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MSC.4/Circ.124
27 August 2008

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during July 2008

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 30 June 2008 and 31 July 2008, 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 4,662, an increase of 26 since 30 June 2008.

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 June 2008 being MSC.4/Circ.107, MSC.4/Circ.108, MSC.4/Circ.109, MSC.4/Circ.110, MSC.4/Circ.111, MSC.4/Circ.112, MSC.4/Circ.113, MSC.4/Circ.114, MSC.4/Circ.115, MSC.4/Circ.116, MSC.4/Circ.117, MSC.4/Circ.118, MSC.4/Circ.119, MSC.4/Circ.120, MSC.4/Circ. 121, MSC.4/Circ.122 and MSC.4/Circ.123.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	SEABULK SNIPE Tug Liberia 958 8111740	03/07/2008	WEST AFRICA 5 miles from Douala Base Buoy Cameroon	Five armed pirates boarded the vessel from a fly boat (very fast open boat). They fired numerous gunshots causing extensive damage to vessel accommodation. The vessel was looted and they destroyed bridge equipment. Two other fishing vessels were also attacked in a similar fashion after the pirates left SEABULK SNIPE	Extensive damage to vessel accommodation, vessel looted and bridge equipment destroyed	The vessel decided to only transit the area in daylight and decided to raise their security awareness to level 3 during the transit to Douala, Cameroon	No	Liberia	-
2	STELLA MARIS Bulk carrier Panama 30046 9317157	20/07/2008 00:11 UTC	EAST AFRICA SE of Al Mukalla, Gulf of Aden 13° 16.99' N 050° 03.47' E	Pirates boarded the ship underway. The ship activated SSAS and sent a voice message to the coalition forces indicating pirates on board. The owners are unable to contact the ship and suspect all communication equipment have been damaged. There are 21 crew onboard the ship. Further details are awaited	-	Ship activated SSAS and sent voice message to the coalition forces	Yes CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, NATO Northwood, Alindien, Marlo Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIfC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer, Yemen Coast Guard and Seafarers' Assistance Programme	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur and UKMTO Dubai	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	KOTA TEGAP Container ship Singapore 7683 9251145	13/02/2008 03:15 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Chittagong Anchorage 'C' Bangladesh 22° 25.00' N 091° 36.00' E	Twelve robbers armed with guns and knives boarded the ship at anchor. They held the duty watchman at gunpoint and tied him to the winch. They stole ship's stores and property and escaped when another duty watchman raised the alarm. Port Control and Coast Guard informed	Robbers stole ship's stores and property	Raised alarm	Yes Port Control, the Coast Guard, the Director General (Focal Point), Intelligence Office of ISPS & the Coast Guard Bangladesh	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	NIKI Oil tanker Liberia 22847 8607842	13/06/2008 23:40 LT	WEST AFRICA Lagos Anchorage Nigeria 06° 14.30' N 003° 19.80' E	During ship-to-ship discharge operation offshore Lagos anchorage, Nigeria. Two mooring ropes were stolen by robbers. No personal injuries	Psychological trauma suffered by crew and mooring ropes stolen	Security patrol	No	Liberia and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	NA Yacht	23/06/2008	EAST AFRICA Near Lasqorey, near Somali land and Puntland border	Robbers seized the privately owned yacht. The hostages, a German family of three and the yacht captain were taken captive near the small village of Lasqorey, near Somali land and Puntland border	Yacht hijacked and crew held hostage	Alarm raised	No		-

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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	MSC.4/Circ.124 ANNEX 1
	Coastal State Action Taken								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	GRAND VIEW Container ship Liberia 36627 9005259	26/06/2008 07:05 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Tanjung Priok Anchorage Indonesia 06° 02.30' S 106° 54.00' E	While the ship was anchored at Tanjung Priok anchorage, two unarmed robbers were sighted by Motorman boarding the ship from the aft poop deck. They broke open the steering gear room padlock bracket and entered the dry passageway. They fled after seeing the Motorman. The alarm was raised but the robbers had already escaped	-	All patrols were alerted and general alarm was sounded. Security level was raised to level 2 and number of patrols during daylight were increased. Fire pump was kept on and hoses were charged to deter thieves	No	Liberia and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	GARDEN CITY RIVER Tanker Singapore 56146 9302970	01/07/2008 02:30 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vung Tau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 15.00' N 107° 07.00' E	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor and stole ship's stores from the forward locker. Anti-piracy watchkeepers spotted the robbers and raised the alarm. The robbers escaped with stolen goods. No injuries to crew	Robbers stole ship's stores	Anti-piracy watchkeepers spotted the robbers and raised the alarm	Yes Viet Nam Maritime Security Information Centre	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	RAVEN-EYE Yacht United Kingdom 14	05/07/2008 19:00 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (C) 8 NM off Puerto Santos Venezuela 10° 45.00' N 063° 00.00' W	Six robbers armed with guns and knives in a pirogue fishing boat, one dressed in military uniform and two with face masks, approached the yacht underway. The skipper rammed into the fishing boat but the robbers managed to board the yacht. They tied up the two-crew members and pointed guns to their heads. They stabbed and killed the skipper's dog. The robbers stole equipment, property and escaped. One crew member injured	Two crew members assaulted; one injured. They stabbed and killed the skipper's dog and stole ship's equipment and property	The skipper rammed into the fishing boat	Yes Trinidad Police and the Naval Coast Guard Command, Venezuela	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	PORT LOUIS Tanker Marshall Islands 24910 9223253	06/07/2008 01:35 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Kutubdia Island Bangladesh 21° 48.00' N 091° 42.00' E	Two robbers using a rope and hook boarded the ship at anchor. Alert duty watchkeepers raised alarm. The robbers disembarked into a waiting boat, which had four other accomplices and escaped. No injuries to crew. Nothing reported stolen	-	Alert anti-piracy watch raised alarm	Yes The Director General (Focal Point), Coast Guard Bangladesh & Intelligence Office of ISPS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
8	EIGHTH OCEAN General cargo ship Malta 15670 9165803	11/07/2008 06:55 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Jakarta Inner Cargo Anchorage Indonesia 06° 02.54' S 106° 53.68' E	Robbers attempted to board the ship on four different occasions. Finally they succeeded in boarding it. Robbers stole ship's spares and escaped. Port authorities were informed and came onboard to investigate	Ship's spares stolen	Raised alarm	Yes Port Control, Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy HQ, SAR Basarnas & Indonesian Marine Police HQ	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Authorities boarded for investigation

