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MSC.4/Circ.214
12 November 2014

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during August 2014

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 August 2014 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.

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 12 months and up to 31 July 2014 being MSC.4/Circ.201, MSC.4/Circ.202, MSC.4/Circ.203, MSC.4/Circ.204, MSC.4/Circ.205, MSC.4/Circ.206, MSC.4/Circ.207, MSC.4/Circ.209, MSC.4/Circ.210, MSC.4/Circ.211, MSC.4/Circ.212 and MSC.4/Circ.213.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	SEA STERLING Product tanker Nigeria 4126 9607318	26/08/2014 17:20 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 33nm SW of Bayelsa Coast, Nigeria Nigeria 04° 14.45' N 005° 13.32' E	A speed boat with six armed pirates approached the tanker underway. On board Nigerian naval armed security opened fire towards the pirates, who returned fire. Two pirates managed to board the tanker but remained on deck and did not enter the accommodation. The Master sent a distress signal, activated the SSAS, informed vessels in the vicinity via VHF and contacted a nearby Nigerian naval vessel, which responded. The next morning Naval personnel boarded the tanker to investigate and search the tanker for the pirates who had boarded. The exchange of fire resulted in damage to the lifeboats, accommodation superstructure and navigation equipment. All crew safe.	Pirates fired upon the tanker causing damage to the lifeboats and other deck structures	Master sent distress signal, activated the SSAS, informed vessels in the vicinity via VHF and the onboard Nigerian naval security team returned fire	Yes Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Naval personnel boarded the ship for investigation.
2	SP BOSTON Product tanker Marshall Islands 4599 9471173	27/08/2014 21:15 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 46nm SE of Abidjan Coast Côte d'Ivoire 04° 34.20' N 003° 30.20' W	Twelve armed pirates with guns boarded the drifting tanker and hijacked the ship. Master was ordered to navigate towards the coast but due to missing navigation equipment could not. The pirates stole ship's and crew's cash as well as their personal effects and escaped. No injuries to crew. Before leaving the tanker, the pirates destroyed the tanker's navigation equipment and stole ship's property. Crew and tanker are safe.	Ship hijacked with all crew. Ship's and crew's cash stolen as well as personal effects and ship's property. Navigation equipment destroyed.	Raised alarm	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	V. L. 14 Tanker Thailand 1074 9084712	28/08/2014 20:40 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 30nm North of Pulau Tioman Malaysia 03° 24.00' N 104° 04.00' E	Six armed pirates hijacked the tanker underway. They took hostage all crew and locked them in the engine room. The pirates sailed the tanker to an unknown location where they transferred the oil cargo into another tanker. Before leaving the tanker the pirates destroyed all navigation and communication equipment and released the crew. The crew managed to repair the tanker and sailed to a safe port.	Pirates took hostage all crew and locked them in the engine room. They sailed the tanker to an unknown location and transferred the oil cargo into another tanker. Pirates destroyed all navigation and communication equipment	-	Yes Thailand Navy	ReCAAP ISC and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	EPHESUS General cargo ship Marshall Islands 19846 9412622	10/08/2014 20:30 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Singapore OPL anchorage Singapore 01° 28.84' N 104° 44.86' E	Three robbers boarded the vessel while at anchor. They climbed on board using a rope with a grapnel hook and gained access to the hatch by cutting the padlock of the bobby hatch. The on-duty A/B surprised them and robbers jumped overboard and escaped.	-	General alarm raised and SSAS activated.	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	DEWS Barge carrier Mongolia 377 8810322	10/08/2014 23:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Around 2nm South of Teluk Ramunia, Malaysia Malaysia 01° 19.00' N 104° 16.00' E	Fifteen masked robbers armed with pistols and knives boarded the barge at anchor. They tied up the crew, covered their faces, slapped and punched them and asked them the details of the cargo on board. The robbers stole barge's communication equipment and crew property before escaping.	Crew members were tied up, slapped and punched by the robbers. They stole the vessel's communication equipment and crew's property.	none	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	ODIN FINDER Research ship Italy 601 7031761	14/08/2014 00:05 LT	WEST AFRICA Pointe Noire Anchorage, The Congo Congo 04° 44.00' S 011° 48.00' E	Three robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored vessel. Alert crew raised the alarm and crew mustered. Seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers escaped empty-handed.	none	Alarm raised and crew mustered.	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	BLIZZARD Tug Netherlands 2311 8516952	20/08/2014 02:55 LT	WEST AFRICA Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana Ghana 04° 54.00' N 001° 43.00' W	Three robbers in a canoe approached and boarded an anchored offshore tug. Duty A/B on routine rounds noticed the robbers attempting to steal the outboard engine of the vessel's rescue boat. He immediately informed bridge who raised the alarm and mustered the crew. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped empty-handed. Incident reported to Port Control and a Marine Police patrol boat came for investigation.	none	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Ghana Marine Police boarded the vessel to take Master's statement.
5	CHALLENGE PROCYON Product tanker Panama 28735 9527403	20/08/2014 04:17 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Berakit, off Pulau Bintan, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 33.00' N 104° 46.00' E	Four robbers armed with knives boarded a Product Tanker. Alert crew raised the alarm and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped empty handed. All crew are safe.	none	Alarm raised & Sent distress message.	Yes PRC relayed message to MMEA Selatan, FOC RMN, Malaysian Marine Police, Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy & Indonesian Marine Police.	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Naval patrol boat despatched to location
6	LAKE DAHLIA Bulk carrier Panama 41662 9391969	20/08/2014 08:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, Indonesia Indonesia 00° 14.00' S 117° 40.00' E	Duty A/B on board an anchored bulk carrier noticed the forward stores door locks were broken. Upon searching the store it was found that mooring ropes were missing. Incident reported to port control through the local agents.	Ship store stolen	PFSO informed through agents	Yes PRC relayed message to Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy & Indonesian Marine Police	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

