




INFORMATION FUSION CENTRE


MARSEC Weekly Report 09 – 15 May 20

 103 Tanah Merah Coast Road #02-01, Singapore 498750

 information_fusion_centre@defence.gov.sg

 +65 6594 5734

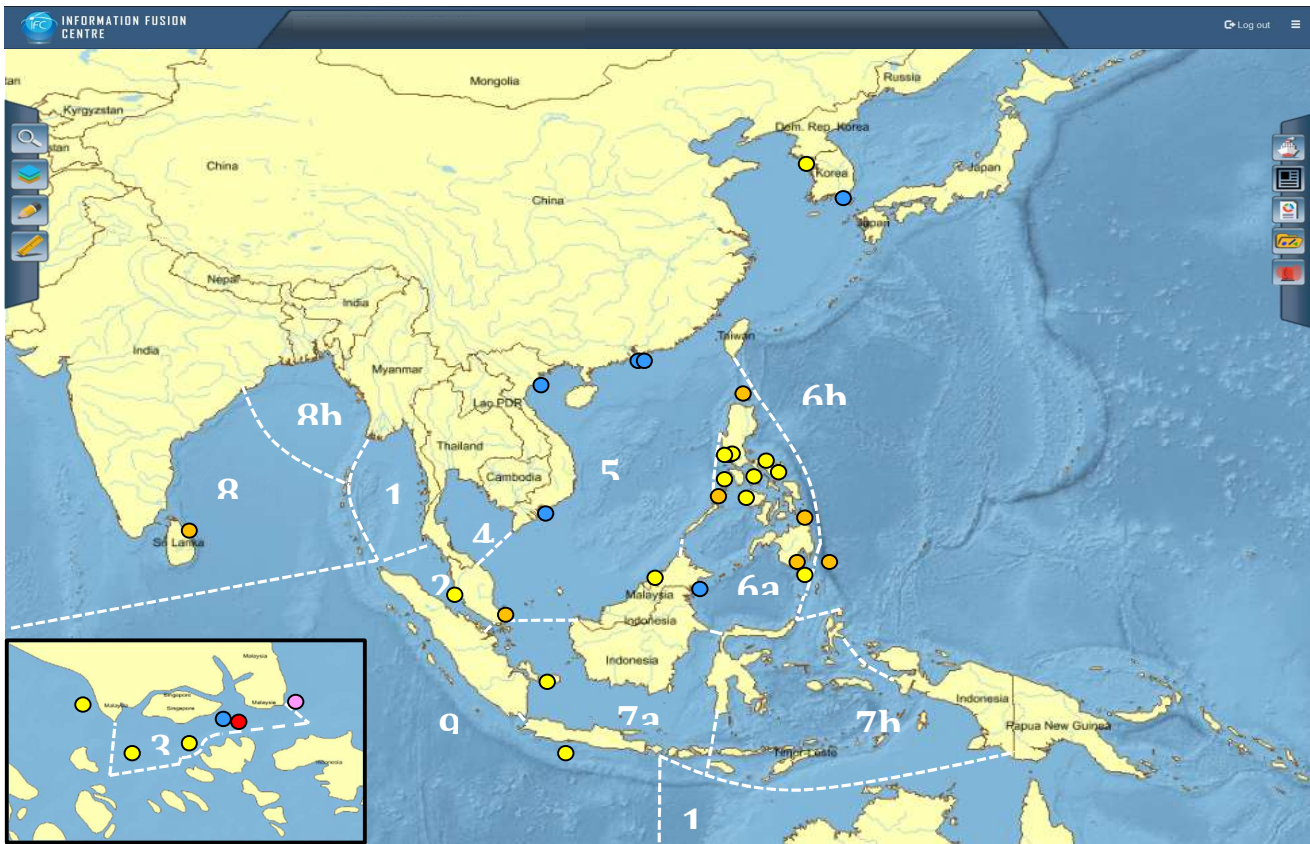
 www.ifc.org.sg

 +65 6594 5705

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OVERVIEW OF INCIDENTS IN THE IFC AREA OF INTEREST (AOI)



For the period from 09 to 15 May 20, the number of reported incidents within the IFC AOI are as follows:

Category	Number of Incidents	Page Reference
Theft, Robbery and Piracy at Sea (TRAPS)	1	2-3
Maritime Terrorism (MT)	0	4
Maritime Incidents (MI)	17	5-10
Illegal/ Unregulated/ Unreported Fishing (IUU)	7	11-12
Contraband/ Weapons Smuggling (CS)	7	13-14
Irregular Human Migration (IHM)	1	15
Others	0	16

SECTION A: THEFT, ROBBERY AND PIRACY AT SEA (TRAPS)

10 May - Sea Robbery/ Vega Aquarius/ Bulk Carrier/ Liberia Flagged/ Underway/ Eastbound lane of TSS, Singapore Strait/ DB110520

1. IFC has received information from POCC that a Liberia Island flagged bulk carrier, Vega Aquarius reported on VTIS Ch 10 that she was boarded by five armed perpetrators while underway (01 15.10N 104 05.48E) along Eastbound lane of Traffic Separation Scheme in Singapore Strait on 09 May at 2345LT (UTC + 8).

