

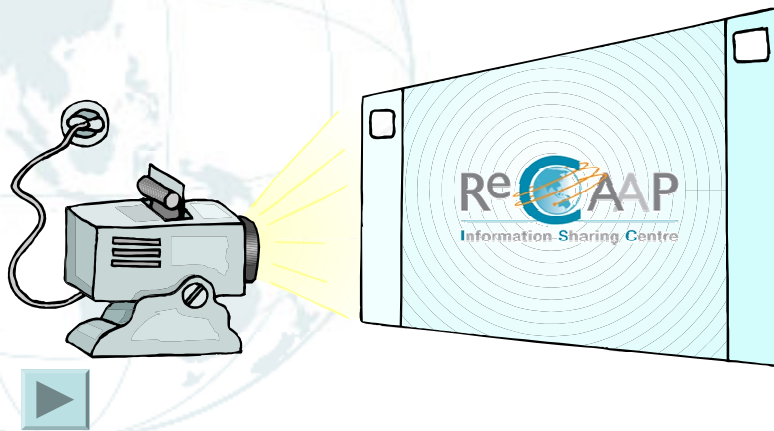


**The 9th Meeting of the UN Open-ended
Informal Consultative Process on
Oceans and the Law of the Sea**

23 – 27 June 2008

Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia

Video – ReCAAP ISC



Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia

Background / Concerns

- ❑ concerns about piracy and armed robbery against ships in the 1990s
- ❑ threats to maritime navigation (safety of life; transport of cargo & energy supplies)
- ❑ loss of life.
- ❑ Tokyo Challenge 2000
 - ❑ Tokyo Appeal.
 - ❑ Model Action Plan.



Disruption to Commerce ...

Through the Straits of Malacca and Singapore

- ❑ 75,000 vessels annually
- ❑ 141,000 vessels in 2020 (projected)
- ❑ > 30% of world trade
- ❑ Half of the world's oil shipments

Safe use of sea-lanes is essential to the economic well-being of countries



The ReCAAP Initiative

(from Concept to Reality ...7 yrs)

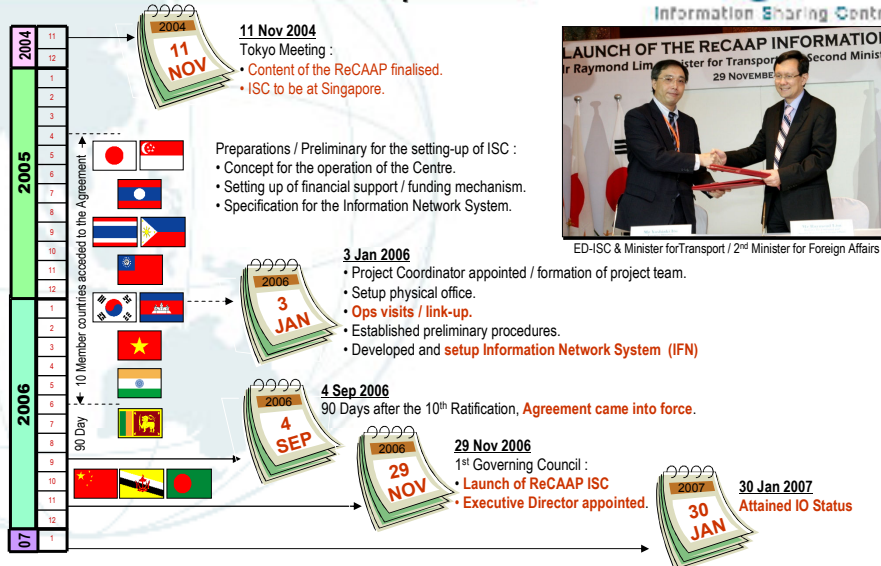


- ❑ **Response of ASEAN against piracy and armed sea robbery in the region**
 - ❑ Joint communiqué. The 30th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, Subang Jaya, Malaysia (24-25 Jul 1997)
 - ❑ ASEAN declaration on Transnational Crime, Manila (20 Dec 2000)
- ❑ **The concept of a regional cooperation agreement was first mooted by the former Japanese PM Keizo Obuchi at the ASEAN+1 Summit Meeting in Manila (Nov 1999).**
- ❑ **At the “Asia Anti-Piracy Challenge 2000” Conference in Tokyo (Apr 2000), 2 documents were promulgated : Tokyo Appeal & The Model Action Plan**
- ❑ **The 16 countries (ASEAN+6) started drafting of the Agreement in 2002**
- ❑ **The Agreement was finalized on 11 Nov 2004 and came to force on 4 Sep 2006**
- ❑ **The Information Sharing Centre was launched on 29 Nov 2006**



