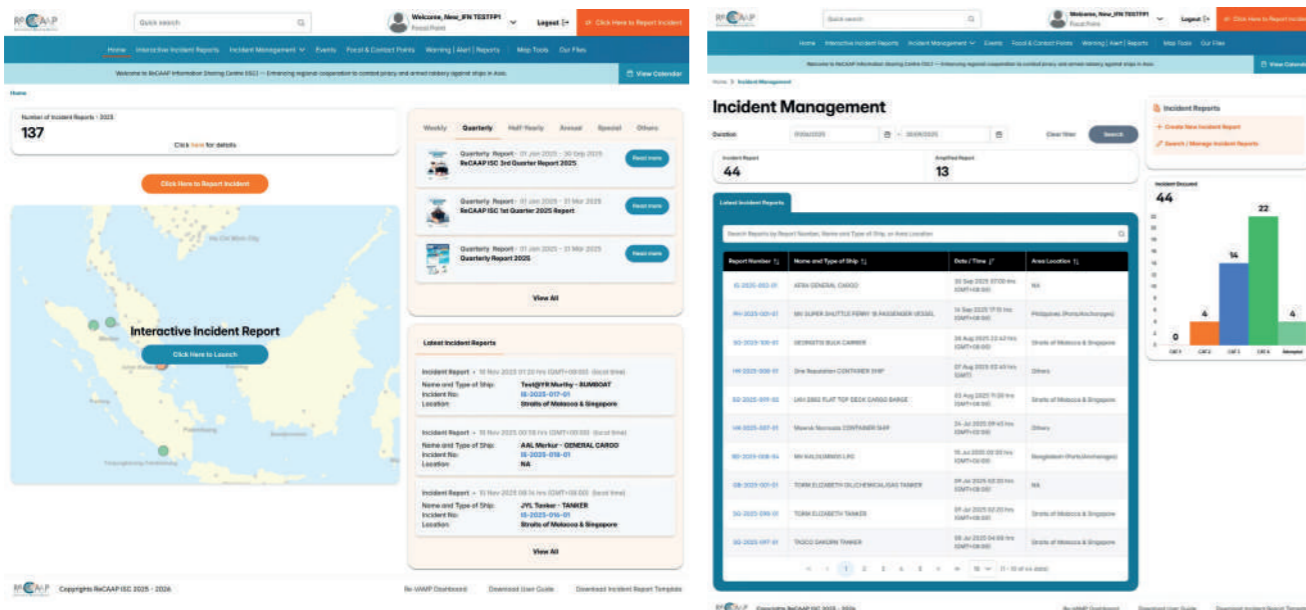
### Poster on Guidelines and reporting of incidents by vessels

In 2025, the Centre updated the poster on the guidelines and contact details of the law enforcement agencies of the littoral States for incident reporting. The poster is aimed at providing ships transiting SOMS with an overview of the key measures to undertake and to encourage the ship master and crew to report incidents to the appropriate local coastal State authority for timely response by the relevant enforcement agencies.



### 08 | Revamped Information Network System (IFN)

The IFN revamp, completed in January 2026, introduced a refreshed user interface and several new functions designed to enhance user experience and operational efficiency. Focal Point officers submitting incident reports can now access more streamlined reporting tools and view incident records with greater clarity. The cybersecurity of the IFN has also been strengthened, preventing unauthorised access by hackers or bad actors. These enhancements facilitate more secure and efficient incident reporting and verification between ReCAAP ISC and Focal Points.



### Part III

## Capacity Building



### 01 | Overview

Capacity Building is one of ReCAAP ISC's three key mission pillars. Through the conduct of capacity building activities, the Centre strengthens Focal Points/Contact Point (FPs/CP) officers' skillsets in incident reporting, updates their knowledge on counter piracy measures and maritime security policies, and facilitates the exchange of best practices on deterring and suppressing piracy and sea robbery incidents in their areas of jurisdiction.

The capacity building events, co-hosted by the Centre and Focal Points, also aim to enhance cooperation between ReCAAP member States, and smoothen inter-agency coordination between the Focal Points, law enforcement agencies, maritime authorities and the shipping industry in the country.

Topics discussed in 2025 include the security environment in the Indo-Pacific and emerging trends in maritime security, efforts of littoral States to address sea

robbery and other maritime crimes, international and domestic legal frameworks on piracy and armed robbery against ships, and the use of technology to improve maritime domain awareness and vessel security.

### 02 | Capacity Building Workshop - Cambodia

ReCAAP ISC held a Capacity Building Workshop (CBW) in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from 19 to 22 May 2025. Co-hosted by the Merchant Marine Department of the General Department of Waterway-Maritime Transport and Ports (FP), the workshop brought together participants from 15 ReCAAP FPs, the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA), Indian Navy, and the Information Fusion Centre - Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR). ReCAAP FPs shared their countries' efforts in preventing sea robbery incidents in their ports, anchorages and territorial waters. Participants also took part in a training session and table-top exercise to familiarise themselves with reporting incidents using ReCAAP ISC's Information Network System (IFN).



Capacity Building Workshop in Cambodia from 19-22 May 2025

### 03 | Capacity Building Senior Officers' Meeting - Thailand

The Centre and Royal Thai Navy (FP) co-hosted a Capacity Building Senior Officers' Meeting (CBSOM) in Bangkok, Thailand, from 25 to 29 August. Senior officers of maritime law enforcement and regulatory agencies from 14 ReCAAP FPs, as well as the Indian Navy, Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region and Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, attended the meeting. Participants were apprised of the evolving maritime security situation in and outside of Asia, and discussed countermeasures to deal with piracy, sea robbery and other maritime security threats. FPs also discussed the future direction of ReCAAP ISC, and exchanged ideas on how government authorities can work with the private sector to adopt technological solutions to improve maritime safety and security.

### 04 | Capacity Building Executive Programme - Virtual

The ReCAAP ISC held a virtual Capacity Building Executive Programme (CBEP) on 10 December, attended by participants from ReCAAP FPs/CP to update on the latest situation of piracy and sea robbery in Asia. During the online session, FPs from Asia and Europe shared their maritime security initiatives and cooperative efforts, as well as national legislation addressing various maritime incidents, including piracy, kidnapping of crew for ransom, and sea robbery. The virtual CBEP enabled ReCAAP FPs to exchange information and strengthen their understanding of maritime security governance across different geographical regions.



