

4 ALBERT EMBANKMENT
LONDON SE1 7SR
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7735 7611 Fax: +44 (0)20 7587 3210

MSC.4/Circ.262
14 May 2018

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during April 2018

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 April 2018 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 March 2018 being MSC.4/Circ.249, MSC.4/Circ.250, MSC.4/Circ.251, MSC.4/Circ.252, MSC.4/Circ.253, MSC.4/Circ.254, MSC.4/Circ.255, MSC.4/Circ.256, MSC.4/Circ.257, MSC.4/Circ.258 (annual 2017), MSC.4/Circ.259, MSC.4/Circ.260 and MSC.4/Circ.261.

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	NAME WITHHELD Bulk carrier Panama 21192	07/04/2018 04:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 41nm SSE of Brass, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 44.00' N 006° 37.00' E	Four pirates in a speed boat armed with guns chased and boarded the ship underway. The alarm was raised and all crew mustered in the citadel. The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre liaised with the Nigerian Navy and the owners. The Nigerian Navy sent a patrol boat to the location. The pirates fired upon and damaged the ship's equipment and accommodation. They stole ship's cash and property and escaped. Naval personnel boarded the ship, rescued the crew and escorted the ship to a safe port.	-	Alarm raised and all crew mustered in the citadel.	Yes Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Nigerian Navy sent a patrol boat to the location. The naval personnel boarded the ship, rescued the crew and escorted the ship to a safe port.
2	FWN RAPIDE General cargo ship Netherlands 7767 9320520	21/04/2018 05:34 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 38nm SSW of Bonny Island, Nigeria Nigeria 03° 48.00' N 006° 50.00' E	Armed pirates boarded a ship enroute from Takoradi, Ghana to Port Harcourt, Nigeria. They kidnapped 11 crew members and escaped. The incident was reported to the Nigerian Navy and a patrol boat was sent to the location. Naval personnel boarded and searched the ship. A total of three crew members were found safe on board. The ship sailed under the escort of the patrol boat to a safe location.	11 crew members kidnapped.	-	Yes Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A naval boat was dispatched to the location, naval personnel boarded, searched the ship & found three crew members on board.
3	BIGROLL BEAUFORT Netherlands 23134 9766841	29/04/2018 16:00 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 16nm NE of Tanjung Berakit, Pulau Bintan, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 24.00' N 104° 46.80' E	Unnoticed, robbers boarded an anchored ship. While carrying out routine deck work the next day, the Bosun noticed that the paint store padlock was broken and the door left open. Further investigation showed that the padlocks to the garbage room, oxygen locker, acetylene locker and the bunker station were also broken into and the doors left open. On investigating nothing was reported stolen.	Paint store, garbage room, oxygen locker, acetylene locker and the Bunker station padlocks were broken into and the doors left open.	Search was carried out throughout the vessel.	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	NAME WITHHELD Marshall Islands 41725	04/04/2018 06:50 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Around 6nm NE of Macapa Port, Brazil Brazil 00° 03.88' N 050° 58.34' W	Two robbers armed with long knives boarded an anchored ship. Duty AB noticed the robbers and immediately informed D/O who raised the alarm, sounded the ship's whistle and alerted the crew on the PA system. Seeing the alerted crew the two robbers escaped in their speed boat. Following a search of the ship, nothing was reported stolen.	-	Alarm raised, sound the ship's whistle & crew mustered.	Yes Macapa Pilot Station	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
---	---	-------------------------	---	---	---	---	-----------------------------	---	---

2	NAME WITHHELD Singapore 34769	04/04/2018 20:05 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, Indonesia Indonesia 00° 15.41' S 117° 34.18' E	The crew of an anchored ship spotted a boat nearby. OOW was informed and general alarm raised. On searching the ship, some ship's stores items were found missing. It is suspected that the robbers got on board and breached the ship via the anchor chain, through the hawsepipe and removed the razor wires and hawsepipe cover. All crew are safe.	Ship's stores items missing.	Alarm raised & crew mustered.	Yes Reported to local agent	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur.	-
3	KATERINA Bulk carrier Cyprus 40002 9256884	22/04/2018 00:01 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approximately 4.7 nm northeast of Nongsa Point, Batam Island, Indonesia. Indonesia 01° 15.90' N 104° 08.60' E	While underway, the duty officer sighted four unauthorized persons in the engine room. The master raised the alarm and mustered the crew. Realizing that the crew had been alerted, the persons escaped immediately. A search was conducted and there was no further sighting of the intruders and no item was reported lost. The crew were not injured.	-	Master reported incident via VHF to Singapore Vessel Traffic Management. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered.	Yes VTS Singapore	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP-ISC via focal point (Singapore).	MMEA rendered assistance by patrolling the vessel immediately after receiving the alert.
4	BERGE K2 Ore/bulk/oil Carrier Isle of Man (United Kingdom) 134693 9709506	24/04/2018 06:17 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Around 6nm WSW of Bongao Island, Philippines Philippines 04° 58.25' N 119° 37.90' E	While transiting the Sibutu passage, two high speed craft were sighted approaching an ore carrier underway. As the boats closed to the ship, the crew could see a blue coloured boat with two persons wearing face masks and a white coloured boat with one person wearing a face mask. Two Philippine naval patrol vessels contacted the ore carrier via VHF channel 16. The high-speed boats closed to three cables from the ship, noticed the hardening, crossed the ship's stern and moved away. The ship had received cautionary advice from the Philippine Navy and Coast Guard Coast Watch as they were transiting the Sibutu passage.	-	-	Yes Philippines Coast Guard, Philippines Navy, MMEA Putrajaya, FOC RMN, Marine Police Malaysia & ESSCOM	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	KIRANA TRITYA Tanker Singapore 13203 9279678	28/04/2018 20:00 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Panjang anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia	While at anchor, the DO noticed a fishing boat approaching the vessel. The DO ordered the duty AB to check the fishing boat's activity. As the duty AB approached the gangway he noticed three robbers on board the vessel and notified the DO who raised the alarm and alerted all crew via the P.A. system. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped in their boat.	-	Master called local agent and Police.	Yes Bakamla, Indonesian Marine Police HQ & Indonesian Navy HQ	-	-