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ReCAAP-Pre launch phase



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The Agreement

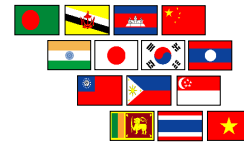


3 Pillars of the Agreement

- Information Sharing
- Capacity Building
- Co-operative Arrangements

Operating Principles of ReCAAP ISC

- Respect for countries' sovereignty
- effectiveness
- transparency



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ReCAAP Focal Points



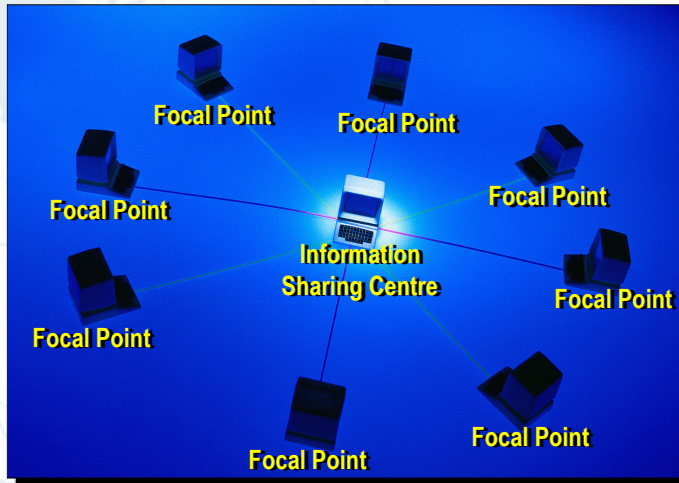
- each ReCAAP signatory designates a Focal Point to be point of contact for the ISC

- role of a Focal Point:

- manage piracy and armed robbery incidents within its territorial waters
- act as point of information exchange with ISC
- facilitate its country's law enforcement investigations
- co-ordinate surveillance and enforcement for piracy and armed robbery with neighbouring Focal Points

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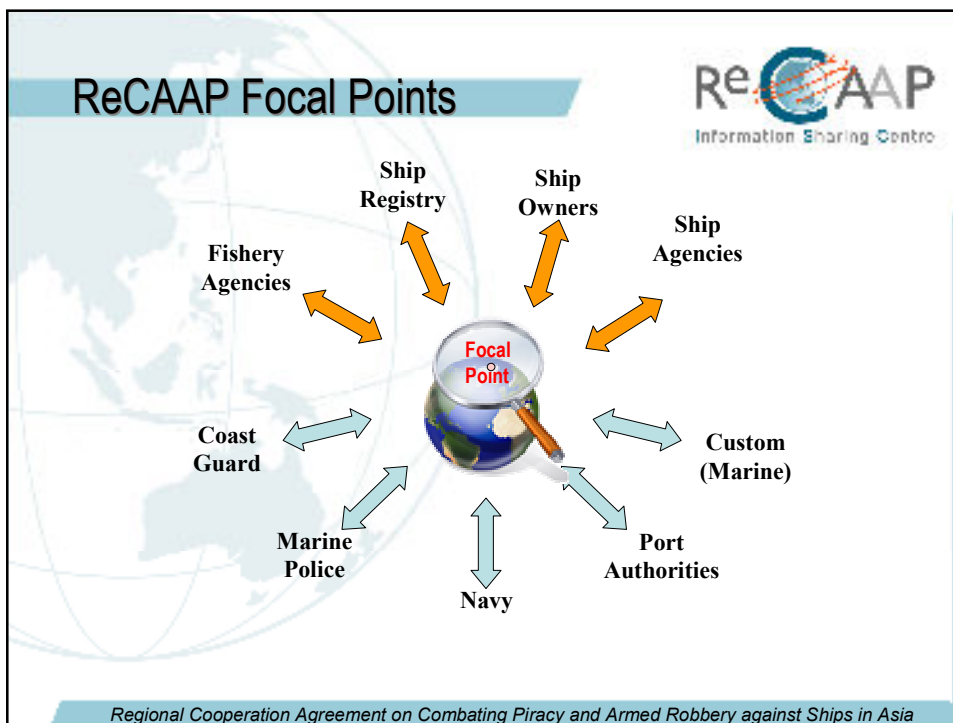
ISC-Focal Point Concept



Web based
Secure Network
via SSL & VPN

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ReCAAP Focal Points



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ISC-Focal Points Network



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Functions of the ReCAAP ISC

- platform for information exchange
 - Focal Points will be linked via the Information Network System (IFN)
- collate & analyse statistics on piracy and armed robbery incidents
 - to gain better understanding of scenario in the region.
 - disseminate reports internally and to public.
 - Adhoc, monthly, quarterly, half annually & annually.
- facilitate capacity building efforts.
 - Sharing of best practices, training, advisory assistance...

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Sources of Info for Research

❑ Focal Points

- ❑ Internal sources.
- ❑ Shipping Community.