Capacity Building Senior Officers' Meeting in Thailand from 25-29 August 2025



Cluster Meeting in the Philippines from 21-23 January 2025

### 05 | Cluster Meeting - The Philippines

The Centre and Philippine Coast Guard (FP) co-hosted a Cluster Meeting in Manila, Philippines, from 21 to 23 January. The meeting was attended by participants from the Philippine Coast Guard, Philippines Ports Authority and Philippines Maritime Industry Authority, as well as officers from four ReCAAP FPs. The MMEA and Indonesia's Maritime Security Agency (BAKAMLA) also attended the meeting. Participants updated on the countermeasures taken against sea robbery in their countries' ports and anchorages, and efforts to enhance inter-agency cooperation to monitor and prevent piracy and sea robbery incidents. Littoral States also updated on the successful efforts made to address abduction of crew incidents in the Sulu-Celebes Seas.

### 06 | Cluster Meeting - Vietnam

The Centre and the Vietnam Coast Guard (FP) organised a Cluster Meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 10 to 13 November. The meeting was attended by participants from the Vietnam Coast Guard, Vietnam Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre, Vietnam Maritime and Waterway Administration, Vietnam People's Navy, Vietnam Border Guard, and shipping companies, as well as regional ReCAAP FP officers and MMEA. Participants exchanged views on emerging trends, best practices, and challenges in addressing piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. The discussions centred on enhancing interagency cooperation and developing strategies to strengthen engagement with the shipping industry and maritime authorities.



Cluster Meeting in Vietnam from 10-13 November 2025

## 07 | Capacity Building Virtual Lecture

The ReCAAP ISC organised a Capacity Building Virtual Lecture on 30 July to update FPs/CP officers' knowledge on maritime security topics. Professor Timothy Edmunds, Professor of International Security and Research Director in the School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies, University of Bristol, and Colonel Hasan A. Khajah, Senior Coordinator, Maritime Security Unit, INTERPOL presented on the topic of "Nexus between Piracy & Armed Robbery and other Maritime Crimes"



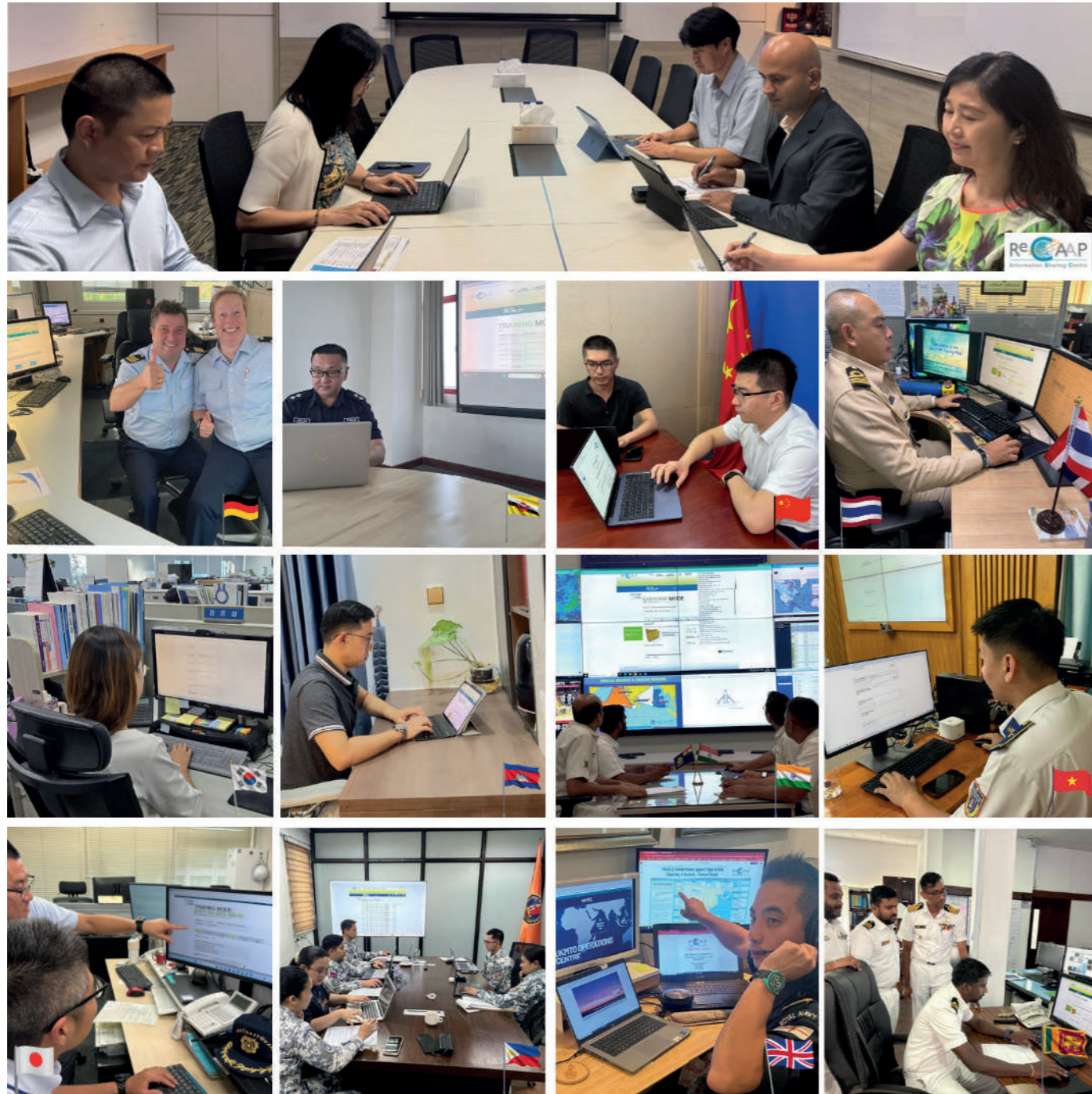
## 08 | Virtual Focal Point Training Programme

The Centre conducted a virtual FP Training Programme from 14 to 15 January to enhance the skillsets of FPs/CP officers in reporting and verifying piracy and sea robbery incidents. A total of 28 officers from 13 FPs/CP in Asia participated in the training. The programme covered key topics, including the ReCAAP Agreement, functions of ReCAAP ISC, incident verification and reporting procedures, and the importance of timely and accurate incident reporting. Participants also practised near real-time scenario-based reporting and verification using the IFN.



09 | IFN Table Top Exercise

From 23-24 September, the Centre successfully conducted a virtual IFN Tabletop Exercise (TTX) for ReCAAP FPs/CP. Participants engaged in dynamic, scenario-based drills aimed at enhancing their capabilities in reporting incidents in a timely and accurate manner. As part of the exercise, participants submitted incident reports on maritime piracy, sea robbery, unauthorised boarding and theft of ship items. The TTX familiarised FPs/CP officers with key IFN functions, and improved communication and understanding between ReCAAP ISC and the Focal Points.



