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MSC.4/Circ.134
22 April 2009

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during February 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 January and 28 February 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 4,879, an increase of 25 since 31 January 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 January 2009 being MSC.4/Circ.117, MSC.4/Circ.118, MSC.4/Circ.119, MSC.4/Circ.120, MSC.4/Circ.121, MSC.4/Circ.122, 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, MC.4/Circ.132 and MSC.4/Circ.133.

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 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	MSC.4/Circ.134 ANNEX 1 Coastal State Action Taken
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	ARYA PAYAM Bulk carrier Cyprus 32474 9328522	12/02/2009 04:48 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Off Tanjung Bulat, Malaysia 01° 18.86' N 104° 14.42' E	Five pirates in a wooden boat approached the ship at anchor. One pirate boarded the ship and attempted to steal ship's stores. Duty crew noticed the pirate and informed bridge who raised the alarm, sounded ship's horn and informed ships in the vicinity via vhf ch.16. The pirate jumped overboard and escaped empty handed with his accomplices	-	Crew raised the alarm, sounded ship's horn and informed ships in the vicinity via vhf ch.16	Yes PRC relayed message to MRCC Putrajaya, FOC RMN, MECC Lumut, Marine Police HQ, Mindef & MPA Singapore	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	MANDAKINI Bulk carrier India 28739	15/02/2009 03:15 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 3 NM Off Tanjung Penyusup, Malaysia 01° 17.70' N 104° 10.10' E	Duty 3rd engineer onboard the ship noticed pirates escaping from the engine room. He informed duty officer on bridge. Alarm raised and crew mustered. After a search, it was revealed that five pirates boarded the ship and entered the engine room. They threatened the engine room crew with knives, tied them up and took the store room keys from them. They then stole engine spares and escaped. Later authorities arrived and investigated the incident	Engine spares stolen	Alarm raised and crew searched the area	Yes MPA Singapore	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Malaysian Marine Police investigated the case
3	MLC NANCY 5 Tug Singapore 241 9257539	19/02/2009 14:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Malacca Straits, 05° 10.50' N 099° 06.03' E	Twelve pirates in a boat boarded the tug towing a barge underway. They stole ship's navigational equipment, radio, personal belongings and kidnapped the Master and the Chief Officer before leaving the vessel. The 2nd officer was navigating the vessels to a nearest port	Pirates stole ship's navigational equipment, radio, personal belongings and kidnapped the Master and the Chief Officer	-	Yes Malaysian Authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	SALDANHA Bulk carrier Malta 38886 9268992	22/02/2009 04:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 12° 33.98' N 047° 01.32' E	Armed pirates attacked a bulk carrier underway. They boarded the ship, took hostage crewmembers and hijacked it to an undisclosed location. Further details are awaited	Pirates took hostage 22 crewmembers and hijacked the ship	-	Yes PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer & Yemen	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 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	MSC.4/Circ.134 ANNEX 1
	Coastal State Action Taken								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	CSAV MARESIAS Container ship Marshall Islands 16801 9105970	06/02/2009 20:00 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao Anchorage No.1, Peru 12° 01.50' S 077° 12.30' W	Six masked robbers armed with long knives in black clothes boarded a container ship at anchor. They attacked and seized two duty watchmen, broke into the bosun store and stole ship's stores. Other watchmen noticed the robbers and reported to bridge. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Robbers escaped upon hearing the alarm. Port control informed and a police patrol boat came but no investigation had been done.	Two crew were held and beaten. Ship's and personal properties stolen	General alarm was raised	Yes Yes. Port Control, PRC relayed message to MRCC Peru	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A police patrol boat came alongside
2	SAFMARINE ZAMBEZI Container ship Liberia 27322 9239898	14/02/2009 00:03 UTC	EAST AFRICA Dar Es Salaam Roads, United Republic of Tanzania 06° 43.00' S 039° 20.00' E	Five robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. They tied up two duty crew, took their personal belongings and then opened a container and stole the cargo. At 0200 UTC, the robbers left the ship in a small boat after releasing the duty crew. Port authorities informed but no action taken	Robbers tied up two duty crew, took their personnel belongings and then opened a container and stole the cargo	-	Yes Port Authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	HISTRIA TIBER Chemical tanker 25864 9396335	14/02/2009 21:20 UTC	WEST AFRICA 10 NM Lagos entrance, Nigeria 06° 15.00' N 003° 19.00' E	Around 12 to 14 robbers wearing masks and armed with AK 47 automatic weapons boarded the tanker at anchor. They took the bosun as hostage and forced him to guide them to the bridge. They opened fire and destroyed ship's communication system and then robbed ship's stores and personal belongings and then departed after 30 to 40 minutes. No crew injured	Ship's stores and crew personal belongings stolen	General alarm raised, called on radio VHF and SSAS launched	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	CSCL SAO Container ship Hong Kong, China 26404	24/02/2009 21:57 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao Anchorage No.1, Peru 12° 01.20' S 077° 11.80' W	Eight armed robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They took hostage two shore employed security watchmen and tied them up. They broke into the forecastle store and stole ship's stores and escaped. One of the watchman managed to inform the duty A/B who raised the alarm. Crew mustered, searched the area and released the other watchman. Tramar port control and coast guard informed. Three coast guard personnel came onboard for investigation	Robbers took hostage two shore employed security watchmen and tied them up. They broke into the forecastle store and stole ship's stores	Master raised alarm, crew mustered and searched the ship	Yes Tramar Port Control and Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard boarded the ship for investigation

