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MSC.4/Circ.109
16 October 2007

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly - Acts reported during September 2007

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 August 2007 and 30 September 2007, 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 4,446 an increase of 14 since 31 August 2007.

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 August 2007 being MSC.4/Circ.92 MSC.4/Circ.93, MSC.4/Circ.94, MSC.4/Circ.95, MSC.4/Circ.96, MSC.4/Circ.97, MSC.4/Circ.98, MSC.4/Circ.99, MSC.4/Circ.100, MSC.4/Circ.101, MSC.4/Circ.102, MSC.4/Circ.103, MSC.4/Circ.104, MSC.4/Circ.105, MSC.4/Circ.106, MSC.4/Circ.107 and MSC.4/Circ.108.

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.109 ANNEX 1
	Type of Ship Flag								Gross Tonnage IMO Number
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	NOSY Special purpose ship	11/09/2007 23:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vicinity of Fergusson Island, Milne Bay Province Papua New Guinea	The captain of the work boat, transporting workers and cargo, jumped overboard when pirates boarded the boat. The pirates robbed the crew and injured them with sharp objects. Later, the crew received medical treatment at a shore hospital. A search party was sent to locate the captain but he could not be found	Captain missing, crew robbed and injured	Alarm raised	Yes MRCC Port Moresby	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	KRATON Tanker Indonesia 1178 7629518	22/09/2007 19:50 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Off Palembang Indonesia	Pirates hijacked the ship after departing Palembang, enroute to Cilacap. The ship was laden with a cargo of palm olein. The ship was diverted away from her original route. Owners contacted IMB who relayed the message to the authorities in the region. The Indonesian Navy located the ship on 24.09.2007, anchored south of Batam island. They boarded and detained all 14 pirates for investigation. All crew were found safe on board	Ship and crew were hijacked	Alarm raised	Yes Bakorkamla, SAR Jakarta, Indonesian Navy Headquarters, MPA Singapore, MRCC Putra Jaya and Marine Department Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	KOURION Tanker Singapore 50049 8413514	09/09/2007 00:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Balongan Anchorage Indonesia 06° 15.43' S 108° 27.23' E	Two robbers boarded the ship while at anchor. They broke the store lock and stole ship's property. Alert crew raised alarm and two crew members confronted the robbers who jumped overboard. However, they could not board their boat which was adrift. One robber was rescued, the other was not recovered despite a search by the authorities. The authorities boarded the ship for investigation and the master handed over the robber. No injuries to crew and nothing stolen	-	Raised alarm and crew confronted the robbers	Yes Indonesian Navy and Police, Bakorkamla, Marine Police, Navy Headquarters and SAR Jakarta	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Authorities boarded the ship for investigation and arrested the robbers
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* 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.109 ANNEX 1
	Gross Tonnage IMO Number								Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

2	GREKO 2 Fishing vessel Greece	20/09/2007 17:15 LT	EAST AFRICA 110NM west of Berbera Somalia	Pirates hijacked the vessel and anchored it near the village of Raas Shula. All crew including four Somali security personnel onboard were taken out of the vessel	Vessel hijacked and crew, including four security personnel were taken out of the vessel	Alarm raised	Yes CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, Marlo Bahrain, Nato Northwood, UKMTO Dubai, Fleet Constabulary Operation Officer and CTF 150 N2	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	DUBAI CROWN Bulk carrier Panama 30738 9326378	23/09/2007 08:00 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Kutubdia Anchorage, Chittagong Bangladesh 21° 48.70' N 091° 47.40' E	Whilst carrying out anti piracy rounds at anchor, ship's crew found the forecandle store door lock broken and ship's stores missing. Even though there were a number of shore personnel working on board, the robbers went unnoticed	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Port Control, Coast Guard Bangladesh, Ministry of Shipping & Intelligence Office of ISPS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	MAERSK ALABAMA Container ship United States 14120 9164263	24/09/2007 01:45 LT	EAST AFRICA 10.5NM Pt Ros Ndge, Dar-es-Salaam United Republic of Tanzania 06° 36.00' S 039° 35.00' E	While adrift, awaiting berth, a crew member onboard the ship noticed three robbers on the port side deck. The alarm was sounded and the robbers disembarked into a small boat alongside the ship. The bridge directed a searchlight towards the small boat and observed a 25ft wooden boat with a blue strip, centre console and outboard engine slowly moving away. The boat had around 15-20 robbers onboard and a ladder. The robbers were dressed only in shorts. A search of the ship found no other robbers onboard. However, a container seal was broken and some of the cargo removed and left on deck. In addition, a forward store room lock was found damaged. The port authorities were notified	A container seal was broken and the forward store room lock was damaged	Raised alarm and a search party was sent to search the ship	Yes Port Control and Tanzania Harbour Authority	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	CCNI ARICA Container ship Liberia 35881 9298648	02/09/2007 00:01 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao Anchorage Peru	Robbers boarded the ship, tied up the watchman and stole ship's stores and crew's personal effects. Local authorities and agents informed but did not get any assistance	Crew member assaulted, ship's stores and crew's personal effects stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Local authorities and MRCC Peru	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	No response from local authorities
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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.109 ANNEX 1
	Gross Tonnage IMO Number								Coastal State Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

