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MSC.4/Circ.190
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during October 2012

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's instruction to the Secretariat to issue monthly reports of all incidents of piracy¹ and armed robbery against ships² 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 and 31 October 2012 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.

¹ "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)."

² "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."

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 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 6,528, an increase of 24 since 30 September 2012.

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 twelve months and up to 31 October 2012 being MSC.4/Circ.177, MSC.4/Circ.178, MSC.4/Circ.179, MSC.4/Circ.181, MSC.4/Circ.182, MSC.4/Circ.183, MSC.4/Circ.184, MSC.4/Circ.185, MSC.4/Circ.186, MSC.4/Circ.187, MSC.4/Circ.188 and MSC.4/Circ.189.

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 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.190 ANNEX 1
									Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	WAPPEN VON HAMBURG Chemical tanker Liberia 5145 9255799	04/10/2012 20:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 80nm South of Lome, Togo Togo 04° 48.80' N 001° 25.10' E	Around 10 to 12 pirates armed with automatic guns boarded the tanker drifting in the STS cargo transfer area. The pirates hijacked the tanker and mustered all crew on the bridge while waiting for a bunker barge to steal the ship's cargo. When the bunker barge arrived, the ship's crew were forced to prepare the fenders for the ship to come alongside. After stealing the cargo, the pirates locked the crew in the Master's cabin, damaged some of the navigational equipment, stole the crew's cash, personal belongings, provisions, items from the bonded store and electronic items and then left the tanker on 05.10.2012 in the early morning hours. All crew were safe apart from some physical injuries.	Pirates took the crew hostage and hijacked the tanker. They transferred the ship's cargo to their barge. Pirates locked all the crew in the Master's cabin, damaged some of the navigational equipment, stole the ship's cash, the crew's personal belongings, provisions, items from the bonded store and electronic items. Some sustained physical injuries	-	Yes Togo Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	BOURBON LIBERTY 249 Supply ship Luxembourg 1733 9573579	15/10/2012 11:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 40nm south of Brass, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 39.00' N 006° 14.00' E	Seven armed pirates boarded the anchor-handling tug supply vessel underway via a speed boat launched from a mother ship. They stole the crew's personal effects, kidnapped seven crew members and then escaped. The remaining crew were safe onboard the ship.	The pirates boarded the ship, stole the crew's personal effects and kidnapped seven crew members	-	Yes Nigerian local authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	SALVAGE CHAMPION Tug Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 1830 7530444	17/10/2012 02:00	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 19.4 nm east of Pulau Mapur, Indonesia Indonesia 00° 52.90' N 105° 10.70' E	Ten pirates armed with guns and knives boarded the salvage ship towing a barge from Singapore to Balikpapan, Indonesia. The pirates stole the ship's property, the crew's cash and personal belongings and escaped. All crew members were safe and the ship continued her passage towards Balikpapan.	The pirates stole the ship's property, the crew's cash and personal belongings	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	HUB I Tug 122 9319650	18/10/2012	SOUTH CHINA SEA Tanjung Datu, Sarawak, Malaysia Malaysia	Pirates boarded the tug towing a barge, stole the crew's cash and escaped.	Pirates boarded the tug and stole the crew's cash	-	Yes Maritime Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	HUB III Tug Malaysia 270 9434008	18/10/2012 02:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Off Pulau Bintan, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 18.00' N 104° 48.00' E	Six pirates in a speed boat boarded the tug towing a barge. They took hostage all the crew, tied them up, stole the crew's cash and personal effects and then escaped. The master was slightly injured.	Pirates boarded the tug and stole the crew's cash and personal belongings	-	Yes Maritime Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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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	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	ORFEAS Product tanker Bahamas 42048 9358917	05/10/2012 23:30 LT	WEST AFRICA 3 nm South of Abidjan Port Anchorage, Ivory Coast Côte d'Ivoire 05° 12.56' N 004° 03.68' W	Around 14 robbers armed with AK47s and knives boarded and hijacked the anchored tanker. They damaged the tanker's communication equipment and sailed it to an unknown location where a part of the cargo was transferred to another ship. Prior to leaving the vessel on 09.10.2012, the pirates stole the crew's personal belongings and cash.	The robbers hijacked the tanker, took hostage 24 crew members, stole cargo and the crew's belongings and cash	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The warships carried out a search operation
2	EVER JOY Tanker Singapore 148 8717257	12/10/2012 02:30	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approximately 1nm Southeast of Pulau Mungging, Malaysia Malaysia 01° 20.80' N 104° 18.40' E	Approximately 10 masked robbers armed with a pistol and parangs (long knives) boarded the anchored tanker. On boarding, the robbers tied the crew and then escaped with the crew's personal belongings, including cash, laptops, watches and mobile phones.	The crew were tied up with cable ties. The robbers escaped with the crew's personal belongings, including cash, laptops, watches and mobile phones	The Master reported the incident to the shipping company	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
3	NORTHIA Tanker Marshall Islands 83805 9399480	19/10/2012 02:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Karimun Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia	About three to five robbers boarded the tanker during ship-to-ship transfer operations. They entered the engine room and escaped with the ship's stores and engine spares.	Ship stores and engine spares were stolen	-	Yes Local authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Authorities boarded the tanker to conduct an investigation on 21.10.2012