2. Vessel Details

- a. Name: Vega Aquarius
- b. Call sign: A8SX9
- c. IMO: 9429170
- d. MMSI: 636091790
- e. Flag: Liberia
- f. Type: Bulk Carrier
- g. Ship Owner: Vega Aquarius Schifffahrts
- h. Ship Operator/Manager: Vega-Reederei GmbH & Co KG
- i. LPOC: Singapore
- j. NPOC: China

3. Incident Details

The shipmaster reported that one of the ship crew was injured, however no assistance is required. The master conducted a search on board and no perpetrator was found. Two breathing apparatus and one handphone was reported lost. The vessel continued her journey to next port of call in China

IFC Comments:

RFI to company details of weapons, status of injured crew, other details

News Link(s)/Info Source:

MPA POCC



Information Update:

**25 Mar - Sea Theft/ Bateleur and Naashi/ Tug and Barge/ Panama Flagged/ Underway/
Alang Anchorage, India/ DB130520
(Update from DB100420)**

It has been reported that a jack up barge being towed by a tugboat for dismantling, was boarded by robbers at Alang anchorage. Four robbers, carrying torches boarded the barge from a small boat. The Master of the tugboat spotted the torch lights and the alarm was raised, resulting in the robbers escaping. The local Vessel Traffic Information Service were informed, who in turn reported the incident to the Indian Coast Guard. Local marine Police were then requested to send their vessels to the incident location by the Coast Guard station at Pipavav. It has been confirmed that the robbers have been arrested and the stolen items have been recovered.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

ReCAAP ISC & IFC-IOR



SECTION B: MARITIME TERRORISM (MT)

NSTR



SECTION C: MARITIME INCIDENTS (MI)

13 May - Mechanical Failure/ Damaged Main Shaft/ Fishing Vessel/ SAR/ Off Davao Occidental, Philippines/ DB150520

A Philippine Navy ship came to the aid of a local fishing boat that had become disabled at sea on Wednesday, 13 May 20.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.bairdmaritime.com/work-boat-world/maritime-security-world/naval/ships-naval/philippine-navy-corvette-assists-disabled-fishing-boat/>

12 May - Sunk-Capsized, Grounding/ Ebb Tide (Low water)/ Two Fishing Vessels/ SAR/ Off Yeonpeong Island, Republic of Korea/ DB150520

In waters near Republic of Korea's Yeonpyeong Island in the Yellow Sea, two empty Chinese fishing boats without crew members were stranded on a reef, but one sank.

IFC Comments:

This article was translated English by ROK ILO

News Link(s)/Info Source:

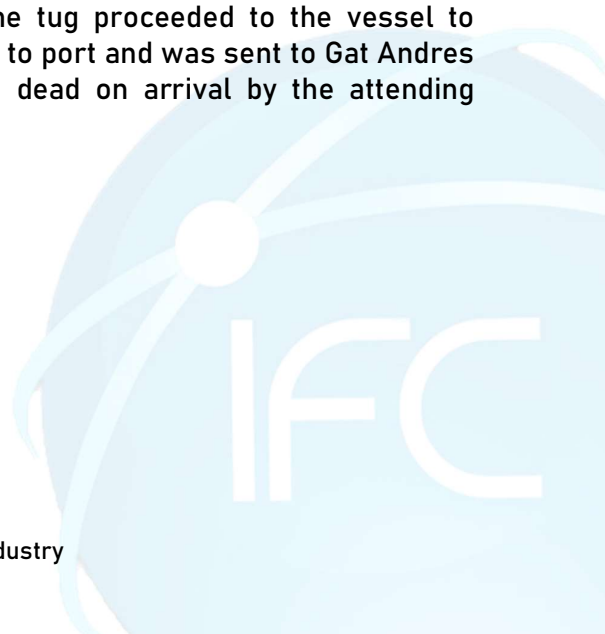
<https://www.yna.co.kr/view/AKR20200513092700065?section=search>

