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MSC.4/Circ.202
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during September 2013

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 30 September 2013 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 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.

3 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 30 September 2013 being, MSC.4/Circ.189, MSC.4/Circ.190, MSC.4/Circ.191, MSC.4/Circ.192, MSC.4/Circ.194, MSC.4/Circ.195, MSC.4/Circ.196, MSC.4/Circ.197, MSC.4/Circ.198, MSC.4/Circ.199, MSC.4/Circ.200 and MSC.4/Circ.201.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	BUDGET 17 Tug Malaysia 141	22/09/2013 07:35	MALACCA STRAIT Strait, TSS West bound lane Singapore 01° 11.46' N 103° 39.49' E	While underway, the crew on board the tug Budget 17 noticed some unidentified persons on board the barge in tow ie Budget 27, taking away its cargo consisting of scrap metal pieces. There were three small boats in the vicinity.	Loss of some iron scrap metal pieces	-	Yes Singapore Police Coast Guard and Singapore Navy	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-	
2	JM DAMAI Supply ship Malaysia 1212 9365738	23/09/2013 21:15 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Around 22nm ENE of Pulau Tenggul Malaysia 04° 52.00' N 104° 05.00' E	Eight pirates wearing masks armed with a hand gun and long knives in a high speed craft approached and boarded a supply ship underway. They took hostage all crew members, tied them up and stole their personal belongings. After about three hours, the pirates left the vessel. Crew managed to free themselves and the OOW reported the incident to the owners. Vessel returned to the port of departure where the Authorities boarded the vessel for investigation. Master reported the possibility of a mother vessel in the vicinity.	Stolen personal belongings	N/A	No	Timor-Leste PRC relayed message to MMEA Putra Jaya, FOC RMN, MMEA Timur	Authorities boarded vessel for investigation	

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	SAMPATIKI Chemical tanker Liberia 5031 9405772	04/09/2013 15:15 LT	WEST AFRICA 4nm South of Pennington Oil Terminal, Nigeria Nigeria 04° 11.00' N 005° 34.00' E	A speed boat approached a chemical tanker underway with intent to board. The 2/O raised the alarm, alerted the crew and made evasive manoeuvres to prevent the boarding. The robbers tried to board the vessel using hooks attached to a rope. The onboard security team fired warning shots at the boat and the robbers retaliated by returning fire. Facing resistance the robbers aborted the attempt to board the vessel.	-	Raised alarm, Crew alerted, evasive manoeuvres and onboard security team fired warning shots	Yes RCC Lagos Nigerian Navy Operations HQ	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-	
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IN PORT AREA

1	ATLANTIC STAR Oil product tanker Hong Kong, China 29266 9337523	03/09/2013 21:10 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Vung Tau Cape Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 13.98' N 107° 02.05' E	While at anchor, robbers boarded the vessel at the forecastle after the attention of OOW was distracted by a boat which was approaching from the port quarter. The forward store lock was broken and paint was stolen. After noticing the robbers, the alarm was raised and all the crew went forward. The robbers escaped with the stolen items after hearing the alarm.	About 250-300 litres of paint were stolen	The alarm was raised and all the crew went to the forecastle. After the incident, the duty anti-piracy watch was doubled	Yes Vung Tau port control	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Hong Kong); ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Vietnam)	An immigration officer conducted investigation	
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* 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	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

2	CARTOLA Tanker Bahamas 80086 9183283	15/09/2013 17:44	SOUTH CHINA SEA Indonesia 01° 09.18' N 103° 34.44' E	Duty crew onboard an anchored tanker noticed four robbers on the poop deck. OOW was informed, alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing alerted crew the robbers escaped.	-	Alarm raised, crew mustered	Yes -	Indonesia PRC relayed message to Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy, Indonesian Marine Police	-
3	FEN Chemical tanker Singapore 8450 9359600	16/09/2013 03:10 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Port Gresik Terminal Indonesia 07° 09.90' S 112° 40.20' E	Officer on Watch (OOW) discovered presence of a robber on board when the ship was berthing and raised alarm. On hearing the alarm, robber immediately escaped the vessel. 5 drums of paint were reported stolen. There was no reported injury to the crew.	loss of 5 drums of paint	The duty Officer (OOW) raised the alarm	Yes Both Coastal and Flag state	Singapore ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Contact Point	-
4	USOLIE Bulk carrier Liberia 37519 8800315	21/09/2013 02:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Samarinda Anchorage Indonesia 00° 16.40' S 117° 41.70' E	Ten robbers armed with knives and steel bars boarded an anchored ship during cargo operations. They took hostage the duty A/B on routine rounds, assaulted him, stole his personal belongings and tied him up. The robbers then broke into the bosun locker and stole ship's stores. OOW noticed the robbers and raised the alarm and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with the stolen stores in their wooden boat. Port Authorities informed by VHF radio.	Robbers took hostage the duty A/B on routine rounds, assaulted him, stole his personal belongings and tied him up. Robbers stole ship's stores	OOW raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes Port Authorities	Indonesia PRC relayed message to Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy HQ & Indonesian Marine Police HQ	-
5	NAME WITHHELD Tanker Panama 28063	21/09/2013 22:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Jakarta Anchorage Indonesia 06° 01.00' S 106° 53.00' E	Duty crew on board an anchored tanker noticed five robbers disembarking the tanker and escaping in a small unlit boat near the stern. Alarm raised and all crew mustered. Upon searching the tanker it was observed that the robbers had gained access probably during the watch change over time, entered the engine room and stole ship's stores. Police report was lodged by the tanker.	Robbers stole ship's stores	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Local Police	Indonesia PRC relayed message to Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy HQ & Indonesian Marine Police HQ	-
6	ROSALIA D'AMATO Bulk carrier Italy 40562 9225201	26/09/2013 02:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Samarinda Anchorage Indonesia	Eight robbers armed with knives boarded a bulk carrier at anchor, stole ship stores and escaped.	All crew safe - ship stores stolen	-	Yes Agents and authority	Indonesia PRC relayed message to Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy, Marine Police	-

* 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