



JAPAN P&I NEWS

To the Members

2023 Annual IMB Piracy and Armed Robbery Report

We have received the 2023 annual piracy and armed robbery report from the International Maritime Bureau Piracy Reporting Centre (IMB PRC) together with the summary below. For more details, please refer to the attached files.

Summary

The 2023 IMB annual report recorded 120 incidents of maritime piracy and armed robbery against ships in 2023 compared to 115 in 2022. There was a 91% success rate in vessel boarding with 105 vessels boarded, nine attempted attacks, four vessels hijacked and two fired upon. The IMB urges caution for crew safety as the number of crew taken hostage and kidnapped increased from 41 to 73 and from two to 14 in 2022 and 2023 respectively. A further 10 crew were threatened, four injured and one assaulted in 2023.

The majority of the successful incidents were reported while vessels were anchored or steaming as per below.

Status when Attacked	ATTEMPTED	BOARDED	FIRE D UPON	HIJACKED	Grand Total
ANCHORED	5	56	2		63
BERTHED	1	10			11
STEAMING	3	39		4	46
Grand Total	9	105	2	4	120

Regions where incidents reported.

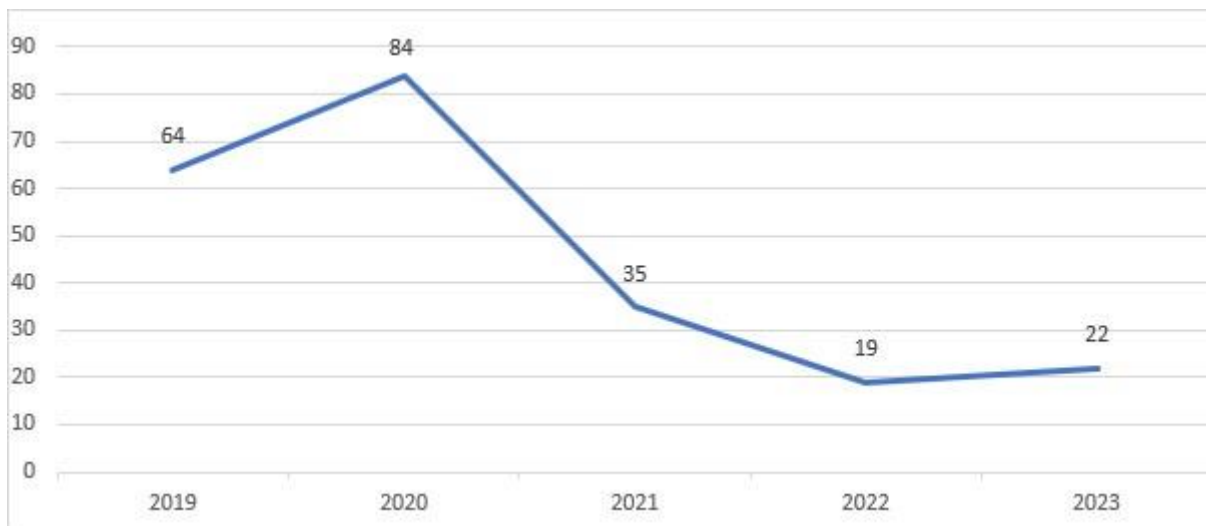
Region	ATTEMPTED	BOARDED	FIRE D UPON	HIJACKED	Grand Total
AFRICA		3		1	4
GULF OF GUINEA	3	14	2	3	22
AMERICAS	4	15			19
EAST ASIA		3			3
INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT		5			5
SE ASIA	2	65			67
Grand Total	9	105	2	4	120

Somali Piracy

The successful hijacking of a merchant vessel in December 2023; the first since 2017; does raise the question – has Somali based piracy resurrected? Dhows, traditionally used as mother ships have also been reported as hijacked. These incidents are a cause of concern as they demonstrate the continued capabilities of the Somali pirates. The IMB is once again calling for all masters and vessel owners to continue following the recommendations and reporting procedures as per the latest version of the Best Management Practices (BMP).

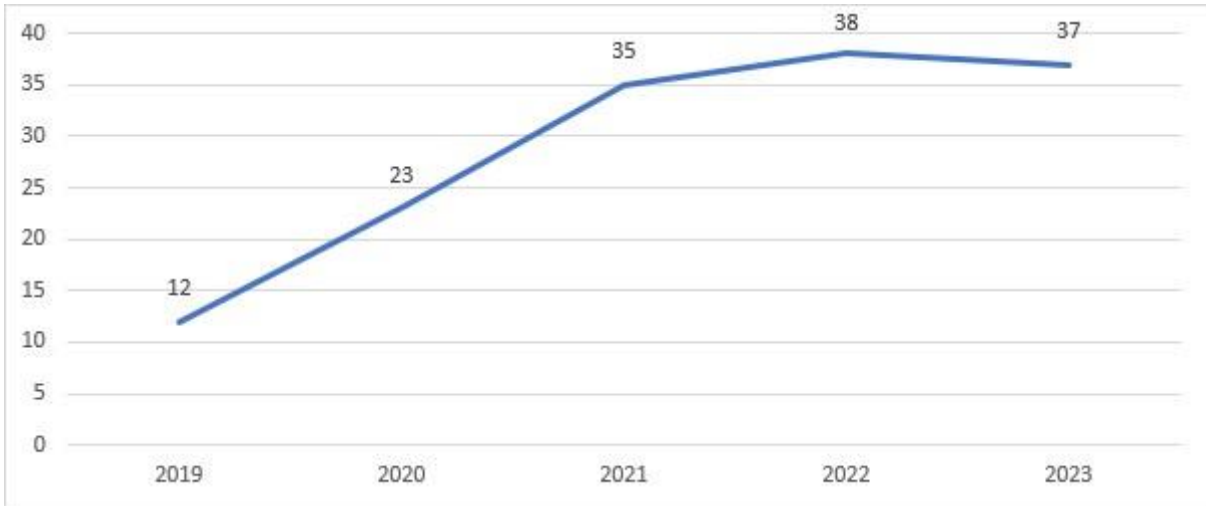
Gulf of Guinea

While the number of reported incidents continues to be lower than 2021 (35 reported incidents) and 2020 (84 reported incidents), there has been an increase compared to 2022 (19 reported incidents). In 2023, however, these waters accounted for three of the four globally reported hijackings, all 14 crew kidnappings, 75% of reported crew hostages and two injured crew in 2023. Considering the sustained targeting of seafarers, the IMB is apprehensive of the perceived reduction of incidents and continues to urge all vessels transiting these waters to follow recommended BMP guidelines and report incidents to the regional reporting centres and the IMB PRC as soon as there is a suspicion of an approaching threat.



