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MSC.4/Circ.241
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during September 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 30 September 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 31 August 2016 being 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, MSC.4/Circ.239 and MSC.4/Circ.240.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	HANZE KOCHI Chemical tanker Gibraltar (United Kingdom) 7446 9341378	16/09/2016 02:50 LT	WEST AFRICA Approx. 44nm SW of Bayelsa Nigeria 03° 52.00' S 005° 20.00' E	While en route from Port Harcourt to Lagos, 12 pirates armed with guns approached the tanker. One pirate boarded the tanker and heaved up two aluminium ladders to assist the others to board. Upon seeing movement on the deck the 2/O raised the alarm, made an announcement on the PA and all non-essential crew members mustered in a safe room. Master activated the SSAS, sent distress message and informed the Armed Naval Guard on board. As the pirate boat tried to come alongside and make fast to the tanker, the Master and the Naval Commander on board decided to fire warning shots. The pirates returned fire. After an exchange of fire for 30 minutes, the pirates aborted and moved away. At daybreak, a search was carried out and no pirates were found on board. The superstructure and deck of the tanker sustained some damage due to the firing. No injuries to the crew or the Naval Guards reported.	Pirates fired upon the tanker. The tanker sustained some damage due to the firing	2/O raised the alarm, made announcement on the PA and all non-essential crew members mustered in a safe room. Master activated the SSAS, sent distress message, took evasive manoeuvres and informed the Armed Naval Guard on board	Yes Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	NAME WITHHELD Fishing vessel Malaysia	10/09/2016 22:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA At vicinity waters near Pulau Pom Pom off Semporna, Sabah Malaysia 04° 25.00' N 118° 28.00' E	While sailing, robbers armed with automatic rifle boarded the fishing trawler from a speed boat and abducted three of the 11 crew members. The robbers are believed to have taken the abducted crew members across the border toward the island chain of Tawi-Tawi, in the Southern Philippines. The crew was believed to be Filipinos Badjaos living permanently in the area.	Three crew were abducted	Reported the incident to the Malaysian Authority.	Yes Malaysian Authority	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	Coordinated with the Philippines Authority about the incident.
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IN PORT AREA

1	OLYMPIC HERCULES Tug Norway 4477 9235672	01/09/2016 04:10 LT	WEST AFRICA Takoradi Anchorage Ghana	Three robbers in a canoe approached the anchored offshore tug. One robber managed to board the ship and was detected by the CCTV, which triggered the alarm. The robber entered the ship workshop, pump room, and the crew mess and fled with stolen ship's property. Several attempts made to contact the Secondi Naval Base but no response received.	Ship's property stolen	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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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	CENTURY MELODY Bulk carrier Panama 9993 9580211	02/09/2016 02:00 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Port Au Prince Anchorage Haiti 18° 34.40' N 072° 32.60' W	Two robbers boarded the anchored ship and threatened duty crew with a long knives and stones. The alarm was raised and all crew mustered. Upon seeing the alerted crew the robbers fled in a small boat with stolen ship's stores. Incident reported to Port Au Prince Authority.	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	MAERSK TORSHAVN Chemical tanker Singapore 29455 9718088	02/09/2016 08:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA New Davao Oil Mill Terminal Philippines 07° 09.70' N 125° 39.60' E	Duty crew on a berthed product tanker spotted a robber on board and alerted the duty AB who raised the alarm. Upon seeing the crew alertness, the robber fled with stolen 3 immersion suits.	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered. Assigned additional deck watch	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
4	NAME WITHHELD Tanker Panama 28539	06/09/2016 03:50 LT	EAST AFRICA Jetty No. 10, Beira Mozambique	Crew onboard a berthed tanker spotted robbers stealing ship's property and raised the alarm. Upon seeing the alerted crew, the robbers fled.	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	CAMILA Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 21532 9701231	06/09/2016 23:35 UTC	MALACCA STRAIT Dumai Indonesia 01° 43.00' N 101° 26.00' E	Four armed robbers boarded the anchored bulk carrier and entered the engine room via the funnel door. They threatened the Duty Oiler with knives and tied him up. The robbers then stole engine spares and fled. After the robbers fled, the Oiler managed to free himself and alerted the Duty Officer who in turn raised the alarm. No injuries to crew members. Incident reported to port authority.	Ship's engine spares stolen	Alarm raised and incident reported.	Yes Port Authority at Dumai, Indonesia	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	TAURUS SUN Oil tanker Liberia 59164 9332822	07/09/2016 20:45 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Dumai Inner Anchorage Indonesia 01° 41.80' N 101° 29.70' E	Duty Engineer spotted four robbers equipped with long knives, searching the engine room store. They gained access to the poop deck using a rope with an attached hook. The Duty Officer was informed, the alarm was raised, and all crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers fled from steering gear room to poop deck port and jumped overboard. A check of the inventory discovered that the diesel generator spares were stolen. IMB, Dumai Port Control and Company Security Officer (CSO) were informed.	Ship's spares stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Authority	Liberia 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
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IN PORT AREA

