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MSC.4/Circ.255
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during October 2017

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 2017 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 2017 being MSC.4/Circ.243, MSC.4/Circ.244, MSC.4/Circ.245 (annual 2016), MSC.4/Circ.246, MSC.4/Circ.247, MSC.4/Circ.248, MSC.4/Circ.249, MSC.4/Circ.250, MSC.4/Circ.251, MSC.4/Circ.252, MSC.4/Circ.253 and MSC.4/Circ.254.

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	DEMETER Container ship Liberia 35881 9298636	21/10/2017 06:06 UTC	WEST AFRICA Approx. 38nm South of Bonny Nigeria 03° 47.07' N 007° 08.60' E	While underway, pirates attacked the container ship. Six crew members reported kidnapped. The ship and remaining crew are safe. Ship continued its passage. On 21/11/2017, the owners confirmed that the six kidnapped crew members were released safely on 08/11/2017.	Six crew members kidnapped	-	Yes Local Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	FRONT COSMOS Tanker Marshall Islands 82515 9769817	26/10/2017 20:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Approx. 51nm SSW of Bonny Nigeria 03° 35.50' N 006° 49.20' E	While underway, armed pirates from a speed boat boarded the tanker. The 23 crew members retreated into the citadel and contacted the owners for help. The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre received the message and immediately liaised with the Nigerian Navy who dispatched a warship which arrived at the location and went alongside the tanker. After the crew members emerged from the citadel a search was conducted. No pirates were found onboard the tanker. The warship escorted the tanker until she was clear of the area. The tanker continued its passage to the next port.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered in citadel.	Yes Nigerian Navy	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, MDAT-GOG	Nigerian Navy dispatched, pirates retreated when Navy sighted and escorted ship safely to international waters.

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	MMA CRYSTAL & ENERGY 1 Tug Singapore 2763 9594212	12/10/2017 07:20 LT	MALACCA STRAIT South of Tanjung Pelepas Malaysia 01° 11.33' N 103° 33.68' E	While underway from Bintan, Indonesia to Chittagong, Bangladesh, about six robbers from two wooden boats boarded the unmanned jack-up rig, Energy 1 which was towed by tug boat, MMA Crystal. The master reported the incident to Singapore Police Coast Guard (SPCG) who contacted the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA). The MMEA deployed a vessel to the location of the incident. Upon arrival, no wooden boats were sighted. The crew was not injured and some ropes were stolen.	Some ropes stolen.	The master reported the incident to SPCG.	Yes SPCG, MMEA	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Upon receipt of the report, the SPCG contacted the MMEA who deployed a vessel to the location of the incident.
2	JUTTA Bulk carrier Liberia 93742 9730402	17/10/2017 23:50 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Approx. 8.9 nm Northwest of Tanjung Sebong, Pulau Bintan Indonesia 01° 16.30' N 104° 12.85' E	While sailing, two robbers were sighted fled from the aft starboard deck of the ship into an unknown craft. The OOW spotted the robbers and the alarm was raised. Upon seeing the alerted crew, the robbers fled in their waiting boat. The Master reported the incident to Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS) via VHF. The crew conducted a thorough searched on board the ship	Engine spares stolen	Alarm raised, crew mustered and a search conducted. The Master reported the incident to VTIS via VHF.	Yes VTMS Singapore, Singapore Police Coast Guard, Republic of Singapore Navy & Information Fusion Centre (IFC)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	

and discovered some engine spares missing from the engine room. There was no injury to the crew members and ship continued its passage for next port in China.

3	BW MYNA Chemical tanker Singapore 29562 9708083	28/10/2017 05:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. 13nm NNE of Tanjung Berakit, Pulau Bintan Indonesia 01° 27.20' N 104° 38.40' E	While at anchor, the duty officer discovered a hook with a rope secured on the ship's railing at the starboard quarter and a small boat hiding beneath the curvature. When the duty officer unhooked the rope and the boat was drifting away, five robbers of average height and in black tight water suits shouted and threatened the duty officer with long knives from the poop deck. The duty officer immediately reported to the bridge using a portable radio. The emergency alarm was raised and an announcement was made through the PA system. The Master reported incident to the Navy on patrol. At 0537hrs, all crew mustered in the crew mess room. The suspect boat was monitored moving away from the ship at a relatively fast speed. A search was conducted on board the ship following which it was determined that no items were missing and no robbers were found.	Crew threatened	Emergency alarm raised, announcement made via PA system, all crew members mustered and a search conducted. The Master reported incident to the Navy on patrol.	Yes Indonesian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
4	GP T2 Tanker Panama 57943 9169536	30/10/2017 01:42 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Eastbound lane of SS, approx. 6.5 nm North East of Terumbu Betata, Batam Island Indonesia 01° 16.70' N 104° 13.18' E	While sailing, five robbers armed with knives boarded the ship while she was underway in the eastbound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) of the Singapore Strait (SS). The robbers tied up the duty oiler in the engine room, took away some engine spare parts. They fled in a small boat at the starboard stern of the ship. The boat was seen heading towards the southerly direction. The Master raised the alarm and reported the incident to the Singapore VTIS. The crew was not injured. Singapore Coast Guard later called the Master to ensure the tanker was safe. The ship continued its passage for the next port of call in China.	Duty oiler tied up and ship's engine spares parts stolen.	The Master reported the incident to the VTIS via VHF and a search conducted.	Yes VTMS Singapore, Singapore Police Coast Guard & Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Singapore Coast Guard called the Master to ensure the tanker was safe and broadcasted the navigational warning to alert mariners to maintain anti-piracy watch. Notified the Indonesian authority.
5	HAIMA Product tanker Panama 59705 9397896	01/11/2017 03:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. 17.7nm NNE of Tanjung Berakit, Pulau Bintan Indonesia 01° 29.00' N 104° 43.50' E	During routine rounds, duty engineer on board the anchored tanker spotted foot prints in the engine room. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that engine spares part had been stolen. The review of the CCTV recording confirmed that the tanker was boarded by about five robbers.	Ship's engine spares stolen	A search was conducted and the master reported the incident to the company.	Yes Information Fusion Center (IFC)	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Japan)	-