Asia (Singapore Straits)

Incidents in the Singapore Straits continue to remain high with 37 in 2023 compared to 38 in 2022. Vessels were successfully boarded in 95% of the reported incidents. Sixteen vessels, mainly bulk carriers over 80,000 DWT were boarded. Of these six were over 170,000 DWT. Whilst reported predominately as low-level opportunistic thefts, nine crew were taken hostage in 2023 compared to four in 2022 and a further two crew were threatened during these incidents. Knives were reported from 15 incidents and guns in a further three. Majority of incidents were reported during the hours of darkness and whilst vessels were underway. Owners and operators are encouraged to report all incidents to Singapore VTIS and the IMB PRC in a timely manner.



Asia (Indonesia)

There has been a year-on-year increase in reported incidents in the Indonesian archipelago, up from 10 in 2022 to 18 in 2023. Weapons were reported in 50% of the incidents. Seven crew were threatened and two taken hostage in 2023.

Caribbean, Central and South America

Fourteen vessels at Callao anchorage in Peru have reported being boarded. Seven crew were taken hostage and one each assaulted and threatened. Guns and knives were reported in nine incidents.

Yours faithfully,

The Japan Ship Owners' Mutual Protection & Indemnity Association

- Attachment: 2023 Annual IMB Piracy and Armed Robbery Report - MEDIA RELEASE
- 2023 Annual IMB Piracy and Armed Robbery Report
- IMB Annual Piracy Report 2023 Trends



MEDIA RELEASE

London, 11 January 2024

STRICTLY EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL 07:00 (GMT) THURSDAY, 11 JANUARY 2024

New IMB report reveals concerning rise in maritime piracy incidents in 2023

Released today, the annual Piracy and Armed Robbery Report of the ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB) raises concern over the first successful Somali based hijacking since 2017.

The IMB annual report recorded 120 incidents of maritime piracy and armed robbery against ships in 2023 compared to 115 in 2022.

The 2023 annual report reveals that 105 vessels were boarded, nine attempted attacks, four vessels hijacked and two fired upon.

Where the number of 2023 reported incidents has slightly increased compared to 2022, the IMB urges caution for crew safety as the number of crew taken hostage and kidnapped increased from 41 to 73 and from two to 14 in 2022 and 2023 respectively. A further 10 crew were threatened, four injured and one assaulted in 2023.

Alarming first successful hijacking off Somalia since 2017

On 14 December 2023 the report recorded the first successful hijacking of a vessel off the coast of Somalia since 2017.

A handymax bulk carrier was boarded and hijacked by alleged Somali pirates. The incident took place around 700 nautical miles (nm) East of Bosaso in Somalia. Reports also suggest two dhows were subsequently hijacked, a type of vessel with potential use as mother ships for further attacks.

IMB Director Michael Howlett said: "This is a cause for concern and the IMB is once again calling for all masters and vessel owners to continue following the recommendations and reporting procedures as per the latest version of the Best Management Practices," adding that the incident demonstrates the continued capabilities of the Somali pirates.

Three of four reported vessel hijackings in Gulf of Guinea

Despite the continued restraint in the number of reported incidents in the Gulf of Guinea, with 22 in 2023 compared to 19 in 2022, 35 in 2021 and 81 in 2020, these waters accounted for three of the four globally reported hijackings, all 14 crew kidnappings, and 75% of reported crew hostages and two injured crew in 2023 – continuing to be dangerous waters for seafarers.

Concerns for crew safety in Singapore Straits, Malacca Straits and Indonesian archipelago

The Singapore Straits remain an area of concern due to the high number of incidents. While considered low level opportunistic crimes, 95% of reported incidents were successful, with 37 reported incidents overall in 2023 compared to 38 in 2022. Crew continue to be harmed with nine taken hostage and two threatened. Guns were reported in three recorded incidents and knives in 15.

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“We are concerned due to the late reporting and under reporting by vessels. The IMB continues to encourage timely reporting of all incidents, as it contributes to a more accurate understanding of risk,” said IMB Director Michael Howlett.

One crew member was injured and required medical attention after a bulk carrier was boarded in the Malacca Straits in October 2023. The last reported incident of crew injured by pirates in the area was in 2015.

A year-on-year increase in reported incidents has been observed in the Indonesian archipelago, up from 10 in 2022 to 18 in 2023. Weapons were reported in 50% of the incidents. Seven crew were threatened and two taken hostage in 2023.

Looming threats in South America

Fourteen incidents were reported from vessels at Callao anchorage in Peru. Seven crew were taken hostage and one each assaulted and threatened. Guns and knives were reported in nine incidents. Other ports affected in South America were Macapa anchorage in Brazil, and Cartagena and Puerto Bolivar anchorages in Colombia.

Request a copy of the 2023 Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships report [here](#).

About IMB Piracy Reporting Centre

Since its founding in 1991, IMB’s Piracy Reporting Centre serves as a crucial, 24-hour point of contact to report crimes of piracy and lend support to ships under threat. Quick reactions and a focus on coordinating with response agencies, sending out warning broadcasts and email alerts to ships have all helped bolster security on the high seas. The data gathered by the Centre also provides key insights on the nature and state of modern piracy.

IMB encourages all shipmasters and owners to report all actual, attempted and suspected global piracy and armed robbery incidents to the Piracy Reporting Centre as a vital first step to ensuring adequate resources are allocated by authorities to tackle maritime piracy.

For more information, please contact:

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Tel: +44 207 423 6960
Email: mhowlett@icc-ccs.org

About the International Chamber of Commerce

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is the institutional representative of more than 45 million companies in over 170 countries. ICC’s core mission is to make business work for everyone, every day, everywhere. Through a unique mix of advocacy, solutions and standard setting, we promote international trade, responsible business conduct and a global approach to regulation, in addition to providing market-leading dispute resolution services. Our members include many of the world’s leading companies, SMEs, business associations and local chambers of commerce.