❑ Other industry or third-party sources

- ❑ IMO, IMB, Fairplay, INTERTANKO newsletters, etc.
- ❑ Shipping associations.
- ❑ Ship registries, etc.

❑ Open sources

- ❑ Media. 
- ❑ News.
- ❑ Publications, etc.

Research Methodology

❑ Definitions:

- ❑ Piracy: Part VII ; Article 101 of UNCLOS
- ❑ Armed Robbery: IMO's Code of Practice for investigation of the Crime of Piracy & Armed Robbery against ships.

❑ Matrix-based assessment of incidents:

- ❑ Violence Factor
 - ❑ Types of weapons .
 - ❑ Treatment of crew.
 - ❑ Number of pirates/robbers involved.
- ❑ Economic Factor
 - ❑ Type of property taken.



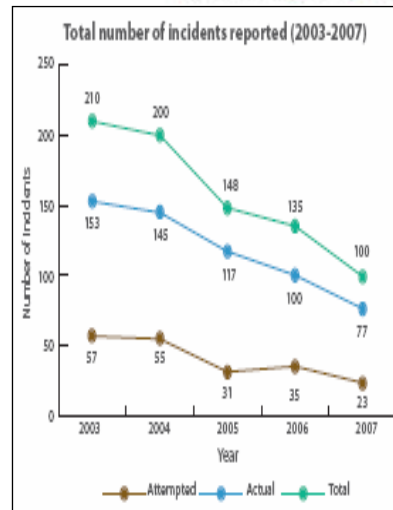
❑ Level of Significance:

- ❑ The ReCAAP ISC evaluates the significance of each incident based on its level of violence (V-factor) and the economic loss incurred (E-factor).

Category	Significance of Incident
CAT 1	Very Significant
CAT 2	Moderately Significant
CAT 3	Less Significant

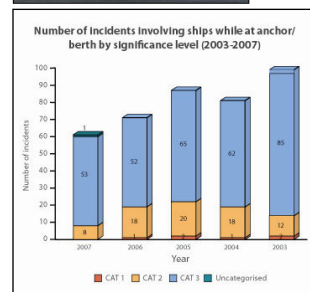
Trends from 2003-2007

- ❑ **Largest yearly decrease** in the number of reported incidents occurred in 2007.
- ❑ Overall, the nature of incidents in 2007 has **decreased in severity** compared to previous years.
- ❑ **Largest reduction** in the occurrence of moderately significant incidents (**CAT 2**) in 2007.



2003-2007 (Observations)

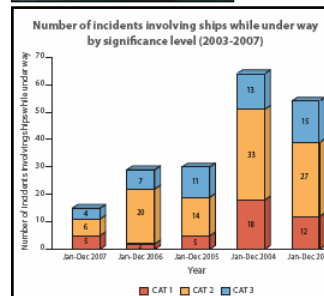
- ❑ **Characteristics - at Anchor / Berth**
 - ❑ Mostly CAT 3
 - ❑ Robbers armed with knives
 - ❑ In groups of one to six
 - ❑ Less violent and fled when detected
 - ❑ Stolen items:
Ship Stores, Engine Parts, Berthing Ropes
 - ❑ Occurring in darkness, poor visibility



2003-2007 (Observations)

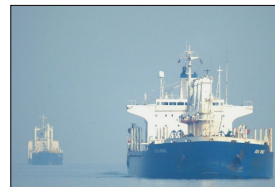
❑ Characteristics – Underway

- ❑ Mostly CAT 1 or CAT 2
- ❑ Exhibiting planning and well-organised
- ❑ Attackers armed with hand guns
- ❑ In groups of more than eight.
- ❑ May resort to violence when confronted.



2003-2007 (Observations)

- ❑ A **significant improvement** in the piracy and armed robbery situation in Asia (in 2007)
- ❑ Incidents involving **ships at anchor / berth** increased, but largely less significant
- ❑ **Improvements** most evident in Chittagong, Bangladesh and the Makassar Straits
- ❑ Seafarers faced decreased risk in incidents in 2007 due to **decreased in severity** and **level of significance**
- ❑ **Tankers** most frequent target versus Bulk Carriers previously



Conclusion



- ❑ ReCAAP a step closer in **enhancing regional co-operation** through
 - ❑ **Sharing of Information** through the ISC-Focal Point Network
 - ❑ Building on Contracting Parties' strength to share best practices through **Capacity Building** programme.
 - ❑ Engaging in **co-operative arrangement** activities to strengthen Focal Points ability to manage incidents at sea.

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Conclusion



- ❑ **Situation in Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia is improving**
- ❑ **Less Crime does not mean No Crime**
- ❑ **No time for Complacency**

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Have a Jolly Good Day !!



Anything I
can clarify ?



<http://www.recaap.org>

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