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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Fourth quarterly report (October to, and including, December 2007)

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-fifth session in May 1995, instructed the Secretariat to issue, as from 31 July 1995, monthly reports of all incidents of piracy¹ and armed robbery against ships² reported to the Organization and, in addition and on a quarterly basis, composite reports accompanied by an analysis, on a regional basis, of the situation and an indication whether the frequency of incidents was increasing or decreasing and advising on any new feature or pattern of significance. Further and as instructed by the Committee (MSC 75/24, paragraph 18.41), the Secretariat has, since July 2002, started 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.

2 Annexed hereto is a composite report covering all reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships which occurred between 30 September 2007 and the end of December 2007, and a regional analysis thereof, including a distinction between acts of piracy, acts of armed robbery against ships and attempted attacks.

3 The areas affected over the period under review were, once again, South China Sea (13 incidents, down from 20 compared with the last quarterly report), Malacca Strait (3 incidents, up from 2 reported last quarter), East Africa (14 incidents, down from 17 reported last quarter), the Indian Ocean (6 incidents, down from 12 reported last quarter), South America (8 incidents in total, down from 10 incidents in total reported last quarter, 4 incidents in the Atlantic Ocean area, no change from last quarter, 3 incidents in the Pacific Ocean area, down from 4 reported last quarter and 1 incident in the Caribbean Ocean area, down from 2 reported last quarter), West Africa (20 incidents, up from 11 reported last quarter), Arabian Sea (1 incident, no change

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 draft Code of Practice for the Investigation of the Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (resolution A.922(22), Annex, paragraph 2.2) as follows:

"Armed robbery against ships means any unlawful act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of "piracy", directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such ship, within a State's jurisdiction over such offences."

from last quarter), the Mediterranean Sea (1 incident, no change from last quarter), the Persian Gulf (2 incidents, up from 1 reported last quarter) and the North Atlantic Ocean (1 incident, up from zero reported last quarter). Most of the attacks were reported in port areas while the ships were at anchor or on berth.

4 During the period under review, one crew member was killed, about 47 crew members were held hostage, about 88 crew members were injured/assaulted, three vessels were hijacked and the fate of one crew member is unknown. In several of the incidents reported, the crew were violently assaulted/attacked by individuals or groups of two to ten persons carrying guns or knives.

5 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 4,515 out of which 69 occurred during the fourth quarter of 2007. Of these 69 reported acts, 11 constituted alleged attempted attacks.

**REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2007**

	FAR EAST			AFRICA		SOUTH AMERICA			Persian Gulf	North Atlantic Ocean	Mediterranean Sea
	Malacca Strait	South China Sea	Indian Ocean	East Africa	West Africa	Atlantic	Caribbean	Pacific			
Location of incident											
In international waters		2	1	3	3	1				1	
In territorial waters		7	2	2	9	2		1	2		
In port areas		3	3	3	8	1	1	2			1
Status of ship when attacked											
Steaming		5		3	6	1			1	1	
At anchor or on berth		5	1	2	10		1	3	1		1
Not stated		2	5	3	4	3					
Number of persons involved in the attack											
1-4 persons		3	2	1	10	1	1	2	1		
5-10 persons		4	2	1	4	1		1	1		
More than 10 persons					1						1
Not stated		5	2	6	5	2				1	
Consequences to the crew											
Actual violence used against crew		4	1	2	15	2		1	1		
Threat of violence (including crew being tied up but not physically attacked)											1
Ship missing											
Ship hijacked		1		2							
None/not stated		7	5	4	5	2	1	2	1	1	
Weapons used by attackers											
Guns		2			6	3			2		
Knives		3	2		8			1			1
Other		1									
None/Not stated		6	4	8	6	1	1	2		1	
Parts of the ship raided											
Master and crew accommodation		2	1	2	2						
Cargo area		9	5	3	13	4	1	3	2	1	1
Store rooms		1		2	5						
Engine room											
Not stated				1							
Total number of incidents reported per areas		12	6	8	20	4	1	3	2	1	1
Total number of incidents reported		58									