Virtual IFN table top exercise conducted from 23-24 September 2025

Part IV

# Cooperative Arrangements



01 | Overview

In its endeavor to address incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, ReCAAP ISC engages a wide network of stakeholders in Asia and internationally, forging relationships, enhancing information sharing and strengthening collaboration.

Each year, the Centre organises forums, conferences and dialogue sessions in Singapore to engage the shipping industry and solicit feedback to improve our information sharing products.

ED-ISC and ReCAAP ISC staff also participate as speaker or panelist in various regional and international maritime forums to share the Centre's perspective on the latest situation of piracy and sea robbery in Asia, and jointly explore ways to combat sea robbery and other transnational maritime crimes.

By taking part in formal and informal engagements and meetings, the Centre stays updated on the latest maritime security trends, mitigation measures and technological tools to monitor and address maritime threats.

Over the years, the Centre has expanded its network of contacts and partners, and deepened our collaboration with regional and international law enforcement agencies, maritime regulators, policy makers, academics, diplomatic corps and the shipping industry in Asia and beyond.

02 | Engagement with Indonesia and Malaysia

The interaction and operational cooperation between the Centre, BAKAMLA and MMEA remained cordial and productive in 2025.

**Indonesia**

The Centre continued to invite BAKAMLA, through Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), to participate in our forums, conferences and capacity building activities. Highlights of the Centre's engagement with Indonesia include:

**a. Cluster Meeting in Manila, Philippines**

Major Nurul Yudo Suparman, BAKAMLA, attended the 3-day Cluster Meeting from 21 to 23 January in Manila, Philippines. Participants were updated on the latest piracy and armed robbery situation in Asia, and the efforts of littoral States to apprehend perpetrators.



BAKAMLA presents the group findings

On 27 May, ED-ISC met Captain Antoni Priadi, Director General of Sea Transportation, Ministry of Transportation and Dr AKP Mochtan, senior expert from Indonesian National Shipowners' Association (INSA), on the sidelines of the Indonesia Maritime Week 2025. He discussed the current sea robbery incidents in the SOMS and the importance of keeping this vital strait safe for the maritime trade.



ED-ISC interacts with Captain Antoni Priadi, Director General of Sea Transportation, Ministry of Transportation (Indonesia)



ED-ISC meets Dr AKP Mochtan, senior expert from Indonesian National Shipowners' Association (INSA)

**c. Courtesy Call on Deputy Head and Executive Secretary, BAKAMLA**

On 28 May, ED-ISC called on Dr. Samuel H. Kowaas, MSc., CSBA, Executive Secretary of BAKAMLA. During the meeting, ED-ISC briefed Dr Samuel on the situation of armed robbery against ships in Asia from January to May 2025. He also discussed sea robbery trends in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS), the modus operandi of perpetrators, and the specific concerns in SOMS requiring intervention of the security agencies of the littoral states.



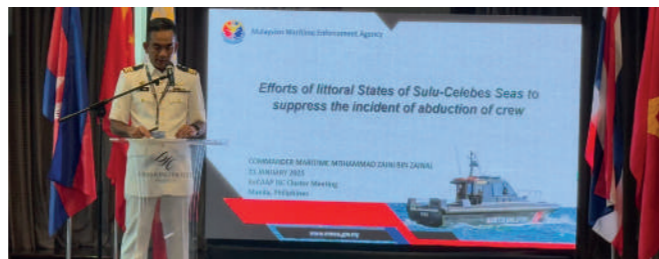
ED-ISC calls on Dr. Samuel H. Kowaas, Executive Secretary of BAKAMLA

**Malaysia**

The Centre continues to invite MMEA to attend its forums, conferences and capacity building activities. Key engagements with Malaysia include:

**a. Cluster Meeting in Manila, Philippines**

Commander Mohammad Zaini Bin Zainal, Director of Batu Pahat Maritime Zone, MMEA, on 21 January, delivered a presentation on Malaysia's ongoing efforts as a littoral State in the Sulu-Celebes Seas to prevent and suppress incidents of crew abduction.



MMEA participates in ReCAAP ISC Cluster Meeting in the Philippines

**b. Indonesia Maritime Week 2025**

On 27 May, ED-ISC met Mr Mohamed Safwan Othman, Chairman of Malaysia Shipowners' Association (MASA) on the sidelines of the Indonesia Maritime Week 2025. He shared the latest situation of armed robbery against ships in the SOMS, and discussed the importance of preventive measures by crew to deter unauthorised boardings and theft onboard vessels.



ED-ISC engages Mr Mohamed Safwan Othman, Chairman of Malaysia Shipowners' Association

**c. Courtesy Call on Director General, MMEA**

On 5 August, ED-ISC held an introductory meeting with Admiral (Maritime) Datuk Haji Mohd Rosli bin Abdullah, Director General of MMEA, at MMEA headquarters in Putrajaya, Kuala Lumpur. The discussions focused on the piracy and sea robbery situation in the SOMS, and the legal framework for exercising universal jurisdiction against pirates. Both parties emphasised the importance of sustained collaboration, agreeing to advance cooperation through continued information sharing, incident verification, joint meetings and workshops.



ED-ISC meets Admiral (Maritime) Datuk Haji Mohd Rosli bin Abdullah, Director General of MMEA

**d. SSSA Anti-Piracy Forum**

On 6 August, the Centre co-organised the 5<sup>th</sup> Anti-Piracy Forum with the Sarawak and Sabah Shipowners' Association (SSSA) in Sibul, Sarawak. The Centre presented insights and data on the theft of scrap metal from barges in the Singapore Strait, highlighted ongoing efforts to strengthen incident reporting and information sharing, and underscored the importance of joint coordinated patrols, prompt responses and preventive measures by all stakeholders. Shipowners shared their concerns and firsthand experiences, providing the Centre with a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by tugboats and barges operators.