11 May - MEDEVAC/ Cause Unknown/ Cargo Ship/ One Dead/ SAR/ Off North Harbor, Manila, Philippines/ DB140520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that the Chief Engineer of a cargo vessel was medically evacuated by Coast Guard Sub-Station (CGSS) North Harbor SAR team off North Harbor, Manila on 11 May 20. Based on the report, the from representative of Moreta Shipping Lines, the Chief Engineer of their vessel was found breathless inside his cabin. CGSS North Harbor with Emergency Operation Center (EMOC) Manila North Harbor Port Inc., (MNHPI) medical team assisted the shipping company in securing appropriate medical clearance. The team onboard the tug proceeded to the vessel to extract the victim. The victim was extracted and return to port and was sent to Gat Andres Bonifacio Memorial Center. The victim was declared dead on arrival by the attending Physician.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center



11 May - MEDEVAC/ Orthopedic Disability/ Cruise Ship/ One Rescued/ SAR/ Off Sangley Point, Cavite City, Philippines/ DB140520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that an Indonesian ancillary crew was medically evacuated by Coast Guard Vessel BRP Tubbataha due to his Orthopedic disability problem off Sangley Point, Cavite City on 11 May 20.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center

11 May - MEDEVAC/ Hepatic Failure & Hernia vs Lymphadenopatt/ Cruise Ship/ Two Rescued/ SAR/ Off Sangley Point, Cavite City, Philippines/ DB140520

On the same operation, a Filipino and Georgian ancillary crew of a Cruise Ship was also medically evacuated by Coast Guard Vessel due to the Hepatic Failure and Hernia vs Lymphadenopatt respectively off Sangley Pt, Cavite City on 11 May 20. The patients were then brought to Manila Doctors Hospital for further proper medical attention.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center

11 May - Grounding/ Cause Unknown/ Tanker/ SAR/ Off Pelampung, Indonesia/ DB140520

On 9 May 20 at 15.00 LT (UTC+7) a tanker departed from Bangkok's Mahachai Port to Kantang - Thailand. On 12 May 20 it transited in the westbound of the Singapore Strait around 19.00 LT (UTC+7), then turn right to Takong Island for anchoring. But at 19.45 LT ship ran aground on the reef near Island of Pelampung (01 07.518' N - 103 41.929' E). The ship is still waiting for high tide to come out of shallowness / aground. Indonesian Navy and Indonesian Coast Guard are still in the area of this ship for monitoring. The investigator said that 5 of 7 crew do not have any passport.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Indonesian Sea and Coast Guard (Kesatuan Penjagaan Laut dan Pantai)

11 May - Grounding/ Cause Unknown/ Cargo Ship/ Mendanau Island, Indonesia/ DB120520

The Singapore-flagged cargo ship ran aground around the waters of Mendanau Island, Belitung Regency, Bangka Belitung Islands Province, with a temporary suspicion of the possibility of "human error".

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://bengkulu.antaranews.com/nasional/berita/1484284/@antarabengkulu>
[HTTPS://WWW.VESSELTRACKER.COM/EN/SHIPS/ASIA-PEARL-IV-9502764.HTML](https://www.vesseltracker.com/en/ships/asia-pearl-iv-9502764.html)



11 May - Grounding/ Cause Unknown/ Container Ship and Bulk Carrier/ Off Batu Berhenti Beacon, Singapore Strait/ DB110520

IFC received information from POCC that Iran Flagged container ship and Indonesia Flagged bulk carrier respectively went grounded off Batu Berhenti Beacon, Singapore Strait 01 11.116' N - 103 52.950' E on 11 May 20. The two vessels grounded in sequence and not simultaneous. POCC was warning container ship on collision avoidance but she ended up grounding. Shortly after, the bulk carrier grounded even after POCC gave navigation warning on MMS. Both vessels reported no assistance is required.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

POCC

10 May - Grounding/ Cause Unknown/ Passenger Ship/ Off Apo Reef, Sablayan Philippines/ DB150520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that a RoRo passenger vessel ran aground at in shallow waters off Apo Reef, Sablayan or at Lat 12.72883 Deg N, Long 120.47984 Deg E on 10 May 20 at 1030LT. Based on the report, the vessel was enroute from Sablayan Port enroute to Coron, Palawan when she ran aground. The Master of the vessel was advised by Coast Guard Sub-Station Sablayan to file a Marine Protest and to secure a certificate of seaworthiness from the Maritime Industry Authority.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center