IN PORT AREA

1	AVOCET ARROW General cargo ship Bahamas 27470 8324359	21/01/2009 23:03 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Cartagena Anchorage 'D', Colombia 10° 23.00' N 075° 33.00' W	A robber boarded the ship at anchor. Master raised the alarm and crew mustered. The robber jumped overboard upon hearing the alarm and escaped in a motor boat	-	Master raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes PRC relayed message to Maritime Security, Colombia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN PORT AREA

2	BOSSCLIP TRADER Bulk carrier Bahamas 19918 9320295	01/02/2009 01:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Ho Chi Minh City Mooring Buoys RQ2, Viet Nam	Robbers boarded the bulk carrier moored to mooring buoys. They stole ship's stores and escaped through the hawse pipe. Incident reported to police but no result	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes Local Police, PRC relayed message to Vietnam Marine Police & Vietnam Maritime Security Information Centre	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	PICO ALTO Brazil	08/02/2009 05:00 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (A) Off Itaparica Marina, Brazil 12° 53.18' S 038° 40.43' W	Two robbers armed with guns in a small rowing boat boarded the sailing vessel at anchor. The captain confronted the robbers and they shot and killed him. Robbers jumped overboard and swam off leaving their boat. Nothing stolen.	Robbers shot and killed the captain	Captain confronted the robbers	Yes Local Police	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Police have arrested two suspects
4	PORT SHANGHAI Bulk carrier Panama 32415 9423528	09/02/2009 23:30 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Kakinada Lightering Anchorage, India 17° 01.00' N 082° 22.00' E	Robbers boarded the ship via the forecastle, stole ship's stores and escaped before being noticed by watch keepers	Ship's stores stolen	-	Yes PRC relayed message to MRCC Mumbai & Coast Guard HQ India	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	CSAV SANTOS Container ship Liberia 25406 9311842	14/02/2009 03:00 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao Anchorage, Peru	Robbers boarded the ship at anchorage. They broke open the bosun store and stole ship's stores. Master informed local police but the authorities did not attend	Ship's stores stolen	-	Yes Local Police, PRC relayed message to MRCC Peru	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	NORASIA POLARIS Container ship Liberia 35881 9237498	18/02/2009 19:55 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (P) Callao Anchorage No.12, Peru	The ship, waiting for a bunker barge, was approached by two small boats while at anchor. The men in the boats asked for heaving lines to assist securing the bunker barge. The OOW suspecting them for robbers and raised the alarm and crew mustered. While the attention of the ship's crew was diverted, the robbers gained access onto the ship probably via the anchor chain and stole ship's stores, which was only realized when an inspection was carried out	Ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes PRC relayed message to MRCC Peru	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	GANDA Ro-ro-cargo ship Italy 1850 9298129	27/02/2009 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Cochin Anchorage, India	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They broke forward lockers and stole ship's stores and escaped	Robbers stole ship's stores	-	Yes PRC relayed message to MRCC Chennai & Coast Guard HQ, India	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

