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MSC.4/Circ.196
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REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during March 2013

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 March 2013 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.

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://gis.imo.org>) in order to improve the timeliness

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."

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 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 6,645, an increase of 23 since 28 February 2013.

4 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 twelve months and up to 28 February 2013 being MSC.4/Circ.183, MSC.4/Circ.184, MSC.4/Circ.185, MSC.4/Circ.186, MSC.4/Circ.187, MSC.4/Circ.188, MSC.4/Circ.189, MSC.4/Circ.190, MSC.4/Circ.191, MSC.4/Circ.192, MSC.4/Circ.194 and MSC.4/Circ.195.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	BOURBON LIBERTY 308 Tug Luxembourg 2245 9619086	30/03/2013 20:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 40nm NNE of Horsburgh LH Singapore 02° 07.00' N 104° 51.00' E	While sailing, a crew noticed a suspicious echo on the radar near the ship's stern. The Master ordered the C/O to switch on all the ship's lights and found 5 to 6 masked pirates on the deck. The emergency alarm was sounded and an announcement was made over the PA system. The crew observed the pirates were carrying big knives/rods and possibly a gun, and were roaming freely on the deck. The crew activated the SSAS and informed the ship's agent and CSO. At 2155 LT, the crew saw the pirates leaving the ship and boarding a wooden boat. The ship increased its speed and sailed to Singapore as the nearest safe place. On 31.03.2013 at around 0300 LT, a Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) ship, RSS Resilience, came and escorted the ship to Singapore.	No crew was injured and there was no damage to the ship. However, the crew's personal belongings, such as laptops, mobile phones, cash and clothes, were stolen	The emergency alarm was sounded and announcement was made on PA system. The SSAS was also activated and the ship's agent and CSO were informed. The crew kept themselves locked inside the bridge until the arrival of the RSN ship	Yes Singapore Port Operations Control Centre (SPOCC)	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	Singapore Police Coast Guard and the RSN were informed. The MRCC in Putra Jaya and Jakarta were notified by the SPOCC
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	SAAD 1 Fishing vessel Iran (Islamic Republic of)	28/03/2013 07:46 UTC	EAST AFRICA 11nm WNW of Raas Caseyr Somalia 11° 52.00' N 051° 18.00' E	Pirates boarded and hijacked the fishing vessel and took its 20 crew members hostage. The fishing vessel was rescued on the same day and sailed to a safe place. The crew were unharmed.	Pirates took hostage 20 crew members and hijacked the fishing vessel	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A warship rescued the fishing vessel and its crew
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IN PORT AREA

1	CASTLEGATE Bulk carrier Liberia 29923 9460318	04/03/2013 04:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Taboneo Anchorage Indonesia 03° 33.36' S 114° 26.55' E	The ship was boarded by robbers who stole ship's stores and escaped unnoticed. Port control was informed.	Ship's stores stolen	-	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	PRINCES PARK Chemical tanker Liberia 11690 9339351	12/03/2013 13:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 03° 56.40' N 098° 44.80' E	Robbers boarded the tanker, stole ship's stores and escaped unnoticed.	Ship's stores stolen	-	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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

IN PORT AREA

3	KILIAN S Bulk carrier Antigua and Barbuda 32987 9456173	14/03/2013 04:02 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Adang Bay Anchorage, Indonesia Indonesia 01° 40.20' S 116° 39.10' E	Three robbers armed with long knives boarded the anchored bulk carrier. The alert duty crew spotted the robbers attempting to enter the forecastle store and informed the OOW who raised the alarm and sounded the forward foghorn. On seeing the alert crew mustered and proceeding towards the forecastle, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Pilot station and all ships at Adang Bay were alerted. Nothing stolen and no injuries to crew.	Nothing stolen and no injuries to crew	Raised the alarm, sounded the forward foghorn, and the crew mustered and proceeded to the forecastle	Yes Adang Bay Pilot Station	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	CAROLINE OLDENDORFF Bulk carrier Liberia 43332 8900517	16/03/2013 23:08	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Puerto Prodeco Anchorage Colombia 11° 08.00' N 074° 16.00' W	Duty officer on board the anchored ship noticed an unidentified person on the forecastle and immediately informed the deck security guard and the port security guard to investigate. When they arrived at the forecastle, they noticed two robbers climbing down the anchor chain and trying to escape by swimming in heavy seas. One of the robbers was rescued by throwing a lifebuoy while the other disappeared out of sight. Later, the robber was taken ashore by the security. Nothing was stolen.	-	Crew rescued one of the robbers and reported the incident to the local authorities	Yes Local authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	GLOBAL ANDES Bulk carrier Panama 30660 9633032	21/03/2013 02:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Gresik Inner Anchorage Indonesia 07° 05.30' S 112° 39.40' E	Four robbers boarded the anchored ship and forced their way into the forward store and stole ship's property. When noticed by the crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Port control was informed.	Robbers stole ship's property	Raised the alarm and the crew mustered	Yes Surabaya Pilot Station	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	NORD OPTIMISER Product tanker Liberia 26900 9338802	22/03/2013 22:00 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage 'A' Bangladesh 22° 15.00' N 091° 44.00' E	Robbers boarded the product tanker during anchoring operations and stole ship's stores and property. They escaped on seeing the crew members returning after anchoring operations. Port authorities, the Coast Guard and the ship's agent were informed.	Robbers boarded and stole ship's property	Raised the alarm and switched on all deck lights	Yes Port Authority and Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The Bangladesh Coast Guard carried out an investigation
7	PRINCES PARK Chemical tanker Liberia 11690 9339351	23/03/2013 02:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Dumai Anchorage Indonesia 01° 42.00' N 101° 28.00' E	Five robbers armed with long knives in a small boat boarded the ship from the starboard quarter using a rope. The watchman was tied up with ropes. He was found lying down with his hands tied up when the forward watchman went to take over his watch. The duty officer was immediately informed. The alarm was raised and all crew mustered at poop deck. A small wooden boat was seen leaving the ship. On investigation, it was found that nothing had been stolen.	-	Raised the alarm and the crew mustered	Yes Local authorities	Indonesia ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

