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MSC.4/Circ.242
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during October 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 October 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 September 2016 being 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, MSC.4/Circ.240 and MSC.4/Circ.241.

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	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	EVER OCEAN SILK & EVER GIANT Tug Malaysia 1480	25/10/2016 20:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. 62nm NW of Tanjung Kidurong, Bintulu, Sarawak Malaysia 04° 08.80' N 112° 30.00' E	<p>On 25/10/2016 at about 2030 hours, more than 10 pirates boarded the tug boat, Ever Ocean Silk towing barge, Ever Giant. The tug boat and barge, laden with palm oil, en route from Lahad Datu, Sabah to Port Klang, Selangor. The pirates armed with long knives came alongside the tug boat in a speed boat and a wooden boat.</p> <p>The pirates boarded the tug, gathered and tied up the 10 Indonesian crew in a cabin. It was reported that the pirates instructed one of the crew to teach them how to navigate to their desired location. The crew tried to navigate the ships closer to coast but was assaulted by the pirates who discovered his intention. The crew then adjusted to the pirates desired course and was later locked up with the other crew.</p> <p>On 26/10/2016, the Master managed to free himself and no pirates were found. The Master had to stop the tug boat as the pirates had stolen the communication and navigation equipment on board and he was unable to ascertain his location.</p> <p>The owner of the Ever Ocean Silk reported the incident to the Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA), Bintulu after they had lost communications with the tug boat. Three MMEA assets (KM Tabah, KM Jepak and Penggalang 33) were dispatched and on 26/10/2016 at about 1525 hours, KM Jepak located the ships at about 30 nm off Tanjung Kidurong, Sarawak. The crew was safe on board. The tug boat and barge were subsequently escorted by the MMEA assets to Bintulu port.</p>	The pirates tied the 10 Indonesian crew in a cabin and assaulted one of the crew when they discovered the crew intention to navigate the ships closer to coast.	The Master managed to free himself and had to stop the tug boat. The Incident was reported to the MMEA	Yes MMEA, Bintulu	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via Sarawak and Sabah Ship owners Association (SSSA)	Three MMEA boats (KM Tabah, KM Jepak and Penggalang 33) were dispatched and on 26/10/2016 at about 1525 hours, KM Jepak located the ships at about 30 nm off Tanjung Kidurong, Sarawak. MMEA boats escorted the tug boat and barge to Bintulu port.
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	KUMANO LILY General cargo ship Panama 20236 9400904	06/10/2016 04:12 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao anchorage Peru 12° 01.10' S 077° 11.20' W	Robbers in a wooden skiff approached and boarded the anchored ship. They stole ship's property and fled unnoticed. The theft was discovered by the duty AB during routine rounds. Incident reported to Port Control.	Ship's property stolen	-	Yes Port Control	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

2	AMADEUS Bulk carrier Panama 44425 9749855	12/10/2016 03:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vung Tau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 16.02' N 107° 03.49' E	Three robbers boarded the anchored ship. Upon spotting the robbers, the alert crew raised the alarm and confronted them. Upon seeing the alerted crew the robbers fled empty-handed. Incident reported to Vung Tau Port Control. The authority boarded the ship to investigate.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Vung Tau Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam)	Boarded the ship for investigation
3	ARDMORE CHEROKEE Oil tanker Marshall Islands 15591 9707845	19/10/2016 01:00 UTC	MALACCA STRAIT Dumai Tanker Anchorage Indonesia 01° 42.00' N 101° 27.00' E	An unknown number of robbers boarded the anchored tanker. They stole engine spare parts and fled unnoticed. The incident was discovered during routine rounds and was reported to the Port Authority at Dumai, Indonesia	Engine spares parts stolen	-	Yes Port Authority	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	DONGBANG GIANT NO. 2 General cargo ship Republic of Korea 11391 9481788	20/10/2016 14:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. 8.2nm SE of Sibutu Island Philippines 04° 32.90' N 119° 33.50' E	Upon receipt of a satellite alarm from Dongbang Giant No. 2, the ReCAAP Focal Point (Korea) reported the incident to the ReCAAP ISC. While sailing from Australia to Republic of Korea at a speed of eight knots, seven armed persons wearing black shirts boarded the ship from a speedboat with twin OBM engine. SSAS alert activated and all non-essential crew retreated to the citadel. They stole crew personal belongings and kidnapped ship Master (Korean) and the 2nd Officer (Filipino) and fled. The remaining crew was safe and left on board. A total of 20 crew members comprising of 4 Koreans and 16 Filipinos were on board Dongbang Giant No. 2 when the incident occurred.	2 crew members kidnapped and crew personal belonging stolen.	SSAS alert activated and all non-essential crew members retreated to the citadel	Yes Philippines Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Republic of Korea) and ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines)	The ReCAAP ISC informed the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) who is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Philippines), and alerted all the other 19 ReCAAP Focal Points, the Information Fusion Centre (IFC), Eastern Sabah Security Command (ESSCOM), Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) and Badan Keamanan Laut Republik Indonesia (BAKAMLA). The PCG directed the Coast Guard District South-Western Mindanao (CGDSWM) to take immediate action. The CGDSWM dispatched a PCG patrol craft

DF-316 to proceed to the location of the incident; and coordinated with the Naval Forces of the Western Mindanao (NAVFORWEM) who immediately deployed one high-speed Multi-purpose attack craft (MPAC) with the Philippine Marines (PMAR) from Task Force Tawi-tawi (TFTT) on board to locate the abducted crew. At about 1830 hours on 20/10/2016, another PMAR team boarded and secured the ship. The PCG closely monitored the sailing of the ship on her way from the area of incident to Manila, Philippines to complete ship's complement before going back to Republic of Korea. PCG dispatched two sea marshals on board the ship to ensure her safety.