10 May - Vessel Detained/ Maritime Safety Violations/ Small Boat/ Off Vinzons, Camarines Norte, Philippines/ DB140520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that a motor banca was apprehended and released off Vinzons, Camarines Norte by Coast Guard Sub-Station Vinzons maritime law enforcement team after the issuance of Enforcement Inspection Apprehension Report for the following maritime safety violations on 10 May 20:

- a. Leaving Port Without PCG Clearance;
- b. Failure to Submit Masters Declaration of Safe Departure;
- c. No Boat Captain license

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center



10 May - Vessel Detained/ Unauthorized Anchoring/ Crude Oil Tanker/ Off Pulau Kukup, Malaysia/ DB130520

IFC received information from Malaysia ILO that a Crude Oil Tanker with 26 crew (11 Indian, 1 Pakistani & 14 Filipino) onboard was apprehended by MMEA, 2nm off Pulau Kukup, Johor (01 18.4000N 103 23.023E) under the MSO 1952 for anchoring without permission on 10 May 20 at 2200 (UTC +8). Master brought to MMEA HQ, Johor for further investigations.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

MMEA Johor OPCEN

10 May - MEDEVAC/ Stroke/ Bulk Carrier/ One Dead/ Off Cilacap, Java, Indonesia/ DB130520

Master of a bulk carrier, berthed at Cilacap, southern Java, died on May 10 sitting in his chair. Understood 52-year old Master died from some kind of stroke or attack, and so-called coronavirus has nothing to do with it.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<http://www.maritimebulletin.net/2020/05/12/master-of-bulk-carrier-died-in-his-chair/>

09 May - Sunk-Capsized/ Caused Unknown/ Small Boat/ Three Rescued/ SAR/ Off Pulau Sembilan, Lumut Perak, Malaysia/ DB110520

Three local fishermen were nearly died when water ingress into their fiber boat off Pulau Sembilan, Lumut, Perak early morning of 8 May.

IFC Comments:

This article has been translated by Malaysia ILO

News Link(s)/Info Source:

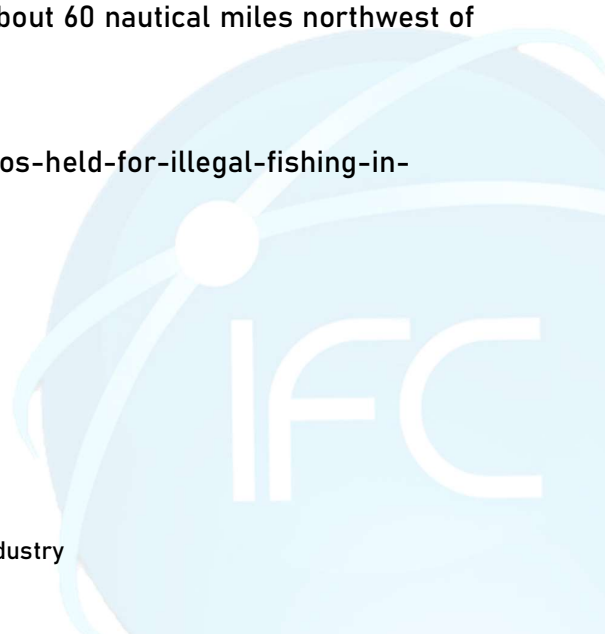
<https://www.facebook.com/maritimmalaysia/posts/2937369009688328>

09 May - Vessels Detained/ Violation of Safety Regulations/ Two Fishing Vessels, Seven Small Boats/ Off Labuan, Malaysia/ DB110520

The Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) Labuan Zone arrested 14 people, nine of whom are Filipinos for fishing at the Kikeh oil rig, about 60 nautical miles northwest of Labuan, on Thursday.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://borneobulletin.com.bn/14-including-nine-filipinos-held-for-illegal-fishing-in-waters-off-labuan-oil-rig/>



Events Outside of the Reporting Period:

08 May - Vessel Detained/ Maritime Safety Violations/ Fishing Vessel/ Legaspi Fish Port, Albay, Philippines/ DB140520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that a fishing banca was apprehended and released by Coast Guard Station Albay maritime law enforcement team after the issuance of Enforcement Inspection Apprehension Report at Legaspi Fish Port in Legaspi, Albay for the following maritime safety violations on 08 May 20:

- a. Without Certificate of Number;
- b. Failure to comply with the minimum manning requirement; and
- c. Without Tonnage Measurement Certificate

The owner of the fishing banca was advised to rectify the violations at the nearest Maritime Industry Authority Office before resuming their operation

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center

08 May - Sunk-Capsized/ Rough Seas/ Small Boat/ One Missing, Five Rescued/ SAR/ Off Caluya, Antique, Philippines/ DB110520

