27 September 2018

To: All Masters, Ship Security Officers, Company Security Officers,
Shipowners, Ship Managers and Ship Operators of Hong Kong
registered ships

Security and Quality Advisory No. 55

Piracy and Armed Robbery Incidents Reported by Hong Kong Ships in 2018

Up to September 2018, there had been thirteen incidents of piracy and armed robbery reported by Hong Kong registered ships. Three incidents were reported that robberies boarded or attempted to board the ships at anchorage and on the berth in Lagos; three incidents were reported that attackers tried to board the ships underway near Port of Guayaquil (2 incidents) and in Gulf of Guinea; three incidents were reported that the robberies armed with knives boarded the ships at Chittagong anchorage and ship's stores were stolen; two incidents were reported that the robberies armed with knives boarded the ships at Lima anchorage and ship's stores were stolen; and two incidents were reported that the ship's stores were stolen by unnoticed robberies while the ships were at anchorage outside Jakarta and Macapa.

This advisory is to remind the ship masters to pay particular attention and keep vigilant watch when ships are in these areas (including Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea, Southeast Asia and South America, etc.), take all necessary precautionary measures and follow the measures specified in the updated "Best Management Practices to Deter Piracy and Enhance Maritime Security in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea", the "Guidelines for Owners, Operators and Masters for Protection against Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea Region", the "Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia", and the "Global Counter Piracy Guidance for Companies, Masters and Seafarers".

Hong Kong registered ships when transiting the Gulf of Aden should join

the Chinese Navy Vessels Escort Arrangement if protection is sought. It is strongly recommended that Hong Kong registered ships to participate in Voluntary Report Areas, such as, MSCHOA and UKMTO voluntary registration and reporting scheme, Maritime Domain Awareness for Trade - Gulf of Guinea (MDAT-GOG) voluntary reporting scheme.

It should be emphasized that prompt reporting is extremely important for remedial measures to be taken locally and for the formulation and institution of more effective preventive measures at regional and international level in the fight of piracy. In addition to reporting all incidents of piracy and armed robbery on board their ships to the nearest Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) or port authority, Hong Kong registered ships are requested to report the incidents to Hong Kong Marine Department (Email: hkmrcc@mardep.gov.hk).

Yours faithfully,

No signature on website copy

(Z. NI)
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