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ICC INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUREAU

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD

1 January – 31 December 2023

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January 2024

INTRODUCTION

The ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB) is a specialised division of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). The IMB is a non-profit making organisation, established in 1981 to act as a focal point in the fight against all types of maritime crime and malpractice. The International Maritime Organization (IMO), in its resolution A 504 (XII) (5) and (9) adopted on 20 November 1981, has *inter alia* urged governments, interest groups and organizations to co-operate and exchange information with each other and the IMB, with a view of maintaining and developing a coordinated action in combating maritime fraud.

Outrage in the shipping industry at the alarming growth in piracy prompted the creation of the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (IMB PRC) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in October 1992.

The key advantages and services of the PRC are:

- A 24/7 manned operations centre.
- A single point of reporting for all vessels affected by piracy or armed robbery, as they trade through many different jurisdictions.
- Notifying the appropriate response agency of the reported incident and liaising with these agencies until the crew and vessel are safe.
- Warning vessels in the vicinity of a threat by broadcasting sitreps of incidents via Inmarsat-C SafetyNET service.
- Alerting CSOs and vessel managers of incidents via email.
- Keeping the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) updated on reported incidents.
- Assisting local law enforcement in apprehending and bringing the criminals to justice.
- Publishing comprehensive quarterly and annual reports detailing incidents reported to the PRC.

The IMB PRC provides all its services *free of charge* to all ships irrespective of crew nationality, ownership, or flag.

This report is an analysis of 120 global maritime piracy and armed robbery incidents reported to the IMB PRC from 1 January to 31 December 2023. Incidents are occasionally reported late, resulting in changes to the tables and figures in subsequent reports.

Due to the continued debate concerning the Malacca Straits, these narrated incidents are shown separately.

For further details on the anti-piracy service or to report an incident, contact the 24-hour manned IMB PRC at:

ICC International Maritime Bureau
PO Box 12559, 50782 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
24 Hours Anti-Piracy HELPLINE Tel: ++ 60 3 2031 0014
Tel ++ 60 3 2078 5763
WhatsApp / Telegram: +60 11 2659 3057
E-mail: piracy@icc-ccs.org / imbkl@icc-ccs.org

DEFINITIONS OF PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

The IMB PRC follows the definitions of Piracy as defined in Article 101 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and Armed Robbery as defined by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in its 26th Assembly session as Resolution A.1025 (26) “Code of Practice for the Investigation of Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships”.

Article 101 of UNCLOS defines Piracy as:

Definition of 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 of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in subparagraph (a) or (b).

IMO Resolution A.1025 (26) “Code of Practice for the Investigation of Crimes of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships” defines Armed Robbery as:

Armed robbery against ships means any of the following acts:

1. 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;

2. any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described above

The definitions of piracy and armed robbery are aimed to assign responsibility for responding to these illegal acts. It is worth noting that these definitions do not consider the resulting consequence on the crew, vessel and cargo, which in IMB’s experience ranges from opportunistic theft, cargo theft, taking crew hostage, assault and injury, kidnapping and in some cases, death of a crew member.

It is vital that all actual and attempted incidents at the time of, or shortly after the incident, are reported and recorded.

This is the first essential step in the response chain.

Under the definitions of Piracy or Armed Robbery, the IMB PRC reports incidents as follows:

1. **Boarded:** An illegal act of perpetrators successfully gaining access onto the vessel.
2. **Hijacked:** An illegal act of perpetrators successfully gaining access onto the vessel and taking over the control of the vessel from the Master and crew.
3. **Fired Upon:** An illegal act of perpetrators discharging weapons towards the vessel while attempting to gain access onto the vessel.
4. **Attempted:** An illegal act of perpetrators attempting to approach a vessel with possible intention to board but remain unsuccessful due to the timely actions of the crew.

The consequences to the crew, vessel, or cargo, as a result of the above illegal acts:

1. **Crew:** Kidnap, hostage, death, threat, assault, injury, missing.
2. **Vessel:** Damage, especially due to the discharge of weapons or when perpetrators willfully damage vessel equipment and property.
3. **Cargo:** Theft or damage to cargo.

Region specific severity of incident on Crew, Vessel and Cargo: (Chart G)

As several agencies define and categorize incidents differently, the IMB reports under three generic Severity Levels – I, II, and III determined by the effect the incident has on the crew, vessel and cargo.

Severity Level I: Any incident which has a direct impact on the crew. To include:

- a. Crew being taken hostage, assaulted, injured, killed, kidnapped, missing, threatened.
- b. A hijacking where the command of the vessel is taken over by those boarding.
- c. An incident where the crew retreats into the citadel.

Severity Level II: To include a vessel being fired upon, security teams firing on approaching threat, robbers / pirates identified with weapons of any type (violence is offered) whether boarded or otherwise.

Severity Level III: To include an incident that does not fall into either Level I or Level II

FUNDING

The Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC), funded purely on donations, wishes to thank the following organisations that have financially contributed towards the Centre's 24-hour manned service:

- ANIA
- Assuranceforeningen Skuld
- Britannia Steam Ship Insurance Association Limited
- Gard AS
- Japan P&I
- Justships Ltd
- Merchant Shipping Cyprus
- Steamship Insurance Management Services Limited
- NorthStandard Limited
- Tsakos Shipping and Trading SA

The PRC is additionally non-financially supported by:

- Spire Global Inc. (<https://spire.com/>)
- Vesseltracker (<https://www.vesseltracker.com/>)

YEAR 2023

The financial and non-financial support provided to the IMB PRC by the above contributors as well as other information providers has enabled the IMB PRC, to receive, respond to and action over 2,361 emails and calls on its Maritime Security Hotline from seafarers, CSOs, Maritime Authorities, Government Agencies, Flag States, Law Enforcement, Navies, warships, Rescue Centres and LES on piracy and armed robbery as well as other maritime crimes and security.

The IMB PRC has also participated in 77 emergency vessel drills, on request of CSOs and has provided information and advice to Masters and vessel operators on vessel voyage risk planning.

The IMB PRC has provided all its services *free of charge* to all ships irrespective of vessel/crew nationality, ownership, or flag.