A police officer remains missing, while five others were rescued, after an escort boat serving as security for another group delivering relief goods for quarantine-affected communities capsized in Caluya town, Antique province Friday morning.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://news.mb.com.ph/2020/05/08/1-cop-missing-5-rescued-as-escort-boat-delivering-relief-goods-capsizes/>

<https://www.facebook.com/coastguardph/>

04 May - Work Accident, MEDEVAC/ Eye Problem/ Tanker/ One Rescued/ SAR/ Manila Bay Anchorage Area, Philippines/ DB120520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that a Filipino national crew of a LPG Tanker was medically evacuated by CGSS South Harbor at South Harbor, Manila Bay Anchorage Area.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://borneobulletin.com.bn/14-including-nine-filipinos-held-for-illegal-fishing-in-waters-off-labuan-oil-rig/>



Information Update:

**12 May - Grounding/ Cause Unknown/ Container Ship and Bulk Carrier/ Off Batu Berhenti Beacon, Singapore Strait/ DB130520
(Information Update from DB110520)**

Bulk carrier was refloated at around 2300 (UTC+7) May 11, taken to nearby Batam Anchorage, anchored. The container ship as of 1520 (UTC+7) May 12 remained aground, and judging from latest available photos, it seems like she broke in two in midship area, hull having vertical cracks both portside and stb, throughout freeboard and below waterline.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<http://www.maritimebulletin.net/2020/05/11/iranian-container-ship-and-indo-bulk-carrier-collision-and-grounding-singapore-strait-video/>

**11 May - Collision, Sunk-Capsized/ Cause Unknown/ General Cargo Ship vs Fishing Vessel/ Six Rescued/ Off Binh Thuan, Vietnam/ DB120520
(Information Update from DB050520)**

The owner of a Philippine cargo ship has paid \$45,000 in compensation to a Vietnamese fisherman for ramming and sinking his boat on May 1. The owner of the fishing boat, said last Saturday he had received the money from the owner of the freighter White To Mony.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/philippine-shipping-company-pays-45-000-for-sinking-vietnamese-boat-4097419.html>

**08 May - Collision/ Cause Unknown/ Tugboat vs Chemical Tanker/ Two Dead, Four Rescued/ SAR/ SW of Pu Pawai, Singapore/ DB110520
(Information Update from DB070219)**

In a manoeuvre that the prosecution likened to cutting across lanes in an expressway, the chief officer of a tugboat towed a poorly lit barge across a busy sea channel when he did not have the right of way, causing a collision with a tanker that drowned two men.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/tugboat-chief-officer-jailed-over-collision-at-sea-that-drowned-12715590>



SECTION D: ILLEGAL/ UNREGULATED/ UNREPORTED FISHING (IUU)

12 May - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Four Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off Igacos, Davao Del Norte, Philippines/ DB150520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that four fishermen onboard a fishing banca was apprehended by Task Unit-2 for fishing without permit inside the municipal waters off Igacos, Davao Del Norte on 12 May 20.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center

11 May - Poaching/ Two Vietnamese Fishing Vessels Released/ 25 Foreign Fishermen Released/ Illegal Fishing/ Off Kemaman, Malaysia/ DB130520

Based on a public report received by the Terengganu Maritime Operations Center (PUSOP) at 8:00 am on May 11, a group of Vietnamese fishing boats were located at 56 to 60 nautical miles east of Kemaman around the Terengganu-Pahang water border.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=agensi%20penguatkuasaan%20maritim%20malaysia&epa=SEARCH_BOX

09 May - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained / Three Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing Methods/ Off Trincomalee, Sri Lanka/ DB110520

Sri Lankan Navy apprehended 3 persons who engaged in illegal fishing blasting explosive, during a search operation carried out at Malaimunthal sea area in Trincomalee on 9 May 20.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://news.navy.lk/eventnews/2020/05/10/202005101215/>

Events Outside of the Reporting Period:

05 May - Poaching/ One Filipino Fishing Vessel Detained/ Eight Foreign Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off North Sulawesi, Indonesia/ DB130520

Philippine-flagged foreign fishing vessels conducting illegal fishing practices in the Republic of Indonesia's Fisheries Management Area (WPP-NRI) were arrested.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.antaranews.com/berita/1486484/kapal-ikan-filipina-dibekuk-saat-illegal-fishing-di-laut-sulawesi>

05 May - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Three Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off Sabtang, Batanes, Philippines/ DB120520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that three fishermen onboard a motor banca were apprehended by joint maritime law enforcement team of Coast Guard Sub-Station Sabtang, local police and local government unit for fishing without appropriate permits off Ivuhus Island, Sabtang, Batanes 05 May 20.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center

