





INFORMATION FUSION CENTRE

MARSEC Weekly Report 31 Oct - 06 Nov 20

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



For the period from 31 Oct - 06 Nov 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)	0	2
Maritime Terrorism (MT)	1	3
Maritime Incidents (MI)	11	4-7
Illegal/ Unregulated/ Unreported Fishing (IUU)	5	8-9
Contraband/ Weapons Smuggling (CS)	9	10-12
Irregular Human Migration (IHM)	0	13
Others	0	14

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

NSTR



SECTION B: MARITIME TERRORISM (MT)

03 Nov - Counter Maritime Terrorism/ Seven Abu Sayyaf Members Killed/ Small Boat/ Off Sulare Island, Parang, Sulu, Philippines/ DB041120

Seven members of Abu Sayyaf group were killed in a clash with government troops in the Sulu Sea on 03 Nov.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.cnnphilippines.com/regional/2020/11/3/Abu-Sayyaf-members-Sawadjaan-Sulu-Sea.html>



SECTION C: MARITIME INCIDENTS (MI)

04 Nov – MOB/ Cause Unknown/ Fishing Vessel/ One Missing/ SAR/ Off Kuantan, Malaysia/ DB061120

A fisherman was reported to have fallen from a boat while fishing and was feared to have drowned about 24 nautical miles East of Kuantan at 1030 (UTC+8) on 04 Nov.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/maritimmalaysia/posts/3441348005957090>

04 Nov – Allision/ Cause Unknown/ Container Ship vs Wharf/ Off Hiroshima, Japan/ DB061120

On 04 Nov, a container ship allided with a wharf in the port of Hiroshima.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.vesseltracker.com/en/Ships/Reflection-9291339.html>

03 Nov – Fire-Explosion, Sunk-Capsized/ Gasoline Leakage/ Fishing Vessel/ 22 Rescued/ SAR/ Off Socorro, Surigao del Norte, Philippines/ DB061120

22 fishermen were rescued by the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) in Surigao City after their fishing boat caught fire and sank off the coast of Surigao del Norte province on 03 Nov.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/pilipinews/posts/1791812497624026>

02 Nov – Others/ Natural Disaster/ TYPHOON GONI/ Container Ship/ Off San Luis, Batangas, Philippines/ DB061120

A container went adrift and ran aground due to strong winds by the typhoon Goni on 02 Nov.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.vesseltracker.com/en/Ships/Mv-West-Ocean-3-I2081582.html>

31 Oct – Allision/ Cause Unknown/ Fishing Vessel vs Pier/ Three Dead, 19 Rescued/ SAR/ Off Anmyeon Island, ROK/ DB021120

Three South Koreans were killed and 19 others were injured after their fishing boat collided with a bridge pier on the country's west coast earlier on 31 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2020/10/113_298536.html

<https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20201031001451320>



31 Oct – MOB, Sunk-Capsized/ Bad Weather/ Small Boat/ Two Rescued/ SAR/ Off Bataraza, Palawan, Philippines/ DB021120

Authorities immediately responded and rescued the reported capsized small boat which resulted to the recovery of two crew off Bataraza, Palawan, Philippines, on 31 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/HeadquartersMaritimeGroup/posts/1024132181382863>

Events Outside of the Reporting Period:

30 Oct – MOB/ Cause Unknown/ Passenger Ship/ One Missing/ SAR/ Sunda Strait, Indonesia/ DB041120

A passenger of the Passenger Ship suddenly jumped into the sea in the Sunda Strait on 30 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.tribunnews.com/regional/2020/10/31/seorang-penumpang-kmp-nusa-jaya-tiba-tiba-terjun-ke-laut-di-selat-sund>

30 Oct – MEDEVAC/ Stomach Ache/ Fishing Vessel/ One Dead/ Off Phang-nga, Thailand/ DB031120

On 30 Oct 20, 1330 (UTC +7), THAI-MECC 3rd Area Command commenced a MEDEVAC for a fisherman died on a fishing boat during the fishing venture off Phang-nga, Thailand.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/526943267654710/posts/1264581477224215/?d=n>