TABLE 1: Locations of ACTUAL and ATTEMPTED incidents, January – December 2019 – 2023

	Location	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
S E ASIA	Indonesia	25	26	9	10	18
	Malacca Straits			1		1
	Malaysia	11	4	2	4	2
	Philippines	5	8	9	6	9
	Singapore Straits	12	23	35	38	37
	Thailand		1			
EAST ASIA	China	3				
	Vietnam	2	4	1	2	3
INDIAN SUB	Bangladesh		4		7	1
CONTINENT	India	4	6	2	3	4
SOUTH AMERICA	Brazil	2	7	3	5	1
	Colombia	3	1	6		2
	Dominican Republic	1				
	Ecuador	3	5	4		1
	Guyana				2	
	Haiti	2	5	4	1	
	Mexico	1	4	1	1	
	Panama	1				1
	Peru	10	8	18	12	14
	Venezuela	6			3	
AFRICA	Algeria	1				
	Angola		6	4	5	3
	Benin	3	11	2		
	Cameroon	6		1		3
	Dem. Republic of Congo	1		1	1	
	Dem. Rep. of Sao Tome & Principe	1	2	5		
	Egypt				1	1
	Equatorial Guinea	2	3	2	2	
	Gabon	1	2	4		1
	Ghana	3	9	5	7	6
	Guinea	2	5	3		2
	Gulf of Aden*			1		
	Ivory Coast	1	3		2	2
	Kenya	1				
	Liberia	2	2	1	1	
	Morocco	2				
	Mozambique	3	4	1		2
	Nigeria	35	35	6		2
	Sierra Leone	1			1	2
	Somalia*					1
South Africa				1		
The Congo	3	3	1		1	
Togo	3	3				
REST WORLD OF WORLD	Iraq		1			
Total at year end		162	195	132	115	120

All incidents with * above are attributed to Somali pirates.

CHART A: The following five locations contributed 70% of the total 120 incidents reported in the period January – December 2023

