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MSC.4/Circ.108
18 September 2007

REPORTS ON ACTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

Issued monthly – Acts reported during August 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 July 2007 and 31 August 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 4,432 an increase of 25 since 31 July 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 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 July 2007 being 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, MSC.4/Circ.101, MSC.4/Circ.102, MSC.4/Circ.103, MSC.4/Circ.104, MSC.4/Circ.105, MSC.4/Circ.106 and MSC.4/Circ.107.

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	BRANTAS 25 Tug Malaysia 144 9176955	13/08/2007 19:15 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Malacca Strait 04° 14.30' N 099° 04.70' E	Ten pirates armed with firearms boarded the tug towing a barge (SINGA BESAR 3, Malaysia, GT 1168) laden with steel billets. The pirates damaged all communication equipment and stole crew's personal belongings and ship's documents. The Master and Chief Engineer were kidnapped and taken ashore. The tug and barge anchored at the destination port for investigation. The pirates contacted the owners and demanded a ransom. On 24.08.2007, the two crew members were released after a ransom was paid	Two crew members kidnapped and released after a ransom was paid. Ship's equipment, documents and crew's personal belongings stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy Headquarters, Puskodal & SAR Jakarta, Marine Police Headquarters, Coast Guard Malaysia, MECC Lumut and Mindef	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The authorities were conducting an investigation
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	SIMA TOUBA Container ship Cyprus 16135 7920572	02/08/2007 02:00 LT	PERSIAN GULF Umm Qasr Anchorage Iraq 29° 43.60' N 048° 40.10' E	Robbers armed with guns boarded the ship and opened fire with automatic weapons which damaged Master's cabin porthole and the 2nd Officer received injuries on his fingers. The robbers stole ship's cash, crew's personal belongings and cash	Master's cabin porthole damaged, crew member injured and ship's cash and crew's personal belongings and cash stolen	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	ALAM PENTING Bulk carrier Singapore 46982 9290842	05/08/2007 02:55 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Bontang Anchorage Indonesia 00° 01.30' N 117° 35.10' E	Seven robbers armed with guns, knives, crowbars and steel pipes boarded the ship at anchor. They held the duty A/B at gunpoint and tied him up. They tried to break open the bosun store door but were unsuccessful. The robbers stole the duty A/B's walkie-talkie and ship's stores and escaped	Robbers held the duty A/B at gunpoint and tied him up. They stole a walkie-talkie and ship's stores	Alarm raised	Yes Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy Headquarters, Puskodal and SAR Jakarta	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	GAS AMAZON Gas carrier-LPG Marshall Islands 6322 9038763	05/08/2007 03:30 LT	WEST AFRICA Lagos Anchorage Nigeria 06° 19.29' N 003° 23.62' E	Two unidentified persons, armed with knives, boarded the ship undetected. The intruders were spotted by the deck watchman. Upon the sounding of the general alarm, the intruders escaped without incident. No crewmembers were injured nor was any damage to the ship reported. Four coils of mooring lines were stolen	Mooring lines stolen	The deck watchman called the duty officer by radio and the crew was alerted by sounding the general alarm. No direct action was taken against the intruders	Yes PSC Authorities, Coastal Navy and the ship's agent	Republic of the Marshall Islands and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	The vessel was advised to drift 15NM offshore

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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.108 ANNEX 1 Coastal State Action Taken
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IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

