

Message from United Nations, Department of Political Affairs

Warm greetings to the participants of the annual Conference of ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre. We welcome the important work of ReCAAP, the first intergovernmental body designated specifically to enhance cooperation against piracy and armed robbery in Asia Pacific. ReCAAP's Information Sharing Centre (ISC) has played an important role in contributing to the safe navigation of the vital sea lanes in the region through combating piracy and armed robbery.

Maritime piracy and drug trafficking are global threats to peace and security, requiring a multi-dimensional approach. To counter these threats, it is important early on to focus on measures such as modern criminal laws, developing and strengthening law enforcement institutions and crime investigative capacity, as well as to supporting regional networks and knowledge exchange. Today's conference, "Separating Facts from Fiction", is timely and promises to further strengthen a commitment by all stakeholders for a comprehensive and coordinated response against transnational crimes, including piracy. The United Nations remains committed to working with its partners to deliver such a response to these global and regional threats.

It is our hope that this conference will contribute to achieving a safe and stable maritime environment in the Asia Pacific region.

Jeffrey Feltman
Under-Secretary-General
for Political Affairs