7	HELLESPONT DEFIANCE Supply ship Marshall Islands 2177 9421788	11/09/2016 21:45 UTC	WEST AFRICA Anchorage off Pointe Noire Congo 04° 45.40' S 011° 50.10' E	Robbers boarded the anchored offshore supply ship and fled with the rescue boat outboard motor. The theft was discovered by the duty boatswain during routine rounds and reported to the bridge. The alarm was raised and a search was carried out. It was reported that footprints were found around the rescue boat area and the fore-castle deck.	Rescue boat outboard motor stolen	Alarm raised and a search was carried out	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
8	PROMISE 2 Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 22927 9571272	14/09/2016 05:00 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Private Jetty, PT Semen Padang, Dumai Indonesia 01° 44.00' N 101° 23.00' E	Five robbers wearing masks boarded the berthed ship during cargo operations. Duty crew spotted that the robbers were armed with long knives and appeared to be aggressive. The alarm was raised and crew mustered. Upon seeing the alerted crew, the robbers fled. Local agents and port security informed.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Security	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9	SEA STAR Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 33042 9624500	14/09/2016 15:00 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Bravo Anchorage Bangladesh 22° 13.00' N 091° 41.00' E	Duty crew on a bulk carrier carrying out cargo operations at anchorage spotted that the store room had been broken into. Upon alerting the crew and carrying out a search, along with the security crew, it was discovered that the 6 mooring men employed on board the ship had stolen ship's property. The robbers were apprehended and disembarked onto the lightering barge. All stolen property recovered. Agent informed.	Ship's property stolen.	Robbers apprehended and stolen goods recovered	Yes Bangladesh Police	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Bangladesh)	Bangladesh Coast Guard conducted the investigation and hand over the six mooring men to the local Police.
10	LADY MELINDA Tug Singapore 2078 9275713	16/09/2016	MALACCA STRAIT Galang, Batam Indonesia 00° 43.50' N 104° 10.50' E	During routine rounds on the anchored Offshore Support Vessel (OSV), the Chief Engineer noticed the spares cabinet and lockers broken into and some items missing. The incident was reported to the authority who boarded and inspected the vessel.	Spares cabinet and lockers broken. Ship's property stolen.	A search was carried out	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Authority boarded the vessel for investigation

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

11	PANAMANA General cargo ship Singapore 39258 9401805	16/09/2016 08:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Pajang Anchorage Indonesia 05° 30.00' S 105° 17.00' E	One of the crew discovered that the padlock to the engine store room was broken and some spare parts were missing. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that 6 sets of piston rings and 3 sets of bearing shells had been stolen. It was not known who the robber(s) was. The Company Security Officer (CSO) reported the loss of items to the flag State and the ReCAAP ISC.	Padlock to the engine store room broken and ship's spare parts stolen.	The master reported incident to the CSO.	Yes Flag State	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
12	WINDHOEK Container ship Panama 17280 9515591	21/09/2016 01:46 LT	WEST AFRICA Conakry Anchorage Guinea 09° 18.74' N 013° 45.51' W	Six robbers armed with guns boarded and fired upon the duty crew on board the anchored container ship. Master activated the SSAS alert, raised the alarm and locked the accommodation. The robbers, however, gained access into the ship by breaking the bridge wing windows. After taking the crew hostage, the robbers ransacked and looted every crew cabin, stole crew personal belongings, ship's cash and fled. The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre liaised with the Guinea RCC who responded and boarded the ship. All crew reported safe.	Robbers ransacked and looted every crew cabin and taken crew hostage on board. Crew personal belongings and ship's cash stolen.	SSAS alert activated, alarm raised and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Guinea Navy sent patrol ship to the location and boarded the container ship.
13	AMERICAS SPIRIT Tanker Bahamas 63213 9247443	22/09/2016 23:50 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Barcelona Anchorage Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) 10° 09.70' N 064° 46.80' W	Approximately four small fishing ships were engaged in fishing around the anchored tanker. Robbers disguised as fishermen approached and boarded the tanker, stole ship's property and fled unnoticed. The theft was noticed during routine rounds by the duty crew. A search was made throughout the tanker and the incident was reported to Port Control. Authority boarded the tanker for investigation.	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised, crew mustered and a search was carried out throughout the ship	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Authority boarded the tanker for investigation
14	PACIFIC NOBLE Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 17009 9615066	25/09/2016 02:30 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Cilacap Anchorage Indonesia 07° 46.00' S 109° 04.00' E	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored bulk carrier. They took hostage the duty AB, threatened and tied him to the gangway railing. Then, they entered the engine room, took a hostage and tied up the duty 2/E and Oiler. The Oiler managed to free himself and raised the alarm. The robbers fled with the stolen engine spares. Crew mustered and a search was carried out. No injuries to crew members. Incident was reported to Port Authority.	Crew taken hostage on board and engine spares stolen.	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Port Authority at Cilacap, Indonesia	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

15	APOLLO RIKUYO Panama 6925 9370355	27/09/2016 02:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vung Tau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 15.30' N 107° 01.00' E	Duty AB on routine rounds on board the anchored general cargo ship spotted three robbers near the paint locker. While two robbers stole paint drums the third robber armed with a gun and a jungle bolo stood watched. They ransacked the ship's paint locker and after 10 minutes, jumped into the water. The AB afraid for his safety, hid near the windlass until the three robbers fled in the small boat. The alarm was raised, crew mustered and a search was carried out, following which it was determined that 25 cans of 20-litres paint were stolen. Incident reported to Vung Tau VTS and Port Control.	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Vung Tau VTS and Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam)	-
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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 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. 241 ANNEX II
	2	3	4						10

IN PORT AREA

1	CS JADEN Bulk carrier Bahamas 23268 9660061	23/09/2016 01:45 LT	NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN Berth No.60-61, Port of Casablanca Morocco	Duty crew onboard the berthed ship observed two suspicious persons hiding on the jetty. The persons attempted to board the ship at four different times but were unsuccessful because of the alerted crew. Incident reported to the PFSO and agent. No action taken.	-	Maintained strict anti-piracy preventive measures	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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