30 Oct – Sunk-Capsized/ Rough Seas/ Fishing Vessel/ One Dead, Four Rescued/ SAR/ Off Kanyakumari District, India/ DB021120

A fisherman was missing while four others escaped with injuries when their boat capsized after being caught in a huge wave at the entrance of the Thengapattanam fishing harbour in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu on 30 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/madurai/fisherman-missing-after-boat-capsizes-off-thengapattanam-harbour-in-tn/articleshow/78952752.cms>

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/body-of-missing-tn-fisherman-found/articleshow/78967922.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst



30 Oct – Others/ Fallen into Sea/ One Dead, One Missing/ SAR/ Off Pulau Sebatik, Malaysia/ DB021120

A boy and a girl aged five and eight respectively were feared drowned after they were believed to have fallen into the sea at the Teck Guan Long Jetty, Kg Bergosong, Pulau Sebatik, on 30 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/maritimmalaysia/posts/3428656927226198>

<https://www.facebook.com/maritimmalaysia/posts/3431188053639752>

<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/11/01/body-of-five-year-old-recovered-in-waters-off-sabah-elder-sibling-still-missing>

28 Oct – Mechanical Failure/ Engine Failure/ Fishing Vessel/ Four Rescued/ SAR/ Off Katchatheevu, Sri Lanka/ DB021120

Four crew were rescued after their fishing boat drifted into Sri Lankan waters due to a technical snag on 28 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://zeenews.india.com/india/adrift-in-sri-lankan-waters-boat-carrying-four-indian-fishermen-rescued-2321259.html>

<https://menafn.com/1101044821/Four-Indian-fishermen-rescued-Indian-Coast-Guard>

<https://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/adrift-indian-fishermen-rescued-from-katchatheevu/1967409>

Information Update:

27 Oct – Others/ Natural Disaster/ Typhoon MOLAVE/ Fishing Vessel/ 11 Missing, Three Rescued/ SAR/ Off Hon Tre Island, Khanh Hoa, Vietnam/ DB061120
(Information Update from DB291020)

Three of the 14 fishermen have been rescued by a cargo vessel on 29 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://sggpnews.org.vn/national/fishermen-forced-to-survive-on-styrofoam-rainwater-after-boat-wreck-89170.html>

26 Oct – Others/ Natural Disaster/ Typhoon MOLAVE/ Two Passenger Vessels/ 44 Rescued/ SAR/ Off Mabini, Batangas, Philippines/ DB031120
(Information Update from DB271020)

Philippine Navy ILO updated that 44 people were rescued.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

Philippine Navy OPCEN



13 Oct – Grounding/ Anchor Dragging, Bad Weather/ Cargo Ship/ 15 Rescued/ SAR/ Off Visakhapatnam, India/ DB021120
(Information Update from DB291020)

The process of removing the fuel and other oils from the 3000-tonne Bangladeshi ship that ran aground near Tennesi Park in Visakhapatnam on 13 Oct, is nearing completion. It is likely to come to an end by 01 Nov 20.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/andhra-pradesh/removal-of-oil-from-distressed-ship-nearing-completion/article32993712.ece>

27 Oct – Others/ Natural Disaster/ Typhoon MOLAVE/ Fishing Vessel/ 11 Missing, Three Rescued/ SAR/ Off Hon Tre Island, Khanh Hoa, Vietnam/ DB021120
(Information Update from DB291020)

Three of 14 fishermen who had been aboard the boat that sank on 27 Oct, in Storm Molave have been rescued by a Hong Kong cargo vessel.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/hong-kong-cargo-ship-saves-three-vietnamese-fishermen-after-boat-sinks-in-storm-4184355.html>



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

31 Oct - Poaching/ Two Malaysian Fishing Vessels Detained/ Eight Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off North Sumatra, Indonesia/ DB041120

