

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

MSC.4/Circ.270
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Annual Report – 2025

Background

1 In pursuance of the Maritime Safety Committee's request for the Secretariat to issue composite reports of all incidents of piracy¹ and armed robbery against ships² reported to the Organization accompanied by an analysis, on a regional basis, of the situation; an indication on whether the frequency of incidents is increasing or decreasing; and advising on any new feature or pattern of significance, the annexes hereto provide, in the tabulated format agreed by the Committee, a summary of reports on incidents received between 1 January and 31 December 2025, including a distinction between acts of piracy and acts of armed robbery against ships and attempted attacks (annex 2). Further, and as requested by the Committee (MSC 75/24, paragraph 18.41), the Secretariat has, since July 2002, been classifying 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 sub-paragraph (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 At its sixty-sixth session in June 1996, the Committee further requested the Secretariat to prepare, after March of every year, an annual summary of all acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships which had occurred during the previous year and had been reported to the Organization, based on their actual date and time of occurrence.

3 Pursuant to this request, the annexes hereto provide information on reports of piracy and armed robbery against ships received by the Secretariat since 1984, when relevant statistics started being compiled and, in particular, those which occurred in the course of 2025 as well as a regional analysis thereof.

4 At its eighty-fifth session in December 2008, the Committee also requested the Secretariat, inter alia, to include in future issues of MSC.4 circulars additional and separate annexes listing incidents occurring in waters off the coast of Somalia (see annex 5).

Monthly reports

5 At its ninety-ninth session in May 2018, the Committee agreed to discontinue the monthly circulars containing reports on incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships, while maintaining the annual reports as part of the series of MSC.4 circulars. However, the Secretariat continues to make monthly reports available at IMO's public website. Further, reports of actual and attempted attacks by pirates and armed robbers against ships are continuously promulgated via the Piracy and Armed Robbery module of the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) as soon as they are received by the Secretariat from Member States and reporting organizations and entities. Users of the module can create and download customized reports, e.g. by geographical area or time period (guidance is available within the module).

Global and regional trends in 2025

6 According to information received and made available in IMO's GISIS module on piracy and armed robbery, 171 incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships were reported to the Organization as having occurred or been attempted in 2025. In 2024, 146 incidents were reported, whereas the number was 150 incidents in 2023. This, therefore, constitutes an increase of about 17% at the global level compared to last year.

7 From the data referred to above, it also emerges that the areas affected by acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships in 2025 were the Straits of Malacca and Singapore area (122 incidents), West Africa (21 incidents), Indian Ocean (10 incidents), South China Sea (6 incidents), East Africa (5 incidents), South America (Caribbean) (4 incidents), followed by Arabian Sea (2 incidents) and South America (Pacific) (1 incident).

8 The number of incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore area increased to 122 from 91 incidents reported in 2024. This represents an increase of 34%. About 89% of the incidents reported in 2025 were targeting a steaming ship in this area, compared to approximately 74% of incidents worldwide in 2025 (see annex 2).

9 The number of incidents in the Indian Ocean decreased to 10 from 19 incidents reported in 2024. All incidents occurred in port areas (see annex 3).

10 The number of incidents that took place in the Gulf of Guinea (West Africa) increased in 2025 by 4 compared to 2024, when 17 incidents were reported. This constitutes an increase of about 24%. The number of incidents involving hostage/kidnapped crew is four, one less than 2024, with a total of 27 crew members reported as hostage/kidnapped.

Approximately 38% of incidents occurred in international waters and 62% occurred in port areas.

11 The number of incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships reported in the South China Sea decreased by 4 from 10 incidents reported to the Organization in 2024. This represents a decrease of 40%.

12 The number of incidents in the Arabian Sea decreased from seven (2024) to two incidents reported in 2025. This constitutes a decrease of about 71%. In one incident, the ship was attacked while steaming in territorial waters; in the other incident, a ship was attacked while at anchor in a port area.

