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MSC.4/Circ.239
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during July 2016

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 July 2016 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 30 June 2016 being MSC.4/Circ.227, MSC.4/Circ.228, MSC.4/Circ.229, MSC.4/Circ.230, MSC.4/Circ.231, MSC.4/Circ.232 (Annual Report), MSC.4/Circ.233, MSC.4/Circ.234, MSC.4/Circ.235, MSC.4/Circ.236, MSC.4/Circ.237 and MSC.4/Circ.238.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	BOUBOULINA Tanker Greece 84844 9298753	07/07/2016 06:50 UTC	WEST AFRICA Approx. 89nm SW of Brass Nigeria 03° 16.00' N 005° 09.00' E	Armed pirates approached and fired upon the tanker underway. As the boat came alongside the tanker the alarm was raised and all crew retreated into the citadel from where they controlled the tanker. After around four hours the crew emerged from the citadel. Bridge windows were shattered due to the firing. All crew members reported safe. The tanker continued her voyage to the port of destination.	Pirates fired upon the tanker. Bridge windows were shattered	Alarm raised and crew retreated into the citadel	Yes MRCC Lagos, Nigeria	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	PRINCE JOSEPH 1 Supply ship Nigeria 2176 9499319	07/07/2016 14:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Approx. 98nm SW of Bayelsa Nigeria 03° 05.00' N 004° 53.00' E	Three pirates armed with guns fired upon and boarded the vessel underway. The alarm was raised, distress alert activated and non-essential crew retreated into the citadel. The pirates kidnapped five crew members and fled with crew personal belongings. One crew member was injured during the incident. Nigerian Authority notified.	Pirates fired upon the vessel, kidnapped five crew members and stole crew personal belongings. One crew member injured	Alarm raised, distress alert activated and non-essential crew retreated into the citadel	Yes NIMASA & Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	BALTIMORE Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 89523 9331464	16/07/2016 22:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. 18nm SW of Pulau Mangkai Indonesia 02° 55.00' N 105° 19.00' E	Seven pirates armed with knives boarded the ship while enroute to Lanshan. They tied up the Master and fled with stolen cash, ship's property and crew personal belongings.	Ship's property and crew personal belongings and cash stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes ICC IMB PRC Asia Regional Office	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	UNNAMED FISHING BOAT Fishing vessel	09/07/2016	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. at vicinity, 8 nm east of Lahad Datu, Sabah Malaysia	Five armed robbers boarded the unnamed fishing boat carrying seven Indonesian fishermen. The robbers inquired who among the crew had passports; and three fishermen replied that they had. The robbers kidnapped the three fishermen with passports, fled in their white speed boat towards the Philippine waters, leaving the remaining four fishermen on board the fishing boat.	3 crew members kidnapped	-	Yes Philippine Coast Guard (PCG)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines) which is the PCG	In coordination with other enforcement agencies, the PCG is taking serious steps to pre-empt similar incidents to happen again in the Sulu sea and nearby waters of tri-border area of the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia.
2	SSI DIGNITY Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 44003 9665360	15/07/2016 21:00 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Indonesia 00° 17.00' S 117° 40.00' E	Deck crew spotted a robber with a long knife on the forecastle and one speed boat (3-4 men). The robbers fled from the vessel.	-	Duty crew doubled on deck. One crew member stayed on watch. Radio kept on. Rigged razor wire attached to the anchor chain pipe.	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	SERUDONG 3 & SERUDONG 4 Tug Malaysia 145	18/07/2016	SOUTH CHINA SEA Tanjung Labian, Lahad Datu Sabah Malaysia 05° 08.00' N 119° 40.00' E	A ship passing by at the waters in Tanjung Labian, Lahad Datu, Sabah discovered an abandoned tug boat, Serudong 3 with barge, Serudong 4. The tug boat with engine still running had no crew on board, the ship compass missing and the crew belongings in a mess. The tug boat and barge were later towed to Lahad Datu Jetty Port for further investigation by the authority.	Five Malaysian crew members were missing and crew belongings were left in a mess.	-	Yes Philippine Coast Guard (PCG)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	In coordination with other enforcement agencies, the PCG is taking serious steps to pre-empt similar incidents to happen again in Sulu Sea and nearby waters of tri-border area of the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia.