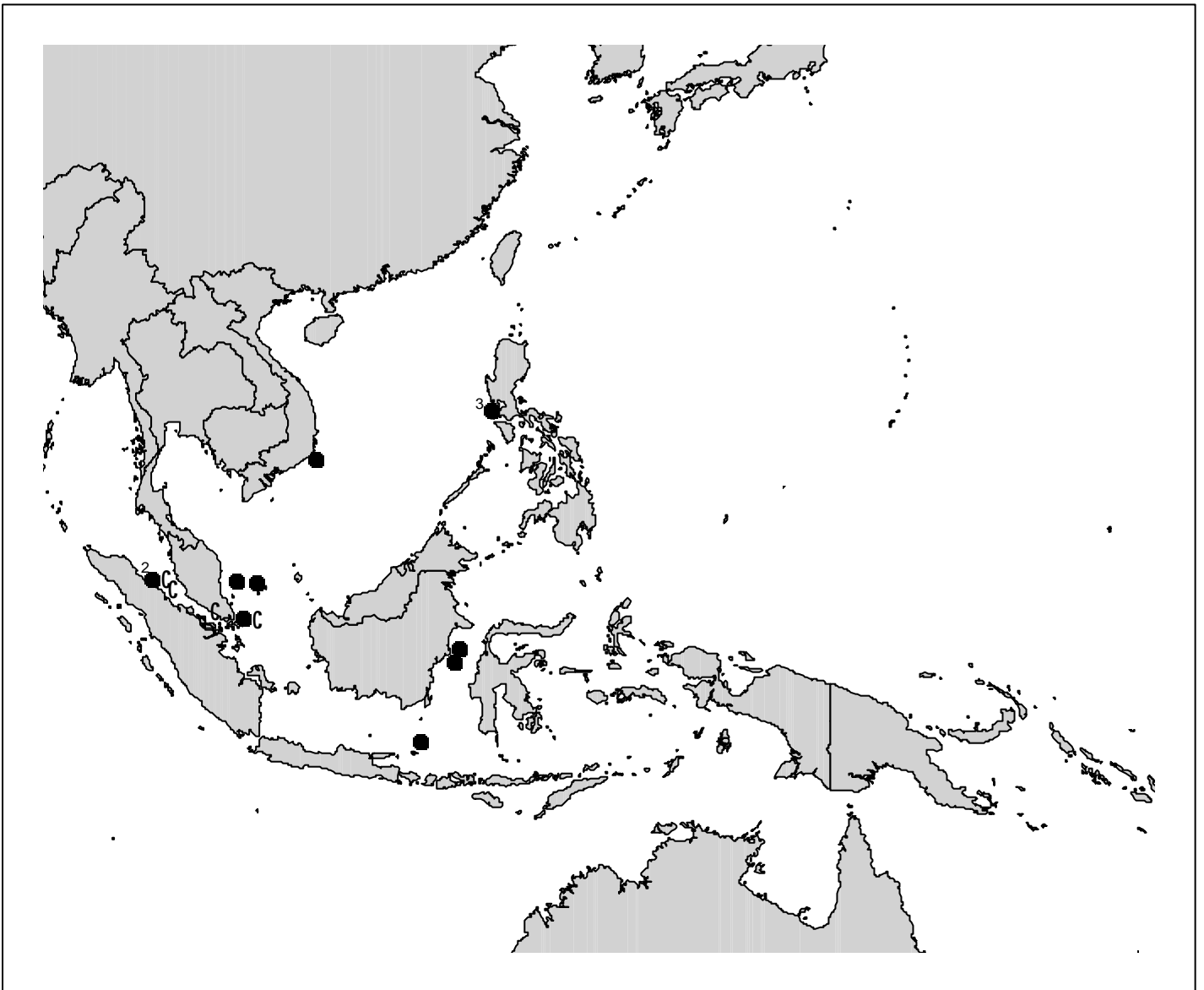
ANNEX 2

**REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY ATTEMPTED DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2007**

		FAR EAST			AFRICA		SOUTH AMERICA			
		Malacca Strait	South China Sea	Indian Ocean	East Africa	West Africa	Atlantic	Caribbean	Pacific	Arabian Sea
Location of incident										
	In international waters	3	1		5					1
	In territorial waters									
	In port areas				1					
Status of ship when attacked										
	Steaming	3	1		5					1
	At anchor or on berth				1					
	Not stated									
Number of persons involved in the attack										
	1-4 persons				1					
	5-10 persons									1
	More than 10 persons									
	Not stated	3	1		5					
Consequences to the crew										
	Actual violence used against crew									
	Threat of violence (including crew being tied up but not physically attacked)				1					
	Ship missing									
	Ship hijacked									
	None/not stated	3	1		5					1
Weapons used by attackers										
	Guns				3					1
	Knives									
	Other									
	None/Not stated	3	1		3					
Parts of the ship raided										
	Not boarded	3	1		6					1
Total number of incidents reported per areas		3	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	1
Total number of incidents reported		11								