13 The number of incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in the South American regions and the Caribbean region taken overall increased by 3 from 2 incidents reported in 2024. This constitutes an increase of 150%. This total includes incidents in the Caribbean region which increased to 4 from 1 incident reported in 2024, whereas in the South America Pacific region 1 incident was reported (no incidents were reported for this region in 2024). No incidents were reported for the South America Atlantic region, while 1 incident was reported in 2024.

14 The data reveals that the total number of crew reported as taken hostage/kidnapped in 2025 remains at 69 crew members, and this is a decrease from 132 crew members held hostage/kidnapped in 2024. The number of crew taken hostage/kidnapped in West Africa decreased to 27 from 42 crew members reported in 2024. However, in the Caribbean region, 2 crew members were reportedly taken hostage/kidnapped in one incident in 2025, while no such incidents were reported in 2024.

15 The total number of incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships reported to the Organization as having occurred or having been attempted from 1984 to the end of December 2025 has risen to 9,185.

16 Information on each report of actual or attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships reported to the Organization is available in the piracy and armed robbery module in GISIS, as explained in paragraph 5.

17 The annexes to this document provide a breakdown of the information referred to above as follows:

- .1 annex 1 provides a list of all acts reported to have occurred or to have been attempted in 2025 in chronological order of occurrence per each geographical area;
- .2 annex 2 provides a regional analysis of acts reported to have been allegedly committed or attempted during 2025;
- .3 annex 3 provides a graphical presentation by area, on an annual basis, of the acts reported to have been allegedly committed or attempted during 2025;
- .4 annex 4 provides a graphical presentation by area, on an annual basis, of reports received between 1984 and 31 December 2025; and
- .5 annex 5 provides a list of all acts reported to have occurred or to have been attempted in waters off the coast of Somalia in 2025.

ANNEX 1

LIST OF ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS AND ATTEMPTED ATTACKS

	Date	Ship Name	IMO No.
ARABIAN SEA			
	16/03/2025	Al-Hidaya 1	
	21/03/2025	Xin Long Yun	9896971
EAST AFRICA			
	07/02/2025	Al Najma No.481	
	17/02/2025	Saytuun 2	
	10/05/2025	Atlantida	8607000
	03/11/2025	Stolt Sagaland	9352200
	06/11/2025	Hellas Aphrodite	9722766
INDIAN OCEAN			
	12/01/2025	Ceylon Breeze	9734563
	04/04/2025	Name withheld	
	14/04/2025	Name Withheld	
	28/05/2025	Mount ASO	9763631
	01/06/2025	Name Withheld	
	19/06/2025	MV GH Pathfinder	9439955
	20/06/2025	Nordtiger	9626247
	09/07/2025	Kalolimnos	9796705
	17/09/2025	Adriatic Gas	9662021
	25/11/2025	Merkur Horizon	9456989
MALACCA STRAIT			
	07/01/2025	Name Withheld	
	08/01/2025	Anabela	9587350
	09/01/2025	Trinity Island	9971903
	16/01/2025	Jolanda	9724867
	17/01/2025	Golden Curl	9348522
	19/01/2025	Golden Calvus	9743174
	22/01/2025	Delfin	9749867
	23/01/2025	Chinook	9476537
	26/01/2025	Shidai 9	9591703
	26/01/2025	Asian Enterprise	9074822
	27/01/2025	Success	9285718
	28/01/2025	Bristol	9941879
	28/01/2025	Manali	9268916
	01/02/2025	Haima	9397896
	02/02/2025	Belaja	9873280
	02/02/2025	Zevirous	9132856
	12/02/2025	Sea Amber	9772931

