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MSC.4/Circ.240  
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## REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

### Issued monthly – Acts reported during August 2016

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's instruction to the Secretariat to issue monthly reports of all incidents of piracy<sup>1</sup> and armed robbery against ships<sup>2</sup> 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 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.

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<sup>1</sup> "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)."

<sup>2</sup> "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 2016 being 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, MSC.4/Circ.238 and MSC.4/Circ.239.

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

**IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS**

1	AD MATSU Tanker Singapore 3609 9523782	07/08/2016 21:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. 32nm SE of Pulau Aur, Johor Malaysia 02° 00.93' N 104° 52.94' E	<p>While enroute from Singapore to Haiphong, the tanker was boarded by five pirates armed with guns and knives. The Master and C/O were taken hostage and taken to the bridge. The remaining crew were forced to muster in the crew mess room and were threatened at gun point. Master was forced to switch off the Bridge Navigational Watch Alarm System (BNWAS) and was ordered to slow down the tanker. The pirates then took the Master to his cabin and stole ship's cash and locked him in the mess room with other crew.</p> <p>The pirates ransacked the crew cabins and fled with crew cash and personal belongings. The Master and crew later emerged from the mess room and activated the SSAS, informed their head office and made an announcement on VHF channel 16 to alert other ships in the vicinity. Incident reported to authority.</p> <p>Upon receipt of the information, the authority informed the Indonesian Navy (TNI AL) who immediately deployed the Western Fleet Quick Reaction Force and arrested one of the pirates. Information gathered from him revealed that on 7 Aug 16, he left Pulau Belakang Padang (an island off Batam), and met with five other men off Tanjong Berakit (off Bintan). They boarded a small boat at 1900 hrs on the same day and heading towards Pulau Mangkai (off the Anambas Island Group). They spotted the ship and decided to board. Among the items found on him were two Casio wrist-watches which matched the description of the lost items reported by the crew and a Samurai sword.</p>	Crew personal belongings, cash and ship's cash stolen	Contacted and reported the incident to the company. Master broadcasted the incident through VHF Channel 16 to all ships within the vicinity.	Yes Singapore Authority (Information Fusion Centre)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The TNI AL's Western Fleet Quick Reaction Force immediately conducted an operation that resulted in the successful apprehension of one of the pirates and the recovery of some stolen items. TNI AL searching for the five remaining pirates.
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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 INTERNATIONAL WATERS

2	VECTIS OSPREY General cargo ship Isle of Man (United Kingdom) 6190 9594315	17/08/2016 13:27 LT	WEST AFRICA Approx. 28nm South of Bonny Nigeria 03° 54.50' N 007° 09.30' E	Pirates armed with guns boarded the vessel underway. The alarm was raised, SSAS activated and crew retreated to the citadel. Pirates left when Nigerian Navy intercepted and boarded the vessel. Vessel was escorted to Bonny River Anchorage for investigation. Incident reported to Nigerian Navy	Ship's equipment damaged. Crew belonging, cash and ship's cash stolen.	Master implemented No Anti-Piracy Procedures. SSAS activated. Crew retreated to the citadel. Established communication with CSO	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Nigerian Navy intercepted and boarded the vessel after received the reported made by the vessel.
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### IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	ATLANTICA Bulk carrier Malta 28693 9216509	07/08/2016 00:05 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Cai-Mep, Vung Tau Viet Nam 10° 15.50' N 107° 01.26' E	Three robbers in a small boat approached and boarded the anchored ship. Duty crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers and raised the alarm. All crew mustered on the main deck. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers fled in their boat with six cans of 20-litres paint. Port Control informed.	Six cans of 20-litres paint stolen.	Duty crew raised the alarm and crew mustered	Yes Port Control	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Vietnam), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	AISHA SARWAR Bulk carrier Bangladesh 26612 9200433	24/08/2016 01:10 LT	WEST AFRICA Approx. 5.5nm South of Conakry Guinea 09° 24.50' N 013° 43.30' W	Seven robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the anchored bulk carrier. Two crew members were taken hostage and beaten on board. The robbers fled with crew cash and property. Incident reported to the local agent.	Crew cash and property stolen	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

### IN PORT AREA

1	HARLEY Product tanker Marshall Islands 29083 9133082	05/08/2016 02:00 LT	WEST AFRICA Folawiyo Nispan Jetty, Apapa, Lagos Nigeria 06° 14.00' N 003° 23.00' E	Four robbers armed with long knives boarded the berthed tanker at the forecastle. The duty pumpman on routine rounds was taken hostage and threatened him with long knives. The robbers submerged two hoses into the forward tank dome and commenced stealing the cargo. Once their boat was filled into their boat, the robbers released the pumpman, and fled. The alarm was raised and a search was carried out.	Robbers took hostage the duty pumpman and threatened him with long knives. They stole some cargo	Alarm raised and a search was carried out	Yes Local Port Authority at Apapa, Lagos	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	External security guards were sent onboard provided by port facility
2	KING BEANS Bulk carrier Panama 17018 9550151	07/08/2016 00:30 LT	WEST AFRICA Pointe Noire Outer Anchorage Congo 04° 44.90' S 011° 46.30' E	Four robbers in a small motor boat approached the anchored ship. Two robbers boarded the ship and broke into the boatswain store, which triggered an alarm on the bridge. Duty officer raised the alarm and alerted the piracy watch crew members who started making their way towards the forward. Upon seeing the alerted crew, the two robbers fled with their accomplices waiting in the boat. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen.	-	Duty officer raised the alarm and alerted the piracy watch crew members who started making their way towards the forward	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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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

3	WALNUT EXPRESS Product tanker Panama 27972 9305348	13/08/2016 04:30 LT	WEST AFRICA Folawiyo Nispan Jetty, Apapa Nigeria 06° 26.00' N 003° 22.13' E	Robbers boarded the berthed tanker. Duty crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers and notified the bridge. The alarm was raised and fog horn sounded. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers fled empty handed. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Incident reported to NIMASA and Nigerian Navy	-	Alarm raised, fog horn sounded and search carried out throughout the ship	Yes NIMASA and Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Security patrol has been increased on the water front side by the boats.
4	AMSTEL FALCON Bulk carrier Panama 31508 9460514	27/08/2016 06:30 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao Anchorage Peru 12° 01.00' S 077° 10.90' W	Three robbers armed with guns boarded the anchored ship. Crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers presence and notify the bridge before being taken hostage at gunpoint. The alarm was raised, SSAS activated and all crew mustered on the bridge. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers fled. Incident reported to the Callao Port Control and the Coast Guard sent a boarding party to investigate. All crew safe. Nothing reported stolen.	One crew taken hostage at gun point	Alarm raised, SSAS activated and all crew mustered on the bridge	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard sent a boarding party to investigate

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

**IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS**

1	SEA STAR Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 33042 9624500	24/08/2016 06:55 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Underway Yemen 13° 40.00' N 042° 54.00' E	The vessel was chased by high speed boats. Armed guards on-board the vessel showed their weapons and the boats backed away.	-	All crew alerted by PA and crew mustered.	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, UKMTO	-
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**IN TERRITORIAL WATERS**

1	NAUTICA TG. PUTERI XXVII Tug Malaysia 466 9762120	19/08/2016 01:30 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Approx. 1.7 nm north of Pulau Lenkang, in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme Singapore 01° 11.30' N 103° 52.03' E	Four armed robbers attempted to board a tug underway. The alarm was raised and crew mustered. Upon seeing the crew alertness, the robbers aborted the attempted attack and moved away.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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