## Summary of Boarding and Attempted Boarding Incidents in the Singapore Strait (caa 16 Feb 2022)

#### Number of Incidents & Vessel Types





#### **Key Observations**

- The IFC recorded a total of five incidents in Jan 2022; majority of the incidents occurred in the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) within the Singapore Strait in hours of darkness. Of note, one incident involving tug & barge occurred during daylight
- . This figure is higher compared to 2021 (3 incidents) and 2020 (3 incidents) over the same period
- In most cases, there were (a) no confrontation and perpetrators fled upon being sighted, and (b) no items were reported stolen

#### Modus Operandi: Remains Largely Consistent With Petty Crime

- Based on the incident reports, in most cases, perpetrators avoided confrontation, and escaped immediately upon being sighted by crew
- Perpetrators usually (a) are in group of average 4-6 pax, and (b) use small boats, targeting slow-moving vessels (7-12 knots) with low freeboard

# Cargo Ships, Bulk Carriers & Tankers May be armed and confrontational e.g., small arms, knives, and steel bars (Out of 5 incidents in Jan 2022, only 2 reported armed) Usually target ship's engine parts and stores Same group of perpetrators may target few vessels in succession, in same night Tugs & Barges Usually unarmed Usually target scrap metal

### Recommended Actions for All Transiting Vessels

- Remain vigilant, particularly when transiting the known hotspots off Bintan and Batam
- Adopt Ship Protection Measures recommended in the Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery
  Against Ships in Asia, e.g., illuminating the accommodation block and poop deck, and deploying sentries etc
- Participate in Voluntary Community Reporting as depicted in 4th Edition MARSEC Charts Q6112 and Q6113; upon sighting of suspicious activities, immediately report to local authorities and inform the IFC

Contact IFC @ +65 6594 5705 / 9626 8965 or email us @information\_fusion\_centre@defence.gov.sg