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MSC.4/Circ.102
19 June 2007

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during April 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 March 2007 and 30 April 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 4,322 an increase of 26 since 31 March 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 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.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 March 2007 being MSC.4/Circ.86, MSC.4/Circ.87, MSC.4/Circ.88, MSC.4/Circ.89, MSC.4/Circ.90, MSC.4/Circ.91, 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 and MSC.4/Circ.101.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	BULFORD DOLPHIN Mobile offshore drilling unit Singapore 9292 8756344	01/04/2007	WEST AFRICA 64KM off the Coast of Nigeria Nigeria	An expatriate worker was abducted from a platform rig. The pirates boarded the rig via the support vessel which was secured alongside the rig at the time of the incident. The owners are in contact with the Nigerian authorities to get the worker released	One worker abducted	Alarm raised	Yes Local authorities and the Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	MARINA STELLAR 2 Tug Singapore 282 9419486	13/04/2007 09:00 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Off Trivandrum India 08° 20.00' N 076° 32.00' E	About 100 pirates and fishermen armed with long knives boarded a barge (CPC 3007, Singapore, 3386GT) under tow and escaped with ship's cargo	Cargo stolen	Alarm raised	Yes MRCC Chennai and Indian Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	PSF 1737 Fishing vessel Malaysia	18/04/2007 11:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Chebilang Bay, Satun Province Thailand	About six pirates in a small boat hijacked the fishing vessel. All eight crew members were taken hostage and landed at Le-La island. The pirates stole vessel's equipment and property and abandoned the vessel at Yanud port, Tha - Phae District, Satun Province. Police located the fishing vessel and returned it to the owners in Malaysia. There were no injuries	Crew members held hostage; vessel abandoned but recovered and vessel's equipment and property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes MRCC Bangkok, Thailand	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Thai Marine Police found and helped the crew
4	ECHIGO MARU Gas carrier - LNG Japan 102390 8110203	25/04/2007 18:30 UTC	MALACCA STRAIT Off Karimun Island, Singapore Straits 01° 04.00' N 103° 31.00' E	An oiler noticed four pirates in the steering room of the ship during anchoring operations. Alarm was raised and crew mustered. Local authorities were informed. Coast Guard boarded the ship and a thorough search was conducted. No intruders were found. There were no injuries to crew and no loss of cargo	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Local authorities, SAR Jakarta, Indonesian Navy Headquarters and Marine Police Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard boarded the ship to conduct a thorough search

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NOTE: SOUTH AMERICA: (A) - Atlantic; (C) - Caribbean; (P) - Pacific

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IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

5	SHOKO MARU Tanker Panama 20573 9154000	29/04/2007 04:35 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Off Karimun Island, Singapore Straits 01° 05.60' N 103° 28.20' E	Four pirates boarded the ship via poop deck, using hooks attached to a rope, while at anchor. Ship's crew tried to prevent them from boarding but failed. The pirates entered the engine room by breaking the engine room door lock. They stole engine spares and escaped. Local authorities and the Indonesian Coast Guard were informed and the Coast Guard boarded on 29 April at 11:15LT to conduct an investigation	Engine spares stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Local authorities, Indonesian Coast Guard, MPA Singapore, SAR Jakarta, Indonesian Navy Headquarters and Marine Police Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard boarded the ship to conduct an investigation
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	NIMATULLAH General cargo ship	01/04/2007	EAST AFRICA Off Mogadishu Port Somalia	Robbers hijacked the ship anchored outside the deep waters of Mogadishu port and demanded a ransom for the release of the ship and crew. Latest information received indicate the ship was released on 06.04.2007 after ransom was paid and the ship proceeded to Mogadishu port to discharge its cargo. All crew are safe	Ship hijacked and ransom paid	Alarm raised	Yes CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, NATO Northwood, MARLO Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer and Yemen Maritime Affairs Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	MOL RISE Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 12997 9007506	05/04/2007 23:10 LT	EAST AFRICA 23NM East of Dar-es-Salaam Entrance Channel United Republic of Tanzania 06° 36.00' S 039° 36.00' E	Robbers armed with crowbars boarded the ship, while underway. They broke into six containers and ship's stores and escaped with cargo and ship's equipment	Cargo and ship's equipment stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Tanzania High Commission, United Kingdom	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	RIO BRAVO Tanker Marshall Islands 4230 7306166	06/04/2007 02:00 LT	WEST AFRICA Lagos Nigeria	An unknown number of robbers gained access to the ship at berth with the assistance of the port watchman. They broke into the paint locker and stole ship's stores before being detected by the 2nd Officer. Upon detection, the general alarm was raised. Port Police and Security were called by the agent and master through the Lagos Signal Station via VHF Channels 12 and 16	Nine containers of paint stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Port Police, Security, Lagos Signal Station and Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	Marshall Islands ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Port watchman and two Agents were taken to the Port Police Office for an inquiry

