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MSC.4/Circ.176
1 November 2011

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during September 2011

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 31 August and 30 September 2011 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://gisis.imo.org>) in order to improve the timeliness of reporting of incidents and to enable users to generate their own search criteria and

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."

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. Given that the new functionality in GISIS allows for user-defined piracy reports, the Committee agreed that the practice of publishing quarterly summaries was no longer warranted and would be discontinued with effect from May 2011.

3 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 6,150, an increase of 33 since 30 September 2011.

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 12 months and up to 31 July 2011 being MSC.4/Circ.157, MSC.4/Circ.159, MSC.4/Circ.160, MSC.4/Circ.161, MSC.4/Circ.162, MSC.4/Circ.163, MSC.4/Circ.164, MSC.4/Circ.165, MSC.4/Circ.166, MSC.4/Circ.167, MSC.4/Circ.168, MSC.4/Circ.169, MSC.4/Circ.170, MSC.4/Circ.171, MSC.4/Circ.172, MSC.4/Circ.173, MSC.4/Circ.174 and MSC.4/Circ.175.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	TRIBAL KAT Yacht	08/09/2011 13:17 UTC	EAST AFRICA Around 20 NM South of Nishtun, Gulf of Aden, Yemen 15° 27.00' N 052° 14.00' E	Armed pirates hijacked the yacht taking all crew members hostage. The pirates sailed the yacht to an unknown location	Yacht was hijacked and crew members were taken hostage	-	Yes UKMTO and Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	UNITED EMBLEM Tanker Greece 85522 9419096	10/09/2011 05:35 UTC	EAST AFRICA Around 4NM off Jazirat Jabal Zuqar Island, Red Sea 14° 04.00' N 042° 51.00' E	Six armed robbers in one skiff boarded the ship underway. The Master sent May Day via VHF, increased speed, activated SSAS, contacted CSO, took evasive manoeuvres and the crew locked access to the ship. A naval helicopter arrived at the location and a boarding team searched the ship. The robbers escaped	-	The Master sent May Day via VHF, increased speed, activated SSAS, contacted CSO, took evasive manoeuvres and locked all access to the ship	Yes UKMTO and Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	GM GALLANT Tug Singapore 912	11/09/2011 18:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approximately 14 NM NNE of Kuala Beukah Oil Terminal Indonesia 05° 06.11' N 098° 02.87' E	Pirates armed with guns and grenades boarded the ship underway from a boat. The pirates destroyed the ship's radio communication equipment, held the Chief Engineer hostage and stole crew's personal belongings. Police arrived and arrested the pirates before escaping	Chief Engineer was taken hostage, crew's personal belongings were stolen, GPS was removed and ship's communication equipment was destroyed	The Master reported the incident to the Police	Yes Police	ReCAAP ISC	-
4	MATTHEOS I Product tanker Cyprus 27207 9281554	13/09/2011 23:52 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 62 NM SW of Cotonou Benin	Armed pirates hijacked the ship during ship-to-ship operations taking 23 crew members hostage. The pirates sailed the ship to an unknown location	Ship was hijacked and 23 crew members were taken hostage	-	Yes Benin Nav and Nigerian High Commission	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	NORTHERN BELL Product tanker Norway 44324 8701662	13/09/2011 23:52 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 62NM SW of Cotonou Benin	Armed pirates boarded the ship during ship-to-ship operations. Master sent SSAS alert, crew locked themselves in the engine room and contacted CSO. The pirates escaped and the crew regained control of the ship	-	Master instructed all crew to locked themselves in the engine room, contacted the CSO and sent SSAS alert	Yes Benin Nav and Nigerian High Commission	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