Date	Ship Name	IMO No.
14/02/2025	Cancun	9587269
15/02/2025	Atrotos Heracles	9668879
16/02/2025	Pelicana	9401790
22/02/2025	Cycladic Spire	9609330
25/02/2025	Ocean Diligence	9967134
27/02/2025	Ifestos	9574133
27/02/2025	DSM Rose	9303601
28/02/2025	Name Withheld	
02/03/2025	Ailama	9232888
07/03/2025	HK Tug 9/LKH 7887	9767120
08/03/2025	Mito	9587788
10/03/2025	Prisma	9299678
13/03/2025	TS Nansha	9914149
16/03/2025	Danum 70/Linaiu 135	9429780
16/03/2025	Bonspeed 10/ POE 2502	8979221
18/03/2025	CNC Leopard	9945356
21/03/2025	Name Withheld	
23/03/2025	Fatema Jahan I	9749738
26/03/2025	Su May	9847097
28/03/2025	Selatan Damai	9353931
29/03/2025	Agneta Pallas III	9602928
29/03/2025	Wan Hai 327	9871490
30/03/2025	Andreas Petrakis	9664952
30/03/2025	Junior	9548213
30/03/2025	Kota Halus	9238612
03/04/2025	SITC Yuncheng	9926104
06/04/2025	Silver Star	9303053
07/04/2025	Hafnia Hong Kong	9830288
19/04/2025	Perlas	9900291
20/04/2025	MSC Tara III	9259381
20/04/2025	Jin Hwa 49/Jin Hwa 39	9373981
21/04/2025	Aquaris	9251822
21/04/2025	ASL Trinity	9780952
22/04/2025	Panagia Force	9389227
23/04/2025	Name Withheld	
02/05/2025	S M A	9273002
02/05/2025	Culture	9333254
04/05/2025	ALS Juno	9948645
05/05/2025	SW Legend	9984170
06/05/2025	Elm Galaxy	9331256
06/05/2025	Virgo	9650925
07/05/2025	Hui Shun No.1	9515670
07/05/2025	Jin Hwa 45/Jin Hwa 37	9648958
14/05/2025	Dioni	9425930
17/05/2025	Thalassini Avra	9500704
20/05/2025	Plata South	9353797
22/05/2025	Peace	9568067

Date	Ship Name	IMO No.
22/05/2025	Petrel Pacific	9876397
22/05/2025	Alpha Peace	9455961
23/05/2025	Aeolian Grace	9298258
25/05/2025	Ligari	9279513
26/05/2025	Strandja	9564140
30/05/2025	Jin Hwa 47/Jin Hwa 48	9026095
30/05/2025	Powan	9721578
03/06/2025	Cape Elianto	9938602
03/06/2025	Successor	9321158
05/06/2025	Densa Shark	9607681
05/06/2025	Mandarin River	9533335
06/06/2025	Ausone	9632806
07/06/2025	Mykonos Wave	9453406
07/06/2025	HK Tug 9/LKH 7887	9767120
11/06/2025	Bonneville	9497323
13/06/2025	Aanya	9592446
13/06/2025	Themir	9154000
13/06/2025	KSL Seattle	9683245
14/06/2025	Greek Seas	9718698
16/06/2025	Sinar Sigli	9970430
17/06/2025	Lirica	9302982
18/06/2025	Queen	9425928
23/06/2025	Theresa	9866122
27/06/2025	Tulip	8912558
27/06/2025	CMA CGM Africa Three	9451939
30/06/2025	Galateia	9715438
30/06/2025	Jal Kalash	9990349
30/06/2025	Cape Race	9601728
02/07/2025	Beagle	9731195
03/07/2025	Stellata	9732230
03/07/2025	Medi Palmarola	9802205
04/07/2025	Modigliani	9615406
04/07/2025	Nordseraphina	1025552
05/07/2025	AL Lulu	9583627
06/07/2025	Kota Nabil	9356830
06/07/2025	Al Salmi	9534793
07/07/2025	CMA CGM Fort James	9966764
07/07/2025	Star Laura	9328936
08/07/2025	Tasco Sakorn	9523782
09/07/2025	Torm Elizabeth	9850006
03/08/2025	HK Tug 8/LKH 2882	
28/08/2025	Georgitsi	9590113
17/09/2025	Athens Spirit	9594793
18/09/2025	Ken Ann	9846158
30/09/2025	Delta Maria	9700691
16/10/2025	Power Globe	9479319
14/11/2025	Solar Roma	9887372