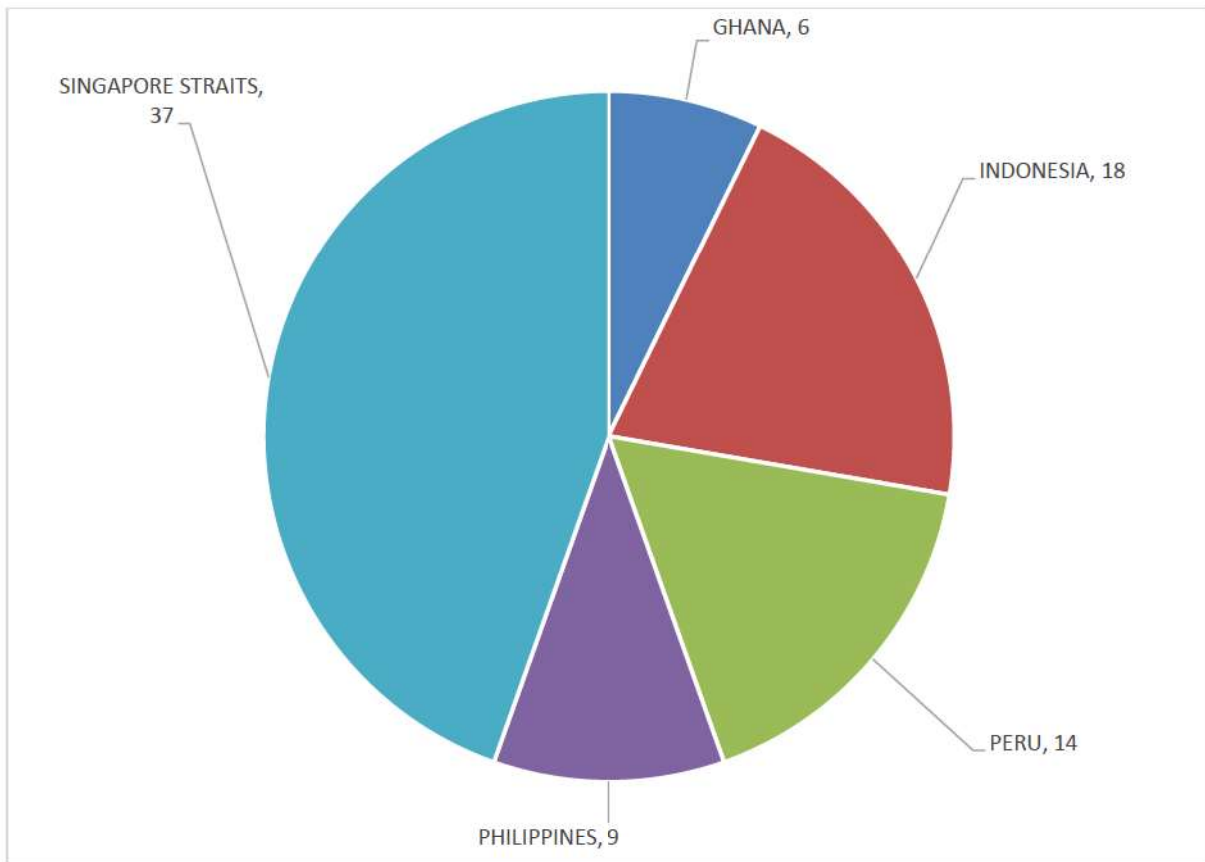


CHART B: Monthly comparison of incidents during January – December 2023

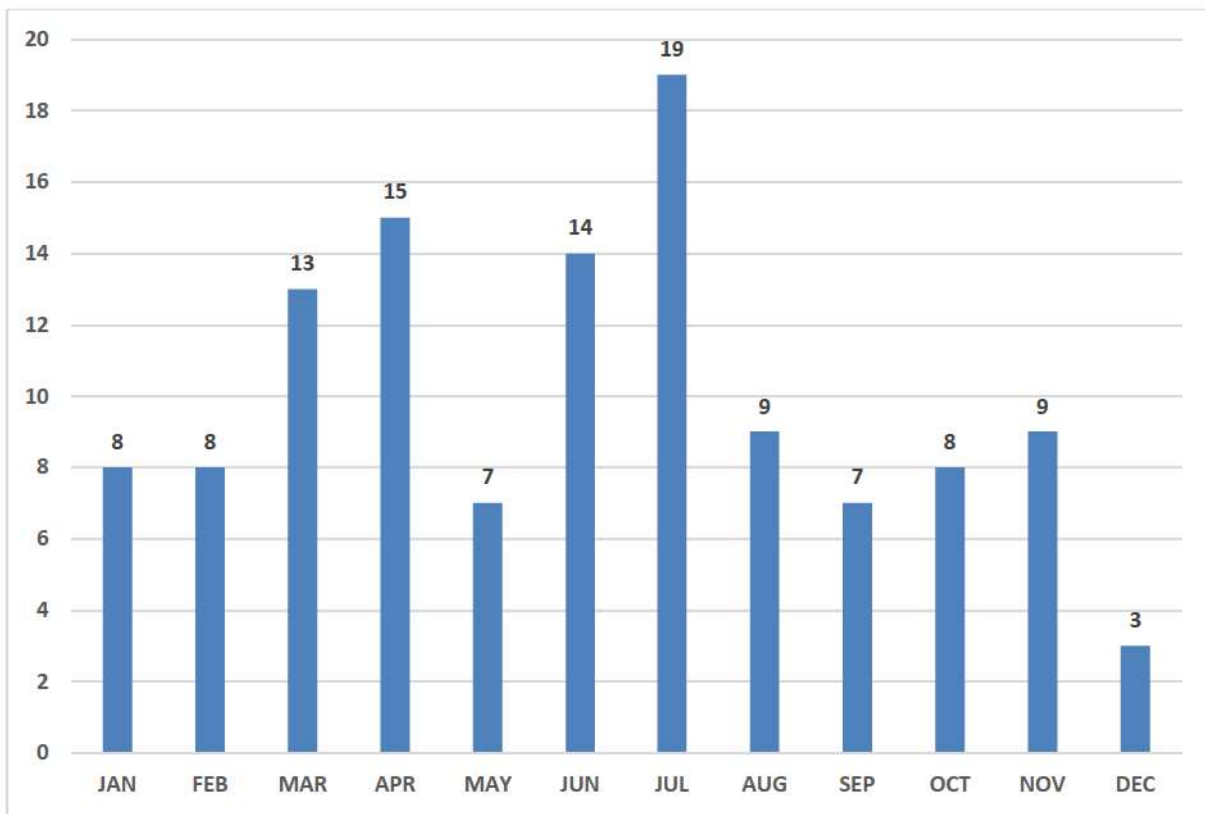


CHART C: Total incidents as per regions of the world January – December 2023

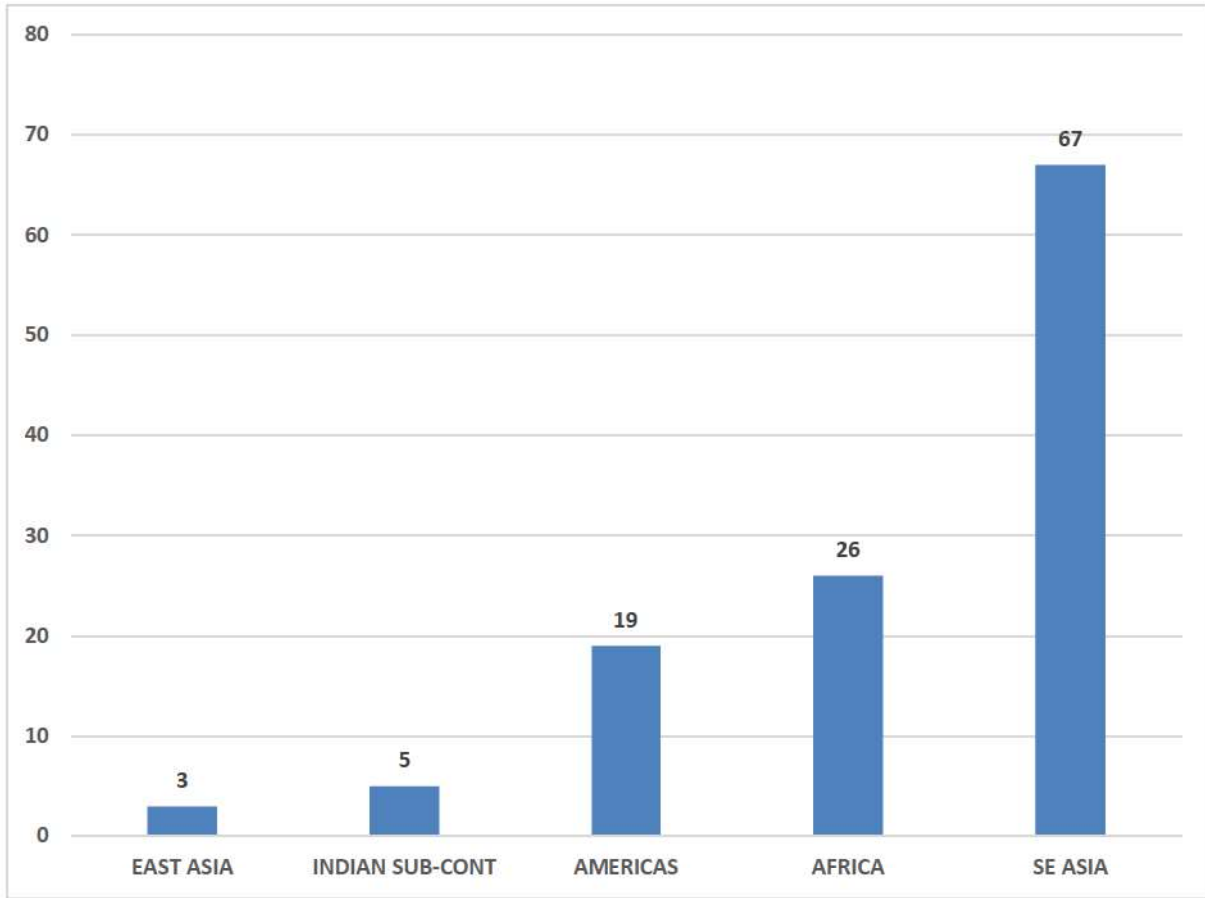


CHART D: Perpetrators successful in 91% of reported incidents. January – December 2023