Local authorities arrested two foreign fishing vessels that were fishing illegally in Indonesian waters around Malacca Straits.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://money.kompas.com/read/2020/11/03/102118926/kkp-tangkap-2-kapal-maling-ikan-asal-malaysia-yang-diawaki-8-wni>

31 Oct - Local/ Two Fishing Vessels Detained/ Two Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing Methods/ Off Babatngon, Leyte, Philippines/ DB031120

Philippine police arrested two persons in separate anti-illegal fishing operations off Babatngon, Leyte on 31 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1875429/Tacloban/Local-News/2-arrested-over-illegal-fishing-in-Leyte>

Events Outside of the Reporting Period:

29 Oct - Poaching/ Two Vietnamese Fishing Vessels Detained/ 25 Foreign Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off Riau Islands, Indonesia/ DB031120

Local authorities detained two foreign fishing vessels and arrested 25 foreign fishermen for encroaching into Indonesian waters off Riau Islands on 29 Oct

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

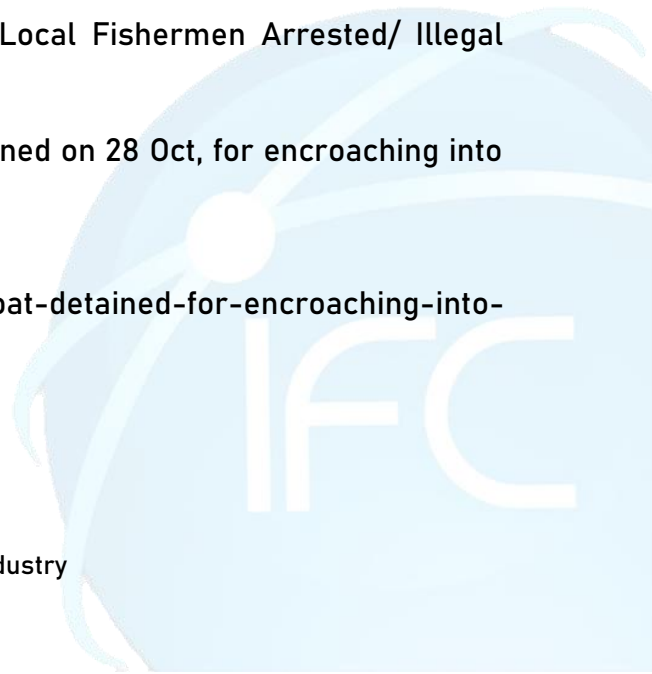
<https://nasional.kompas.com/read/2020/10/30/12580051/bakamla-kembali-tangkap-2-kapal-vietnam-pencuri-ikan-vietnam-di-natuna?page=all>

28 Oct - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Five Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off Kuala Niah, Malaysia/ DB021120

A local fishing boat with five crew members was detained on 28 Oct, for encroaching into a restricted fishing zone off Kuala Niah, Malaysia.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.theborneopost.com/2020/10/30/fishing-boat-detained-for-encroaching-into-restricted-fishing-zone/>



28 Oct – Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Three Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off Barangay Odiongan, San Dionisio, Iloilo, Philippines/ DB021120

Three individuals were arrested in Barangay Odiongan, San Dionisio, Iloilo, Philippines, for illegal fishing on 28 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.panaynews.net/3-persons-nabbed-for-illegal-fishing/>



SECTION E: CONTRABAND AND WEAPONS SMUGGLING (CS)

05 Nov – Drugs/ Cannabis (213kg)/ Small Boat/ To Sri Lanka/ Off Vettalakeni, Sri Lanka/ DB061120

Local authorities arrested two suspects attempting to smuggle about 213kg of Kerala cannabis worth over Rs. 63 million (US\$851,581) into Sri Lanka by sea.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://news.navy.lk/oparation-news/2020/11/05/202011051630/>