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

6	PACIFIC EXPRESS General cargo ship Cyprus 17465 8009454	20/09/2011 07:34 UTC	EAST AFRICA Around 300 NM East of Mombasa Kenya 04° 47.00' S 044° 35.00' E	Pirates in two skiffs armed with rocket-propelled grenades and guns boarded the ship underway. Crew locked themselves in the citadel and requested assistance. The pirates set fire to the ship before escaping	Pirates set up to the ship	Master took anti-piracy measures, instructed the crew to retreat to the citadel and contacted Coalition Forces	Yes UKMTO and Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	PACIFIC HARMONY Tanker Panama 41825 9209300	08/09/2011 23:43 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Nipah Island Indonesia 01° 07.45' N 103° 35.75' E	Four robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship during ship-to-ship operations. Duty oiler raised alarm, crew mustered and contacted CSO and local authorities. Later navy personnel boarded the ship to carry out a search	-	Duty oiler raised alarm, crew mustered and contacted CSO and local authorities	Yes Indonesian Navy and Marine Police	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	GINGA FALCON Tanker Panama 19998 9123386	09/09/2011 02:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approximately 4.3 NM North East of Tanjung Rambut, Pulau Karimun Besar Indonesia 01° 03.80' N 103° 30.60' E	Three robbers boarded the ship at anchor. The duty crew contacted Master and raised alarm. The robbers escaped with one lifebuoy	One lifebuoy stolen	Duty crew contacted Master and raised alarm	No	ReCAAP ISC	-
3	GM SHINE Tug Singapore 111 9433030	11/09/2011 03:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approximately 8.4 NM North East of Tanjung Rambut, Pulau Karimun Besar Indonesia 01° 04.80' N 103° 33.70' E	Robbers boarded the ship. The robbers removed the GPS, disconnected the ship's communication equipment and stole crew's personal belongings before escaping	Ship's communication equipment disconnected and crew's personal belongings stolen	-	Yes Singapore authorities	ReCAAP ISC	-
4	ALPINE MOMENT Tanker Hong Kong, China 29266 9391438	11/09/2011 23:20	MALACCA STRAIT Approximately 2.4 NM East of Pulau Mungging 01° 20.80' N 104° 20.10' E	Four robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship at anchor from a small boat. Master raised alarm. The robbers escaped	-	Master raised alarm	Yes POCC Singapore	ReCAAP ISC	-
5	GLORY 1 Tug Malaysia 326 9564827	24/09/2011 11:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approximately 2.2 NM West of Raffles Lighthouse 01° 10.07' N 103° 42.40' E	Robbers in nine boats boarded the tug, which was towing the barge Glory 2. The robbers stole scrap metals and escaped	Scrap metal stolen	Master informed authorities	Yes Singapore authorities	ReCAAP ISC	-