Date	Ship Name	IMO No.
15/11/2025	Fairchem Mako	9826574
16/11/2025	Pedhoulas Fighter	9983530
20/11/2025	HK Tug 9/ LKH 7887	9767120
24/11/2025	Fyla	9591155
27/11/2025	HK Tug 8 & LKH 2882	9557537
13/12/2025	Highline 59/Highline 58	9433987
15/12/2025	Bulk Sydney	9849758
17/12/2025	Eco Diagon Alley	9607801
21/12/2025	Jin Hwa 47/Jin Hwa 48	9026095
22/12/2025	Saphira	9909209
25/12/2025	HK Tug 8/LKH 2882	9557537
SOUTH AMERICA (CARIBBEAN)		
08/03/2025	Callao Express	9777606
14/03/2025	MSC Romane	9745653
02/04/2025	Century Royal	9614385
20/07/2025	Happy Avocet	9694373
SOUTH AMERICA (PACIFIC)		
24/12/2025	Nootka Island	9705299
SOUTH CHINA SEA		
23/03/2025	Jin Hwa 43/Jin Hwa 44	9689768
27/05/2025	Silver Lake	9377963
28/05/2025	KMTC Singapore	9217412
09/09/2025	Verity	9505388
14/09/2025	MV Super Shuttle Ferry 18	8616960
23/09/2025	Vivit Arabia LNG	9902756
WEST AFRICA		
02/01/2025	Nord Maverick	9877559
13/01/2025	Ametrine Valor	9562374
01/02/2025	JSP Vento	9570656
23/02/2025	Imke	9501899
24/02/2025	Eurotrader	9895927
17/03/2025	Name Withheld	
27/03/2025	MENG XIN 1	8674039
08/04/2025	GH Maestro	9449118
14/04/2025	Name Withheld	
21/04/2025	Sea Panther	9322138
23/05/2025	Bom Jesus	9299202
30/05/2025	Name Withheld	
12/06/2025	Transko Yudhistira	9843027
28/08/2025	Name Withheld	
29/09/2025	Otto 1	
09/10/2025	Sea Challenger	9322114
16/10/2025	Seaspan Lahore	9301811

Date	Ship Name	IMO No.
16/10/2025	Segway	1050959
07/11/2025	Name Withheld	
03/12/2025	Name Withheld	
14/12/2025	PMS Enzian	9711420

ANNEX 2

REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS DURING 2025

All reported incidents

	South China Sea	Straits of Malacca and Singapore	Indian Ocean	Arabian Sea	East Africa	South America (C)	West Africa	South America (P)
Location of incident								
In international waters	1	4	0	0	2	2	8	0
In territorial waters	1	106	0	1	3	1	0	0
In port area	4	12	10	1	0	1	13	1
Status of ship when attacked								
Steaming	1	109	0	1	5	3	8	0
At anchor	5	12	10	1	0	1	13	1
Not stated	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of persons involved in the attack								
1-4 persons	6	70	1	0	1	2	13	0
5-10 persons	0	36	7	1	2	1	4	0
More than 10 persons	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Not stated	0	13	1	1	2	1	4	1
Consequences to the crew								
Actual violence against the crew	0	5	0	1	1	0	1	0
Threat of violence against the crew	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ship missing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ship hijacked	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
None/not stated	2	6	1	0	1	0	0	0
Weapons used by attackers								
Guns	0	22	0	0	3	1	2	0

	South China Sea	Straits of Malacca and Singapore	Indian Ocean	Arabian Sea	East Africa	South America (C)	West Africa	South America (P)
Knives	0	32	5	0	0	1	3	0
Rocket-propelled grenades	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
None/not stated	6	63	5	2	2	2	15	1
Parts of ship raided								
Master and crew accommodation	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0
Cargo area	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Store rooms	1	5	3	0	0	0	4	0
Engine room	0	61	1	0	0	0	1	0
Main deck	1	23	0	0	0	0	4	0
Not boarded	0	7	0	0	2	1	3	0
Not stated	4	16	4	2	3	3	7	0
Other								
Lives lost (unit: people)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wounded crew (unit: people)	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	0
Missing crew (unit: people)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Crew hostage (unit: people)	0	13	1	8	18	2	27	0
Assaulted (unit: people)	0	14	1	8	14	2	27	0
Ransom	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of incidents reported per area	6	122	10	2	5	4	21	1
Total number of incidents reported	171							