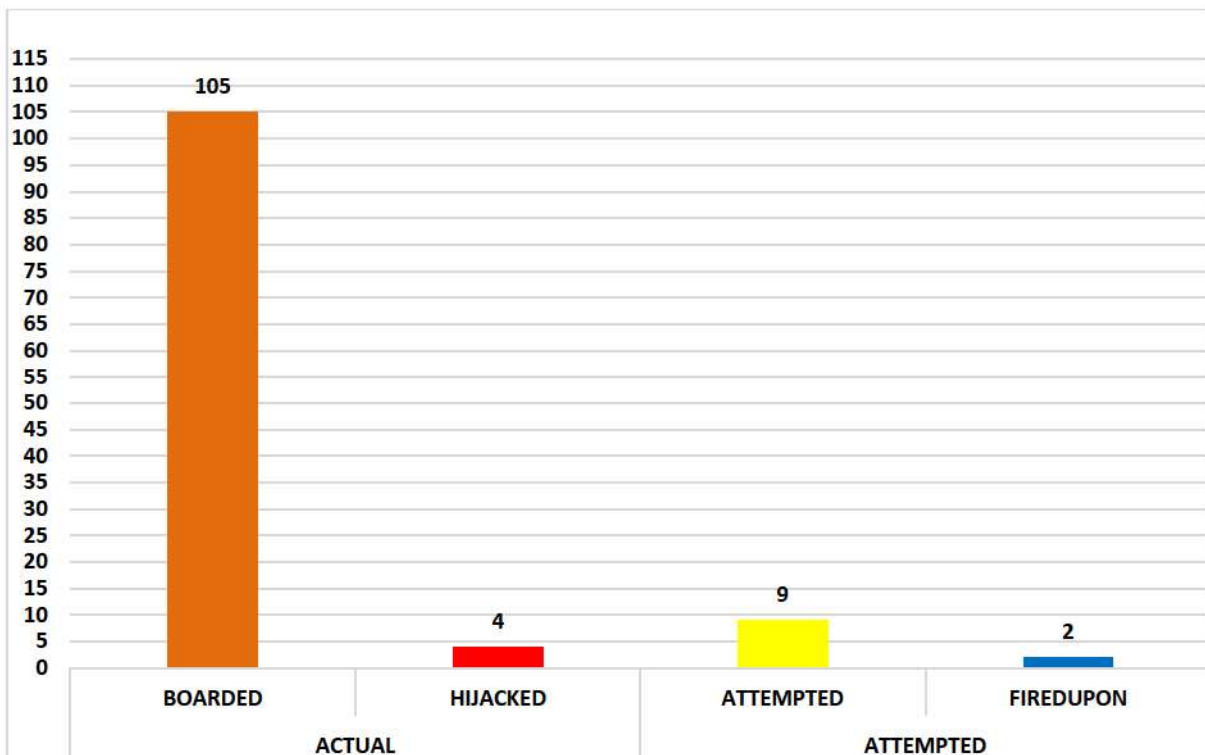


CHART E: Type of incident in relation to the status of vessel movement January – December 2023

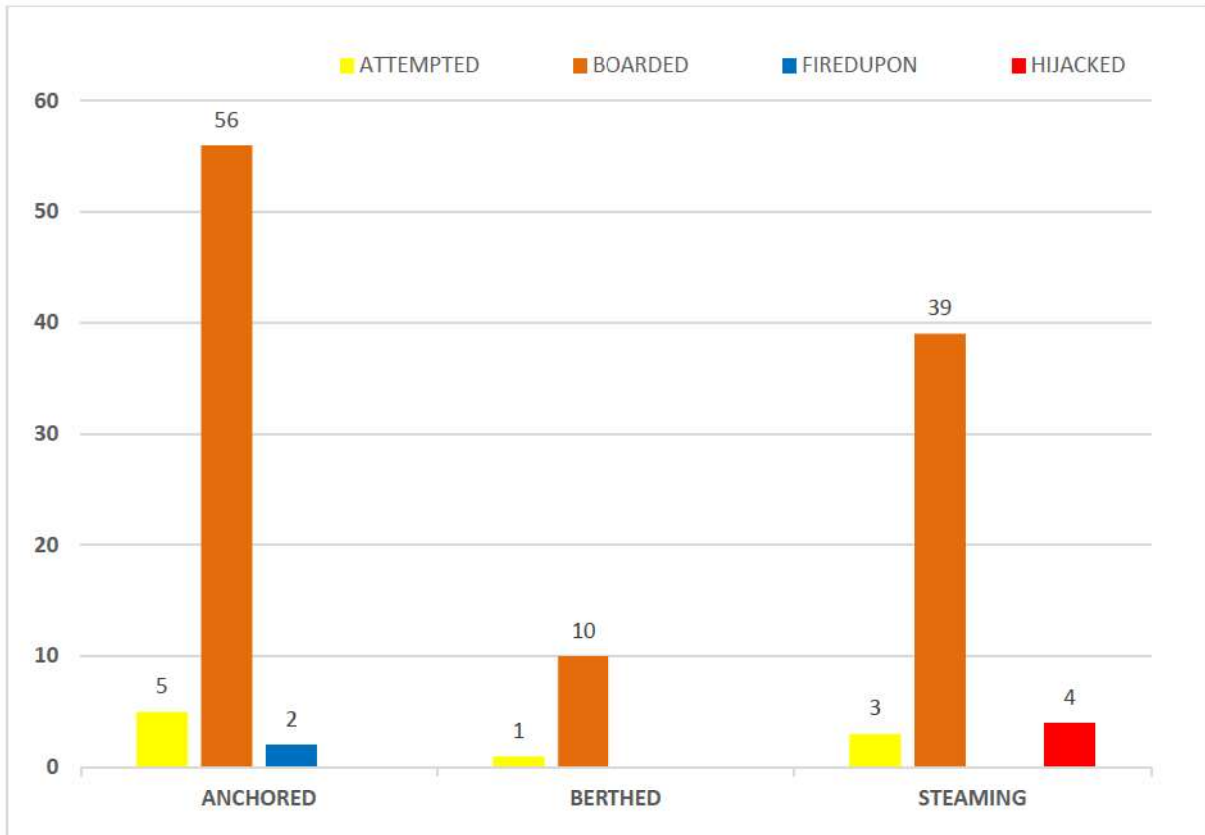


CHART F: Region specific type of incident in relation to the status of vessel movement January – December 2023