7	NAVIOS ORIANA Bulk carrier Panama 34795 9614969	22/08/2014 00:30 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Around 4nm West of Patenga, Chittagong, Bangladesh 22° 15.00' N 091° 43.00' E	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship underway. They threatened the duty watchmen who retreated into the accommodation and locked the doors. The robbers stole mooring ropes from the stern lockers and escaped. No injuries to crew. Port Control and Coast Guard informed.	Robbers threatened the duty watchmen and stole mooring ropes	Alarm raised	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Bangladesh Coast Guard deployed a high speed boat to the area but, nothing was found.
8	KOTA JUTA Container ship Hong Kong, China 18502 9226839	22/08/2014 05:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Around 5nm WNW of Nipah Island, Indonesia 01° 10.00' N 103° 34.00' E	Twelve robbers armed with knives boarded and entered the engine room of the ship underway. They took hostage the Electrical Officer who managed to alert the crew. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped with ship's engine spares. VTIS informed.	Robbers took hostage the Electrical Officer and stole ship's engine spares	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes VTIS Singapore	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9	LINCOLN EXPRESS Livestock carrier Philippines 3183 8616611	24/08/2014 06:35	MALACCA STRAIT Eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) off Pulau Takong Kecil Singapore 01° 05.23' N 103° 43.44' E	While sailing, the master sighted intruders on board the vessel. The ship's alarm was activated and crew was mustered. Noting that the crew had been alerted, the intruders escaped from the vessel empty-handed.	-	Ship's alarm activated and crew mustered	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) and IMBKL	Singapore VTIS initiated a navigational broadcast to alert mariners. They also informed the Singapore PCG, the RSN; and MRCC Indonesia