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	SBI THALIA Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 36336 9704843	24/07/2016 14:20 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Indonesia 00° 13.00' S 117° 33.00' E	AB spotted that the forecandle skylight was open and a robber climbing from the opening. Two more robbers were hiding behind the winch and moved towards the AB, but he fled. Upon hearing the alarm sounded, robber fled from the vessel.	-	Implemented ADD measures equivalent to Security Level 2, double look out and Security patrol. Alarm sounded.	Yes Port Control in Samarinda	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	PACIFIC JASMINE Bulk carrier Panama 15243 9487550	29/07/2016 23:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vungtau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 16.03' N 107° 01.83' E	Three robbers boarded the anchored bulk carrier. Duty crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers. Upon seeing the alerted crew, robbers fled with 25 cans of paint. A search was carried out on board. Incident reported to VTIS Vungtau.	Ship's stores stolen.	Search was carried out throughout the ship	Yes VTIS Vungtau	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Vietnam)	-

IN PORT AREA

1	CONTI PERIDOT Bulk carrier Liberia 33036 9452634	03/07/2016 04:35 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Samarinda Road Indonesia	During safety and security round, the Duty AB spotted approx. four unknown persons walking near the ship's in the forecandle area. The Master was notified and the general alarm was sounded. The robbers jumped overboard, fled via a boat. The crew was unable to obtain details on the boat, as it was dark and rainy. Further investigation into the incident discovered that razor wire which blocked the house pipe was cut, the padlock and special security lock at the forecandle door were broken, and one mooring rope was stolen.	Razor wire had been cut, padlock and special security lock forecandle door broken and one mooring rope was stolen	OOW informed the Master and alarm raised.	No	Liberia	-
2	TEAL Heavy load carrier Curaçao (Kingdom of the Netherlands) 22835 8113566	03/07/2016 04:50 LT	WEST AFRICA Conakry Anchorage Guinea 09° 23.60' N 013° 41.90' W	Six robbers in a boat armed with machine guns and knives boarded the anchored ship. They attacked the duty O/S causing injuries and took the 2/O hostage. They opened fire to threaten the crew members and damaged the accommodation. Under gun threat, they robbed the crew members of their cash and personal belongings before fled. Master tried to contact the port control, but received no response. The incident was reported to Port Authority through the local agents. After an hour a security boat came to the location.	Robbers attacked the duty O/S causing injuries and took the 2/O hostage. They opened fire to threaten the crew members and damaged the accommodation. Crew members cash and personal belongings stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A security boat was sent to the location

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IN PORT AREA

3	OCEAN OPAL Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 44098 9625243	03/07/2016 21:00	INDIAN OCEAN Berth No.4B, Haldia Port India	While the ship was berthed, an unknown number of robbers boarded the ship. Four days after the incident, the ship master discovered that the engine spares of their ship were stolen. On the same day, he reported the incident to the Haldia Port Authority in India. Thereafter, on 1 August 16, while the investigation by the port authority was in process, the master informed the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) that engine spares amounting to 82 kg along with fire hydrant nozzle were missing.	Ship's engine spares and fire hydrant nozzle stolen	A search was carried out	Yes Haldia Port Authority and Flag state	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India)	Investigation by the authority is on-going. The ICG reminded the master to report all incidents occurred on board his ship immediately to the authority. He was also advised him to provide any evidence/witness/photograph/video related to the incident.
4	GEOCEAN PROTIS Special purpose ship Panama 16198	04/07/2016 09:00 LT	WEST AFRICA Pointe Noire Outer Anchorage Congo 04° 44.00' S 011° 48.00' E	Robbers in a small boat boarded the anchored pipe laying barge, stole ship's stores and fled unnoticed. The theft was noticed during routine rounds.	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	TORM THYRA Tanker Singapore 30128 9250488	08/07/2016 22:20 LT	WEST AFRICA Folawiyo Nispan Jetty, Apapa, Lagos Nigeria 06° 25.00' N 003° 22.00' E	A robber armed with knives boarded the berthed tanker at forward main deck. D/O raised the alarm, sounded ship's whistle and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robber fled empty handed in a waiting boat with his accomplices. Port Authority informed through the local agents.	-	Alarm raised, sounded ship's whistle and crew mustered	Yes Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	VISHVA NIDHI Bulk carrier India 33170 9464742	10/07/2016 05:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Taboneo Anchorage Indonesia 03° 41.17' S 114° 25.20' E	Robbers boarded the anchored ship unnoticed and fled with ship's stores. The theft was discovered by the duty crew while performing routine rounds. The robbers damaged the ship's forepeak store padlock and stole two mooring ropes. Port control informed.	Ship's stores stolen and ship's forepeak store padlock damaged	A search conducted on board and the master enhanced security measures and designated additional personnel were put on standby during hours of darkness	Yes Port State Control (Indonesia)	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India)	Authority boarded the ship for investigation