4	SICHEM MELBOURNE Chemical tanker Singapore 8455 9376921	13/08/2007 03:55 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Outer Roads Indonesia 03° 55.50' N 098° 46.50' E	Four robbers armed with sticks boarded the ship at anchor. They broke into the forward locker and tried to steal ship's stores. Duty crew raised an alarm and sounded ship's whistle. Crew mustered and activated fire hoses. Robbers jumped overboard with a life raft and escaped in a waiting boat	Ship's property stolen	Raised alarm and sounded ship's whistle. Crew mustered and activated fire hoses	Yes Port Authority, Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy Headquarters, Puskodal and SAR Jakarta	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
5	SATURNAS Refrigerated cargo carrier Lithuania 3252 8210247	15/08/2007 01:30 UTC	WEST AFRICA Matadi Roads Democratic Rep. of the Congo 05° 51.00' S 013° 24.00' E	Eight robbers armed with knives boarded the ship at anchor. They stole cargo and ship's stores and escaped. No injuries to crew. Attempts to contact local agents via VHF were unsuccessful	Cargo and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Embassy of the Democratic Roublic of Congo, United States	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	MEGAH SATU General cargo ship Indonesia 2426 8304139	18/08/2007 03:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Anchorage Indonesia 03° 54.47' N 098° 46.68' E	Robbers boarded the ship, at anchor and held one A/B hostage. They stole ship's stores and escaped. The A/B was released unharmed. Local authorities were informed	Crew member held hostage and ship's stores stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Port authorities, Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy Headquarters and SAR Jakarta	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
7	PETROLIMEX 04 Tanker Viet Nam 18023 8716148	22/08/2007 16:05 UTC	SOUTH CHINA SEA Karimun STS Anchorage Indonesia 01° 04.10' N 103° 30.40' E	Eight robbers armed with knives boarded the ship. They held three duty crew and tied them up. The robbers broke open the engine store and stole spares. D/O raised alarm and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in an unlit boat	Three crew members held hostage and ship's property stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy Headquarters, Indonesian Marine Police and SAR Jakarta	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
8	AVIONA Bulk carrier Liberia 27039 8322935	23/08/2007 02:45 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Kandla Outer Anchorage India 22° 46.75' N 070° 01.90' E	Six robbers armed with sticks boarded the ship at anchor. Duty crew raised alarm, sounded the ship's whistle and all crew mustered. The robbers jumped overboard and escaped in a waiting boat	-	Raised alarm, sounded the ship's whistle and mustered crew	Yes MRCC Mumbai, India	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
9	SICHEM EVA Tanker Singapore 11003 8517073	24/08/2007 00:55 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Belawan Anchorage Indonesia 03° 55.30' N 098° 46.56' E	The ship, at anchor, waiting to berth, maintained an anti piracy watch on the forecastle, main deck and poop deck. The A/Bs on the main deck and poop heard the A/B on the forecastle shouting. They alerted the bridge on radio. The D/O tried to contact him but there was no response. An alarm was raised and the crew alerted. A thorough search was carried out for the A/B but he was missing. Local authorities were informed	Crew member missing	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Pilot Station, Bakorkamla, Indonesian Navy Headquarters, Marine Police Headquarters and SAR Jakarta	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Police are investigating the incident

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

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

10	HAFENTOR General cargo ship MAR (Portugal) 5025 9141663	27/08/2007	SOUTH AMERICA (C) Kingston Outer Anchorage Jamaica	Robbers boarded the ship unnoticed. They broke into containers and store rooms and stole ship's cargo and stores. They also entered the superstructure, mess rooms and galley and stole ship's property. Police came on board for investigations while the ship berthed	Ship's cargo, stores and property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Local police and Jamaica Defence Force Coast Guard	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Police boarded for investigation
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IN PORT AREA

