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MSC.4/Circ.142
2 September 2009

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during August 2009

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 and, in addition, to issue, 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 is increasing or decreasing and advising of any new feature or pattern of significance, the annex hereto provides, in the tabulated format agreed by the Committee, the summary of reports on incidents received between 31 July and 31 August 2009, including a distinction between acts of piracy and acts of armed robbery against ships (annex 1) and attempted attacks (annex 2). 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 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 5,096 an increase of 20 since 30 July 2009.

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.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."

3 Previous incidents reported to the Organization since the fifty-ninth session of the Committee have been circulated by various MSC circulars, those issued (on an annual, quarterly and monthly basis) during the previous twelve months and up to 31 July 2009 being MSC.4/Circ.124, MSC.4/Circ.125, MSC.4/Circ.126, MSC.4/Circ.127, MSC.4/Circ.128, MSC.4/Circ.129, MSC.4/Circ.130, MSC.4/Circ.131, MSC.4/Circ.132, MSC.4/Circ.133, MSC.4/Circ.134, MSC.4/Circ.135, MSC.4/Circ.136, MSC.4/Circ.137, MSC.4/Circ.138, MSC.4/Circ.139, MSC.4/Circ.140 and MSC.4/Circ.141.

ANNEX 1
Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly committed against ships reported by
Member States or international organizations in consultative status

N°	Ship Name	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	MSC.4/Circ.142 ANNEX 1
	Type of Ship								Gross Tonnage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	PU 2414 Tug Singapore 248 9512800	31/03/2009 21:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 13 NM South of Pulau Aur, Malaysia 02° 17.72' N 104° 49.22' E	Seven pirates in a speed boat, wearing masks and armed with long knives and guns approached the tug towing a barge underway. Six pirates boarded the tug while the other pirate remained on the boat. They took hostage nine crewmembers, threatened them and tied their hands. They stole the vessel's cash, crew personal belongings, damaged the communication equipment and escaped	Nine crewmembers were taken hostage and threatened. Ship's cash and crew's personal belongings were stolen and communication equipment was damaged	Master raised alarm and activated SSAS	Yes MPA Singapore and Coast guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	TAHIR Tug Singapore 249 9463798	02/08/2009 01:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Off Pulau Mangkai, 02° 51.65' N 105° 06.12' E	Five pirates on a boat armed with knives boarded the tug underway. Crew mustered and managed to chase the pirates back into their boat. One crewmember was slightly injured	One crewmember was slightly injured	All the crew mustered and managed to chase the pirates back into their boat	Yes MPA Singapore	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	SATURNAS Refrigerated cargo carrier Lithuania 3252 8210247	03/08/2009 22:45 UTC	WEST AFRICA Escravos Anchorage, Nigeria 05° 28.44' N 005° 04.41' E	Five robbers wearing masks armed with automatic guns in a speed boat boarded the ship at anchor. They opened fire and kidnapped five crewmembers and escaped. The remaining nine crew sailed the ship to open sea	Robbers opened fire and kidnapped five crewmembers	Sailed the ship to open sea	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	NA Ecuador	09/08/2009 13:40 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Punta Arena Anchorage, Guayaquil, Ecuador	Ten robbers wearing masks and armed with guns boarded the crew Launch service carrying six ship's crew ashore from an anchored LPG carrier. They stole crew's personal belongings, cash, seaman's books, extra gasoline, damaged communication equipment and escaped. Later, local fishermen took the crew ashore	Crew's personal belongings, cash, seaman's books and gasoline were stolen and communication equipment was damaged	-	Yes Local authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	ABRAM SCHULTE Product tanker Liberia 41503 9280586	12/08/2009 23:36 UTC	EAST AFRICA Abidjan Roads, Côte d'Ivoire 05° 12.50' N 004° 03.90' W	Two robbers armed with long knives boarded the tanker via forecandle. Ship's stores were stolen. When sighted, robbers escaped in a small boat	Ships' stores stolen	-	Yes Port control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

* 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

N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag	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	MSC.4/Circ.142 ANNEX 1
	Gross Tonnage IMO Number								Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	CHINA FROST Refrigerated cargo carrier Panama 4999 8410914	15/08/2009 02:30 LT	WEST AFRICA Boma Roads, Democratic Rep. of the Congo	Two robbers armed with sticks boarded the ship at anchor. Duty crew spotted the robbers and raised alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers jumped into the water and escaped	-	Raise alarm	Yes Traffic Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	KIRANA TRITYA Product tanker Singapore 13203 9279678	15/08/2009 03:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 2.6 NM Off Tanjung Ramunia, Malaysia 01° 18.90' N 104° 16.18' E	Three robbers in a small fast wooden boat boarded the tanker at anchor. Duty crew sighted the robbers and informed D/O who raised the alarm. The robbers escaped upon hearing the alarm	-	Master raised the alarm	Yes VTIS Singapore informed	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	HS LISZT Container ship Liberia 16162 9368742	26/09/2009 01:30 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Moin Anchorage, Costa Rica 10° 04.00' N 083° 06.30' W	Two robbers boarded the ship by using hooks. Duty watchman alerted the Master and crew. On noticing the crew, robbers jumped overboard. Nothing was stolen	-	Raised alarm and alerted crewmembers	Yes Port control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	LAURA Bulk carrier Bahamas 17040 9123960	27/07/2009 23:55 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Mosqueiro Anchorage, Brazil 01° 05.41' S 048° 29.08' W	Robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. They tied up the watchmen's hands and stole ship's stores and escaped	Robbers tied up watchmen's hands and stole ship's stores	-	Yes MRCC Brazil	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	SUMMER FORTUNE Bulk carrier Panama 35885 9167368	12/08/2009 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Haldia Port, India	Robbers boarded the ship unnoticed while at anchor. They stole ship's spares parts from the engine room locker and escaped	Spare parts stolen	Increased vigilance	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	VENEZIA D Chemical tanker Netherlands 6875 9150327	27/08/2009 05:00 LT	WEST AFRICA No.5 Berth, Apapa Port, Lagos, Nigeria	Four robbers boarded the tanker at berth and threatened the duty watchman with gun. The robbers stole ship's property and escaped	Robbers threatened the duty watchman with gun. Ship's property stolen	Raised alarm	Yes Local authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	DARLING RIVER Bulk carrier Hong Kong, China 20418 9378008	29/08/2009 02:50 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA port Ciwandarn, Indonesia 06° 01.00' S 105° 57.00' E	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the bulk carrier from a boat while at berth. Master raised the alarm and mustered the crew. One padlock was damaged. Nothing was stolen	-	Master raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes Coastal and Flag State	ReCAAP ISC	-