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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	RICKMERS HAMBURG General cargo ship Marshall Islands 23119 9238818	11/04/2007	MEDITERRANEAN SEA Egypt Mooring Buoy, Port Said, Suez Canal Egypt	Robbers boarded the ship, using a hook ladder from a mooring boat during mooring operations. The robbers lowered the gangway for their accomplices to board the ship. Two robbers entered the accommodation while the others remained on deck. Due to crew vigilance, the robbers were spotted and chased away. Nothing was stolen. Agents were informed but no action was taken	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes RCC, Suez Canal	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	No action taken
5	MSC EMILIA S Container ship Panama 10932 7026522	11/04/2007 05:30 UTC	EAST AFRICA 28 Miles NE of Dar-es- Salaam United Republic of Tanzania 06° 32.00' S 039° 35.00' E	Robbers boarded the drifting ship. They broke open two containers and escaped with some cargo	Cargo stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Tanzania High Commission, United Kingdom	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	MIKE ONE	19/04/2007	WEST AFRICA Delta Region Nigeria	Robbers armed with guns attacked the ship and kidnapped three crew members. They stole weapons and equipment from the ship. Six crew members were injured	Three crew members kidnapped and six crew members injured	Alarm raised	Yes Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	QIONGHAI 08099 Fishing vessel China	26/04/2007	SOUTH CHINA SEA Spratly Islands	Armed robbers boarded the fishing vessel and robbed it of its catch while it was taking shelter due to engine trouble. The master informed his family about the robbery and that another vessel was approaching it. All contact with the fishing vessel was lost since the master's last call. The fate of the vessel and its crew is unknown	The fate of the vessel and crew is unknown	Alarm raised	Yes MRCC China, Viet Nam Maritime Security Information Centre and Philippines Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
8	BUNGA KELANA 5 Tanker Malaysia 57017 9169706	27/04/2007 02:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Off Singapore Eastern OPL Malaysia 01° 18.00' N 104° 14.00' E	Four robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship, while at anchor and entered the engine room via an unlocked main deck door. They threatened the duty engineer with a long knife, blindfolded and tied him up and made him lie down. The duty engineer managed to release himself and raised the alarm. Crew mustered and found that the robbers had stolen engine spares and escaped via the steering gear room door	Crew member assaulted and engine spares stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes MRCC Putra Jaya, MECC Lumut, Mindef (DTL) and Foc Rmn (Ops Room)	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

9	EW HASTINGS Tanker Liberia 17018 8701519	27/04/2007 02:40 LT	WEST AFRICA Lagos Outer Anchorage Nigeria 06° 17.00' N 003° 21.70' E	Two robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship, while at anchor. Alarm was raised and crew alerted. The robbers threatened crew with knives and jumped overboard with ship's stores. They escaped in a boat with four accomplices	Crew threatened and ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Nigerian High Commission	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN PORT AREA

1	SHIMAKAZE Tanker Panama 10734 8217207	06/04/2007 03:45 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Dumai Anchorage Indonesia 01° 42.45' N 101° 27.60' E	Two robbers boarded the ship, while at anchor and entered the engine room via the open sky light. The crew in the engine room tried to apprehend them but were threatened with long knives. Engine room crew informed the bridge and the alarm was raised and crew mustered. The robbers also threatened the deck watch and escaped with some engine spares by jumping overboard. Investigation revealed that the robbers may have boarded the ship when a crew member had gone into accommodation to wake up the next watch and the other crew member went for a security round on deck. There were no injuries to crew	Crew members threatened and engine spares stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes SAR Jakarta, Indonesian Navy Headquarters and Indonesian Marine Police	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	PIONEER SEA General cargo ship Malta 12215 8501737	24/04/2007 02:45 LT	WEST AFRICA 2.2 Miles from Tema Port Breakwater, Tema Outer Anchorage Ghana	Robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. They tied up the duty A/B and took his walkie-talkie. The robbers stole ship's stores from the forecastle store and escaped in a waiting boat. The duty A/B released himself and raised alarm	Crew member assaulted and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes RCC, Ghana	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.102 ANNEX 2 Coastal State Action Taken
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	BELFIN Tanker Turkey 2919 9264166	11/04/2007 11:00 LT	EAST AFRICA Gulf of Aden 15° 12.00' N 052° 24.00' E	Pirates in two speedboats chased the ship with intent to board, while underway. The C/O contacted the Piracy Reporting Centre for assistance. The Centre, in turn, contacted the Coalition Naval Forces at Bahrain and a warship and a helicopter were despatched to render assistance. Meanwhile, the ship took extra measures to prevent boarding by pirates. When the helicopter arrived, the two speedboats aborted the attempt and moved away. The ship continued her voyage to destination port. All crew are safe	-	Raised alarm, mustered crew and activated SSAR	Yes Coalition warships, CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, NATO Northwood, MARLO Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer and Yemen Maritime Affairs Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	A warship and a naval helicopter were despatched to render assistance
2	TOR ANGLIA Ro-ro-cargo ship DIS (Denmark) 17492 7707736	12/04/2007 06:00 UTC	INDIAN OCEAN Gulf of Aden 15° 13.00' N 052° 57.00' E	A fast boat doing about 20 knots and steering various courses approached the ship several times, while underway. At one stage, it came on a collision course with the ship. Later it proceeded in a southerly direction and disappeared. The boat was light coloured, about six metres in length and had about three persons onboard	-	Alarm raised	Yes CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, Nato Northwood, Marlo Bahrain, Nato UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer and Yemen Maritime Affairs Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	ATLANTIC BREEZE Bulk carrier Isle of Man (United Kingdom) 39802 9278428	13/04/2007 15:00 UTC	ARABIAN SEA 350NM East of Socotra 11° 57.00' N 060° 23.00' E	A speedboat doing 20 knots was sighted on radar at a distance of 8NM of the ship, while underway. The ship raised alarm, mustered crew, activated fire hoses and switched on deck lights. The boat approached up to 2NM and aborted the chase. Suspected boat was seen heading towards the African coast	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes MRCC Chennai and Indian Coast Guard Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