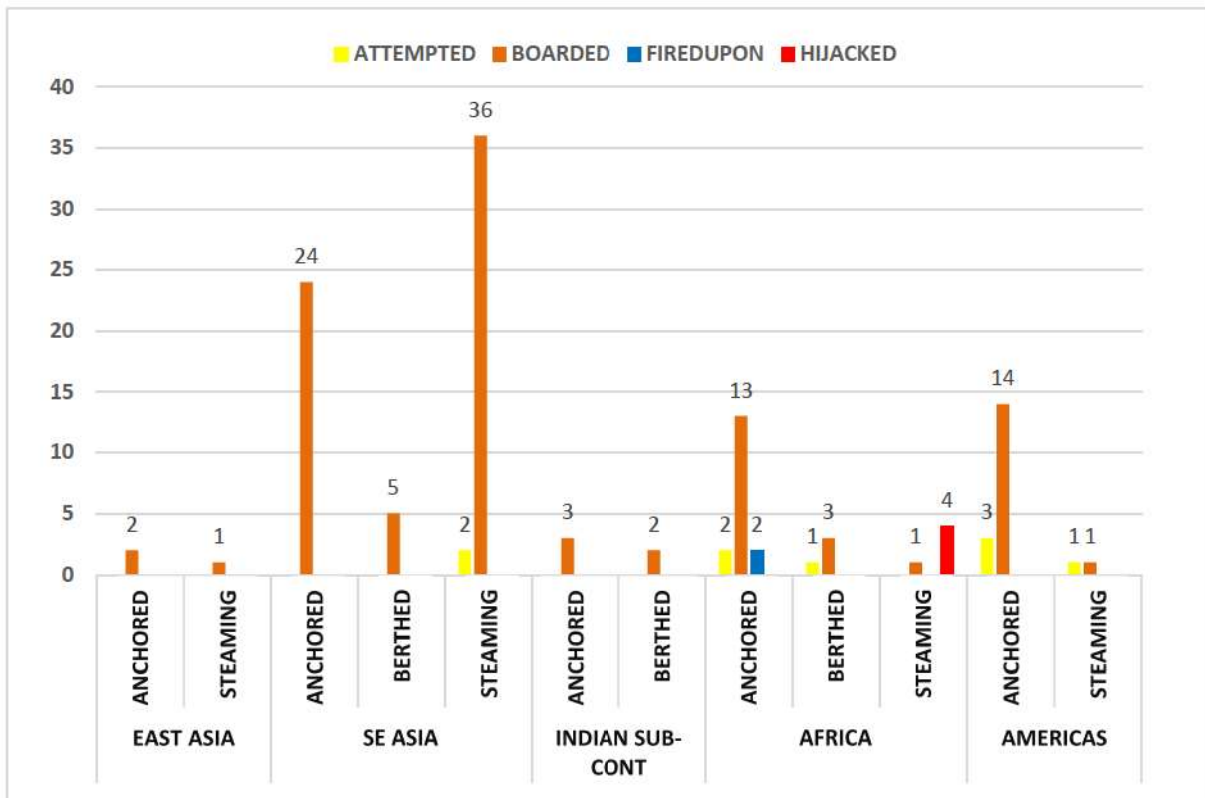


CHART G: Region specific severity of incident in relation January – December 2023 (Severity Level I, II, III – see page 4 for clarification)

