

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT  
LONDON SE1 7SR  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

MSC.4/Circ.179  
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## **REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS**

### **Issued monthly – Acts reported during December 2011**

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's instruction to the Secretariat to issue monthly reports of all incidents of piracy<sup>1</sup> and armed robbery against ships<sup>2</sup> reported to the Organization, the annex hereto provides, in the tabulated format agreed by the Committee, the summary of reports on incidents received between 1 to 31 December 2011 including a distinction between acts of piracy and acts of armed robbery against ships (annex 1) and attempted attacks (annex 2). The Secretariat has, since July 2002, classified separately any reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery **at sea** (international or territorial waters) vis-à-vis acts of armed robbery allegedly committed **in port areas**, as well as **attempted** acts of armed robbery.

2 Further, and as instructed by the Committee (MSC 89/25 paragraphs 18.9 and 18.10), the Secretariat has opened a "piracy and armed robbery" module on the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) (<http://gisis.imo.org>) in order to improve the timeliness of reporting of incidents and to enable users to generate their own search criteria and produce customizable reports. This database is now configured for public, read-only access

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<sup>1</sup> "Piracy" is defined in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) (article 101) as follows:

"Piracy consists of any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal acts of violence or detention, or any act of depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed:
  - (i) on the high seas, against another ship or aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft;
  - (ii) against a ship, aircraft, persons or property in a place outside the jurisdiction of any State;
- (b) any act of voluntary participation in the operation of a ship or of an aircraft with knowledge of facts making it a pirate ship or aircraft;
- (c) any act inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in subparagraph (a) or (b)."

<sup>2</sup> "Armed robbery against ships" is defined in the Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (resolution A.1025(26), Annex, paragraph 2.2), as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships means any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of piracy, committed for private ends and directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such a ship, within a State's internal waters, archipelagic waters and territorial sea;
- (b) any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described above."

and is searchable. Reports can be compiled in GISIS directly by Member States and registered public users. These reports can now include follow-up information, for example, dates of release of hijacked ships. Given that the new functionality in GISIS allows for user-defined piracy reports, the Committee agreed that the practice of publishing quarterly summaries was no longer warranted and would be discontinued with effect from May 2011.

3 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 6,243, an increase of 24 since 30 November 2011.

4 Previous incidents reported to the Organization since the fifty-ninth session of the Committee have been circulated by various MSC circulars, those issued during the previous 12 months and up to 31 December 2011 being MSC.4/Circ.165, MSC.4/Circ.167, MSC.4/Circ.168, MSC.4/Circ.170, MSC.4/Circ.171, MSC.4/Circ.172, MSC.4/Circ.173, MSC.4/Circ.174, MSC.4/Circ.175, MSC.4/Circ.176, MSC.4/Circ.177 and MSC.4/Circ.178.

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**ANNEX 1**  
**Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly committed against ships reported by**  
**Member States or international organizations in consultative status**

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.179 ANNEX 1
	IMO Number								Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

**IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS**

1	ENRICO IEVOLI Chemical tanker Italy 9860 9188415	27/12/2011 04:03 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Around 44NM SSW of Ras Al Madrakah, Oman Oman 18° 18.00' N 057° 36.00' E	Pirates in a skiff chased, fired upon, boarded and hijacked a chemical tanker underway and took its 18 crew members as hostage. The tanker sailed towards Somalia.	Pirates hijacked the tanker and took the crew as hostage	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Royal Oman Police, Yemen Coast Guard, Oman Coast Guard	-
2	SINHIN 5 Tug Malaysia 145 8739451	28/12/2011	MALACCA STRAIT Singapore Straits Singapore	The tugboat SINHIN 5 towing the barge SINHIN 6 en route from Port Klang to Bintulu, Malaysia was attacked, hijacked and sailed towards Indonesia. On 31.12.2011 the tug was located at Belitung Island, Indonesia and nine crew members were rescued. The pirates using another tug towed away the barge. The barge with cargo equipment is still missing.	Pirates hijacked the tug and barge, 9 crew members taken hostage	-	Yes MPA Singapore, Recaap	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur Indonesian Navy, Indonesian Marine Police, MRCC Putrajaya, Royal Malaysia Navy & Singapore Navy	Indonesian Navy located the tug and the crew was rescued. They despatched 1 aircraft and 3 warships to search the area for the missing barge