IN PORT AREA

1	BOTANY BAY Container ship Liberia 28270 9334519	03/10/2017 16:50 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Manila South Port anchorage Philippines 14° 33.40' N 120° 54.60' E	Around six to eight robbers boarded the anchored container ship. They were spotted by the duty crew who raised the alarm. Upon seeing the crew alertness, the robbers fled with stolen ship's property.	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	SBI POSEIDON Bulk carrier Liberia 34507 9760067	14/10/2017 01:05 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Muara Berau, Samarinda Inner Anchorage, Kalimantan Indonesia 00° 13.71' S 117° 35.38' E	Two robbers in a wooden craft boarded the anchored ship via the anchor chain. They stole two spare mooring ropes and threatened duty AB with knives. As the robbers fled, the duty AB raised the alarm and the crew was alerted. Local agent informed.	Threatened duty AB and two pieces of spare mooring ropes stolen.	Alarm raised, crew mustered and a search was carried out	Yes Information Fusion Centre (IFC) & Local Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
3	OCEAN PARADISE Bulk carrier Marshall Islands 30002 9350070	19/10/2017	ARABIAN SEA Kandla Anchorage India 22° 47.30' N 070° 01.80' E	While at anchor, two robbers armed with knives boarded the forecastle deck of the ship from a high-speed craft. The duty officer spotted the robbers and raised the alarm, mustered the crew and heightened the security watch. The robbers jumped overboard and fled with stolen ship's property.	Fore peak store broken, one fire hose damaged and one coupling stolen.	Alarm raised and crew mustered. The Master reported the incident to the local agent and the port control.	Yes Port Control & Indian Coast Guard (ICG)	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India)	Upon receipt of the report, the ICG and other concerned authority conducted an investigation of the incident.
4	NASHWAN LPG tanker Singapore 16804 9394208	19/10/2017 23:20 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Anchorage no.2, Puerto Jose anchorage Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) 10° 11.30' N 064° 46.90' W	While at anchor, five unarmed robbers were spotted by a crew at the poop deck of the ship. The alarm was raised and crew was mustered. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness the robbers jumped overboard and fled. A search was conducted, following which it was determined that the padlock for SOSEP locker had been broken.	The padlock for SOSEP locker broken.	Alarm raised, crew mustered and a search was conducted	Yes Puerto Jose Port Control & Flag State (Singapore)	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
5	LINDA KOSAN LPG tanker Isle of Man (United Kingdom) 3728 9525209	26/10/2017 06:00 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Approx. 3.77 NM of Cilacap Port, Cilacap Anchorage Indonesia 07° 44.10' S 109° 04.00' E	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored LPG tanker. The duty crew on routine rounds spotted the robbers on the main deck. The alarm was raised, SSAS activated and all crew mustered. Upon seeing the crew alertness, the robbers fled with stolen ship's property. Local authority boarded the ship for investigation.	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised, SSAS activated and crew mustered	Yes Local Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (United Kingdom)	Boarded the ship for investigation
6	AFRICAN SPIRIT Tanker Bahamas 79668	27/10/2017 20:00 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Cilacap Anchorage Indonesia 07° 51.00' S 109° 04.00' E	Duty watch on board the anchored tanker spotted a robber near the emergency generator room. The alarm was raised and all crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robber along with three	-	Alarm raised, crew mustered and a search conducted.	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Advised the ship to increase watches

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others were seen flee from the emergency generator room. A search was carried out, following which it was determined that nothing had been stolen. Port control informed through local agents.

7 STINA KOSAN
LPG tanker
Singapore
9175
9374569

29/10/2017
01:30 LT

SOUTH AMERICA (C)
Cartagena Inner
Anchorage
Colombia
10° 19.50' N
075° 31.70' W

While at anchor, three robbers boarded the ship from a small craft. They cut open the padlock to gain access to the forecandle and stole one mooring rope and one breathing apparatus. The robbers were reported to be slim and able to pass through the hawse pipe of the ship. The crew was not injured. The ship continued its passage for the next port of call in China.

