

A Coordinated Approach to Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships: A Flag State's Perspective

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Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships



- Multi-faceted nature of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- Impossible for any single country to single-handedly address the problem



Singapore's approach



International



Regional



Industry



Coordinated International Efforts



- International Maritime Organization
 - Recommendations and guidance on preventing and suppressing piracy against ships
 - Supporting IMO efforts:
 - ReCAAP as model for Djibouti Code of Conduct
 - ReCAAP ISC cooperation in implementation

Coordinated International Efforts



- United Nations Security Council
 - Call on States to take stronger and co-ordinated anti-piracy actions in international waters off the coast of Somalia
- Participation in Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS) Working Group meetings



Chief of Navy Rear Admiral Chew Men Leong presenting the Singapore flag to the Mission Commander Colonel Bernard Miranda.



Photo: SAF

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Singapore fleet deterred pirates

[Photo: The SAF TG launched a Super Puma helicopter to investigate the suspected pirate boats and successfully deterred an attack on the merchant vessel MV Halmony Falcon]

Just two days after they started operating, the Singapore Armed Forces Task Group (SAF TG) proved a threat to suspected pirates at the Gulf of Aden.

The SAF TG was deployed to the Gulf of Aden on April 9 and commenced operations last Friday.

Regional Co-operation



- ReCAAP

- Governing Council meetings

- Focal Point

- Coordination amongst national agencies
 - Communication with other rescue coordination centers
 - Outreach to shipping community
 - Prompt dissemination of incident or threat alerts
 - Respect for confidentiality of information



Regional Co-operation



Coordination amongst the navies of Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore

- Malacca Straits Sea Patrols, launched in 2004
- 'Eyes in the Sky' maritime air patrols, launched in 2005
- Thailand signed an agreement to join the coordinated patrols from 2009



Industry



- Dissemination of IMO guidance and Best Management Practices
- Regular dialogue with industry
 - Workshops and industry briefings
 - Regular meetings



Thank You