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

9	LISSY SCHULTE Container ship Liberia 16800 9102497	19/07/2008 20:40 LT	EAST AFRICA 15 NM off Dar-es-Salaam United Republic of Tanzania 06° 39.90' S 039° 25.80' E	The duty watchman on board the drifting ship noticed a robber on the forecastle deck. Alarm raised and ship's whistle sounded. The robber escaped. A ten-metre long orange boat with five robbers on board was noticed slowly moving away from the ship. Port control informed. No stores stolen	-	Alarm raised and ship's whistle sounded	Yes Port Control and the Tanzania High Commission, United Kingdom	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
10	PALAU Bulk carrier Malta 19795 9261035	20/07/2008 01:55 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 1 NM from Buoy No.2, Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia 03° 55.40' N 098° 44.90' E	The duty watchman onboard the ship at anchor, noticed robbers trying to open the watertight door to the forecastle store. He immediately alerted the OOW who, in turn, raised the alarm and crew mustered. On seeing crew alertness, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped empty handed in a waiting boat with one accomplice	-	OOW raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy HQ, Puskodal, Indonesian Marine Police HQ & SAR Jakarta	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
11	VICTORIA STRAIT Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 9966 9265574	22/07/2008 03:40 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Manila South Port, Outer Anchorage Philippines 14° 33.40' N 120° 55.10' E	Twelve robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. They stole ship's stores and property and escaped. The crew were unable to stop them. No injuries to crew. Master reported to VTMS Manila and the Coast Guard	Robbers stole ship's stores and property	Raised alarm, sounded ship's whistle and crew mustered	Yes VTMS and the Coast Guard Philippines HQ	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	When the ship was alongside, the Coast Guard boarded for investigation
12	CPO Tanker Germany 23270 9353096	26/07/2008 03:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Anchorage Indonesia 03° 57.00' N 098° 48.00' E	About four robbers boarded the anchored ship, via the anchor cable. On seeing the robbers, master raised the alarm. Seeing alert crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in an unlit boat. Port Authority informed	-	Master raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes Port Control, Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy HQ, Puskodal, SAR Basarnas & Indonesian Marine Police HQ	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
13	RENGGANIS Chemical tanker Singapore 2543 9064217	31/07/2008 20:15 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Vung Tau Anchorage Viet Nam 10° 16.36' N 107° 02.85' E	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor. D/O raised the alarm and crew rushed to forecastle. On seeing crew alertness, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with ship's stores in a small boat	Ship's stores stolen	D/O raised alarm and crew rushed to forecastle	Yes Viet Nam Maritime Security Information Centre	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN PORT AREA

1	MARCOMPETITION Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 16269 9106144	01/07/2008 03:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Nha Be River, Ho Chi Minh City Viet Nam	Three robbers boarded the ship at anchor and broke into the forward locker. Alert anti-piracy watchkeepers raised alarm. The robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Nothing was stolen. No injuries to crew	Robbers broke padlocks of forward locker	Alert anti-piracy watchkeepers raised alarm	Yes Viet Nam Maritime Security Information Centre	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN PORT AREA