04 May - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Four Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing Methods/ Off Placer, Surigao Del Norte, Philippines/ DB120520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that four fishermen onboard a motor banca were apprehended by joint maritime law enforcement team of Coast Guard Sub-Station Placer and local police for illegally fishing using unauthorized fish nets off Barangay Central, Placer, Surigao Del Norte on 04 May 2020.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center

04 May - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ 26 Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off Linapacan, Palawan, Philippines/ DB120520

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that 26 fishermen onboard fishing vessel were apprehended by joint maritime law enforcement team of Coast Guard Sub-Station Linapacan and local government unit for unauthorized fishing inside the municipal waters of Linapacan, Palawan (11 43N 119 38E) on 04 May 20.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

Philippines Coast Guard Command Center



SECTION E: CONTRABAND AND WEAPONS SMUGGLING (CS)

13 May - Tobacco/ Cigarette (640,000 Packs)/ From Cambodia to Republic of Korea/ Container Ship/ Busan New Port, Republic of Korea/ DB150520

Republic of Korea (ROK) Customs have caught a group of people who smuggled Korean cigarettes, legitimately exported to Southeast Asia, into ROK by disguising them as transshipment cargo.

IFC Comments:

This article was translated English by ROK ILO

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.yna.co.kr/view/AKR20200513046700051?section=search>

<http://www.busan.com/view/busan/view.php?code=2020051319323954822>

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20200513000678>

12 May - Tobacco/ Cigarettes (11,180 Cartons)/ Container Ship/ To Singapore/ Singapore/ DB140520

The Singapore authorities have seized more than 11,180 cartons and 200 sticks of contraband cigarettes that were hidden in a container shipment.

IFC Comments:

IFC has verified the incident with Singapore Immigration Customs Authority that the vessel's Last Port of Call was from Cambodia. Investigation is still ongoing.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

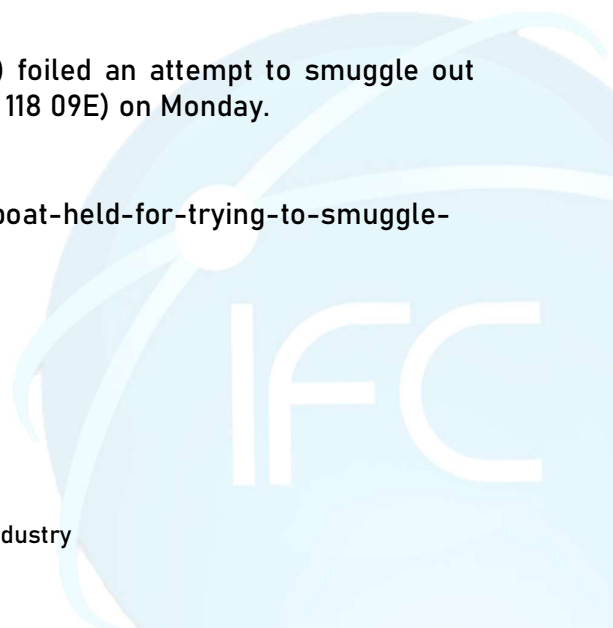
<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/courts-crime/11180-cartons-of-contraband-cigarettes-seized-more-than-1-million-in-duty-and>
Singapore Immigration Customs Authority

11 May - Domestic Product/ Gas (7 Cylinders)/ Small Boat/ From Malaysia/ Off Tawau, Malaysia/ DB140520

The Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) foiled an attempt to smuggle out seven gas cylinders via Sungai Tawau waters, (04 00N 118 09E) on Monday.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<http://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news/152518/cargo-boat-held-for-trying-to-smuggle-out-gas-cylinders-/>



11 May - Domestic Product/ Frozen Meat (9 Tonnes)/ Fishing Vessel/ From Hong Kong/ off Lung Kwu, Hong Kong/ DB130520

Customs said today in a joint operation with the Marine Police to combat smuggling activities yesterday, they seized nine tons of smuggled frozen meat, worth about HK\$300,000 (US\$38,700) on board a fishing vessel and arrested two men aged 46 and 56.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.thestandard.com.hk/breaking-news/section/4/147150/Two-held-over-nine-tons-of-smuggled-frozen-meat>

10 May - Fuel/ Oil (40,000kg)/ Tanker/ To Vietnam/ Off Hai Phong, Vietnam/ DB140520

The Vietnam Coast Guard on Monday (11 May) said its Coast Guard Region 1 team has remanded 40,000 kg of undocumented fuel oil while on patrol on Sunday evening.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/vietnam-coast-guard-detains-unnamed-tanker-carrying-40000-kg-of-undocumented-fo/>