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ANNEX 2
Acts of piracy and armed robbery allegedly attempted against ships reported by
Member States or international organizations in consultative status

N°	Ship Name	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	MSC.4/Circ.142 ANNEX 2
	Type of Ship								Gross Tonnage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	RIMAR Bulk carrier Togo 16021 8005549	03/08/2009 15:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 13° 46.50' N 050° 42.30' E	Ten armed pirates in two boats fired upon the ship underway. The pirates failed to board the ship due to evasive action taken by the Master	Pirates fired upon the ship	Master took evasive manoeuvres	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	NOTOS SCAN General cargo ship Bahamas 2854 8607658	04/08/2009 13:10 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 13° 32.00' N 048° 50.00' E	Eight pirates armed with automatic weapons in a 7 -8 meter long, blue coloured wooden boat, approached the ship underway at 15-17 knots. They fired upon the ship and attempted to board several times. Master raised alarm, increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres, activated SSAS and contacted coalition warships. Pirates aborted the attempted attack. A coalition helicopter arrived at the location at 1341 UTC	Pirates fired upon the ship	Master raised alarm, increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and activated SSAS	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	ELGIZNUR CEBI Bulk carrier Turkey 33218 9504293	14/08/2009 03:20 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 12° 35.00' N 047° 25.00' E	Five pirates armed with automatic weapons and RPG in a speed boat fired upon the ship underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres. A coalition helicopter arrived at the scene and the pirates moved away. One crew injured. The Master was instructed to rendezvous with a coalition warship, which sent some troops and a doctor to treat the injured crew	Robbers fired upon the ship. One crew injured	Master took evasive manoeuvres	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	TIAN WANG XING General cargo ship Panama 7460 9464223	16/08/2009 12:50 UTC	EAST AFRICA Somalia 06° 17.30' N 054° 41.20' E	Two skiffs launched from a mother vessel, chased the ship and opened fire with automatic weapons and RPG. Master enforced anti piracy measures and contacted the authorities for assistance. Pirates aborted the attempted	Pirates fired upon the ship with automatic weapons and RPG	Master enforced anti piracy measures	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	SOUTHERN CROSS General cargo ship Italy 4410 9197014	26/09/2009 08:29 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 13° 08.00' N 048° 45.00' E	Armed pirates in a skiff chased and fired upon the ship underway. Alarm raised, crew mustered, evasive manoeuvres made and distress signal sent on VHF ch.16. A warship and a military helicopter arrived at the location to render assistance and the pirates aborted the attempted attack	Pirates fired upon the ship. Hole under rail wheelhouse	Master raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres, sent distress signal and crew mustered	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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N°	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag	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	MSC.4/Circ.142 ANNEX 2
	Gross Tonnage IMO Number								Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	GOOD LUCK Bulk carrier Cyprus 90831 8208000	30/08/2009 10:55 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Nippa Anchorage, Singapore Straits, 01° 09.15' N 103° 37.05' E	Five robbers armed with two machine guns and hooks attempted to board the ship at anchor at 1845 hrs. Master raised alarm and robbers aborted attempt boarding	-	Raised alarm and crew mustered. Informed ships in the vicinity	Yes VTIS Singapore	ReCAAP	-
2	TIGRIS Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 8247 9443841	24/09/2009 05:15 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Kakinada Inner Roads, India 17° 02.50' N 082° 23.60' E	Six robbers on a fishing boat approached the tanker at anchor. Two of the robbers tried to board the tanker from starboard side midship using hooks. The duty officer raised alarm, sounded the fog horn and crew mustered. Attempt was aborted	-	Duty officer raised alarm, sounded the fog horn and the crew mustered	Yes Port control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	DUDEN Bulk carrier Turkey 16211 8005226	02/08/2009 23:17 UTC	WEST AFRICA Bonny River, Port Harcourt Roads, Nigeria 03° 55.46' N 006° 37.32' E	Fourteen armed robbers in two speed boats approached and opened fire on the ship at anchor. The Master immediately heaved anchor and proceeded to open seas looking for safety	Ship was fired upon and one crew member was injured	Heaved up anchor and proceeded to open seas	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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