ANNEX 3

SOUTH CHINA SEA AND MALACCA STRAIT



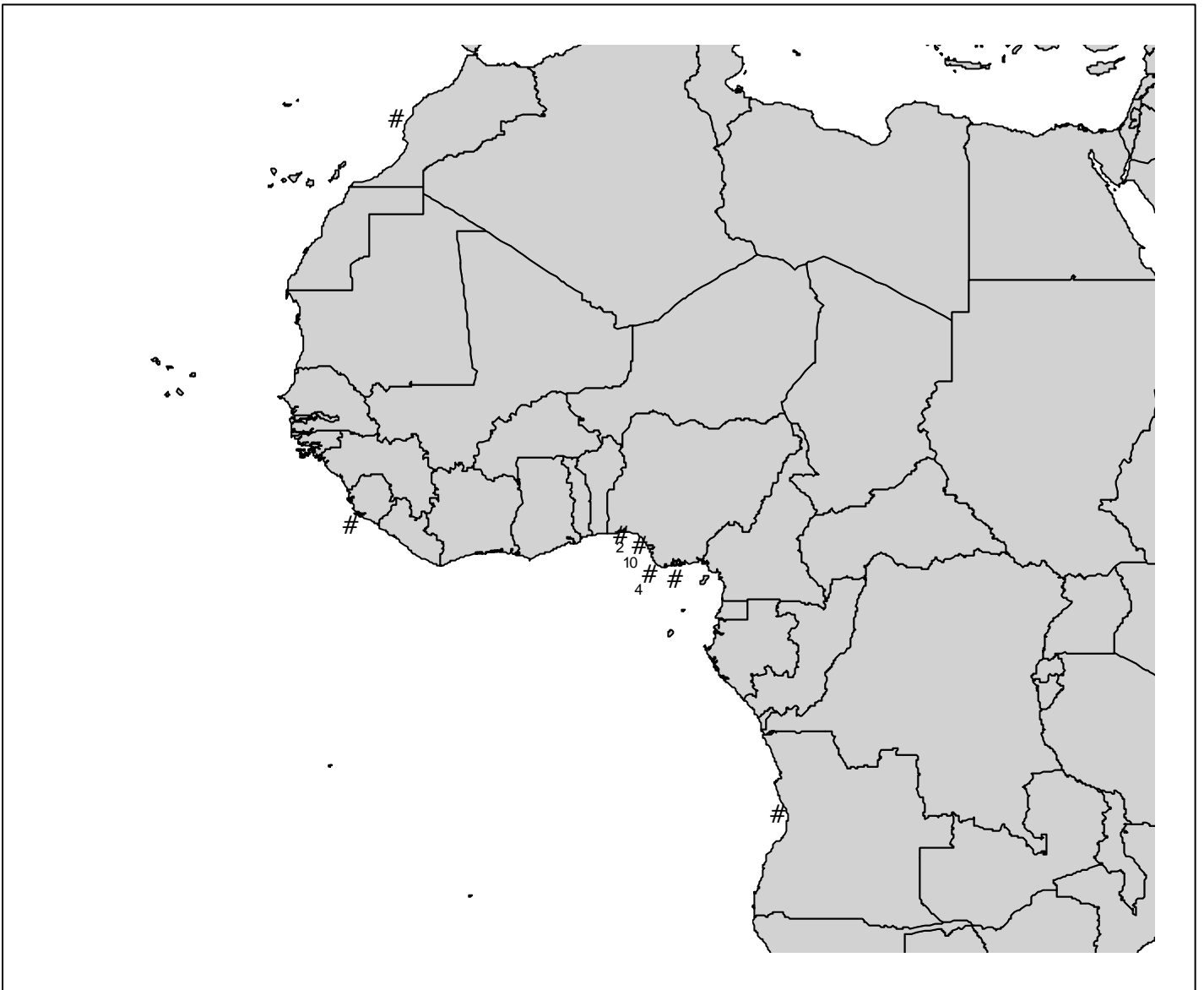
- # Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- C Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

INDIAN OCEAN AND EAST AFRICA



- # Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- c Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

WEST AFRICA



- # Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- c Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

SOUTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



- # Allegedly committed acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- c Allegedly attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships

ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS WHICH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED OR ATTEMPTED DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2007