2	KRISTINA THERESA Chemical tanker Isle of Man (United Kingdom) 8455 9321641	05/07/2008 03:25 LT	WEST AFRICA Abidjan Anchorage Côte d'Ivoire	The Duty A/B onboard the ship noticed a small boat approaching from aft. A/B informed OOW and went to check the other side of the ship and saw a robber armed with a knife running towards him. OOW raised alarm and alerted crew. The robber stole ship's equipment and escaped by ship's messenger line. Port Control informed	Ship's equipment stolen	OOW raised alarm and alerted crew	Yes Port Control and the Embassy of the Côte d'Ivoire, London	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	GAZ MILLENNIUM Gas carrier-LPG Panama 16685 9229233	13/07/2008 02:50 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Manila Quarantine Anchorage Philippines	The shore security guard noticed four robbers on the forecastle of the ship, armed with knives and pipes, while the crew was busy preparing to receive bunkers. The robbers threatened the shore guard who alerted the crew. On seeing alert crew approaching, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in two waiting boats. The boats had around 12 accomplices in them. No one was injured. Ship's equipment stolen	Ship's equipment stolen	Raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes The Coast Guard, Philippines	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	CFL PRUDENCE General cargo ship Netherlands 4040 9398046	13/07/2008 20:40 LT	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Port Au Prince Anchorage Haiti 18° 34.00' N 072° 24.00' W	The duty A/B on the ship at anchor, noticed six robbers on the forecastle stealing ship's stores. Master was informed, alarm raised and crew mustered. On seeing alert crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Two junks were noticed moving away from the ship. Port Control was informed	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and crew mustered	Yes Port Control and the Embassy of Haiti, France	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	SPAR GEMINI Bulk carrier NIS (Norway) 32474 9307580	16/07/2008 00:28 UTC	WEST AFRICA Bonny River Anchorage Nigeria 04° 40.37' N 007° 06.23' E	Eight armed and two unarmed robbers boarded the ship at anchor, via a barge that was alongside. They incapacitated the local security guards and entered the accommodation. They manhandled the crew and damaged the accommodation. The robbers stole crew personal belongings, ship's cash and property. No injuries to crew. SSAS activated	Crew members were manhandled and accommodation damaged. Crew's personal belongings, ship's cash and property stolen	Raised alarm and activated SSAS	Yes The Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	CSL SAMS Bulk carrier Barbados 11532 8618188	25/07/2008 21:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Go Dau Port Viet Nam	Two robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship. They broke open the padlocks to the forward store. Duty crew noticed the open stores and raised the alarm. Hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped in a waiting boat. Authorities and local agents informed	-	Alarm raised and crew mustered	Yes Local authorities and Viet Nam Maritime Security Information Centre	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	MONTREUX Chemical tanker Liberia 23843 9192777	28/05/2008 12:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden Somalia	Four persons on board a 15-metre long wooden or plastic grey hull fast speedboat, travelling at 25 knots, attempted to approach the ship from port side. After several manoeuvres and course alterations, the boat altered course to SE and disappeared	-	Raised alarm and advised ships in the area	No	Liberia	-
2	SANKO DOLPHIN Special purpose ship Liberia 2679 9349100	09/06/2008 01:00 LT	WEST AFRICA Bight of Bonny Nigeria 03° 51.40' N 006° 58.60' E	After fuel transfer operation to the Security Boat "AUTRY G" at the Bight of Bonny in Nigerian coast, just prior to the transfer hose being disconnected, two boats were sighted approaching the ships. SANKO DOLPHIN witnessed armed pirates boarding the AUTRY G and firing shots aiming at SANKO DOLPHIN. Master, after parting the moorings between the two ships, put his engines full ahead to avert the pirates from boarding SANKO DOLPHIN. Two other vessels AJAX and BOURBON APSARA switched off all lights and proceeded south at full speed. SANKO DOLPHIN followed them. Two Naval guards on board, stationed on the bridge, discouraged the pirates by returning fire	-	Master quickly headed south at full speed to avoid boarding and resulting confrontation	No	Liberia and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Two Naval armed guards on board returned fire
3	CHEMSTAR MOON Chemical tanker Panama 11590 9255983	15/07/2008 10:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA 44 NM Off Yemen, Gulf of Aden 13° 31.00' N 049° 11.60' E	The D/O onboard the ship underway noticed about 10-12 pirates in two blue and white coloured speedboats at a distance of 2.5 NM. The speedboats suddenly approached and fired at the ship. The D/O raised the alarm, sounded ship's whistle and crew mustered. Pirates noticed crew alertness, reduced their speed and aborted attempt	Pirates fired at ship causing damage to the steel plate of the wheelhouse	Duty Officer raised the alarm, sounded whistle and crew mustered	Yes 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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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

4	MSC RANIA Container ship Panama 94489 9309447	18/07/2008 07:20 UTC	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden 12° 47.50' N 051° 02.00' E	Pirates in two six-metre long yellow craft attempted to board the ship underway from the aft. Master took evasive manoeuvres, raised alarm and crew mustered with pressurized fire hoses. On seeing crew alertness, the pirates aborted attempt	-	Master took evasive manoeuvres, raised alarm and crew mustered with pressurized fire hoses	Yes 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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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	SHAMROCK Bulk carrier Liberia 30046 9324667	06/07/2008 09:45 LT	EAST AFRICA Off Mayyun Island, Gulf of Aden 12° 34.30' N 043° 25.60' E	Blue coloured wooden boats, with about 10–15 robbers attempted to close in on the ship underway. Alarm raised. Crew implemented anti-piracy measures. After 10 minutes of trying to get closer to the ship, the boats aborted the attempt and moved away	-	Alarm raised and crew implemented anti piracy measures	Yes 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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