IN PORT AREA

1	HENRY HUDSON BRIDGE Container ship Panama 98747 9302176	05/10/2012 02:30 LT	EAST AFRICA Suez Anchorage, Egypt Egypt 27° 49.00' N 032° 33.00' E	Four robbers boarded the anchored container ship through its hawsepape. They broke into a container and stole the contents while the duty crew were tending to the Suez Canal mooring boat. When a member of the duty crew returned to the forecastle, he noticed two robbers escaping and a small unlit boat near the anchor chain. Port authorities were informed. All crew were safe.	Cargo was stolen	The Master informed the bridge duty officer and alerted crew	Yes Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	KEN SPIRIT Bulk carrier Panama 20927 9538971	05/10/2012 05:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, Indonesia Indonesia	Six robbers armed with long knives boarded the anchored bulk carrier. A member of the duty crew noticed the robbers stealing the ship's stores from the forward locker and raised the alarm. On hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped in their boat with the stolen stores. The Coast Guard was informed.	Robbers stole the ship's stores	Raised the alarm	Yes Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

3	VALISIA Tug Saint Kitts and Nevis 1972 8110966	08/10/2012 02:35 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Inner Anchorage, Bangladesh Bangladesh 22° 13.90' N 091° 43.30' E	Around 12 robbers boarded the anchored tug. On spotting the robbers with swords, the crew retreated into the accommodation and raised the alarm. Crew mustered, fired pyrotechnics and informed the Coast Guard who arrived and searched the area. The robbers stole the ship's stores and escaped.	The ship's stores were stolen	Raised the alarm, crew mustered, fired pyrotechnics	Yes Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A patrol boat searched around the ship
4	FARUK KAAAN Multi purpose ship Marshall Islands 7738 9165865	10/10/2012 06:00 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Cartagena, Columbia Colombia 10° 23.04' N 075° 33.12' W	Robbers boarded the anchored ship at the forecastle (not witnessed by the ship's staff), stole the ship's firefighting outfit. Port authorities were informed via port agent.	The ship's firefighting outfit was stolen	Post incident reporting and investigation	Yes Cartagena port authorities via port agent	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	SAMJIN Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 23494 9460253	13/10/2012 22:10 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage 'A', Bangladesh Bangladesh 22° 15.10' N 091° 44.60' E	Seven robbers armed with long knives boarded the anchored bulk carrier from the aft during cargo operations. Duty crew noticed the robbers trying to steal the ship's stores and raised the alarm. On hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers jumped into the water and escaped with the stolen stores. Coast Guard was informed and a patrol boat came to the location to search for the robbers but the robbers had already fled.	The ship's stores were stolen	The Master raised the alarm and the crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	AAL BANGKOK General cargo ship Singapore 14053 9521564	15/10/2012 02:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Kabil Citranusa Port, Batam, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 06.70' N 104° 10.20' E	Three robbers boarded the anchored general cargo ship. They were spotted by the alert duty crew who raised the alarm. On sensing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped empty-handed.	Robbers boarded the anchored ship	The Master raised the alarm	Yes via local agent	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	MARCIANA General cargo ship Malta 7775 9393230	16/10/2012 00:35 LT	WEST AFRICA Conakry Roads, Guinea Guinea 09° 24.10' N 013° 45.90' W	Six robbers boarded the anchored general cargo ship. The crew secured themselves in the accommodation and contacted the owners for help. The shipowners informed the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre which relayed the message to the Guinea authorities who dispatched a patrol boat to assist the ship. The robbers stole cargo contents from the containers and escaped on seeing the approaching patrol boat. All crew were safe.	Robbers boarded the ship and stole some of the cargo	All crew mustered and locked all the entrances to the accommodation	Yes Conackry Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The Guinea Navy dispatched their patrol boat to the area
8	BULK NEPTUNE Bulk carrier Panama 31259 9430844	16/10/2012 04:05 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, Indonesia Indonesia	Three robbers boarded the anchored bulk carrier. They were spotted by the duty crew member during security rounds. The duty A/B reported to the bridge and approached the robbers who assaulted and injured him. The duty A/B managed to escape. The robbers stole the crew's belongings and escaped.	Robbers boarded the ship, stole the crew's belongings, assaulted the duty crew and escaped	-	Yes Singapore Maritime and Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