Incidents reported to have been allegedly committed

	South China Sea	Straits of Malacca and Singapore	Indian Ocean	Arabian Sea	East Africa	South America (C)	West Africa	South America (P)
Location of incident								
In international waters	1	3	0	0	1	1	8	0
In territorial waters	1	102	0	1	2	1	0	0
In port area	4	10	10	1	0	1	10	1
Status of ship when attacked								
Steaming	1	104	0	1	3	2	8	0
At anchor	5	10	10	1	0	1	10	1
Not stated	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of persons involved in the attack								
1-4 persons	6	65	1	0	0	2	10	0
5-10 persons	0	36	7	1	2	1	4	0
More than 10 persons	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Not stated	0	11	1	1	1	0	4	1
Consequences to the crew								
Actual violence against the crew	0	5	0	1	1	0	1	0
Threat of violence against the crew	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ship missing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ship hijacked	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
None/not stated	2	6	1	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons used by attackers								
Guns	0	22	0	0	1	1	2	0
Knives	0	32	5	0	0	1	2	0
Rocket-propelled grenades	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0

	South China Sea	Straits of Malacca and Singapore	Indian Ocean	Arabian Sea	East Africa	South America (C)	West Africa	South America (P)
None/not stated	6	56	5	2	2	1	14	1
Parts of ship raided								
Master and crew accommodation	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0
Cargo area	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Store rooms	1	5	3	0	0	0	4	0
Engine room	0	61	1	0	0	0	1	0
Main deck	1	23	0	0	0	0	4	0
Not boarded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not stated	4	16	4	2	3	3	7	0
Other								
Lives lost (unit: people)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wounded crew (unit: people)	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	0
Missing crew (unit: people)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Crew hostage (unit: people)	0	13	1	8	18	2	27	0
Assaulted (unit: people)	0	14	1	8	14	2	27	0
Ransom	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of incidents reported per area	6	115	10	2	3	3	18	1
Total number of incidents reported	158							

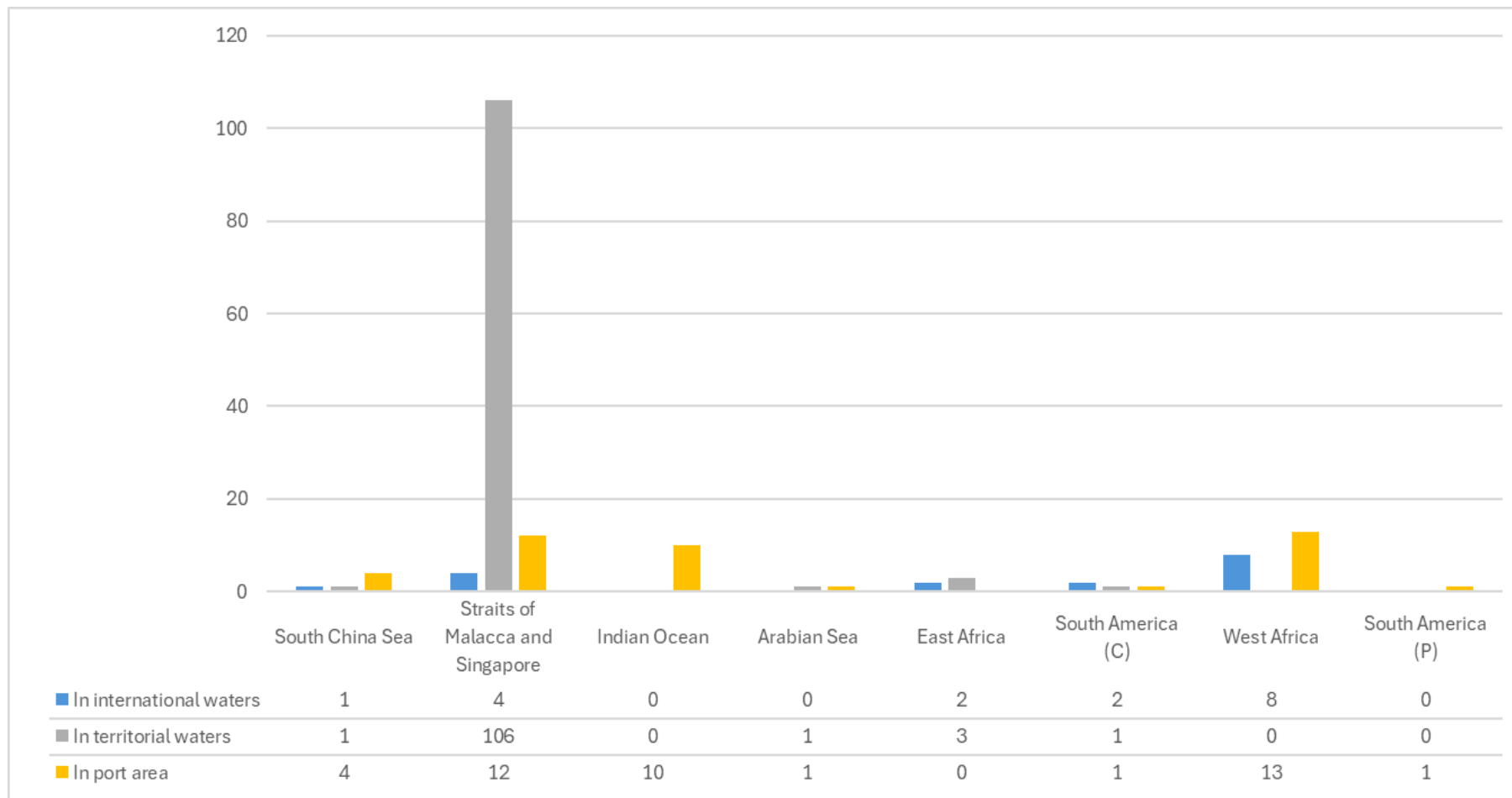
Incidents reported to have been allegedly attempted