**IN TERRITORIAL WATERS**

1	CIELO DI VENEZIA Bulk carrier Panama 22697 9374351	02/12/2011 10:00 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Buenaventura Inner Bay Colombia 03° 49.00' N 077° 09.00' W	While at anchor, an unknown number of robbers boarded a bulk carrier. The incident was only discovered during rounds. The padlock to the store room was broken and the ship's stores were stolen. The incident was reported to the authorities.	The ship's stores were stolen	-	Yes The Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Colombia maritime authorities	A patrol boat arrived at the location and patrolled the surrounding area
2	HELEN BOLTEN Bulk carrier Liberia 15861 9427380	06/12/2011 00:35 UTC	EAST AFRICA Alexandria Egypt 31° 10.50' N 029° 51.90' E	Three robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored bulk carrier. They stole the ship's stores and escaped in a motor boat. The crew alerted the armed guard and reported the incident to port control. A police patrol boat arrived to investigate.	Ship's stores were stolen	Crew alerted armed guards onboard	Yes Port control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, MRCC Egypt	A police patrol boat arrived to investigate
3	PACIFIC AMETHYST Supply ship Singapore 2442 9458327	06/12/2011 02:05 LT	WEST AFRICA Abidjan Côte d'Ivoire 05° 16.00' N 004° 02.10' E	While at anchor, two robbers armed with long knives boarded the vessel. On being detected, the robbers tried to frighten the crew unsuccessfully and jumped overboard. The robbers swam towards the waiting wooden boat and escaped.	All 16 crew mustered and were found safe. The robbers managed to escape with one 25 litres of hydraulic oil drum	The sentry alerted the bridge and challenged the robbers.	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point, Singapore	-

\* The position given should be as accurate as possible including latitude and longitude co-ordinates or as a bearing and distance from a conspicuous landmark  
NOTE: SOUTH AMERICA: (A) - Atlantic; (C) - Caribbean; (P) - Pacific

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.179 ANNEX 1
	Coastal State Action Taken								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

## IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	GLORYSUN Bulk carrier Panama 70947 7925364	06/12/2011 05:15 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Adang Bay Indonesia 01° 42.16' S 116° 37.75' E	Duty crew onboard the anchored cement carrier noticed six robbers moving away in a speed boat with one mooring line in tow. On inspection, the forecastle store had been broken into. Local police and agent were informed.	Robbers stole ship's stores	-	Yes Local police	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Indonesian Navy and Indonesian Marine Police	-
5	ERIA COLOSSUS Bulk carrier Panama 30811 9407512	08/12/2011 00:40 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Banjarmasin Anchorage Indonesia 03° 41.70' S 114° 25.90' E	Robbers boarded the anchored bulk carrier using a grapnel hook. They opened the bolted hawse pipe cover and were seen by the alert duty cadet on deck watch. He raised alarm via walkie-talkie and the OOW sounded the general alarm and blew the fog horn continuously. On hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped through the hawse pipe. Two boats were seen moving away from the ship. The ship attempted to contact port control but received no response.	The OOW raised the alarm and blew the ship's fog horn	The OOW raised the alarm and blew the ship's fog horn	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Indonesian Navy and Marine Police	-
6	TRIDENT STAR Tanker Panama 56365 9343211	10/12/2011 03:40 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Dumai Indonesia 01° 42.00' N 101° 29.00' E	Three robbers boarded the tanker at anchor and entered the engine room. They took the motorman hostage, stole engine spares and escaped. Port control and agent were informed.	Robbers took hostage the duty motorman and stole engine spares	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Indonesia Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Indonesian Marine Police and Indonesian Navy	-
7	RM JAYA Tug Kiribati 50	13/12/2011 01:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA off the coast of Indonesia Indonesia 01° 13.00' N 103° 21.00' E	Six robbers armed with knives boarded the tug towing a barge (Hai Hang 1) and took the six crew members hostage. The robbers stole the crew's personal belongings and cash before escaping in their speed boat.	The robbers took the six crew members hostage and stole personal belongings and cash	-	Yes Singapore Port Operations Control Centre	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Bakorkamla, Indonesian Marine Police & Indonesian Navy	-
8	RANJAN Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 16162 9396622	20/12/2011 22:45 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Guayaquil Data Pilot Station, Ecuador Ecuador 02° 20.90' S 079° 58.90' W	Around 12 robbers boarded the vessel while underway. The robbers took hostage the Bosun, tied his hands, then opened ten containers and stole contents. Crew alerted Port Control and the Coast Guard boarded the vessel for inspection.	The contents from the containers were stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Ecuador Port Control & Coast Guard	Ecuador ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur MRCC Ecuador	Coast Guard boat arrived at location and boarded vessel for investigation
9	OCEAN AMAZING Bulk carrier Singapore 25967 9162942	22/12/2011 04:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Surabaya Indonesia 07° 05.00' S 112° 39.77' E	Duty crew onboard an anchored bulk carrier noticed two boats moving away from the vessel with mooring lines trailing in the water. Alarm sounded and all crew mustered. Authorities informed via local agent.	Robbers boarded the vessel and stole the ship's stores	Master raised the alarm and mustered all the crew	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Indonesian Navy and Marine Police	Indonesian Marine Police proceeded to the vessel for further investigation