8	JPO SAGITTARIUS Container ship Liberia 27100 9307267	24/03/2013 01:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Berth No. 11, Dar Es Salaam Port United Republic of Tanzania 06° 50.50' N 039° 17.80' E	A robber boarded the ship via forward mooring ropes. The duty A/B noticed the robber who threatened the A/B with a long knife. The A/B ran and reported to the SSO who in turn raised the alarm and informed the Port Control. On hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robber jumped into the sea and escaped empty-handed in his boat. Shore security guards came onboard for investigation.	Robber boarded the ship and threatened the A/B with a long knife	Raised the alarm	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Shore security guard came onboard to carry out an investigation
9	CAPE NORVIEGA Container ship Singapore 17609 9182021	24/03/2013 02:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Tanjung Priok Anchorage Indonesia 05° 59.00' N 106° 54.00' E	During a routine round, the ship's crew found the steering gear room open and discovered that some items inside the store were missing. After investigation, the incident was reported to the Coast Guard.	Ship's equipment stolen	Strengthened the anti-piracy watch onboard	Yes Coast Guard and port authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
10	OCEAN CHARGER General cargo ship United States 7252 9213959	24/03/2013 03:00 LT	WEST AFRICA Abidjan Port Côte d'Ivoire	Shore security guard onboard the berthed general cargo ship noticed two robbers on the aft mooring stations and immediately informed the duty officer who alerted the Master and other crew members. On seeing the alerted crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in their small boat. Port control was informed who later informed the Master that the robbers were detained and stolen items recovered.	Robbers boarded and stole ship's property	Raised the alarm, crew mustered and informed the Port Control	Yes Port Control	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The authorities apprehended the robbers and recovered the stolen items
11	PANDURATA General cargo ship Panama 6448 9162318	25/03/2013 01:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Dumai Inner Anchorage Indonesia 01° 42.00' N 101° 27.00' E	Five robbers armed with knives and guns boarded the anchored general cargo ship. The robbers took hostage four crew on duty and tied their hands with rope. Two of the crew taken hostage were forced to lead the robbers to the engine room store, which was then forced open allowing the robbers to steal ship's property. The alarm was raised by the crew after the robbers escaped. The authorities were informed via the ship's agent.	Four crew were taken hostage and ship's property stolen	Raised the alarm after the robbers escaped. The authorities were informed via the ship's agent	Yes Not stated	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Japan)	-
12	MOSOR Bulk carrier Croatia 24533 9191527	26/03/2013 04:05 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Taboneo Anchorage Indonesia 03° 04.00' N 114° 26.00' E	Robbers boarded the ship and were noticed by the alert duty crew who informed the OOW. The alarm was raised and the crew were alerted. Seeing the alert crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped.	-	Alarm raised and crew alerted	Yes Not stated	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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IN PORT AREA