9	PEARL RIVER BRIDGE Container ship Hong Kong, China 17211 9444986	20/10/2012 01:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 03° 55.10' N 098° 46.90' E	Robbers boarded the anchored ship unnoticed. They stole the ship's stores and escaped.	Robbers stole the ship's stores	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
10	MSC LONDON Container ship Liberia 36266 8502884	27/10/2012 00:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 03° 56.00' N 098° 47.00' E	Three robbers armed with long knives boarded the anchored container ship via the anchor chain. They took hostage the duty crew and tied him up at the forecastle deck. Another member of the duty crew reported the incident to the bridge and the OOW raised the alarm and contacted the port authorities, but was unsuccessful. Three rocket flares were fired at the forecastle which led to the robbers escaping in their small fishing boat. Except for the duty crew's mobile phone, nothing else was stolen.	Robbers took hostage the duty crew and tied him up at the forecastle deck. They stole the duty crew member's mobile phone	OOW raised the alarm and three rocket flares were fired	Yes Port authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
11	GLOVIS MERMAID Bulk carrier Bahamas 32545 9543603	27/10/2012 01:18 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Outer Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 03° 53.90' N 098° 46.40' E	About three to four robbers boarded the anchored ship. They took hostage the duty A/B and stole his personal belongings. The A/B managed to escape and raised the alarm. On hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped. Crew mustered and did a search and found that nothing else had been stolen.	Robbers took hostage the duty A/B and stole his personal belongings	The A/B managed to escape and raised the alarm	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
12	MEDI IMABARI Bulk carrier Panama 31236 9339466	27/10/2012 23:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Taboneo Anchorage, Banjarmasin Indonesia 03° 41.50' S 114° 27.90' E	Three robbers boarded the anchored bulk carrier in ballast awaiting cargo operations. Duty crew on their rounds noticed a robber on the forecastle deck and informed the OOW who then raised the alarm. On hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with the ship's stores in two waiting boats.	Ship's stores were stolen	Raised the alarm	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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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 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.190 ANNEX 2
									Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	IZURDIA Fishing vessel Spain 4200 9292785	10/10/2012 12:10 UTC	EAST AFRICA Around 320nm SE of Mogadishu, Somalia Somalia 00° 26.00' N 050° 39.00' E	A skiff with six to eight pirates onboard approached and fired upon the fishing vessel at high speed. The onboard security team returned fire, resulting in the skiff aborting and moving away. All crew were safe.	The pirates fired on the fishing vessel	The crew entered the engine room except the Master and Fish Master who remained on the bridge	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	OCEAN TAIPAN Tanker Singapore 62863 9368235	17/10/2012 05:05	ARABIAN SEA Off Oman in the Arabian Sea Oman 16° 02.00' N 058° 57.00' E	A suspected pirate skiff pursued the tanker while in transit and was able to close in to a distance of 1.6 nm. The tanker undertook evasive manoeuvres and increased its speed and was able to break away from the skiff.	The crew did not sustain any injuries and there was no damage to the ship	The Master initiated evasive manoeuvres and increased speed	Yes Flag State, UKMTO and Indian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	BACO-LINER 2 Barge carrier Liberia 22345 7904621	24/10/2012 20:15 UTC	WEST AFRICA Niger Estuary, Port Harcourt, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 54.40' N 005° 25.10' E	Robbers onboard a speed boat attempted to board the barge carrier underway by throwing a hook to the ship's upper deck. The ship made evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and avoided the boarding.	-	Raised the alarm and made evasive manoeuvres	No	Liberia ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN PORT AREA

1	PEARL RIVER BRIDGE Container ship Hong Kong, China 17211 9444986	21/10/2012 16:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan International Container Terminal, Indonesia Indonesia 03° 47.80' N 098° 42.10' E	Two robbers armed with long knives onboard a small boat approached the berthed ship. Alert member of duty crew noticed one robber attempting to board the ship using a rope. The crew shouted at the robber who aborted the boarding and escaped.	-	Crew shouted at the robber	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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