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

IN PORT AREA

1	FAIRCHEM BIRDIE Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 15192 9423724	09/09/2011 23:05 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Dumai Inner Anchorage Indonesia	Six robbers in a boat armed with knives approached the ship at anchor. The robbers threatened the duty A/B on deck. Duty officer on bridge raised the alarm. The robbers escaped with ship's property	Duty A/B threatened and ship's property stolen	Duty officer on bridge raised the alarm	Yes Port authorities and Indonesia Navy and Marine Police	The Marshall Islands and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	CAPE TALARA Product tanker Marshall Islands 42010 9569994	14/09/2011 03:55 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lome Anchorage Togo 06° 00.70' N 001° 19.60' E	Six robbers in a boat approached the ship at anchor. Master raised the alarm, crew mustered and contacted local authorities on VHF ch 16. Upon seeing crew alertness the robbers abandoned attempted boarding and were arrested	-	Master raised alarm and crew mustered and activated fire hoses	Yes Togo Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	E. R. BERGAMO Bulk carrier Liberia 32672 9483188	16/09/2011 03:40 LT	WEST AFRICA Lome Anchorage Togo 06° 03.70' N 001° 17.50' E	Seven robbers in a fast boat approached the ship at anchor. Duty crew spotted the robbers, contacted the bridge and informed another watchman for assistance. Master raised alarm, sounded ship's horn and contacted the Navy and crew directed search lights. Upon noticing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped	-	Master raised alarm, sounded ship's horn and crew directed search lights	Yes Togo Navy and RCC	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	OCEAN CRESCENT General cargo ship United States 7252 9258193	20/09/2011 23:45 LT	EAST AFRICA Kakinada Anchorage, India 17° 03.00' N 082° 24.00' E	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor. The robbers stole ship's stores and escaped	Ship's stores stolen	Master raised alarm	Yes Indian Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	THOR LIGHT General cargo ship Isle of Man (United Kingdom) 3810 9046136	29/09/2011 05:05 UTC	EAST AFRICA Conakry Anchorage Guinea 09° 24.00' N 013° 43.00' W	Ten to twelve robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the ship. Crew members were assaulted and injured during the incident. The robbers stole ship's cash, crew's cash and crew's personal belongings and escaped	Crew members were assaulted and injured. Ship's cash, crew's cash and crew's personal belongings were stolen	Master raised alarm and sent SSAS alert	Yes Port authorities and MRCC Guinea	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	OOCL ANTWERP Container ship Panama 66462 9307011	30/09/2011 23:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vung Tau Outer Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 13.55' N 107° 04.04' E	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor. The robbers broke the forward store and stole ship's stolen	Ship's stores stolen	-	Yes Port Control and Vietnam Maritime Security Centre	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.176 ANNEX 2 Coastal State Action Taken
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	MARYLISA V Barge carrier Marshall Islands 30174 9272785	12/09/2011 15:05 LT	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Oman 25° 07.30' N 060° 24.00' E	Pirates in a speed boat chased the ship underway. Master raised alarm and took evasive manoeuvres. The pirates escaped	-	Master raised alarm and took evasive manoeuvres	Yes UKMTO	The Marshall Islands	-
2	ALPINE LIGHT Chemical tanker Marshall Islands 29826 9478717	15/09/2011 04:42 LT	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden 13° 39.00' N 042° 37.00' E	Pirates in several boats chased the ship underway. The ship was under naval escort. The pirates escaped	-	-	Yes UKMTO	The Marshall Islands	-
3	AN NING JIANG General cargo ship China 11505 8400830	17/09/2011 10:35 UTC	EAST AFRICA Around 85 NM East of Mombasa Kenya 03° 54.60' S 041° 04.70' E	Six pirates in a skiff fired at the ship underway. Crew locked themselves in the citadel. Security team on board the ship enforced effective measures. The pirates escaped	Pirates fired at the ship	Master instructed the crew to locked themselves in the citadel	Yes UKMTO and Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	SPAR GEMINI Bulk carrier Norway 32474 9307580	20/09/2011 08:50 UTC	EAST AFRICA Around 20 NM South of Grande Comore Comoros 12° 16.10' S 043° 19.50' E	Pirates in a skiff chased the ship underway. Master raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and alerted armed security team on board the ship. The pirates encircled the ship. Eventually the pirates abandoned attempted boarding	-	Master took evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and enforced anti- piracy measures	Yes UKMTO and Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	MEKONG RIVER Container ship Cyprus 9940 9378931	21/09/2011 06:43 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Around 60 NM East of Mayotte Island Madagascar 12° 46.60' S 046° 18.50' E	Pirates in two skiffs approached the ship underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and enforced anti- piracy measures. The pirates abandoned attempted boarding	-	Master took evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and enforced anti- piracy measures	Yes UKMTO and Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	FAIRCHEM BRONCO Oil tanker Marshall Islands 11647 9360960	24/09/2011 03:00 LT	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden 13° 06.00' N 049° 05.00' E	Pirates in several skiffs chased the ship underway. The ship was part of a convoy. The pirates escaped	-	-	Yes UKMTO	The Marshall Islands	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