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

1	BW TOKYO LPG tanker Singapore 47985 9398307	04/08/2014 01:15 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Teluk Semangka Indonesia 05° 34.00' S 104° 38.00' E	Three robbers boarded an anchored tanker. Deck patrol noticed the robbers, raised the alarm and crew mustered. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped empty handed in their boat. Local authorities informed.	-	Raised alarm and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Local Authorities sent a tug boat to the location for assistance
2	GIUSEPPE MAURO RIZZO Bulk carrier Italy 47984 9448580	08/08/2014 03:45 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Muara Berau Anchorage Indonesia 00° 17.00' S 117° 41.00' E	Two robbers boarded an anchored vessel. Duty A/B spotted the robbers and raised the alarm and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robber escaped. Upon searching the vessel, it was found that the padlocks to the store room had been broken but nothing stolen.	Store's padlock was broken	Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	BOMAR PRELUDE Tanker Marshall Islands 5770 9272723	11/08/2014 06:30 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Belawan Outer Anchorage Indonesia 03° 54.00' N 098° 46.00' E	Four robbers in a wooden boat approached an anchored tanker. One of the robbers boarded the tanker and attempted to steal ship's stores from the forecandle store. Duty crew noticed the robber and informed OOW who raised the alarm, sounded ship's whistle and mustered the crew. Seeing the crew's alertness the robber jumped overboard and escaped with his accomplices empty handed. Incident reported to Port Control and Coast Guard through the local agents. The Marine Police officials boarded the tanker for investigation.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered.	Yes Belawan Port Control and Coast Guard	Marshall Islands ReCAAP ISC and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Marine Police officials boarded the tanker for investigation
4	SKANDI SINGAPORE Supply ship Norway 7386 9429857	11/08/2014 22:20 LT	WEST AFRICA Pointe Noire Anchorage Congo	Three robbers boarded an anchored vessel. Alert crew noticed the robbers on deck and on the forecandle and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew the robbers escaped and were seen approaching another vessel. A broadcast on VHF Ch 16 was made to alert all ships in the vicinity as well as the Port Authorities. All crew safe and nothing stolen from the vessel.	-	Alarm raised, crew mustered and a broadcast on VHF Ch 16 was made to alert all ships in the vicinity	Yes Port authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	PORT HAINAN Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 33036 9456422	23/08/2014 07:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Jakarta Port Indonesia 06° 05.00' S 106° 53.00' E	Robbers boarded the berthed ship unnoticed and escaped with ship's property. Chief Officer found the deck store lockers have been burgled and ship's property were missing.	Ship's property stolen	Master informed port authorities and crew conducted a search of the ship	Yes Singapore VTIS	ReCAAP ISC and 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. 214 ANNEX 2
									Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	BW LENA Product tanker Singapore 43797 9324318	09/08/2014 01:43 LT	WEST AFRICA Around 205nm South of Lagos, Nigeria Nigeria 02° 59.00' N 002° 55.00' E	Armed pirates in three skiffs chased and fired upon the tanker underway. The tanker was hardened as per BMP4 recommendations. Upon increasing speed and carrying out evasive manoeuvres the tanker managed to evade the attack. A mother vessel was noticed in the vicinity of the incident. Crew and the tanker are safe.	Pirates fired upon the tanker	The tanker increased speed and was hardened as per BMP4 recommendations.	Yes MTISC, Gulf of Guinea	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	ZEALAND AMSTERDAM Bulk carrier Netherlands 33312 9610884	22/08/2014 04:04 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 13nm NNE of Bintan Island, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 26.00' N 104° 37.00' E	Alert crew on board an anchored ship noticed three pirates using a bamboo pole to board the ship and alerted the OOW who raised the alarm. Seeing the alert crew the pirates escaped. All crew safe.	none	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Singapore Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	HUASCAR Product tanker Panama 25060 9038751	26/08/2014 10:20 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 24nm SW of Bayelsa Coast, Nigeria Nigeria 04° 08.10' N 005° 33.50' E	Seven pirates armed with guns in a five meter long skiff approached and fired upon the tanker underway. The tanker increased speed and commenced evasive manoeuvring. The pirates tried to board but because of the evasive manoeuvring the rope ladder fell into the sea resulting in the pirates aborting their attack.	Pirates fired upon the tanker causing bullet holes in the bulkhead on navigation bridge deck.	Master increased speed and initiated evasive manoeuvres	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	PENTRADER Tanker Malaysia 492 8604955	02/08/2014 22:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Around 6nm West of Penang Island Malaysia 05° 24.00' N 100° 05.00' E	Six robbers armed with guns in a skiff attempted to board the ship underway. Duty crew noticed the robbers and informed OOW who raised the alarm and switched on the deck lights. All crew mustered and fire hoses charged. Seeing the crew alertness they aborted the attempted boarding. Port Authorities and MMEA informed.	-	-	Yes Port Authorities and MMEA	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	BRO VARIO Product tanker Singapore 9882 9276303	25/08/2014 02:30	SOUTH CHINA SEA Tanjung Priok, Jakarta, Indonesia Indonesia 06° 01.15' S 106° 53.80' E	While at anchor, three robbers in a craft attempted to board the product tanker. The duty officer raised the alarm and the crew was mustered. Realizing the crew had been alerted, the robbers aborted the attempt and escaped.	-	OOW raised the alarm and mustered the crew.	No	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
3	NAME WITHHELD Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 19846	27/08/2014 04:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 18nm NE of Tg Berakit, Bintan Island, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 28.00' N 104° 44.00' E	Four persons armed with long knives boarded an anchored vessel via the stern using a grapnel hook and rope. Alert duty crew raised the alarm resulting in the suspected robbers escaping without stealing anything. All crew safe.	none	Alarm raised and SSAS activated	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

1	CASTLEGATE Bulk carrier Liberia 29923 9460318	04/08/2014 03:30 LT	WEST AFRICA Matadi Inner Anchorage Congo 05° 49.00' S 013° 28.00' E	Two robbers in a small boat approached and attempted to board an anchored ship using grappling hooks attached with ropes. Duty crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers aborted the attempted boarding and escaped in their boat.	-	Raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes -	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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