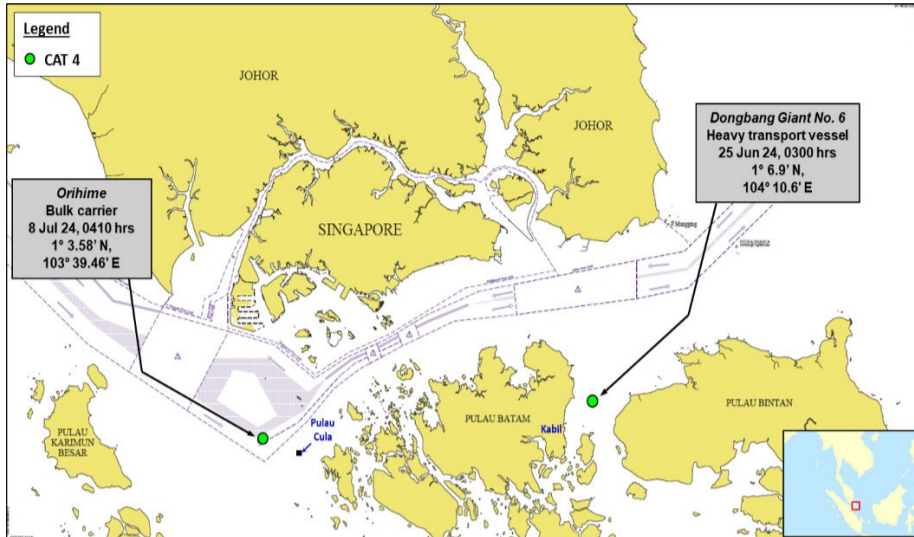


### OVERVIEW

Two CAT 4<sup>1</sup> incidents of armed robbery against ships in Asia were reported to the ReCAAP ISC. One incident occurred on 25 June onboard a heavy transport vessel while anchored at Kabil Anchorage, Indonesia. The other incident occurred on 8 July onboard a bulk carrier while underway in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS). Details of incidents are shown in table (\*).



Factors	Location	
	Indonesia	SOMS
	<b>Kabil Anchorage</b> (1 incident)	<b>Off Pulau Cula, Indonesia</b> (1 incident)
Type of ship	Heavy transport vessel	Bulk carrier
Date/Time	25 Jun at 0300 hrs	8 Jul at 0410 hrs
Number of perpetrators	2	4
Weapons	Not stated	Not armed
Treatment of crew	No injuries	No injuries
Significance level	<b>CAT 4</b>	<b>CAT 4</b>
Items stolen	Engine spare parts	Nothing was stolen

### AREA OF CONCERN

With the incident in SOMS, a total of 22 incidents were reported in the area since January 2024. The ReCAAP ISC advises ships to exercise enhanced vigilance when transiting SOMS, maintain lookout while anchored at ports and anchorages; and the littoral States/coastal States to increase patrols and enforcement in these areas.

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

#### Re-Assessment and Downgrading of threat level

The efforts by the Philippine Government in Zamboanga, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi through the conduct of continuous military operations led to the dismantling of the support base and neutralising the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) in Sulu archipelago. Against this backdrop, the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), coordinated with other stakeholders and counterparts that have vital involvement in the maritime security of the Sulu-Celebes Seas, reviewed the threat situation and recommended further downgrading the threat level of 'Abduction of crew for ransom in the Sulu-Celebes Seas' from 'MODERATE' to 'MODERATE LOW', which implies that 'Incidents are unlikely to occur due to perpetrators' perceived lack of capability to orchestrate an attack. Nevertheless, minimal damages are expected to the vessel and crew in case of an attack'.

#### Update of ReCAAP ISC Advisory

- With downgrading of the threat on the 'Abduction of Crew for ransom in the Sulu-Celebes seas by the PCG, ReCAAP ISC have updated its Advisory for ships to **"exercise vigilance & adopt necessary preventive measures while transiting the area"**.
- For ships transiting the area, the **ship masters and crew are strongly encouraged to exercise extra vigilance and report** all incidents immediately to the Operation Centres of the Philippines and Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM) of Malaysia. The **Contact Details** of the Operation Centres of the Philippines and ESSCOM of Malaysia are as shown in Picture 1.



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 [Poster on the Contact Details for Reporting of Incidents of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia](#), exercise vigilance and adopt appropriate preventive measures taking reference from the [Regional Guide 2 to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia](#); both produced by the ReCAAP ISC.

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Contact us at:	E: <a href="mailto:info@recaap.org">info@recaap.org</a>	T: +65 6376 3063	F: +65 6376 3066

\* Table at <https://www.recaap.org/resources/ck/files/Number%20of%20Incidents/2024/List%20of%20Incidents%20for%202024.pdf> for details of the incidents.

<sup>1</sup> CAT (Category) 4 incident is classified as "least significant" in nature. Under this category, the perpetrators are not armed, and the crew not injured.