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

7	GEOCEAN PROTIS Special purpose ship Panama 16198	16/07/2016 04:50 LT	WEST AFRICA Pointe Noire Outer Anchorage Congo 04° 44.00' S 011° 48.00' E	Robbers in a fishing canoe boarded the anchored pipe laying barge. Duty crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers and raised the alarm. Upon seeing the alerted crew, the robbers fled with ship's stores.	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
8	ATLANTIC DIANA Tanker Hong Kong, China 29266 9332171	16/07/2016 12:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA New Davao Bay Coconut Oil Mill (DBCOM) wharf in Lanang Davao City Philippines 07° 10.00' N 125° 40.00' E	While at anchor, three small motor bancas (green, blue and white) came alongside the ship with six unidentified persons on board. Three robbers boarded the ship using ropes and hooks while another three served as the look-out. Robbers broke the padlock and security seal of the forepeak store and took one set of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and one spare oxygen tank. The robbers were spotted by the ship's boatswain who immediately informed the Duty Officer. The ship's crew then chased the robbers who threatened the crew with knives and firearms. Thereafter, the robbers jumped into the water with the items and were seen fleeing towards Sasa, Panacan, Davao City. Port Authority informed through the local agents.	SCBA set and one spare oxygen tank stolen and the forepeak store padlock broken	Alarm raised, crew mustered and posted extra security guard. Informed the agent and the Port Facility Security Officer	Yes Philippine Coast Guard Station (PCGS) Davao/Davao Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Contact Point (Hong Kong) and ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	PCGS Davao boarded the ship and conducted an investigation. PCGS Davao conducted maritime patrol in the vicinity and coordinated with the port facility and ship operator to intensify their port security measures.
9	LEWEK CONSTELLATION Special purpose ship Panama 48949 9629756	17/07/2016 02:45	WEST AFRICA Pointe Noire Anchorage Congo 04° 47.00' S 011° 47.90' E	A robber armed with knives in a small boat boarded the anchored pipe laying ship. Duty crew on routine rounds spotted the robber and informed the bridge. The alarm was raised and crew mustered. Upon seeing the crew alertness, the robber jumped overboard and fled. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that ship's stores was stolen. Incident reported to Port Control.	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised , crew mustered and a search conducted onboard	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
10	BW EGRET Product tanker Singapore 29768 9607174	17/07/2016 21:15 LT	NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN Port Au Prince E Anchorage Haiti 18° 34.00' N 072° 23.00' W	Robbers in a small boat boarded the anchored product tanker. Duty crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers. The alarm was raised and crew mustered. Upon seeing the crew alertness, the robbers jumped overboard and fled empty handed.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control and Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard sent one petrol boat took rounds at night

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

11	SAN ANTONIO Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 31540 9514066	20/07/2016 00:45 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao Anchorage Peru	Robbers boarded the anchored ship. Duty OS spotted the robbers at the forecastle and immediately informed the OOW. The alarm was raised and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers fled without stealing anything. Incident reported to port control and local agent.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
12	MR AQUARIUS Product tanker Marshall Islands 30400 9421324	24/07/2016 05:15 LT	WEST AFRICA Capital Terminal Berth, Lagos Port Nigeria 06° 26.10' N 003° 19.60' E	Three robbers in a small boat approached and boarded the berthed tanker. An armed guard on security rounds on deck spotted the robber and raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robber fled with his accomplices. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Incident reported to Naval Authority and Terminal PFSO.	-	Alarm raised, crew mustered and a search conducted on board.	Yes Naval Authority and Terminal PFSO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
13	OLYMPIC HERCULES Tug Norway 4477 9235672	26/07/2016 03:38 LT	WEST AFRICA Sekondi Naval Berth, Takoradi Ghana	A robber armed with knives in a small boat boarded the berthed offshore tug. Deck crew spotted the robber, raised the alarm and approached the robber. Seeing the approaching crew, the robber fled. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that ship's property had been stolen. Port control informed.	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised, crew mustered and crew approached the robber. A search conducted on board.	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
14	FAIRCHEM BIRDIE Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 15192 9423724	28/07/2016 05:20 LT	MALACCA STRAIT SDS Terminal, Lubuk Gaug Indonesia	Six robbers armed with knives boarded the berthed tanker and entered the engine room. The Oiler and 3E were working in the engine room at the time. The robbers tied their hands and robbed the generator spares and gold chain off of the 3E and fled. Incident reported to the Port Control.	Ship's spares part and crew personal effects stolen.	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control & Coast Guard	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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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	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. 239 ANNEX II
	Type of Ship								Gross Tonnage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	NAVIGATOR ATLAS Gas carrier - LNG Liberia 17208 9661558	06/07/2016	ARABIAN SEA Somali Basin, off the Coast of Somalia Somalia	A suspicious craft approached was tracked on S-Band Radar, at a distance of about 6nm. The vessel altered course with increased speed. Armed guards were put on alert; the Master ordered the crew to muster at the citadel where they exercised preventative anti piracy lockdown measures. The fire pump was also started. The suspicious craft finally turned away and the vessel proceeded to its destination while UKMTO was notified.	-	Armed guards on alert, Master announced on P.A, crew mustered at citadel and follow anti piracy lockdown measures. The fire pump was also started.	Yes UKMTO	Liberia	-
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IN PORT AREA

1	DANUBIA Product tanker Liberia 38975 9258466	20/07/2016 04:30 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Talara Road Peru 04° 33.90' S 081° 18.60' W	During routine security rounds on board the anchored tanker, the duty crew spotted a small motor boat near the starboard anchor chain with one robber in the boat and another climbing up the anchor chain. He immediately informed the OOW who raised the alarm, the security watchman confronted and directed a search light towards the robbers. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers fled in their boat. Incident reported to port control.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	Liberia ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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