7	PANFORCE Bulk carrier Liberia 14962 9283849	24/09/2011 20:50 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden 12° 25.90' N 043° 38.20' E	Pirates in a boat chased and fired at the ship underway. Master raised alarm and crew locked themselves in the citadel. Security team on board the ship fired warning shots. The pirates escaped	Pirates fired at the ship	Master raised alarm and crew locked themselves in the citadel	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
8	MANOLIS P Container ship Marshall Islands 14962 9101493	28/09/2011 08:47 LT	EAST AFRICA Red Sea	Seven pirates armed with guns in a skiff approached the ship underway. Master increased speed and raised the alarm and crew retreated into the citadel. Security team on board the ship fired warning shots. The pirates escaped	-	Master increased speed and raised the alarm	Yes Coalition Forces	The Marshall Islands and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9	LIME GALAXY Chemical tanker Hong Kong, China 11623 9380972	28/09/2011 11:45 UTC	EAST AFRICA Approx. 16 NM West of Yemen, in Abu Ali Channel, Red Sea 14° 02.50' N 042° 49.00' E	Pirates armed with guns and rocket propelled grenades in a skiff chased and fired at the ship underway. Master raised alarm, sounded whistle, took evasive manoeuvres and crew retreated into the citadel. Armed security team on board the ship fired warning shots. The pirates escaped	-	Master raised alarm, sounded whistle, took evasive manoeuvres and crew retreated into the citadel	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and ReCAAP ISC	-
10	GINGA BOBCAT Chemical tanker Panama 16222 9472737	28/09/2011 12:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA Red Sea 14° 06.00' N 042° 59.00' E	Pirates in three skiffs armed with rocket propelled grenades chased the ship underway. Master took evasive manoeuvres and contacted authorities for assistance. The pirates escaped	-	Master took evasive manoeuvres and contacted authorities for assistance	Yes Coalition Forces and Yemen Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
11	TORM REPUBLICAN Chemical tanker Denmark 29242 9290658	29/09/2011 12:15 UTC	EAST AFRICA Around 500 NM East of Socotra Yemen 11° 40.80' N 063° 05.00' E	Armed pirates in a skiff approached the ship underway. Master sounded alarm and took evasive manoeuvres. Security team on board the ship fired warning shots. The pirates fired back and escaped	Pirates fired at the ship	Master sounded alarm and took evasive manoeuvres and alerted the crew	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	ABU DHABI STAR Chemical tanker Singapore 29734 9418119	14/09/2011 04:15 UTC	WEST AFRICA Around 7NM South of Lome break water Tonga 06° 01.39' N 001° 18.30' E	Around 26 robbers approached the ship at anchor. Master raised the alarm and contacted local authorities on VHF Ch 16 and crew mustered. Upon seeing crew alertness the robbers abandoned attempted boarding and escaped. A naval patrol boat arrived on location for assistance	-	Master raised alarm, mustered all crew, contacted local authorities on VHF Ch 16 and heaved up anchor	Yes Togo Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	LADY Z Barge carrier Panama 40170 9465784	15/09/2011 15:05 UTC	EAST AFRICA Around 2.6 NM South of Mayyun Island, Bab El Mandeb, Red sea 12° 35.50' N 043° 25.50' E	Armed pirates in four skiffs approached the ship underway, two from the port side and two from the stbd side. Master raised alarm, took evasive manoeuvres and security team on board the ship fired warning shots. The pirates escaped	-	Master raised alarm and took evasive manoeuvres	Yes Coalition Forces	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	MV AL-AGAILA Tanker Libyan Arab Jamahiriya 84735 9415404	19/09/2011 00:40 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approximately 2.4 NM West of Tanjung Piai, Johor Malaysia 01° 15.80' N 103° 28.60' E	Six robbers armed with knives attempted to board three ships: MV KANDARIAH, MV AL-AGAILA and MV SKY JUPITER while at anchor. Masters raised alarm and the robbers were arrested by the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency	-	Masters raised alarm	Yes Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency	ReCAPP ISC	-
2	TORM ESBJERG Chemical tanker Hong Kong, China 29733 9364588	22/09/2011 05:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lome Anchorage Togo 06° 01.00' N 001° 15.00' E	Robbers in three fishing boats approached the ship at anchor. Master contacted the Navy. Two robbers were arrested and one escaped	-	Master contacted authorities	Yes Togo Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	TORM ESBJERG Chemical tanker Hong Kong, China 29733 9364588	24/09/2011 01:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lome Anchorage Togo 06° 01.00' N 001° 15.00' E	Robbers in four small boats approached the ship at anchor. Master contacted the Navy. The robbers were arrested	-	Master contacted the authorities	Yes Togo Navy	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-