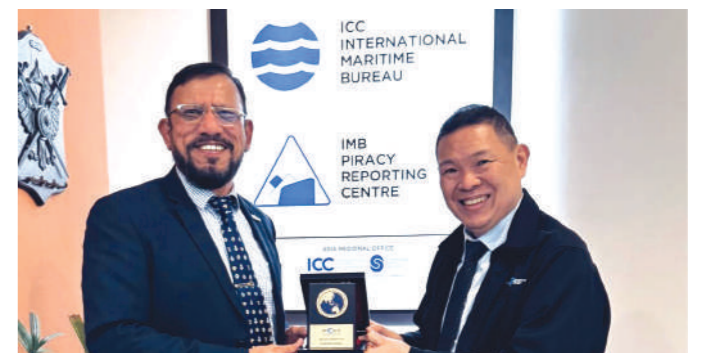
5<sup>th</sup> Anti-Piracy Forum in Sibul, Sarawak

**e. MIMA South China Sea Conference**

From 17-18 November, the Centre attended the South China Sea (SCS) Conference organised by the Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Centre gained useful insights into the importance of UNCLOS 1982 for dispute resolution, challenges faced by ASEAN countries in building consensus and how countries can strengthen their maritime economic resilience. On the sidelines of the conference, ED-ISC interacted with senior officials from the National Security Council of Malaysia and Maritime Institute of Malaysia, as well as academics and ambassadors. ED-ISC also called on Mr Noel Choong, Head of the IMB's Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC), and discussed ways to enhance information exchange and collaboration between ReCAAP ISC and IMB PRC.



ED-ISC interacts with YM Dato Raja Nushirwan Zainal Abidin, DG National Security Council, Malaysia



ED-ISC calls on Mr Noel Choong, Head of the IMB's Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC)

### 03 | Engagement with Multilateral Regimes including International Organisations

#### Nautical Forum

On 9 January, the Centre organised the 16<sup>th</sup> Nautical Forum, which brought together over 120 participants from shipping companies, shipping associations, government and law enforcement agencies, diplomatic missions, and academia. The Centre presented key data from ReCAAP ISC 2024 annual report on piracy and sea robbery incidents in Asia. The shipping industry presented best practices to preserve evidence in sea robbery incidents, as well as the latest situation in the Red Sea. Panelists exchanged insights on mitigation efforts by littoral States and the shipping industry, and explored ways to counter theft incidents in ports and anchorages.



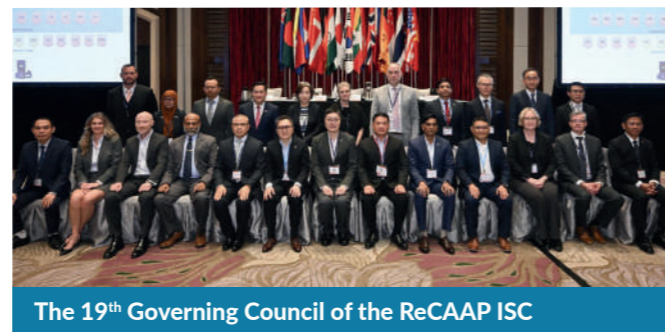
Panel discussion during Nautical Forum 2025

#### 19<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting

The Centre held its 19<sup>th</sup> Governing Council (GC) Meeting from 11 to 14 March at Paradox Singapore Merchant Court, Singapore. Governors from ReCAAP's 21 Contracting Parties, as well as representatives from shipping associations, academia and international organisations, attended the meeting.

The Council elected Admiral Ronnie Gil Gavan, the Governor from the Philippines, as the Chairperson of the Governing Council for a three-year term from 12 March 2025 to 11 March 2028. The Council welcomed Mr Vijay D Chafekar, Additional Director General (Retd), of the Indian Coast Guard, as the 7<sup>th</sup> Executive Director of ReCAAP ISC.

In addition, the Council reviewed and approved the workplan and budget of the Centre for FY2025. This includes upgrading the IFN system, expanding the Centre's information sharing network, strengthening the Centre's data analytics capability, and conducting capacity building programmes to enhance the competence of ReCAAP Focal Points/Contact Point in incident reporting and verification, information sharing and operational response.



The 19<sup>th</sup> Governing Council of the ReCAAP ISC

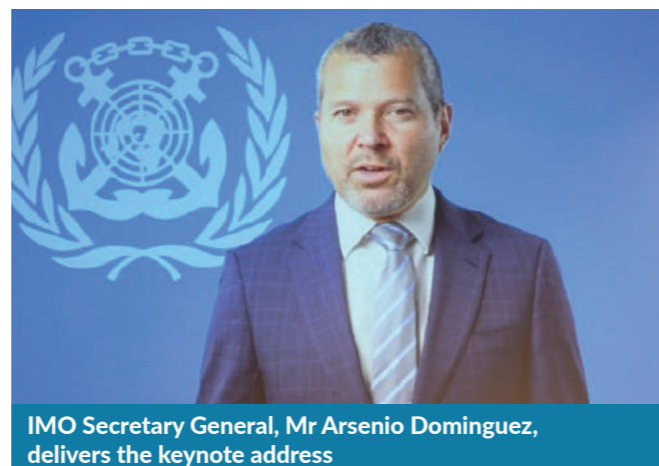
#### Anti-Piracy & Sea Robbery Conference 2025

On 26 March, the Centre partnered with Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) and the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) to organise the Anti-Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference (PSR) 2025 in Singapore. The event, held in conjunction with Singapore Maritime Week (SMW) 2025, was supported by the Asian Shipowners' Association (ASA), BIMCO and INTERTANKO.



Speakers and moderators of Anti-Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2025

Mr Arsenio Dominguez, Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), highlighted in his keynote address that the persistent threat of piracy and armed robbery remains a serious concern which requires constant vigilance and enhanced regional cooperation. During the conference, panellists exchanged views on risks to shipping from global geopolitical tensions, emerging maritime threats, and their impact on commercial shipping. They also explored new ways to adapt to the evolving maritime security landscape in Asia.



IMO Secretary General, Mr Arsenio Dominguez, delivers the keynote address

#### Maritime Roundtable 2025

The Centre and RSIS jointly organised the Maritime Roundtable 2025 in the afternoon of 26 March. Conducted biennial, this was the third closed door roundtable co-organised by ReCAAP ISC and RSIS. Senior representatives from shipping associations, shipping companies, maritime law enforcement agencies and academia discussed "The Future of ReCAAP ISC" and how the Centre can remain relevant to the shipping industry and international maritime community.



Participants of Maritime Roundtable 2025

#### 24<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Heads of Maritime Safety Agencies (APHoMSA) Forum

The Centre participated in the 24<sup>th</sup> APHoMSA Forum from 25 to 27 March in Fuzhou City, China. The Centre presented the latest situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, and introduced the ReCAAP ISC model of information sharing with Focal Points, the shipping industry and law enforcement agencies.