1	SEMUA BERSATU Tanker Malaysia 3878 9188520	02/08/2007 01:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Shell Jetty, Sandakan, Sabah Malaysia	A robber boarded the ship via the gangway. The crew spotted him and chased him. The robber ran towards the forecastle, jumped overboard and escaped	-	Raised alarm and crew chased away the robber	Yes MRCC Putra Jaya, Coast Guard Malaysia and Marine Police Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	VEGA Refrigerated cargo carrier Lithuania 3172 8204078	05/08/2007 01:19 LT	WEST AFRICA Ango-Ango, Matadi Port Democratic Rep. of the Congo	Armed robbers, in two canoes, boarded the ship at anchor. They threatened the deck watchman with a knife and chased him. The watchman managed to escape and raised an alarm. Meanwhile other robbers stole ship's stores. On seeing alert crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped	Crew member threatened and ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Congo, United States and Port authorities	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
3	NAME WITHHELD General cargo ship Panama 5907	18/08/2007 01:35 LT	INDIAN OCEAN Tuticorin Anchorage India	Robbers boarded the ship at anchor. They stole ship's stores and escaped in a boat. Duty A/B raised alarm and crew mustered. Coast Guard informed	Ship's stores stolen	Raised alarm and mustered crew	Yes Port Control, Coast Guard and MRCC Chennai, India	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
4	CAPE FALCON Container ship Marshall Islands 14308 9248928	21/08/2007 22:00 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Manila Anchorage Philippines 14° 35.00' N 120° 57.00' E	Two robbers armed with long knives boarded the ship via the anchor chain. A hawse pipe cover was installed and secured by three wing nuts, however a gap was large enough for the intruder's hand to reach through and remove the nuts. The intruders very quickly lifted the forward 6-person liferaft, threw it over the side, jumped into the water and escaped, using a small motorboat. There were no injuries to crew members nor was any damage to the ship reported	Liferaft stolen	The deck watchman alerted the crew upon discovering the intruders while making his rounds. No direct action was taken against the intruders - escaped before any action could be taken	Yes Coast Guard Manila, Philippines	Republic of the Marshall Islands and ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

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ANNEX 1

IN PORT AREA

5	CEC SVENDBORG General cargo ship Gibraltar (United Kingdom) 2462 9048263	23/08/2007 22:10 LT	MEDITERRANEAN SEA Port Said Inner Harbour Egypt 31° 16.10' N 032° 19.50' E	Robbers from five boats boarded the ship during mooring manoeuvres, despite attempts by the Master and crew to prevent them. The robbers tried to force open and gain access into store rooms, cargo holds and the superstructure but failed as the doors were padlocked and secured. The three pilots on board, at the time, asked the Master not to interrupt the mooring manoeuvres for safety reasons. Once the ship was safely moored, the crew chased the robbers out	-	Raised alarm, mustered crew and chased away the robbers	Yes RCC Port Said	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
6	WAPPEN VON LEIPZIG Tanker United Kingdom 5145 9260847	25/08/2007 03:00 UTC	WEST AFRICA Conakry Anchorage Guinea	About thirty robbers armed with guns boarded the ship. Crew locked all access to ship and attempted to contact local authorities for help but failed to get any response. The robbers later left the ship. Nothing was stolen and no harm to crew/ship. Ship weighed anchor and proceeded to high seas for safety	-	Raised alarm and locked all access doors. The ship weighed anchor and proceeded to high seas for safety	Yes Embassy of the United States, Conakry, Guinea	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.108 ANNEX 2 Coastal State Action Taken
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

1	HUYU 908 Fishing vessel China	26/07/2007 07:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Approx. 40NM West of Anambas Islands 03° 16.00' N 105° 27.00' E	The fishing vessel, while underway, was approached by a small rubber boat. Five men armed with guns on board the rubber boat shot at the vessel and attempted to board. The vessel increased speed and managed to escape. The small rubber boat was launched from a blue tug. The bullets penetrated the starboard hull of the vessel's bridge and damaged three pieces of glass. No one was injured. The fishermen reported the incident to the port authorities of China and Singapore and the MRCCs of Malaysia and Jakarta	Fishing vessel fired upon and bullets penetrated the starboard hull and damaged three pieces of glass	Raised alarm and increased speed	Yes Port authorities, China and Singapore and MRCCs, Malaysia and Jakarta	ReCAAP Focal Point (China) and ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)	-
2	MAERSK NOLANVILLE Container ship Liberia 26833 9286774	03/08/2007 06:20 UTC	EAST AFRICA 240NM off Somali Coast Somalia 02° 54.00' N 051° 42.00' E	Suspected pirates in a medium-sized craft altered towards the ship, underway. As the Master altered course, the craft altered her course and continued to remain on collision course with the ship. Due to the large difference in speeds between the two ships, the suspected pirate craft aborted her attempt	-	Master took evasive manoeuvres and increased speed	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	MED CARRARA Bulk carrier Cayman Islands (United Kingdom) 26847 7930369	07/08/2007 19:10 LT	EAST AFRICA Somalia Somalia 01° 24.00' S 050° 45.00' E	A suspicious boat crossed the bow of the ship underway from starboard to port. There was no data found in the AIS. The boat altered course and headed directly for the ship. The ship increased speed. Another suspicious boat approached on the port bow. The boat was chasing the ship. After more than one hour, the suspicious boat reduced speed and stopped the chase	-	Raised alarm, took evasive action and increased speed	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	-