2	RAVNANGER Chemical tanker NIS (Norway) 28246 9212371	12/09/2007 03:50 LT	WEST AFRICA Bonny River Anchorage Nigeria	Five robbers, in two motor boats, armed with guns and knives, boarded the ship at anchor from the bow using ropes and hooks. Duty crew spotted the robbers and raised an alarm. The robbers broke the padlock on the forward store and stole ship's stores and escaped. Bonny signal station was called many times but did not respond. Master requested for additional guards from agents	Forward store padlock damaged and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia and Delta State Police Command	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	No response from Bonny signal station
3	MCP NICOSIA General cargo ship Cyprus 5272 9371933	13/09/2007 05:50 UTC	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Anchorage 'D', Port au Prince Haiti 18° 33.90' N 072° 23.00' W	Robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor unnoticed. Ship's general alarm sounded and crew mustered. Robbers jumped overboard and escaped with ship's stores. Attempts to contact local authorities were futile	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Embassy of Haiti	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	No response from local authorities
4	EMIRATES MERU Container ship Cyprus 9940 9330850	30/09/2007 05:30 LT	EAST AFRICA Anchorage No.6, Port Dar-es-Salaam United Republic of Tanzania	During routine anti-piracy rounds, the aft duty AB discovered the forward AB tied up near the bunker station. He informed the duty officer who raised the alarm and mustered crew. The crew noticed that two containers had been broken into and some ship's stores missing. The released AB said that during his rounds on the main deck, two robbers armed with knives attacked and tied him up. He said that he had noticed six robbers all wearing only shorts. Port authorities informed	Duty AB assaulted, two containers broken into and ship's stores missing	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Port authorities and Tanzania High Commission, United Kingdom	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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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.109 ANNEX 2
	Type of Ship								Gross Tonnage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	FLYING GERMANIA II Yacht	18/08/2007 07:50 LT	INDIAN OCEAN 78NM from coast Sri Lanka 05° 22.58' N 078° 09.75' E	Several fishing vessels chased and attempted to board the yacht while en route from Maldives to Malaysia. The yacht managed to evade the attempted attack	-	Raised alarm and evaded attack	Yes MRCC Sri Lanka	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	DILAN Yacht	09/09/2007 11:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 48NM SE of Pulau Repong 01° 54.10' N 106° 31.49' E	Two speedboats, with an unknown number of men believed to be armed, trailed the yacht underway. Suspicious of their intention, the yacht broadcast the incident via VHF radio. A nearby ship relayed the message to the Singapore port authorities. The Singapore port authorities relayed the message to MRCC Jakarta and broadcast a navigational warning via the NAVTEX and SafetyNet system. The attempted attack was aborted	-	Raised alarm and evaded the attack	Yes MPA Singapore and MRCC Jakarta	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Reported to MRCC Jakarta and broadcast in NAVTEX and SafetyNet

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	OVERSEAS CAPEMAR Tanker Marshall Islands 23127 8312370	14/09/2007 01:15 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lagos Anchorage Nigeria 06° 16.50' N 003° 21.30' E	The deck watchman on the ship noticed a fast boat with 3-4 robbers approaching from astern, while at anchor. One robber was seen holding a pole with a hook attached to it. The OOW was informed, alarm raised, crew mustered and port control informed. On hearing the alarm, the robbers aborted the attempt	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Port Control, Nigerian Police Headquarters and Navy via High Commissioner of Nigeria, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	OVERSEAS ALLENMAR Tanker Marshall Islands 25740 8805004	14/09/2007 02:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lagos Anchorage Nigeria 06° 18.00' N 003° 22.00' E	Deck crew onboard the ship, carrying out ship to ship operations, noticed two small boats in the vicinity. Suddenly, one of the boats with three persons onboard approached the ship. The OOW was informed, alarm raised and crew mustered. Robbers noticed the alert crew and aborted the attempt. A thorough search was carried out onboard	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Port Control, Nigerian police Headquarters and Navy via High Commissioner of Nigeria, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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