ReCAAP ISC participates in the 24<sup>th</sup> APHoMSA Forum from 25 - 27 March 2025

#### 16<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security

On 25 April, ReCAAP ISC participated virtually in the 16<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Inter-Sessional Meeting on Maritime Security. The Centre shared on its roles and activities, updated on the latest incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, and its products and initiatives aimed at enhancing maritime safety.



DD-ISC updates on the latest sea robbery in Asia and the exemplary model of ReCAAP in enhancing regional cooperation

#### SSA Seminar on Maritime Security in SOMS

On 13 May, ED-ISC participated in a seminar on maritime security in the SOMS organised by the Singapore Shipping Association (SSA). He presented on the trends and modus operandi of perpetrators who commit sea robberies and petty thefts in the SOMS, and urged shipmasters to exercise vigilance and adopt preventive measures when transiting areas of concern in the SOMS.



ED-ISC speaks at the SSA Forum on maritime security

#### 34<sup>th</sup> ASA International Shipping Forum

On 27 May, ED-ISC presented on the latest developments on piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia at the International Shipping Forum (ISF), held during Indonesia Maritime Week in Jakarta from 26-28 May. The ISF was organised by the Asian Shipowners Association (ASA). During the presentation, ED-ISC highlighted efforts by ReCAAP ISC, littoral States and the shipping industry to strengthen regional cooperation and enhance information sharing for safe and secure seas in Asia.



ED-ISC and other speakers of the 34<sup>th</sup> ASA International Shipping Forum

## IMDEX Asia 2025 and International Maritime Security Conference

From 6 to 8 May, the Centre attended IMDEX Asia 2025 and International Maritime Security Conference (IMSC), a biennial naval defence and maritime security exhibition and conference attended by senior officers from navies and coast guards around the world.

During the event, ED-ISC engaged key partners, including Chief of Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), Rear Admiral (RADM) Sean Wat; Executive Secretary of BAKAMLA, Rear Admiral Dr. Samuel H. Kowaas; Deputy Director General of MMEA, Vice Admiral (Maritime) Datuk Saiful Lizan; and Executive Deputy Chairman of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Ambassador Ong Keng Yong.



ED-ISC interacts with the Chief of Singapore Navy, Rear Admiral Sean Wat

## 9<sup>th</sup> Maritime Information Sharing Exercise (MARISX)

From 6 to 8 May, the Centre participated in the 9<sup>th</sup> Maritime Information Sharing Exercise (MARISX) organised by the RSN at Changi Naval Base. The exercise highlighted the shipping industry's vital role in supporting maritime law enforcement agencies to combat sea robbery.

## 110<sup>th</sup> Session of Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) Meeting

From 18 to 20 June, ED-ISC attended IMO's 110<sup>th</sup> MSC meeting in London, United Kingdom. He updated the committee on the latest situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. Representatives of Contracting Parties to ReCAAP, namely the Philippines and Singapore, expressed appreciation for ReCAAP ISC's timely updates, detailed analysis of incidents, and efforts to enhance maritime safety in Asia.



ED-ISC presents at the 110<sup>th</sup> MSC meeting on ReCAAP ISC's initiatives to combat armed robbery against ships in Asia

## 21<sup>st</sup> Working Level Meeting (WLM) of HACGAM

The Centre participated in the 21<sup>st</sup> HACGAM Working Level Meeting (WLM) held in Sydney, Australia from 16 to 19 June. The Centre updated on the modus operandi of perpetrators and the successful arrests made by law enforcement agencies in Asia. The Centre also took part in a working group discussion on maritime safety and security.



The Centre delivers a presentation at the 21<sup>st</sup> HACGAM Working Level Meeting

## Engagement with Shipping Companies

In 2025, the Centre reached out to ship master and crew of three container ships (PIL *Kota Sejarah*, HMM *Algeciras* and ONE *Integrity*), as part of efforts to engage shipping companies and understand the security measures adopted by ship crew transiting the SOMS. ReCAAP ISC learned about operational challenges faced by the crew, and introduced the Centre's digital tools and publications which assist ship master in risk assessment, voyage planning and incident reporting.

## ReCAAP ISC 1<sup>st</sup> Dialogue Session in 2025

On 10 July, the Centre held the first dialogue with representatives from the shipping industry to discuss the spike in sea robbery incidents in the SOMS. Participants expressed concern about the sharp rise in incidents in the SOMS in the first half of 2025, and discussed the need to report incidents promptly to law enforcement agencies of the littoral States. Participants also shared case studies on incidents of unauthorised boardings, and exchanged views on effective shipboard security measures to deter sea robbery.



ReCAAP ISC holds a dialogue session with the shipping industry in July 2025

## 13<sup>th</sup> Regional MARSEC Practitioner Programme (RMPP)

From 21 to 25 July, the Centre participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> RMPP, organised by the Information Fusion Centre (IFC) and the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at Changi Naval Base, Singapore. The participants attended lectures on current and emerging maritime security (MARSEC) threats, and visited the operational centre of a shipping company. The RMPP allowed ReCAAP ISC to exchange views with MARSEC practitioners, broaden perspectives and deepen knowledge, and network with representatives from international organisations, navies and the wider maritime community.

## Coast Guard Global Summit 2025

From 11 to 12 September, ED-ISC participated in the Coast Guard Global Summit 2025 in Rome, Italy. ED-ISC delivered a presentation on the use of data analytics to generate insights into piracy and sea robbery incidents in Asia. He also engaged the heads of various coast guard agencies, with the aim of enhancing collaboration to deter and suppress piracy, sea robbery and other maritime crimes in Asia.



ED-ISC speaks at the Coast Guard Global Summit 2025



ED-ISC engages Chief of BAKAMLA at the sidelines of the Coast Guard Global Summit 2025

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Maritime Domain Awareness Workshop for the Indian Ocean Region

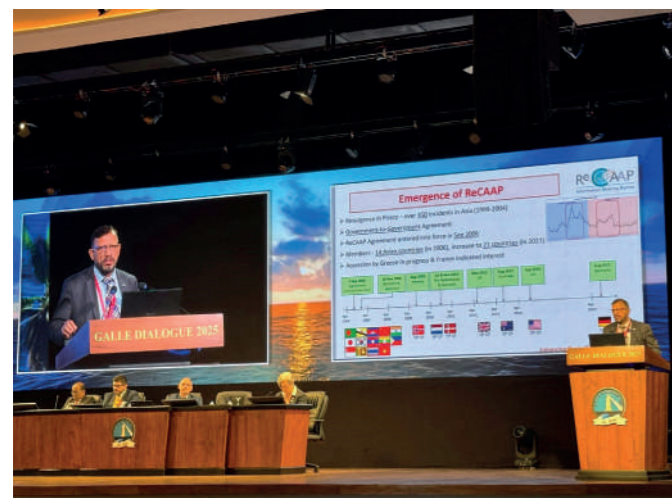
From 15 to 19 September, the Centre participated in the second Maritime Domain Awareness Workshop for the Indian Ocean Region organised by the Australian Border Force. ReCAAP ISC presented the latest situation piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, arrest of perpetrators by littoral States, and the latest initiatives by the Centre to enhance incident reporting and information sharing. The Centre also facilitated a group discussion on the use of technology and artificial intelligence to deter sea robbery, and the nexus between piracy and other maritime crimes.