4	GAS BEAUTY Gas carrier-LPG Panama 42904 7359864	22/04/2007 07:50 UTC	ARABIAN SEA 20NM NE Masirah Island Oman 20° 38.70' N 059° 17.00' E	Three masked pirates in a white coloured speedboat approached the ship, while underway. They attempted to board from the starboard quarter using grappling hooks attached to ropes. While the pirates were attempting to board, three other speedboats followed the ship at a distance of 1NM. Ship raised alarm, mustered crew and took evasive action. Pirates aborted their attempt and moved away	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, NATO Northwood, MARLO Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer, Yemen Maritime Affairs Headquarters and RCC Masqat Oman Air Force	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	SAHIBA Special purpose ship	05/04/2007	EAST AFRICA Off Kismayo Port Somalia 00° 25.00' S 042° 34.00' E	Robbers in a speedboat fired upon the ship. Luckily, the speedboat experienced engine trouble, giving the ship time to escape	-	Alarm raised	Yes CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, NATO Northwood, MARLO Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer and Yemen Maritime Affairs Headquarter	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	PACIFIC DISCOVERER General cargo ship Hong Kong, China 18391 9007374	16/04/2007 15:20 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA 1.5NM East of P. Kera Island, Selat Alas, SE of Lombok Indonesia 08° 48.40' S 116° 32.99' E	Robbers armed with guns in ten speedboats fired shots and attempted to board the ship, while at anchor. The ship owners contacted the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC) and asked for assistance. Meanwhile, the master took evasive manoeuvres, heaved anchor and proceeded to sea. Later, master informed that three police personnel had boarded the ship. There were no injuries	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Port Control, SAR Jakarta, Indonesian Navy Headquarters, Puskodal and Guskamlabar	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Three police personnel boarded the ship
3	EW HASTINGS Tanker Liberia 17018 8701519	23/04/2007 01:15 LT	WEST AFRICA Lagos Outer Port Limit Nigeria 06° 16.67' N 003° 15.47' E	The duty officer onboard noticed a tug named "Captain Kola" approaching the ship without reason, while at anchor. The tug came within a range of 30 metres on the port quarter and alert crew kept a continuous watch on the tug. There were four persons onboard the tug looking at the ship. The tug moved slowly to the starboard bow and then moved away	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Nigerian High Commission	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	ARENDAI Tanker NIS (Norway) 60339 8419740	23/04/2007 21:00 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Balongan Anchorage Indonesia 06° 14.00' S 108° 26.00' E	Five robbers in a boat attempted to board the ship from the starboard quarter by using a grappling hook. The duty A/B spotted them and informed the OOW who raised alarm, sounded ship's whistle and alerted crew members. The robbers aborted attempt and moved away. Nothing was stolen	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes SAR Jakarta, Indonesian Navy Headquarters and Marine Police Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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IN PORT AREA

1	NISHAN Special purpose ship United Arab Emirates	03/04/2007	EAST AFRICA Off Mogadishu Port Somalia 02° 03.00' N 045° 20.00' E	Robbers in two speedboats approached and fired upon the ship, while at anchor. Master contacted the authorities for assistance who sent a speedboat and thwarted the attack	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Local authorities, CUSNC-Bahrain Fleet Watch Officer, UKMTO Dubai, NATO Northwood, MARLO Bahrain, NATO UK, CTF 150 N2, CIFIC Watch, Fleet Constabulary Operations Officer and Yemen Maritime Affairs Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The authorities sent a speedboat and thwarted the attack
2	BRAVEHEART Tanker Liberia 52531 9009140	08/04/2007 23:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Lawi-Lawi Anchorage Indonesia	Robbers attempted to board the ship through the hawse pipe which was secured. Anti-piracy watches were being maintained by crew forward and aft and on the bridge. On hearing voices from the hawse pipe, alert crew informed the bridge and alarm was raised. Crew went forward to investigate. Hawse pipe and forward stores were found intact and nothing stolen. The robbers escaped and the agents were informed	-	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes SAR Jakarta, Indonesian Navy Headquarters and Indonesian Marine Police	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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