09 May - Domestic Product/ Ginseng (34 Tonnes)/ Fishing Vessel/ From Hong Kong To China/ Off Hong Kong/ DB110520

Hong Kong authorities have seized 34 tonnes of American ginseng worth HK\$47 million (US\$6 million) and arrested seven people in what is by far the biggest-ever bust of its kind in the city.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3083655/biggest-ginseng-seizure-hong-kong-history-nets-hk47>

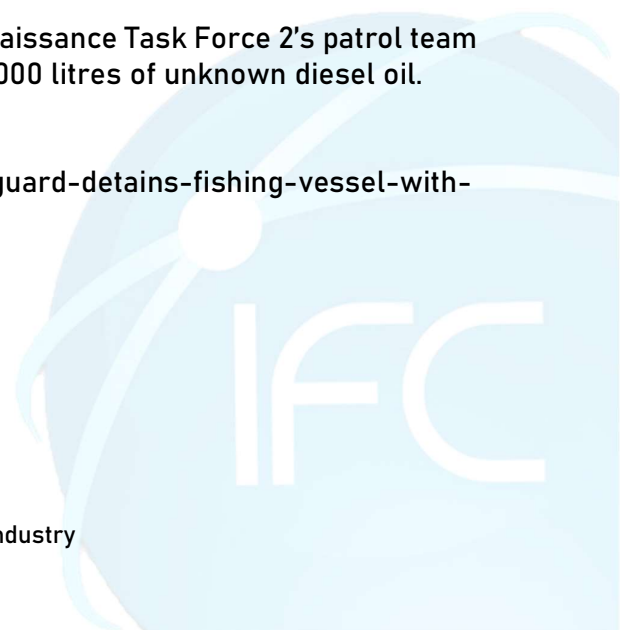
Events Outside of the Reporting Period:

06 May - Fuel/ Diesel Oil (50,000 Litres)/ Fishing Vessel/ To Vietnam/ Off Soc Trang, Vietnam/ DB120520

Vietnam Coast Guard on Friday (8 May) said its Reconnaissance Task Force 2's patrol team has detained a fishing vessel ST 92627 TS carrying 50,000 litres of unknown diesel oil.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.manifoldtimes.com/news/vietnam-coastguard-detains-fishing-vessel-with-50000-litres-of-undocumented-diesel-oil/>



SECTION F: IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION (IHM)

07 May – Human Trafficking/ 14 Indonesian, Two Bangladesh and Two Unknown Migrants/ Small Boat/ From Malaysia To Indonesia/ Off Johor, Malaysia/ DB130520

Johor police have arrested 30 suspects involved in cross-border human trafficking involving immigrants from Indonesia.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/05/12/johor-cops-arrest-30-for-cross-border-human-trafficking>

Information Update:

07 May - Human Smuggling/ 280 Rohingya going to Malaysia/ Trawler/ To Bangladesh/ Off Pulau Langkawi, Malaysia/ DB150520 (Information Update from DB170420)

Around 280 starving Rohingya stranded on a cramped boat in the Bay of Bengal for weeks have been spotted by the Bangladesh Navy and are being taken to a controversial flood-prone island, officials said Thursday.

News Link(s)/Info Source:

<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/world/2020/05/07/some-280-malaysia-bound-rohingya-redirected-to-bangladeshi-island/>

<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/world/2020/05/08/bangladesh-quarantines-hundreds-of-rohingya-boat-people-on-island---officials>



SECTION G: OTHERS

NSTR



IFC RECOMMENDATIONS

IFC advises:

1. All mariners to report any incidents timely to the nearest coastal state and to the IFC at the earliest possible time.
2. Ships moving at slow speed or are choosing to remain at anchor in areas where sea robbery/theft is regularly reported should remain vigilant and adopt necessary and/or added security measures.
3. All mariners to take note on the description of the perpetrators and to take photos of the perpetrators if possible. Where available, CCTV footage capturing the incident should be provided to the coastal state authorities for follow-on investigation.
4. Shippers and Seafarers operating in the Sulu-Celebes seas are strongly recommended to be vigilant and to establish contact with the Philippines, Malaysian and Indonesian Authorities to report their presence. Please refer to IFC Spot Commentary 4/18 for the latest assessment of the situation in that affected area.
5. Shippers are advised to take note that the threat of terrorist activity in the maritime domain remains a possibility in the region due to ISIS and the Al-Qaeda. The possibility of this threat was previously quoted in Al-Qaeda's online magazine "Resurgence", which called for the disruption of global trade and shipping through acts of piracy, among other tactics. Shippers are therefore advised to exercise vigilance and to adopt self-defensive measures as stated in the Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, especially when transiting narrow choke points and areas which are known to have experienced incidents of sea robbery/piracy.