ReCAAP ISC facilitates a group discussion during the second Maritime Domain Awareness Workshop for the Indian Ocean Region

### 12<sup>th</sup> Galle Dialogue: International Maritime Conference

From 24 to 25 September, ED-ISC participated in the 12<sup>th</sup> Galle Dialogue held in Colombo, Sri Lanka. ED-ISC delivered a presentation on harnessing emerging technologies to combat piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia. He also highlighted ReCAAP ISC's ongoing commitment to leverage technology to enhance information sharing. This includes tools such as Re-VAMP Interactive Dashboard, which offers real-time visual data to improve situational awareness, and the enhanced ReCAAP mobile application, which allows users easy access to incident reports and the ability to simultaneously report piracy and sea robbery incidents to the MRCCs of coastal States and ReCAAP Focal Points.



ED-ISC delivers a presentation at the 12<sup>th</sup> Galle Dialogue

### Trilateral Marine Police Symposium

From 14 to 16 October, the Centre participated in the Trilateral Marine Police Symposium organised by the Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP) and the Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (ROSEAP) in Batam, Indonesia. The Centre shared ongoing mitigation efforts through regional cooperation with Contracting Parties, coastal States, regional authorities, shipping industry and partner organisations. Through the symposium, the Centre was apprised on the modus operandi and routes used in illicit maritime activities in the SOMS.



ReCAAP ISC participates in the Trilateral Marine Police Symposium organised by the Global Maritime Crime Programme

### 21<sup>st</sup> High Level Meeting (HLM) of HACGAM

ReCAAP ISC participated in the 21<sup>st</sup> HACGAM High-Level Meeting (HLM) in Sydney, Australia from 13 to 16 October. ED-ISC delivered a presentation on efforts to mitigate risk of piracy and sea robbery through the use of digital tools such as Re-VAMP, as well as collaterals developed by the Centre to support timely incident reporting by ship masters. On the sidelines of the meeting, ED-ISC held bilateral meetings with coast guard leaders and senior officers.



ReCAAP ISC participates in the 21<sup>st</sup> HACGAM High-Level Meeting

### ReCAAP ISC 2<sup>nd</sup> Dialogue Session in 2025

On 30 October, the Centre held the second dialogue session with the shipping industry to discuss strategies to sustain the improved security situation in the SOMS. Shipping industry representatives shared their experience in dealing with challenges of navigational safety in the SOMS, as well as lessons learned from robbery incidents onboard their vessels. NorthStandard Limited marine insurer outlined various factors concerning sea robbery incidents which affect insurance premiums. Maritime & Port Authority of Singapore (MPA), Information Fusion Centre (IFC) and the Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) also presented on regional cooperation efforts to deal with maritime security threats, and recommended measures to deter unauthorised boardings in the SOMS.



ReCAAP ISC gathers the views of the shipping industry during the second dialogue session in October 2025.

### Prosecutor's Network Forum

From 24 to 28 November, the Centre participated in the Prosecutors' Network Forum organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Seychelles. The ReCAAP ISC team observed piracy trial proceedings at the Supreme Court of Seychelles and attended an interactive session, focusing on judicial responses to transnational crimes, particularly universal jurisdiction. The forum included discussions with UNODC consultants on the interpretation of UNCLOS, the Vienna Convention and the SUA Convention, as well as exchanges on national legal frameworks. ReCAAP ISC also visited the Regional Coordination Operations Centre (RCOC) in Victoria, Mahé Island, where the team received a briefing on its roles, functions, and cooperation with regional States, the European Union, UNODC, INTERPOL, international naval forces and other partners.



ED-ISC with the President of the Court of Appeal, Justice Anthony Fernando



ReCAAP ISC participates in the Prosecutors' Network Forum organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Seychelles

**PART V**

# Profiling and Branding ReCAAP ISC



On 15 April 2025, visit by students from the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)



On 22 April 2025, visit by Dr Waddah Ghanem, Senior Director of Logistic and Marine Assurance, ENOC and Vice Chair of OCIMF (second from left) and Mr Raj Shetty, Senior Technical Adviser, OCIMF (extreme right)



On 5 May 2025, visit by Mr Russell Pegg, Security Adviser of OCIMF (fourth from left), and members



On 6 May 2025, visit by Vice Admiral Kanchana Banagoda, Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy

## 01 | Overview

In 2025, ReCAAP ISC made active use of online platforms to disseminate updates on the latest situation of piracy and sea robbery in Asia, and to update stakeholders on events and activities conducted by the Centre.

The Centre also conducted briefings for the media and analysts to update them on the modus operandi of perpetrators, and efforts taken by ReCAAP ISC and littoral States in Asia to deter and combat armed robbery against ships.

In addition, the Centre held meetings with regional and international partners throughout the year to exchange views and insights on maritime security issues, and to discuss ways to strengthen collaboration and build capacity to deter sea robbery in Asia.

## 02 | Engagements with Stakeholders

The ReCAAP ISC team, led by ED-ISC, engaged various stakeholders to enhance cooperation in addressing piracy and sea robbery threats in Asia.