	Straits of Malacca and Singapore	East Africa	South America (C)	West Africa
Location of incident				
In international waters	1	1	1	0
In territorial waters	4	1	0	0
In port area	2	0	0	3
Status of ship when attacked				
Steaming	5	2	1	0
At anchor	2	0	0	3
Not stated	0	0	0	0
Number of persons involved in the attack				
1-4 persons	5	1	0	3
5-10 persons	0	0	0	0
More than 10 persons	0	0	0	0
Not stated	2	1	1	0
Consequences to the crew				
Actual violence against the crew	0	0	0	0
Threat of violence against the crew	0	0	0	0
Ship missing	0	0	0	0
Ship hijacked	0	0	0	0
None/not stated	0	1	0	0
Weapons used by attackers				
Guns	0	2	0	0
Knives	0	0	0	1
Rocket-propelled grenades	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
None/not stated	7	0	1	1
Parts of ship raided				

	Straits of Malacca and Singapore	East Africa	South America (C)	West Africa
Master and crew accommodation	0	0	0	0
Cargo area	0	0	0	0
Store rooms	0	0	0	0
Engine room	0	0	0	0
Main deck	0	0	0	0
Not boarded	7	2	1	3
Not stated	0	0	0	0
Other				
Lives lost (unit: people)	0	0	0	0
Wounded crew (unit: people)	0	0	0	0
Missing crew (unit: people)	0	0	0	0
Crew hostage (unit: people)	0	0	0	0
Assaulted (unit: people)	0	0	0	0
Ransom	0	0	0	0
Total number of incidents reported per area	7	2	1	3
Total number of incidents reported	13			