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	Coastal State Action Taken								
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## IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

10	OVERSEAS SILVERMAR Tanker Marshall Islands 40343 9239630	22/12/2011 04:00 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Talara Anchorage, Peru Peru 04° 34.50' S 081° 18.80' W	Unnoticed robbers boarded an anchored tanker and entered the forward store. Alert duty watchman noticed the hawse pipe cover opened and alerted the OOW who raised the alarm. Seeing the crew alertness the robbers escaped empty handed. Incident reported to the harbour master through the agents.	-	Duty crew alerted OOW and alarm raised	Yes Yes. Harbour Master via agents	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur PRC relayed message to MRCC Peru	-
11	OMS QUEST Tug Panama 1039 9420540	24/12/2011 09:30 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Western Boarding Ground 'B', Singapore Straits Singapore 01° 10.00' N 103° 39.00' E	A tug towing a barge was approached by suspected robbers in boats trying to sell articles. Some of the robbers approached the barge from right astern, boarded it and stole property. Later a Singapore Navy vessel approached and chased the boats away. When the Naval vessel departed, the small boats once again approached the tug and barge but were unsuccessful in boarding.	Ship's property stolen	-	Yes VTS Singapore	Singapore ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur IFC Singapore, Singapore Police Coast Guard & POC Singapore	A Singapore Navy patrol boat arrived and chased the pirate boat away
12	SICHEM CONTESTER Chemical tanker Singapore 11757 9416020	25/12/2011 01:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Dumai Inner Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 42.40' N 101° 28.60' E	Three robbers boarded the anchored chemical tanker. They entered the engine room through the skylight door and stole generator spares. The 4th engineer sighted the robbers leaving the engine room and raised the alarm.	Spares stolen	Alarm raised	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur Indonesian Navy & Indonesian Marine Police	-
13	HANSA CALEDONIA Container ship Liberia 16915 9152583	26/12/2011 20:30 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Pilot Station, Bangladesh Bangladesh 22° 10.00' N 091° 45.00' E	About 25 robbers from a boat boarded a container ship at anchor from stern. The deck watchmen closed accommodation and informed bridge watchkeeper. Search lights directed and alarm raised. The robbers noticing crew alertness escaped in their boat. Coast Guard and Port Control informed. Later an inspection revealed the robbers had stolen ship's stores before escaping. The CG informed the ship they will attempt to recover the stolen items.	Ship's stores stolen	Access to accommodation locked, search lights directed towards the pirates, alarm raised.	Yes Coast Guard and Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur CG Bangladesh, Navy, Port authorities	CG informed ship that they will attempt to recover stolen goods from the robbers
14	CCNI GUAYAS Container ship Germany 25608 9149328	27/12/2011 01:45 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Guayaquil Inner Anchorage, Ecuador Ecuador 02° 21.40' S 079° 59.50' W	Five robbers armed with long knives boarded a container ship at anchor. They broke open three containers but escaped empty-handed due to alert duty crew. Coast Guard was informed and a patrol boat came to investigate.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Ecuador Coast Guard	Ecuador ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur MRCC Ecuador	Deployed a patrol boat to the location for further investigation

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NOTE: SOUTH AMERICA: (A) - Atlantic; (C) - Caribbean; (P) - Pacific

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.179 ANNEX 1
									Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

### IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

15	PACIFIC APOLLO Tanker Hong Kong, China 59164 9332810	29/12/2011 00:35 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Dumai Inner Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 41.00' N 101° 27.00' E	Four robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored tanker unnoticed and entered the engine room. They took hostage the 2/E and motorman, forcing them to open the spares store room and tied their hands. The robbers stole ships spares and escaped. The duty crew managed to free themselves and alert the Master.	2/E and motorman taken hostage. Engine spares stolen	The duty crew freed themselves and alerted the master	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur Indonesian Navy and Indonesian Marine Police.	-
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### IN PORT AREA

1	AS ORELIA Chemical tanker Philippines 11570 9363821	01/12/2011 23:40 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Dumai Port Indonesia Indonesia 01° 42.00' N 101° 28.00' E	Four robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored tanker, took the duty oiler as hostage and entered the engine store room. The robbers stole the ship's stores, released the oiler and escaped.	Robbers boarded the tanker and stole the ship's stores	Master raised the alarm and mustered all the crew	Yes Dumai Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Indonesian Navy and Indonesian Marine Police	-
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**ANNEX 2**  
**Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly attempted against ships reported by**  
**Member States or international organizations in consultative status**

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.179 ANNEX 2
	IMO Number								Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

**IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS**

1	CAPE ENDLESS Oil product tanker Marshall Islands 60193 9572264	03/12/2011 07:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA Red Sea Sudan 14° 43.00' N 042° 02.00' E	Two boats approached within 1 NM and gave chase for 10-15 minutes and then fell behind	-	The master altered course and increased speed. The armed guards deterred the pirates	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	ATLANTICA Bulk carrier Malta 28693 9216509	04/12/2011 09:15 UTC	ARABIAN SEA East of Masirah Island Oman 20° 39.00' N 060° 00.00' E	A bulk carrier underway was chased and fired at by pirates. The master took preventive measures and the onboard security team returned fire, resulting in the pirates aborting the attack and moving away.	The ship was fired at	The master took preventive measures and the onboard security team returned fire	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, UKMTO, NATO Northwood and Yemen Coast Guard	-
3	NORDIC APOLLO Tanker Marshall Islands 81310 9248423	19/12/2011 08:20 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden Somalia 12° 36.00' N 047° 03.00' E	Two skiffs approached and fired upon a tanker underway. A ladder was sighted on one of the skiffs. The master made evasive manoeuvres while the armed security team onboard fired warning shots. The skiffs slowed down and returned fire, resulting in the security team responding. Later, the pirates aborted the attempt and moved away.	Pirates fired upon the ship	The master made evasive manoeuvres while the armed security team onboard fired warning shots	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, Royal Oman Police & Yemen Coast Guard	-
4	VIOLETTA Container ship Marshall Islands 17360 9344710	24/12/2011 04:20 UTC	EAST AFRICA Indian Ocean Somalia 04° 11.60' S 045° 14.70' E	Two skiffs with 4-5 persons approached the vessel.	-	Crew to muster stations and armed guards fired two warning shots	Yes MSCHO, UKMTO and MARLO	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	YUTAI AMBITIONS Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 39999 9326160	30/12/2011 09:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Celebes Seas, Philippines Philippines 03° 30.00' N 121° 04.00' E	Seven pirates in a small flat bottomed boat chased and attempted to board a bulk carrier underway. The vessel took anti-piracy measures, rigged fire hoses, increased speed, made evasive manoeuvres and sounded ship's whistle, resulting in the attack being aborted.	-	The vessel took anti-piracy measures, rigged fire hoses, increased speed, made evasive manoeuvres and sounded ship's whistle	Yes Navies from the Philippines and Indonesia - no response received	Philippines ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, Coast Guard Philippines	-

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N°	Ship Name	Date Time	Position of the incident*	Details of the incident	Consequences for crew, ship, cargo	Action taken by the master and the crew	Was the incident reported to the coastal authority? Which one?	Reporting State or international organization	MSC.4/Circ.179 ANNEX 2
	Type of Ship								Gross Tonnage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

**IN TERRITORIAL WATERS**

1	PORT MOODY Oil tanker Marshall Islands 29998 9246449	06/12/2011 19:45 UTC	WEST AFRICA Bight of Bonny Nigeria 04° 12.90' N 006° 55.60' E	A skiff with 9 people approached the vessel then aborted after seeing four armed guards and alert crew.	-	Armed guards and alert crew took anti-piracy measures	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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