On 8 May 2025, visit by Superintendent General Yeo Seongsu, Director General of the Maritime Security Bureau from Korea Coast Guard



On 8 May 2025, visit by China Coast Guard led by Colonel Liu Zhixu, Director of the International Cooperation Division



On 16 May 2025, call on H.E. Dato' Dr Azfar Mohamad Mustafar, Malaysia High Commissioner to Singapore



On 19 May 2025, call on Mr Heng Suthy, Director General, General Department of Waterway Maritime Transport and Port, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, and ReCAAP ISC Governor for Cambodia



On 17 June 2025, meeting with Mr Gaute Sivertsen, Director of International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds (IOPC Funds)



On 17 June 2025, meeting with Mr Hiroyuki Yamada, Director of Maritime Safety Division, IMO and the MARSEC team



On 28 May 2025, call on RADM Dr. Samuel Kowaas, M.Sc., CSBA, Executive Secretary of BAKAMLA



On 30 May 2025, visit by Japan Coast Guard led by Commandant Seguchi Yoshio



On 25 June 2025, call on H.E. Dr. Zaw Minn Aung, Myanmar Charge d'Affaires to Singapore



On 26 June 2025, call on H.E. Mrs Mary Seet-Cheng, Ambassador and Senior Specialist Adviser at MFA Singapore



On 5 June 2025, call on H.E. Hiroshi Ishikawa, Ambassador of Japan to Singapore



On 6 June 2025, call on H.E. Senarath Dissanayake, Sri Lanka High Commissioner to Singapore



On 1 July 2025, call on Chief of Republic of Singapore Navy, Rear Admiral Sean Wat



On 2 July 2025, call on H.E. Medardo G. Macaraig, Philippine Ambassador to Singapore



On 2 July 2025, call on H.E. Ureerat Chareontoh, Thailand Ambassador to Singapore



On 3 July 2025, call on H.E. Christodoulos Margaritis, Ambassador of Greece to Singapore



On 23 July 2025, visit by Commanding Officer, Captain Naoki MIZOGUCHI and Executive Officer, Captain Yasuhiro TSUSHIMA of Japan Coast Guard (JCG) Training Vessel ITSUKUSHIMA



On 29 July 2025, visit by Colonel Egberto Ocasla Dacoscos, Philippines Defence Attache



On 13 July 2025, visit by Mr Arsenio Dominguez, Secretary-General of International Maritime Organization (IMO)



On 15 July 2025, call on H.E. Hong Jin-Wook, Republic of Korea Ambassador to Singapore



On 31 July 2025, call on H.E. Cao Zhongming, Ambassador of People's Republic of China to Singapore



On 5 August 2025, call on Admiral (Maritime) Datuk Haji Mohd Rosli bin Abdullah, Director General of Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA)



On 15 July 2025, visit by Mr Jonathan Holland, Team Leader and Mr Marko Rankovic, Consultant, Maritime Security of UNITAR



On 18 July 2025, visit by Dr Phillip Belcher, Marine Director of INTERTANKO



On 7 August 2025, visit by Thai Maritime Enforcement Command Center led by Rear Admiral Benjamaporn Wongnakornsawang, Director of the Office of Exercise and Training



On 8 August 2025, call on H.E. Nikesh Mehta OBE, High Commissioner of United Kingdom to Singapore



On 11 August 2025, call on H.E. Mr Sok Khoeun, Ambassador of Cambodia to Singapore



On 12 August 2025, call on H.E. Tran Phuoc Anh Ambassador of Vietnam to Singapore



On 2 October 2025, call on H.E. Jakob Brix Tange, Ambassador of Denmark to Singapore



On 2 October 2025, call on H.E. Leif Trana, Ambassador of Norway to Singapore



On 18 August 2025, call on H.E. Bettina Fanghaenel, Ambassador of Germany to Singapore



On 11 September 2025, meeting with Vice Admiral Dr. Irvansyah, Chief of Indonesian Maritime Security Agency (BAKAMLA) on the sidelines of 4<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard Global Summit in Rome, Italy



On 7 October 2025, visit by officers from the College of Defence Management (CDM)



On 8 October 2025, visit by Emirates Shipping Association Maritime Leadership Program Delegates



On 23 September 2025, call on Captain HLNT Gunasena, Senior Staff Officer Operations, Sri Lanka Navy of the MRCC Colombo, Sri Lanka



On 25 September 2025, call on Vice Admiral Kanchana Banagoda, Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy



On 13 October 2025, bilateral meeting with Rear Admiral Md Ziaul Hoque, Director General, Bangladesh Coast Guard on the sidelines of 21<sup>st</sup> HACGAM in Sydney, Australia



On 13 October 2025, bilateral meeting with Mrs Linda Cappello, Deputy Commander, Maritime Border Command, Australian Border Force on the sidelines of 21<sup>st</sup> HACGAM in Sydney, Australia



On 13 October 2025, bilateral meeting with Vice Admiral Edgar L Ybañez, Deputy Commandant for Operations, Philippine Coast Guard on the sidelines of 21<sup>st</sup> HACGAM in Sydney, Australia



On 15 October 2025, meeting with Senior Colonel Dinh Hung, Luong, Director of Law Enforcement Department, Vietnam Coast Guard on the sidelines of 21<sup>st</sup> HACGAM in Sydney, Australia



On 5 November 2025, call on H.E. Artis Bertulis, EU Ambassador to Singapore



On 6 November 2025, call on H.E. Stephen, Michael Marchisio, French Ambassador to Singapore



On 16 October 2025, bilateral meeting with Mr Chen Chuanquan, Director General, Guangdong Maritime Safety Administration of China on the sidelines of 21<sup>st</sup> HACGAM in Sydney, Australia



On 17 October 2025, visit by Captain Andy Keane, Manager Maritime Security Advisor, Asia Pacific, Shell Maritime Security (second from right) along with his team members



On 7 November 2025, visit by Mr Park Hyeonsu, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, also the ReCAAP ISC Focal Point for the Republic of Korea



On 17 November 2025, meeting with YM Dato Raja Nushirwan Zainal Abidin, DG National Security Council, Malaysia on the sidelines of MIMA Conference, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



On 17 October 2025, call on H.E. Mrs Anneke Adema, Netherlands Ambassador to Singapore



On 3 November 2025, call on H.E. Ferdousi Shahriar, Bangladesh High Commissioner to Singapore



On 17 November 2025, meeting with H.E. Maria Angela A. Ponce, Ambassador, Embassy of Republic of the Philippines on the sidelines of MIMA Conference, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



On 17 November 2025, meeting with Prof Kentaro Furuya, Adjunct Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Japan on the sidelines of MIMA Conference, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



On 17 November 2025, meeting with Dato Mohamed Suffian Awang, Chairman, Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA) & YBhg Dato' Monaliza Suhaimi, DG MIMA on the sidelines of MIMA Conference, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



On 17 November 2025, meeting with Aristyo Rizka Darmawan, lecturer in international law, Universitas Indonesia on the sidelines of MIMA Conference, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



