

# Sunda Straits – update 21 January 2019

Following the fatal tsunami in Indonesia as a result of the eruption of the Anak Krakatau, we hereby provide you with an update.

## Volcanic Activity – 5 km exclusion zone

The last significant earthquake in the Sunda Straits area was recorded on 17 Jan 2019 0700UTC magnitude 3.7 at a depth of 10 km and 22 km from the volcano in the Sunda Straits area. There is smaller daily activity, but reports indicate that seismic activity in the area is decreasing. Latest eruption with volcanic ash cloud recorded at 11:11 UTC (18:11 local) 19 Jan 2019. The eruption lasted for 45 seconds.

The National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) designates Mount Anak Krakatau LEVEL III. This means that the public should be on standby as there may be an eruption. There is still a 5 km exclusion zone in effect.

As of 19 Jan 2019, 0900H Lt., the Port Authority of Banten, the authority responsible for marine and shipping activities in and around the Sunda Straits and Anak Krakatau and the party issuing the 26 December 2018 Circular, advised this is the only shipping circular issued and confirmed it has expired.

They also confirm that there are no shipping restrictions in the area save for the 5 km exclusion zone around the volcano. Reports indicate that local and foreign experts plan to do surveys to the area but are hampered by unpredictable conditions at site.

## Shipping Activity.

Indonesia's Navy Hydrographic and Oceanographic Centre performed meteorological mapping and found evidence of siltation in the waters around the volcano. They attribute this siltation to sedimentation, probably due to volcanic material entering the sea causing variations between 1 meter and 40 meters in the immediate vicinity of the volcano. Actual depth is best confirmed by hydrographic survey. AIS data indicates that there are vessels sailing in and around the Sunda Straits.

## Recommendation

The changes in water depths are not yet confirmed and the area does have increased naval activity, monitoring the area. We therefore recommend that vessels passing through are vigilant and stay clear of the area as practically possible.

Please contact our Jakarta office for the latest updates if required.

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