PAST IFC SPOT COMMENTARIES

2019

IFC SPOT COMMENTARY 3/19 – Observations of Sea Robbery, Sea Theft and Attempted Actions Incidents in Singapore Strait and Approaches

IFC Spot Commentary 2/19 – Observations of TRAPS incidents in the Southern Approaches-South China Sea (SCS) since 31 May to 26 Sep 2019

IFC Spot Commentary 1/19 – Observations of TRAPS incidents in the area off Tg Piai, Malaysia/Western Approaches-Singapore Strait since 1 January to 27 May 2019

2018

IFC Spot Commentary 4/18 – Observations between 5 to 8 December for incidents in the Sulu-Celebes Sea/Eastern Sabah

IFC Spot Commentary 3/18 – Kidnapping Incident of Two Crew on Fishing Vessel “DWIJAYA 1”, Off Semporna.

IFC Spot Commentary 2/18 – Attempted Actions on Tug boat “EVER ALPHA”, Pulau Tambisan, Malaysia.

IFC Spot Commentary 1/18 – Observations on Sea Theft and Robberies recorded in Singapore Strait and its approaches – January to December 2017.

2017

IFC Spot Commentary 5/17 – Abduction of 5 Local Fishermen off Poblacion coast, Pangutaran, Sulu, Philippines.

IFC Spot Commentary 4/17 – Attempted Piracy / Oil Siphoning Incident on Oil Tanker MT MGT 1, Malaysia.

IFC Spot Commentary 3/17 – Abduction of Crew from SUPER SHUTTLE TUGBOAT 1, Basilan Strait.

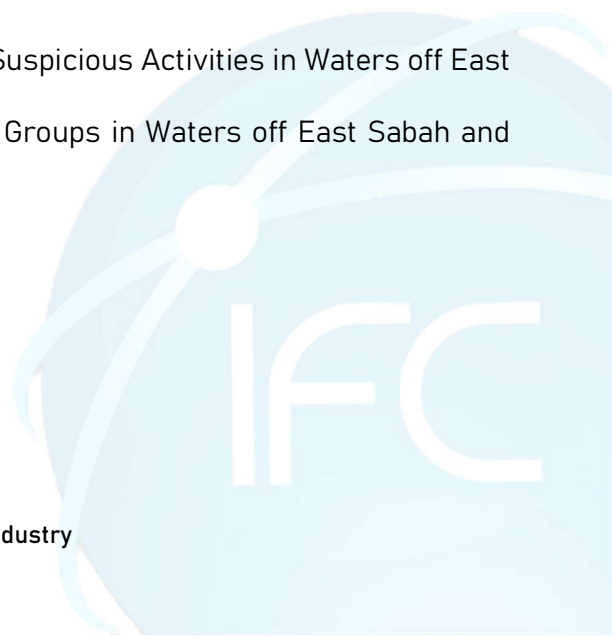
IFC Spot Commentary 2/17 – Abduction of Crew of Giang Hai off Sibutu Passage.

IFC Spot Commentary 1/17 – Kidnapping, Harassment and Suspicious Activities in Waters off East Sabah and Southern Philippines.

2016

IFC Spot Commentary 2/16 – Kidnapping, Harassment and Suspicious Activities in Waters off East Sabah and Southern Philippines.

IFC Spot Commentary 1/16 – Kidnapping at Sea by Armed Groups in Waters off East Sabah and Southern Philippines.




Note: Information herein were derived from various internal and external sources such as Focal Points, OPCENs and other maritime stakeholders. Seafarers should remain vigilant especially in areas where the threat level is assessed to be of concern in accordance with the IFC's Assessments via its Weekly Report or Spot Commentaries. Ships should apply the appropriate security measures (such as Tugs and Barge Guide, Guide for Tankers Operating in Asia, or Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia). Ship masters should also be aware and refer to the Maritime Security Charts Q6112 and Q6113, both published by the UK Hydrographic Office.




SAFE AND SECURE SEAS FOR ALL

 103 Tanah Merah Coast Road #02-01, Singapore 498750

 information_fusion_centre@defence.gov.sg

 +65 6594 5734

 www.ifc.org.sg

 +65 6594 5705

 http://bit.ly/Information_Fusion_Centre

 https://twitter.com/Info_Fusion_Ctr