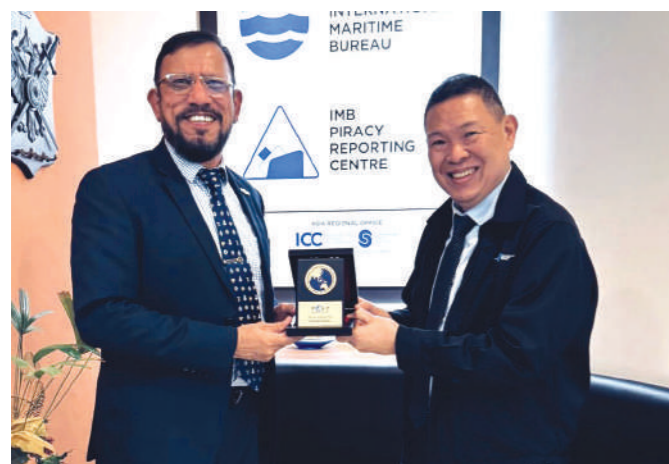
On 15 December 2025, call on H.E. Mr. Vilatsone Visonnavong, Lao Ambassador to Singapore

### 04 | Media Reports and Outreach

ReCAAP ISC held media briefings in January 2025 and July 2025 to share the latest situation of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia with the local and international media, as well as maritime security analysts. Detailed data and statistics on the incidents, as well as information on the arrest of perpetrators, were shared during these briefings. ED-ISC also conducted face-to-face, telephone and email interviews with news and shipping media, to offer in-depth analysis and insights into piracy, sea robbery and the maritime security situation in Asia.

In addition, the Centre regularly issued press releases to keep stakeholders informed of its activities and engagement with ReCAAP Focal Points, the shipping industry and law enforcement agencies.

In 2025, the Centre earned 844 mentions across regional and international news websites and maritime media.



On 18 November 2025, meeting with Mr Noel Choong, Head of the IMB's Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC) on the sidelines of MIMA Conference, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



On 24 November 2025, meeting with Justice Anthony Fernando, President of the Court of Appeal of Seychelles on the sidelines of UNODC Prosecutor's Network Forum, in Seychelles

### 03 | Digital Outreach and Engagement

In 2025, the Centre utilised the ReCAAP ISC website, ReCAAP mobile app and social media channels (X and LinkedIn) to disseminate reports and advisories on piracy and sea robbery incidents in Asia. Incident alerts, periodic reports, news on ReCAAP ISC's events and initiatives, as well as meeting with important stakeholders were shared in a timely manner using the Centre's digital platforms.

The Centre created a greater variety of visuals and content to share on our social media platforms, leading to more views and engagement of our social media posts. The Centre's social media posts achieved 178,250 impressions in 2025, higher than the 177,555 impressions achieved in 2024.



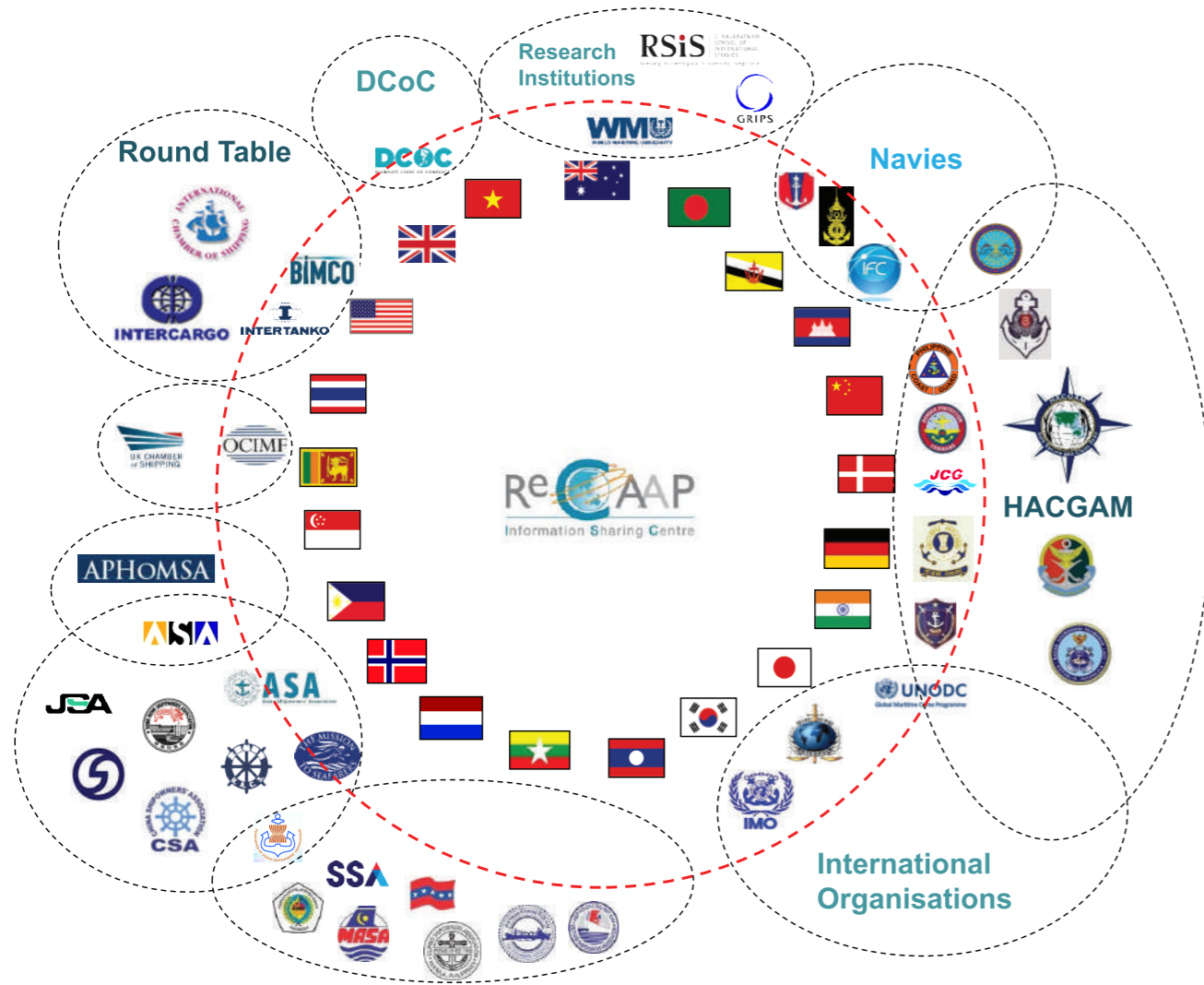
On 26 November 2025, meeting with Major Wong-Pool, Director of the Regional Coordination Operations Centre (RCOC), Seychelles on the sidelines of UNODC Prosecutor's Network Forum, in Seychelles



On 2 December 2025, call on H.E. Allaster Cox, Australia High Commissioner to Singapore



# ReCAAP ISC Network and Connectivity



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