31 Oct – Domestic Products/ Turmeric (1600kg)/ Two Small Boats/ To Sri Lanka/ Off Periyapadu Beach, Sri Lanka/ DB021120

The Sri Lankan Navy managed to seize over 1600kg of smuggled dried turmeric and apprehend 16 suspects involved in the racketeering, during special operations conducted in Northwestern and North Central Naval Commands on 31 Oct 20.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://news.navy.lk/oparation-news/2020/11/01/202011011030/>

Events Outside of the Reporting Period:

29 Oct – Drugs/ Meth (500kg)/ Container Ship/ To Australia/ Hong Kong Port/ DB041120

Hong Kong authorities seized over half a ton of meth on 29 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/covid-19-hong-kong-record-meth-bust-smuggling-routes-13441228>

<https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/hong-kong-seizes-half-a-ton-of-meth-from-vietnam-4186096.html>

30 Sep – Tobacco/ Cigarettes (1,198 boxes)/ Container Ship/ From China to Philippines/ Off Manila, Philippines/ DB041120

1,198 boxes of smuggled cigarettes worth P60 million (US\$1,241,502) from China were intercepted at Manila International Container Port on 30 Sep.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://mb.com.ph/2020/11/03/p60-m-smuggled-cigarettes-from-china-intercepted-in-micp/>



30 Oct – Tobacco/ Cigarettes (70,390 sticks)/ Container Ship/ From Dubai to India/ Off Navi, Mumbai, India/ DB031120

Local authorities intercepted a container at Nhava Sheva in Navi Mumbai on 30 Oct and seized 7,039,000 sticks of smuggled foreign-brand cigarettes valued at ₹14 crore (US\$1,874,539).

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/70-lakh-smuggled-foreign-brand-cigarettes-worth-14-crore-seized-from-navi-mumbai-port/story-duD2rEKGYhsNG1RMI7iDvN.html>

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/78991128.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

30 Oct – Domestic Products/ Turmeric (508kg)/ Small Boat/ To Sri Lanka/ Off Mannar, Sri Lanka/ DB021120

The Sri Lankan Navy managed to seize over 508kg of smuggled dried turmeric and apprehend 16 suspects involved in the racketeering, during special operations conducted in Northwestern and North Central Naval Commands on 30 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://news.navy.lk/operation-news/2020/11/01/202011011030/>

29 Oct – Drugs/ Ketum Leaves (1.21 tonnes)/ From Malaysia to Thailand/ Off Kuala Sanglang, Malaysia/ DB021120

An attempt to smuggle out 1.21 tonnes of ketum leaves by a group of smugglers failed when their activities were successfully thwarted by local authorities around Kuala Sanglang waters on 29 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/maritimmalaysia/posts/3425616177530273>

29 Oct – Tobacco/ Cigarettes (19,000 Cartons)/ Three Passenger Vessels/ To Malaysia/ Off Kuala Besut, Malaysia/ DB021120

Local authorities seized three passenger boats and 19,000 cartons of white cigarettes, worth about RM3.9 million (US\$938,741), in an operation in Besut on 29 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://www.nst.com.my/news/crime-courts/2020/10/636678/about-rm39-million-smuggled-contrabands-seized>

29 Oct – Drugs/ Cannabis (82.4kg)/ Small Boat/ To Sri Lanka/ Off Krainagar, Sri Lanka/ DB021120

Local authorities seized one small boat and 4 sacks full of cannabis off Krainagar, Sri Lanka, on 29 Oct.

News Link(s)/ Info Source:

<https://news.navy.lk/oparation-news/2020/10/31/202010311030/>



SECTION F: IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION (IHM)

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SECTION G: OTHERS

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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, Malaysia and Indonesia 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

2020

Analyst Journal 2/20 - Observations of Rohingya Migrants' Movement within the IFC Area of Interest (AOI)

Analyst Journal 1/20 - Sea Robberies, Sea Thefts and Attempted Actions in the Singapore Strait and Approaches

IFC SPOT COMMENTARY 01/20 - Observations of Sea Robbery, Sea Theft and Attempted Actions Incidents in Manilla and Batangas anchorage.

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.




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