IN PORT AREA

1	BERTINA Product tanker Bahamas 8545 9352133	12/04/2018 16:35 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage, Bangladesh Bangladesh 22° 12.80' N 091° 44.54' E	Three robbers in a small boat boarded an anchored tanker. Alarm raised and crew mustered. The robbers, armed with an iron rod, injured the local watchkeeper, stole ship's property and escaped. Incident reported to Bangladesh Coast Guard who dispatched a patrol boat to search the area.	Local watch keeper was injured with an iron rod and ship's stores stolen.	Alarm raised and ship's horn sounded.	Yes Bangladesh Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A fast patrol boat was dispatched to the area
2	IDM DOODLE General cargo ship Panama 9992 9112557	17/04/2018 19:15 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage, Bangladesh. Bangladesh 22° 11.30' N 091° 42.10' E	Six robbers in a black boat tried to board an anchored ship from the stern. The crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. One robber managed to board the ship and threatened the crew with a knife. Hearing the alarm and seeing the alerted crew, the robber escaped without stealing anything. All crew reported safe.	The robbers threatened the crew by showing a knife.	Alarm raised & crew mustered.	Yes Bangladesh Coast Guard & Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The Coast Guard boat arrived at the location and circled the ship, searching for the robbers.

3 PPS LUCK Bulk carrier Singapore 30811 9407524	18/04/2018 02:00 UTC	NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, Indonesia. Indonesia 00° 15.29' S 117° 36.70' E	Unnoticed, robbers boarded an anchored ship, stole ship's stores and escaped. The theft was discovered during routine rounds. While at anchor, the crew discovered that the padlocks of the fore peak store entrance were broken and two mooring ropes were missing. One of the ropes was from the starboard side mooring drum and the other from inside the forecandle store. Upon investigation, the incident was estimated to take place between 0200 – 0600 hrs. The robbers, who were armed with knives are believed to have climbed on board the ship via the anchor chain and stolen the ropes, escaping by lowering themselves into a small boat from the forward store door at the forecandle deck. The crew was not injured.	Ship's stores stolen.	Increased ship security level.	Yes Port Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore).	-
4 ALKYONIS Liberia 23266 9709465	21/04/2018 13:00 UTC	NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, Indonesia. Indonesia 00° 14.33' S 117° 35.00' E	Robbers in a boat approached an anchored ship and attempted to board via the anchor chain. The duty crew directed lights towards the robbers and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers aborted the attempted boarding and escaped in their boat.	-	Alarm raised.	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5 APOLLO TROTH General cargo ship Panama 6925 9550931	28/04/2018 14:30 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, Indonesia Indonesia	The duty AB on routine rounds on board an anchored vessel was threatened by four robbers armed with knives. The AB managed to escape and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped in two boats. Nothing was reported stolen.	-	-	Yes Local agent	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6 NORD COLORADO Bulk carrier Singapore 34241 9805661	29/04/2018 04:00 UTC	WEST AFRICA Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana Ghana 04° 54.00' N 001° 41.00' W	The crew on board an anchored ship noticed a robber on the poop deck and raised the alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, the robber escaped without stealing anything.	-	Alarm raised, crew mustered and a search carried out throughout the ship.	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, MDAT-GoG via email	-

* * *

MSC.4/Circ. 262
ANNEX I

ANNEX II
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	SWISS PRESTIGE Hong Kong, China	06/04/2018 02:30	SOUTH CHINA SEA South China Sea China 17° 15.70' N 111° 16.30' E	While sailing, a small ship, Hong Lrut with two persons on board approached the catamaran at high speed (approximately 15 knots) within 200 nm and turned parallel to Swiss Prestige. The catamaran made a "mayday" distress call via VHF Channel 16 and increased her speed to 8 knots. The suspect ship moved away from the catamaran but continued on a parallel course. A cruise liner, Diamond Princess responded to the mayday call and moved to the location. Swiss Prestige informed Diamond Princess that Falmouth MRCC had been notified. The suspect ship began to move away and depart from the area shortly afterwards. Swiss Prestige cancelled its mayday call and moved towards Johor, Malaysia.	-	Master made a "mayday" distress call and communicated with Diamond Princess who responded to the mayday call.	Yes Falmouth MRCC, United Kingdom (UK)	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (UK).	-
---	---	---------------------	--	--	---	---	---	---	---

MSC.4/Circ. 262
ANNEX II