IN PORT AREA

1 HANYANG	02/10/2016	INDIAN OCEAN Panjang Anchorage	Three robbers in a wooden boat approached and	-	Alarm raised, crew	Yes	ICC-IMB Piracy	-
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Bulk carrier Singapore 24785 9714226	05:15 LT	Indonesia 05° 29.70' S 105° 17.30' E	boarded the anchored bulk carrier awaiting for departure clearance. Duty AB on rounds spotted the robbers whom had just boarded the ship and reported to the bridge. Upon hearing the AB reporting via VHF radio, the robbers jumped and fled in their boat empty handed. Crew mustered and a search was carried out, following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Port control informed.		mustered. Reported the incident to the local port authority in Indonesia	Indonesian Port Authority	Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	
2 KEN TEN Bulk carrier Vanuatu 14783 9156761	12/10/2016 02:55 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Dumai Anchorage Indonesia 01° 42.50' N 101° 29.30' E	While at anchor, four robbers armed with knives boarded the ship and threatened one of the crew member with knives and tied him. They stole ships property from the engine room and fled. The alarm was raised and crew mustered. Incident reported to Dumai Port Control.	One crew member threatened with knives. A laptop, a camera and a few tools were stolen.	General alarm raised and crew mustered in the bridge.	Yes Dumai Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Japan)	-
3 BW COUGAR Product tanker Singapore 29737 9675494	21/10/2016 04:00 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao Anchorage Peru 12° 02.00' S 077° 31.00' W	While crew onboard the anchored product tanker were busy in bunkering operations, robbers boarded the vessel, stole ship's property and fled. The theft was discovered by the duty crew during routine rounds. Incident reported to local police through the agents.	Ship's property stolen	Conduct inventory checking after the incident.	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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ANNEX I

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	Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	CPO KOREA Product tanker United Kingdom 29636 9433901	22/10/2016 09:55 LT	ARABIAN SEA Approx. 300nm East of Somali Coast Somalia 04° 28.10' N 053° 22.20' E	A blue hulled boat with approx. 6 persons on board approached the product tanker underway. At a CPA of 2 cables, the on board security team fired warning shots. Persons in the boat returned fire and tried to board the tanker but failed. The boat later aborted the attempted and moved away. Ship reported safe.	-	SSAS alert activated and non-essential crew members retreated to the citadel	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	UKMTO contacted and advises the ship
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	BETULA ARROW General cargo ship Panama 35503 9720055	14/10/2016 02:45 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao Anchorage Peru	Four robbers wearing face masks in a small boat approached and came alongside the anchored ship. Alert crew spotted the robbers, raised the alarm and activated the pressurized fire hoses resulting in the robbers aborting the attempted attack and moved away.	-	Alert crew raised the alarm and activated the pressurized fire hoses	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	SONGA OPAL Product tanker Marshall Islands 11259 9473913	18/10/2016 03:02 LT	WEST AFRICA Lagos Anchorage Nigeria 06° 19.00' N 003° 22.00' E	Three robbers in a small wooden boat approached the anchored product tanker at high speed. As the boat tried to come alongside, the alert duty crew raised the alarm, sounded the ship's whistle and started the fire pump to activate the fire hoses. Upon seeing the alerted crew and the razor wire hardening, the robbers aborted the attack and moved away. Port control informed.	-	Alarm raised, ship's whistle sounded and fire pump activated. Razor wire was already in effect.	Yes Port Control, MDAT-GOG	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	GUARDIANSHIP Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 33044 9493688	08/10/2016 06:45 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Kakinada Port India 10° 38.00' N 120° 34.00' E	A boat approached the anchor chain of the ship, but was frightened away by security watch on board with a flashlight and blowing fog horn. The second attempt two boats approached ship with torches attempted to search the deck of the ship. Port Control sent pilot speed boat and Coast Guard on board to protect the ship.	-	Flashing searchlight and sounding the fog horn.	No	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Pilot speed boat and Coast Guard boat were sent to patrol.
2	HOANG DUNG 26 Container ship Viet Nam 1818	26/10/2016 03:30	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vung Tau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 23.26' N 107° 03.15' E	While at anchor, the crew on board the container ship spotted robbers boarding the ship via a small wooden boat. Master raised the alarm and crew managed to catch one robber. The incident was reported to the Port Authority and the robber was handed over to the local police.	-	Master raised the alarm and crew managed to catch one robber. Informed the Port Authority and local Police.	Yes Vinamarine, Vung Tau Port Authority, local Police and border defence	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Viet Nam), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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ANNEX II