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

IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

4	PARANA Refrigerated cargo carrier United Kingdom 12348 8706777	11/08/2007 12:00 UTC	EAST AFRICA Somalia Somalia 01° 46.00' N 052° 59.00' E	Suspected pirates, in a boat, attempted to board the ship underway. The ship altered course and the boat altered onto a collision course. The ship took evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and attempted to contact the boat on VHF but without any response. After following for one hour, the suspected pirates aborted the attempt and moved away	-	Ship took evasive manoeuvres and increased speed	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	-
5	MARTHA RUSS Container ship Antigua and Barbuda 9956 9346562	28/08/2007 10:10 LT	MALACCA STRAIT Malacca Strait 06° 06.90' N 098° 30.70' E	Ten armed pirates, in a speedboat, attempted to board the ship, underway. Due to the ship's higher speed, the pirates could not board and gave up the chase	-	Alarm raised	Yes Bakorkamla, Indonesian navy Headquarters, Indonesian Marine Police, SAR Jakarta, MRCC Putrajaya, FOC RMN, Marine Police Headquarters, Mindef, MECC Lumut, Coast Guard Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

1	SPT CHAMPION Tanker Bahamas 57657 9336397	05/08/2007 02:25 UTC	WEST AFRICA Lagos Anchorage Nigeria 06° 18.60' N 003° 23.90' E	A boat with six robbers approached the ship at anchor from the stern. The duty watchman spotted the robbers trying to board the ship by hooking a bamboo pole onto the ship's rail. He informed the bridge. Alarm was raised and the whistle sounded. The robbers aborted the attempt and escaped. An investigation carried out later found nothing stolen	-	Raised alarm and sounded ship's whistle	Yes Nigerian High Commission, Malaysia	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
2	JO LIND Chemical tanker NIS (Norway) 19597 8101305	13/08/2007	INDIAN OCEAN River Mooring No. 3, Chittagong Bangladesh	Robbers, in country boats, approached the ship during cargo operations. The boats were noticed going under the hull near the stern, cutting off the zinc anodes. The incident was reported to the Coast Guard which sent a patrol boat. On seeing the patrol boat, the robbers left their boats and escaped. The Coast Guard seized the boats and boarded the ship for investigation	Ship's property stolen	Alarm raised	Yes Coast Guard, Bangladesh, Ministry of Shipping & Intelligence Office of ISPS	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	Coast Guard seized the boats and boarded the ship for investigation

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

IN TERRITORIAL WATERS

3	JASMINE ACE Bulk carrier Vanuatu 19883 9310721	30/08/2007 05:30 LT	SOUTH CHINA SEA Makassar Straits Indonesia 02° 30.00' S 118° 30.00' E	Three white coloured speedboats, doing 17 kts, approached the ship underway, from the port and starboard side. The D/O raised alarm, sounded the ship's whistle and crew mustered. Seeing the crew, the robbers aborted the attempt	-	Raised alarm, sounded ship's whistle and mustered crew	Yes SAR Jakarta, Bakorkamla, Puskodal and Indonesian Navy Headquarters	ICC-IMB Piracy Reporting Centre Kuala Lumpur	-
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