The padlock in the forecandle broken. One (1) mooring rope and one (1) breathing apparatus stolen.

Alarm raised and announcement made via the PA system. The crew maintained added watch during hour of darkness and conducted frequent roving on deck.

Yes
Port Control

ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre
Kuala Lumpur,
ReCAAP ISC via
ReCAAP Focal Point
(Singapore)

The port control authority sent roving craft to the area after the incident reported.

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ANNEX I

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	JAG AMAR Bulk carrier India 44127 9723851	06/10/2017 07:00 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Gulf of Aden 13° 30.00' N 050° 03.00' E	The Master on board a bulk carrier underway observed a boat with two skiffs approaching the ship. The naval vessel was notified. As the boat closed in, ladders were sighted. The Master raised the alarm and all crew mustered. The naval vessel chased the boat and later boarded it and confiscated weapons and ladders. Ship and crew safe.	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered. Informed Indian naval vessel for assistance	Yes Indian Naval, UKMTO, MSCHOA and CSO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Indian naval vessel chased the boats and boarded it and confiscated weapons and ladders
2	PACIFIC SKY Tanker Marshall Islands 62856 9408554	18/10/2017 23:30 UTC	ARABIAN SEA 180 nm Southwest of Porbander LT India 20° 13.90' N 066° 55.10' E	While sailing, an unknown number of pirates on board two suspicious skiffs chased after the ship and attempted to board, but failed. The Master raised the distress alert via VHF Channel 16 and warned all ships in the vicinity. He then triggered the fog horn to chase away the suspicious craft, increased the speed of the ship and informed the UKMTO, alerted the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and continued the voyage.	-	The Master made the following actions: a. raised the distress alert via VHF Channel 16; b. warned all ships in the vicinity; c. triggered the fog horn to chase away the suspicious craft. d. increased the speed of the ship; e. alerted the ICG; and f. informed the UKMTO	Yes Mumbai MRCC India and ICG	Marshall Islands ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India), UKMTO	Upon receipt of the information, the ICG established contact with the ship and conducted an investigation of the incident.
3	SAMEER Dhow Iran (Islamic Republic of)	24/10/2017 07:10 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Approx. 37nm SE of Socotra Island Yemen 11° 50.00' N 054° 30.00' E	Armed pirates in two skiffs approached, fired upon and damaged the dhow underway. One crew member was reported killed and three crew members were injured because of the firing. The coalition navies responded and assisted the fishing dhow. Medical and damage control assistance was provided by the Coalition navies and the fishing dhow being able to continue her journey.	3 crew members injured and 1 crew member killed. Dhow sustained some damage.	-	Yes MRCC Tehran, Iran	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coalition navies responded and assisted the dhow, provided medical and damage control assistance

* 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

4 HELLAS GLADIATOR LPG tanker Malta 48022 9732503	27/10/2017 11:20 UTC	WEST AFRICA Approx. 35nm NW of Sao Tome & Principe Coast Sao Tome and Principe 00° 41.80' N 006° 03.60' E	Five skiffs approached the tanker underway. The alarm was raised, all crew mustered, Master increased speed and commenced evasive manoeuvres. Due to the bad weather and the evasive manoeuvres the skiffs aborted the attack and moved away.	-	Alarm raised, crew mustered, Master increased speed and commenced evasive manoeuvres	Yes MDAT-GOG through CSO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur, MDAT-GOG	-
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1 LADY SANDRA AND IRON MONG Tug India 2599 9172284	05/10/2017 18:08 LT	ARABIAN SEA 11 nm south of Pipavav LT India 20° 43.36' N 071° 29.10' E	While sailing, five to six robbers on board a fishing boat Makhdoom approached and attempted to board the unmanned motor tanker which was towed by tug boat but they failed. The robbers snatched the grab line and the Norwegian buoy attached to the ETA (emergency towing arrangement) of Iron Mong. The Master alerted the crew, initiated anti-piracy measures and manoeuvred the ship evasively. The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the marine police conducted an investigation of the incident.	The grab line and Norwegian buoy stolen.	The Master alerted the crew, initiated anti-piracy measures and manoeuvres evasively.	Yes VTS Khambhat West, Indian Marine Police and ICG	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (India), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The ICG and the marine police conducted an investigation of the incident.
2 HR ENDEAVOUR General cargo ship Liberia 9611 9261073	26/10/2017 03:15 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Approx. 1.8 nm North West of Pulau Cula Indonesia 01° 03.73' N 103° 41.48' E	While sailing, the crew spotted three or four robbers on board a small wooden craft coming alongside the stern of the ship. Upon being spotted by the crew, the small craft headed in a southerly direction. The Master raised the alarm and reported the attempted boarding to the Singapore VTIS via VHF.	-	Alarm raised and Master reported the incident to Singapore VTIS via VHF.	Yes Singapore VTIS and Information Fusion Center (IFC)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore), ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Upon receipt of the report, the VTIS officer on duty initiated the navigational broadcast of the incident and notified the RSN, the Singapore Police Coast Guard and the Indonesian authority. When the ship arrived at the anchorage area, the security forces boarded the ship and made a thorough search.

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ANNEX II