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MSC.4/Circ.230
17 December 2015

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during November 2015

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 November 2015 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 October 2015 being MSC.4/Circ.217, MSC.4/Circ.218, MSC.4/Circ.219 (Annual Report), MSC.4/Circ.220, MSC.4/Circ.221, MSC.4/Circ.222, MSC.4/Circ.223, MSC.4/Circ.224, MSC.4/Circ.225, MSC.4/Circ.226, MSC.4/Circ.227, MSC.4/Circ.228 and MSC.4/Circ.229.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	SZAFIR General cargo ship Cyprus 6030 9004504	26/11/2015 23:00 UTC	WEST AFRICA Appr. 30nm SW of Port Harcourt Nigeria 04° 00.00' N 006° 00.00' E	Pirates in two speedboats approached and boarded the general cargo ship underway. Eleven crew members managed to retreat and secure themselves in the engine room. The five remaining members of the crew were kidnapped and taken ashore by the pirates.	Five crew members kidnapped	SSAS alert activated, owners contacted and eleven crew members retreated into the engine room	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Warship dispatched by Nigerian Navy for assistance
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	ECLIPS Container ship Marshall Islands 10384 9126924	07/11/2015 02:30 LT	MEDITERRANEAN SEA Appr. 9.42nm west of Alexandria Egypt 31° 12.00' N 029° 44.00' E	Two robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored container ship using a hook attached to a rope. The duty crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers on the quarter deck. Before he could report the boarding, the robbers physically attacked him and he collapsed as a result. Once the duty crewmember regained consciousness he reported the incident and a search was conducted on board, following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Incident reported to port control and local agent.	Duty crewmember physically attacked and collapsed as a result	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Alexandria Port Control (Egypt)	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	CAPE FULMAR Container ship Marshall Islands 15995 9359313	14/11/2015 05:40 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 6nm of Vung Tau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 14.00' N 107° 02.00' E	Six robbers armed with knives and iron bars boarded the anchored ship at the forecandle. Duty deck watchman spotted the robbers and informed the duty officer who raised the alarm and mustered the crew. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers jumped overboard and fled in a wooden boat. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that padlock to the paint locker was damaged and ship's stores had been stolen. Incident reported to Port control.	Padlock to the paint locker damaged and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised, crew mustered and search conducted	Yes Vung Tau Port authority Viet nam	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam)	-

* 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

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IN PORT AREA

1	TOKYO TOWER Container ship United Kingdom 17229 9384875	01/11/2015 06:35 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Cat Lai Container Terminal, Ho Chi Minh City Viet Nam 10° 43.90' N 106° 45.60' E	Three robbers armed with knives in a speed boat boarded the anchored ship via starboard side using a rope. The Duty A/B spotted them and informed the bridge. The alarm was raised, ship's whistle sounded and the crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers fled. A search was conducted on board following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. All crew safe. Incident reported to Port Authorities.	-	Alarm raised, ship's whistle sounded and crew mustered	Yes Port Authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Vietnam)	-
2	BEKS CEYDA Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 36353 9748239	03/11/2015 04:30 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Taboneo Anchorage Indonesia 03° 42.00' S 114° 26.00' E	Three robbers boarded the anchored ship via the anchor chain. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered in response. Upon seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers fled empty handed. A search was conducted on board following which it was determined that one padlock to the forecandle store had been damaged but nothing was stolen.	One padlock to the forecandle store damaged	Alarm raised, crew mustered and search conducted on board	Yes Maritime Administration	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	WILLI Container ship Marshall Islands 26125 9160413	06/11/2015 12:10 UTC	MALACCA STRAIT Belawan Anchorage, Malacca Strait - Indonesia Indonesia	Two robbers boarded the anchored ship as it waited for berthing instructions. The duty crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers on board and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers fled. A search was conducted on board following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	MSC NINGBO Container ship Luxembourg 83133 9285677	10/11/2015 04:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Mui Vung Tau anchorage Viet Nam 10° 15.00' N 107° 03.00' E	Unknown persons boarded the anchored container ship unnoticed. Evidence was discovered when the crew noticed the padlock to the steering gear room and skylight damaged. A search was conducted on board following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. All crew safe.	Padlocks to steering gear room and skylight damaged	Alarm raised, crew mustered and search conducted on board	Yes VTS Viet Nam	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam)	-
5	GOLDEN GINGER Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 44485 9590761	12/11/2015 07:20 UTC	MALACCA STRAIT Belawan outer anchorage, Malacca Strait Indonesia 03° 56.00' N 098° 45.00' E	Two robbers boarded the anchored bulk carrier via the hawse pipe. In response, the alarm was raised and the crew mustered. Upon seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers fled with stolen ship's property. A search was conducted on board following which it was determined that the locks to the boatswain stores had been cut while eight fire nozzles and 16 coupling had been stolen.	Locks to the boatswain stores damaged and ship's property stolen.	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Belawan Port Authority	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

6	SPARNA Bulk carrier Panama 31385 9317353	13/11/2015 02:15 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Berth 115, Tanjung Priok Port, Jakarta Indonesia	Five robbers armed with knives boarded the berthed bulk carrier during cargo operations. They were spotted by the crew who raised the alarm in response. Upon seeing the alertness of the crew, the robbers fled with stolen ship's property.	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	MALENA General cargo ship Antigua and Barbuda 2588 9375886	18/11/2015 22:00 LT	NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN Port-au-Prince Anchorage Haiti 18° 33.00' N 072° 23.00' W	Two robbers boarded the anchored general cargo ship. Duty A/B spotted the robbers hiding near the forward mooring station and informed the C/O. As the A/B approached the forward station, he saw the robbers cutting mooring ropes with knives. As the crew mustered, the robbers fled with stolen mooring ropes. The C/O reported the incident to the pilot station and requested assistance.	Mooring ropes stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
8	SEA FORCE Product tanker Marshall Islands 8539 9322102	18/11/2015 23:00 UTC	WEST AFRICA Pointe Noire Anchorage Congo 04° 45.00' S 011° 49.00' E	Duty A/B on board the anchored product tanker spotted a robber near the forecandle entrance. He immediately reported the sighting to the Master, who raised the alarm and the 2/O made an announcement through the PA system. The deck crewmembers immediately mustered at the forecandle. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robber fled empty handed in a small wooden boat. A search was conducted on board following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Incident reported to port control.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Local port control at Port Noire Congo	Marshall Islands ICC- IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9	KALLIOPI L Bulk carrier Liberia 39994 9233284	25/11/2015 00:45 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Kakinada Anchorage India 17° 03.00' N 082° 24.00' E	Three suspected robbers armed with knives in a small boat approached the anchored bulk carrier. Two of the robbers boarded the ship and were in the process of stealing ship's stores. Deck crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers and informed the duty officer on the bridge. The alarm was raised, PA announcement was made and all crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robbers fled in their boat leaving the stores on board. Incident reported to Port Authorities.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India)	-

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

ANNEX II
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.230 ANNEX II Coastal State Action Taken
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	SALVIGILANT Tug Singapore 2658 9351842	20/11/2015 11:15 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Approximately 2.15nm NNE of Nipah Islands - Malacca Strait Indonesia Indonesia 01° 10.56' N 103° 40.55' E	Three unknown persons in a wooden boat attempted to board the barge under tow. The Master raised the general alarm followed by a PA announcement and all crew mustered on the forecandle deck in response. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Incident reported to VTIS Singapore.	-	Emergency alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes VTIS Singapore	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore Police Coast Guard (PCG) and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) informed. Malaysia and Indonesian authorities also informed.
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