13	CHRISTY Container ship Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 10925 9106508	26/03/2013 17:45 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Port Said West Terminal Egypt 31° 14.40' N 032° 18.10' E	Six robbers in a boat armed with knives came alongside the berthed container ship. Four of them boarded the ship and injured the onboard security guard. They stole ship's stores and transferred them into their boat. The incident was reported to the local police.	One crew member was injured and the ship's stores were stolen	Crew mustered	Yes Port Control & Port Police	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
14	SIBERIAN EXPRESS Bulk carrier Gibraltar (United Kingdom) 51209 9498717	27/03/2013 15:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Anchorage Indonesia 03° 56.00' N 098° 47.00' E	Robbers boarded the bulk carrier and stole ship's stores from the bosun store at forecastle and then escaped. The theft was discovered after the robbers had left the ship.	Ship's stores stolen	-	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (The Netherlands)	-
15	THEOMETOR Bulk carrier Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 32543 9595759	28/03/2013 09:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Muara Jawa Anchorage, Samarinda Indonesia 01° 08.00' N 117° 15.00' E	A/B on routine security rounds on board the ship noticed robbers near the bosun store trying to remove mooring ropes. They pointed a gun at the A/B who immediately took cover and informed the OOW. They lowered the rope into a waiting boat and escaped. Coast Guard and port control were informed.	Ship's stores stolen	Raised the alarm	Yes Port Control and Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
16	NOR CHIEF Supply ship Singapore 2705 9463126	28/03/2013 17:54	ARABIAN SEA Port Said Anchorage Egypt 31° 14.00' N 032° 18.04' E	Four robbers boarded the anchored ship. While conducting security checks, two duty A/Bs discovered the robbers on the main deck and raised the alarm. The robbers tried but failed to gain entry to the winch house and accommodation block as the rooms were secured. They eventually aborted the attempt and left the ship. It was reported that the robbers had threatened the duty A/Bs with knives. All 16 crew members on board the ship were safe.	No crew were injured, no damage to the ship and no items were taken	The chief officer raised the alarm and the crew mustered in the winch house	No	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
17	DIETRICH OLDENDORFF Bulk carrier Luxembourg 35812 9665542	29/03/2013 02:10 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Samarinda Anchorage Indonesia 01° 11.00' N 117° 16.00' E	Two robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship and stole its stores from the forecastle store. They were spotted by the crew who raised the alarm. The robbers escaped with the stolen stores.	Ship's stores stolen	Raised the alarm	No	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 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.196 ANNEX 2 Coastal State Action Taken
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	AL BUHAIRA Tanker Liberia 55909 9486910	04/03/2013 05:30 UTC	ARABIAN SEA Around 40nm SE of Mukalla City, Yemen Yemen 14° 17.40' N 049° 51.70' E	Four skiffs with around six persons in each skiff approached the tanker from her port bow, mid-ships and astern. A ladder and a RPG were sighted in the approaching skiffs.	-	Master raised the alarm, took anti-piracy measures, informed UKMTO and all non-essential crew retreated to the citadel. Onboard armed security team fired warning shots resulting in the skiffs stopping the approach at a distance of around four cables from the ship	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A warship was deployed to the location for assistance
2	ORANGE STARS Tanker Marshall Islands 61314 9433597	14/03/2013 12:15 LT	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden Somalia 13° 39.00' N 050° 48.00' E	Four suspicious dhows along with skiffs were noticed by the crew onboard the tanker underway. From this group, one skiff approached the tanker at high speed. The alarm was sounded and non-essential crew retreated to the citadel. As the skiff approached, weapons and a ladder were sighted in the skiff. Onboard armed security team fired one warning shot resulting in the skiff stopping and turning back to regroup with the rest.	-	The alarm was sounded and non-essential crew retreated to the citadel. The onboard armed security team fired one warning shot	Yes UKMTO	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A warship and a helicopter came to the location
3	HOSANGER General cargo ship Singapore 37150 9081801	15/03/2013 13:40 LT	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden Somalia 13° 56.00' N 051° 18.90' E	While underway inside the Internationally Recommended Transit Corridor (IRTC) in the Gulf of Aden, three suspected pirate boats approached the ship triangularly on its port beam, starboard beam and port bow, at the speed of 7 to 20 knots. The Master activated two fire pumps and the armed guards onboard fired three warning shots. The Master increased the ship's speed and took evasive manoeuvres to keep clear from the three suspected pirate boats which at one point, had closed to within 1.2nm of the ship. The suspected pirates eventually abandoned their pursuit at about 1435 LT. All 25 crew onboard were safe.	No crew were injured. No damage to the ship and no items were stolen	The Master activated two fire pumps, increased the ship's speed and took evasive manoeuvres. The armed guards onboard fired three warning shots	Yes Flag state and coastal state	ReCAAP ISC via ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

4	SEA HERMES Oil product tanker Malta 28150 9279733	30/03/2013 22:42 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 52nm SSW of Port Harcourt Nigeria 03° 57.30' N 006° 41.00' E	About 8 to 10 pirates armed with guns in a small craft approached the drifting tanker. Duty crew noticed the craft and informed the OOW who in turn informed the Master and the duty engineer. The craft stopped for several seconds, moved towards the stern of the tanker and closed in to the starboard shipside and then stopped underneath the lifeboat. Master raised the alarm, crew mustered and flashed the lights and shouted at the craft. Seeing the crew's alertness, the pirates aborted the attempted boarding and moved away while firing on the tanker. Master sailed the tanker farther south away from the shore. The incident was reported to the Nigerian Navy.	Pirates fired at the tanker	Master raised the alarm, crew mustered and flashed the lights and shouted at the craft	Yes Nigerian Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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