	Ship Name Type of Ship Flag Gross Tonnage IMO Number								MSC.4/Circ.134 ANNEX 2
N°		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	OCEAN DIAMOND Bulk carrier Panama 29964 9405461	11/02/2009 06:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA 108 NM SE of Socotra Island, Somalia 10° 39.00' N 054° 50.80' E	Five pirates armed with RPG and assault guns in a light blue coloured speed boat approached and attempted to board the ship underway. They fired at the accommodation. Master increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and crew activated fire hoses. Pirates aborted the attempt. A Russian warship had been in contact with the ship	Pirates fired at the accommodation	Master increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and crew activated fire hoses	Yes Yes. Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A Russian warship had been in contact with the ship
2	POLARIS Tanker Marshall Islands 8562 9388235	11/02/2009 11:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA 58 NM South of Balhaf, Gulf of Aden, 12° 59.50' N 048° 16.90' E	A skiff with seven pirates armed with guns approached the tanker underway. The pirates attempted to board but due to evasive manoeuvres taken by the tanker, they failed to board. Warships and helicopters were contacted and investigated the incident	-	Master took evasive manoeuvres. Crew activated anti-piracy measures and removed the pirates ladder	Yes Yes. UKMTO Dubai	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A US warship apprehended the seven pirates
3	PREM DIVYA Tanker Iceland 57950 9138599	12/02/2009 00:01 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden,	Five pirates in a boat fired upon and chased the tanker underway. The boat came as close as 10 metres from the ship. The Master increased speed, raised alarm, carried out evasive manoeuvres and contacted the authorities for assistance. A coalition warship contacted the tanker and proceeded towards the ship. The pirates aborted the attempt after around 40 minutes.	Pirates fired upon the tanker	Master increased speed, raised alarm, carried out evasive manoeuvres	Yes UKMTO Dubai	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A coalition warship contacted the tanker and proceeded towards the ship
4	JOLBOS Bulk carrier Cyprus 18813 9032056	12/02/2009 14:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 13° 09.00' N 049° 09.00' E	Five pirates armed with RPGs in a black/white coloured speed boat approached and fired upon the ship underway. They attempted to board the ship from the port side using a steel ladder. Master raised alarm, sent distress messages and took evasive manoeuvres. The coalition forces sent a helicopter to the location. After 10 minutes, pirates aborted their attack	Pirates fired upon the ship	Master raised alarm, sent distress messages and took evasive manoeuvres	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coalition Forces sent a helicopter

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

5	THAI UNION Fishing vessel Thailand 1948 8919427	19/02/2009 16:03 UTC	EAST AFRICA East Coast of Somalia, 04° 33.00' N 052° 55.00' E	Five pirates in a small white colour boat fired upon the fishing trawler underway. Pirates attempted to board the vessel. Master took evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and moved away. The vessel sustained bullet hole damage. There was no leakage and no casualties	Pirates fired upon the vessel and the vessel sustained bullet hole damage	Master took evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and moved away. Distress alarm activated	Yes PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer & Yemen Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	BAHIA General cargo ship Cyprus 9077 7705568	21/02/2009 19:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 14° 31.10' N 053° 43.10' E	Pirates in an unlit high-speed boat chased a general cargo ship underway. The boat came close to the ship and attempted to board. Master raised alarm, increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres, crew switched on additional lighting and activated fire hoses. The pirates aborted attempt	-	Master raised alarm, increased speed, took evasive manoeuvres and crew switched on additional lighting and activated fire hoses	Yes PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer & Yemen Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	KHATANGA Tanker Russian Federation 14937 8610887	22/02/2009 23:40 UTC	WEST AFRICA 20.5 NM off Onne, Nigeria 03° 59.61' N 006° 46.25' E	Five pirates armed with automatic guns in a speed boat and two pirates in a fishing boat approached the tanker underway. They opened fire at the bridge and attempted to board the tanker. Master raised alarm, increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres. Due to the evasive manoeuvres, pirates aborted the attempted attack	Pirates fired upon the tanker at the bridge	Master raised alarm, increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres. SSAS and DSC alert activated	Yes Bonny Signal Station via UHF but	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
8	YAN DANG HAI Bulk carrier China 32474 9488229	25/02/2009 10:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, 13° 08.40' N 049° 09.50' E	Four pirates in a speed boat armed with rocket launcher fired upon a bulk carrier underway. Master raised alarm, sent distress message and took evasive manoeuvres. Crew activated fire hoses and threw empty bottles. Pirates aborted the attempted attack	Pirates fired upon the ship at accommodation and at captain's cabin. some crew mildly injured	Master raised alarm, sent distress message, took evasive manoeuvres and crew activated fire hoses and threw empty bottles to the pirates	Yes Master raised alarm, sent distress message, took evasive manoeuvres and crew activated fire hoses and threw empty bottles	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	ARAMIS Tanker Liberia 37895 8117081	10/02/2009 19:05 LT	WEST AFRICA Off SE of Pennington Terminal, Nigeria 05° 59.00' N 005° 47.00' E	Ten armed robbers in a speed boat approached and attempted to stop the tanker underway. The robbers fired upon the tanker. Alarm raised and crew alerted. Master took evasive measures and prevented boarding. The robbers continued firing at the tanker and attempted to board it, but failed due to effective preventive measures. Later, the robbers aborted the attempt	Robbers fired upon the tanker	Master raised alarm and took evasive manoeuvres. Crew mustered, activated fire monitors, threw hard materials overboard and fired rocket flares	Yes Nigerian Authority, PRC relayed message to AFRICOM and High Commission of Nigeria, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	DIANA C Bulk carrier Panama 21968 8025317	26/02/2009 06:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden, Djibouti 12° 11.00' N 043° 31.00' E	A group of armed robbers in three speed boats approached and attempted to attack the ship underway. Master raised alarm and took evasive manoeuvres. The robbers aborted the attempted attack due to the evasive manoeuvres taken by the ship	-	Master increased speed and took evasive manoeuvres	Yes PRC relayed message to CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer & Yemen Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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