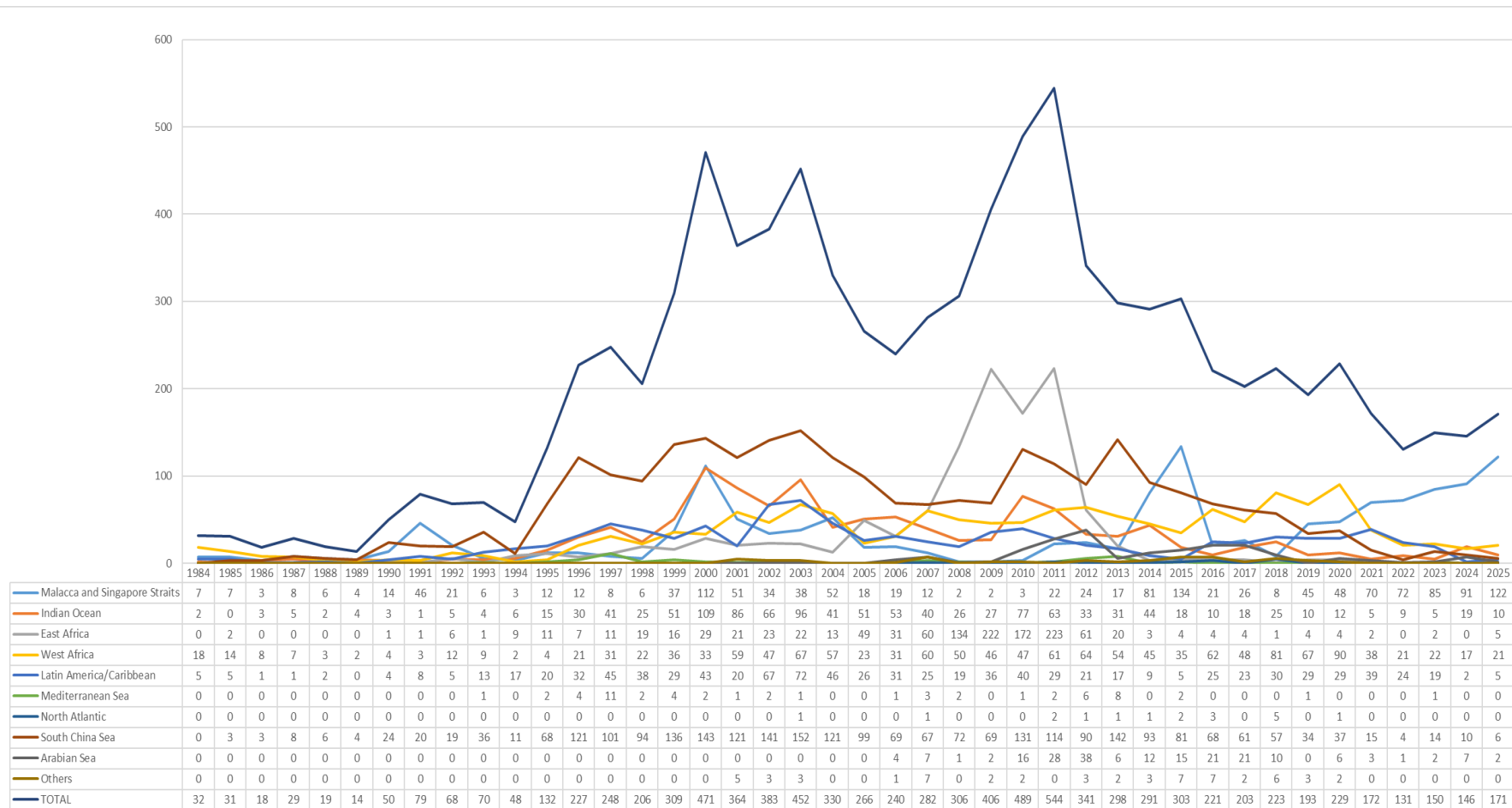
ANNEX 3

REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED OR ATTEMPTED DURING 2025



ANNEX 4

YEARLY STATISTICS OF INCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED SINCE 1984 (REGIONALLY AND GLOBALLY)



ANNEX 5

**LIST OF ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST
SHIPS AND ATTEMPTED ATTACKS IN 2025 OFF THE COAST OF SOMALIA**

Date	Ship Name	IMO No.
07/02/2025	Al Najma No.481	
17/02/2025	Saytuun 2	
16/03/2025	Al-Hidaya 1	
03/11/2025	Stolt Sagaland	9352200
06/11/2025	Hellas Aphrodite	9722766