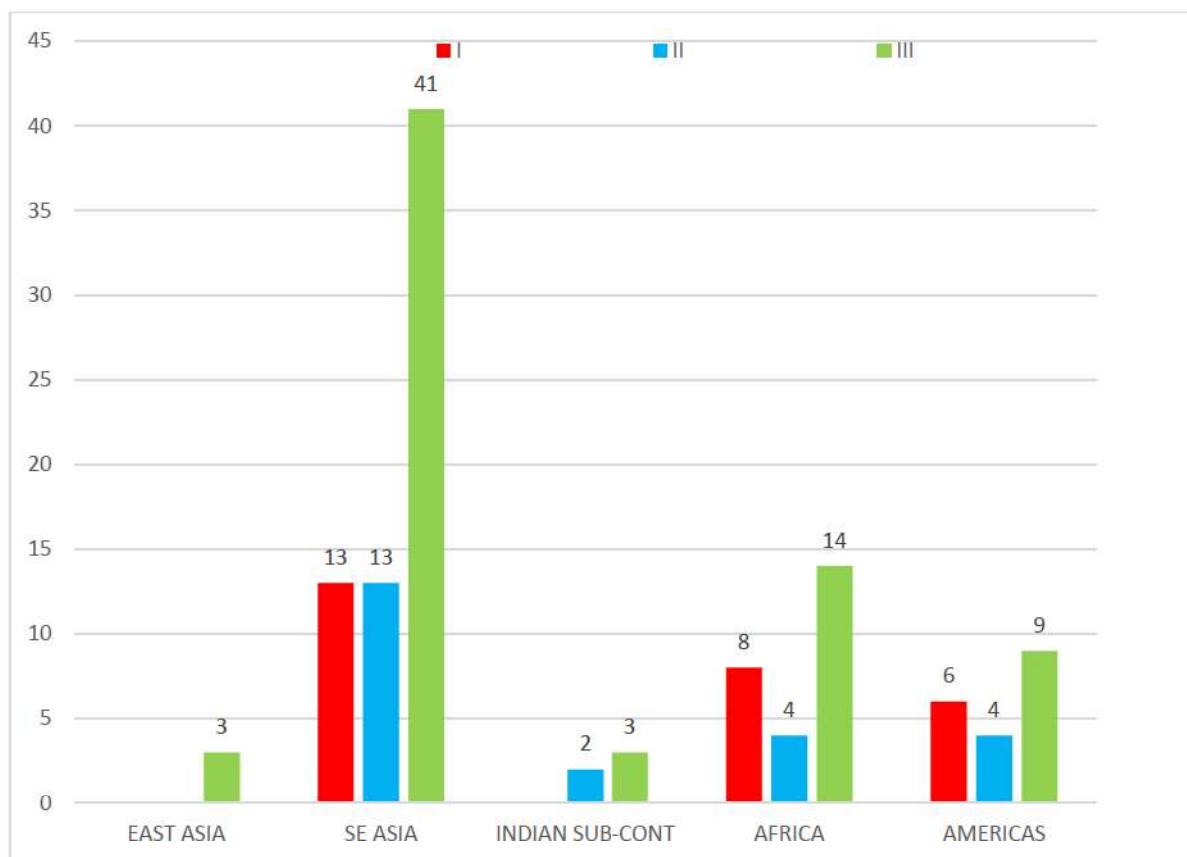


TABLE 2: ACTUAL and ATTEMPTED incidents by location, January – December 2023

Location	Actual		Attempted	
	Boarded	Hijacked	Fired upon	Attempted
SE ASIA Indonesia	18			
Malacca Straits	1			
Malaysia	2			
Philippines	9			
Singapore Straits	35			2
EAST ASIA Vietnam	3			
INDIAN Bangladesh	1			
SUB CONT India	4			
AMERICAS Brazil	1			
Colombia	1			1
Ecuador				1
Panama				1
Peru	13			1
AFRICA Angola	3			
Cameroon	1		2	
Egypt	1			
Gabon	1			
Ghana	5			1
Guinea	1			1

Ivory Coast		1		1
Mozambique	2			
Nigeria	2			
Sierra Leone	1	1		
Somalia		1		
The Congo		1		
Sub total	105	4	2	9
Total		120		

TABLE 3: Ports / anchorages, with three or more reported incidents, January – December 2023

Country	Location	01.01.2023 to 31.12.2023
Angola	Luanda	3
Cameroon	Douala	3
Ghana	Takoradi	6
Indonesia	Belawan	6
	Dumai	6
Peru	Callao	14
Philippines	Manila	8

TABLE 4: Status of vessels during ACTUAL incidents, January – December 2023

Location	Berthed	Anchored	Steaming
SE ASIA Indonesia	4	14	
Malacca Straits			1
Malaysia	1		1
Philippines		9	
Singapore Straits		1	34
EAST ASIA Vietnam		2	1
INDIAN Bangladesh	1		
SUB CONT India	1	3	
AMERICAS Brazil		1	
Colombia			1
Peru		13	
AFRICA Angola		3	
Cameroon		1	
Egypt	1		
Gabon		1	
Ghana		5	
Guinea		1	
Ivory Coast			1
Mozambique		2	
Nigeria	2		
Sierra Leone			2
Somalia			1
The Congo			1
Sub total	10	56	43
Total	109		

TABLE 5: Status of vessels during ATTEMPTED incidents, January – December 2023

Location	Berthed	Anchored	Steaming
SE ASIA Singapore Straits			2
AMERICAS Colombia		1	
Ecuador			1
Panama		1	
Peru		1	
AFRICA Cameroon		2	
Ghana		1	
Guinea		1	
Ivory Coast	1		
Sub total	1	7	3
Total		11	

TABLE 6: Types of arms used during incidents, January - December 2019 – 2023

Types of Arms	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Guns	47	69	34	16	15
Knives	36	46	38	41	42
Not stated	74	76	56	57	61
Other weapons	5	4	4	1	2
Total	162	195	132	115	120

TABLE 7: Comparison of the type of incidents, January - December 2019 – 2023

Type of Attack	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Attempted	17	20	11	5	9
Boarded	130	161	115	107	105
Fired upon	11	11	5	1	2
Hijack	4	3	1	2	4
Total	162	195	132	115	120

TABLE 8: Types of violence to crew, January – December 2019 – 2023

Type of Violence	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Hostage	59	34	8	41	73
Kidnapped	134	135	57	2	14
Threatened	6	8	9	6	10
Assaulted	3	5	3	6	1
Injured	7	9	4		4
Killed	1		1		
Total at year end	210	191	82	55	102

TABLE 9: Type of violence to crew by location, January – December 2023

Location	Kidnapped	Hostage	Threatened	Assaulted	Injured
SE ASIA Indonesia		2	7		
Malacca Straits					1
Philippines		1			1
Singapore Straits		9	2		
AMERICAS Peru		7	1	1	
AFRICA Cameroon	5				
Gabon	3				
Guinea					1
Ivory Coast		21			
Sierra Leone		23			1
The Congo	6	10			
Sub total	14	73	10	1	4
Total	102				

TABLE 10: Types of arms used by geographical location, January – December 2023

Locations	Guns	Knives	Not Stated	Other
S E ASIA Indonesia		9	8	1
Malacca Straits		1		
Malaysia			2	
Philippines	1	2	6	
Singapore Straits	3	15	18	1
EAST ASIA Vietnam		1	2	
INDIAN Bangladesh		1		
SUB CONT India		1	3	
AMERICAS Brazil		1		
Colombia			2	
Ecuador			1	
Panama			1	
Peru	1	8	5	
AFRICA Angola		1	2	
Cameroon	3			
Egypt			1	
Gabon	1			
Ghana			6	
Guinea	1		1	
Ivory Coast	1		1	
Mozambique		1	1	
Nigeria		1	1	
Sierra Leone	2			
Somalia	1			
The Congo	1			
Sub total	15	42	61	2
Total	120			

TABLE 11: Incidents as per type of vessels, January – December 2019 – 2023

Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Accommodation Barge		1			
Bulk Carrier	46	51	47	50	45
Container	14	27	30	11	18
Crew Boat				3	
Drilling Ship / Rig		1	1	1	
Fire Fighting Vessel					1
General Cargo	7	13	4	3	7
Heavy Load Carrier	1	1		1	
Landing Craft	1		1		
Maintenance Pontoon	1				
Offshore Processing Ship					1
Passenger Craft	1		1		
Pipe Layer Ship / Barge		2			
Pleasure Craft	1				
Refrigerated Cargo Ship		4	1	1	
Research Ship	1	1			
RO-RO				1	
Supply Ship	2	8	6	1	1
Support Ship	1	3	2		
Tanker Asphalt / Bitumen		1			
Tanker Bunkering		1			
Tanker Chem / Product	45	53	22	19	26
Tanker Crude Oil	19	10	5	9	6
Tanker FPSO / FSO		1			
Tanker LNG	2	1	2		1
Tanker LPG	6	3	2	2	1
Trawler / Fishing	4	6	3		4
Offshore Tug / Tug & Barge	7	7	3	8	9
Vehicle Carrier	2		2	4	
Yacht / Sailing Vessel	1			1	
Total at year end	162	195	132	115	120

CHART H: Incidents as per type of vessels, January – December 2023

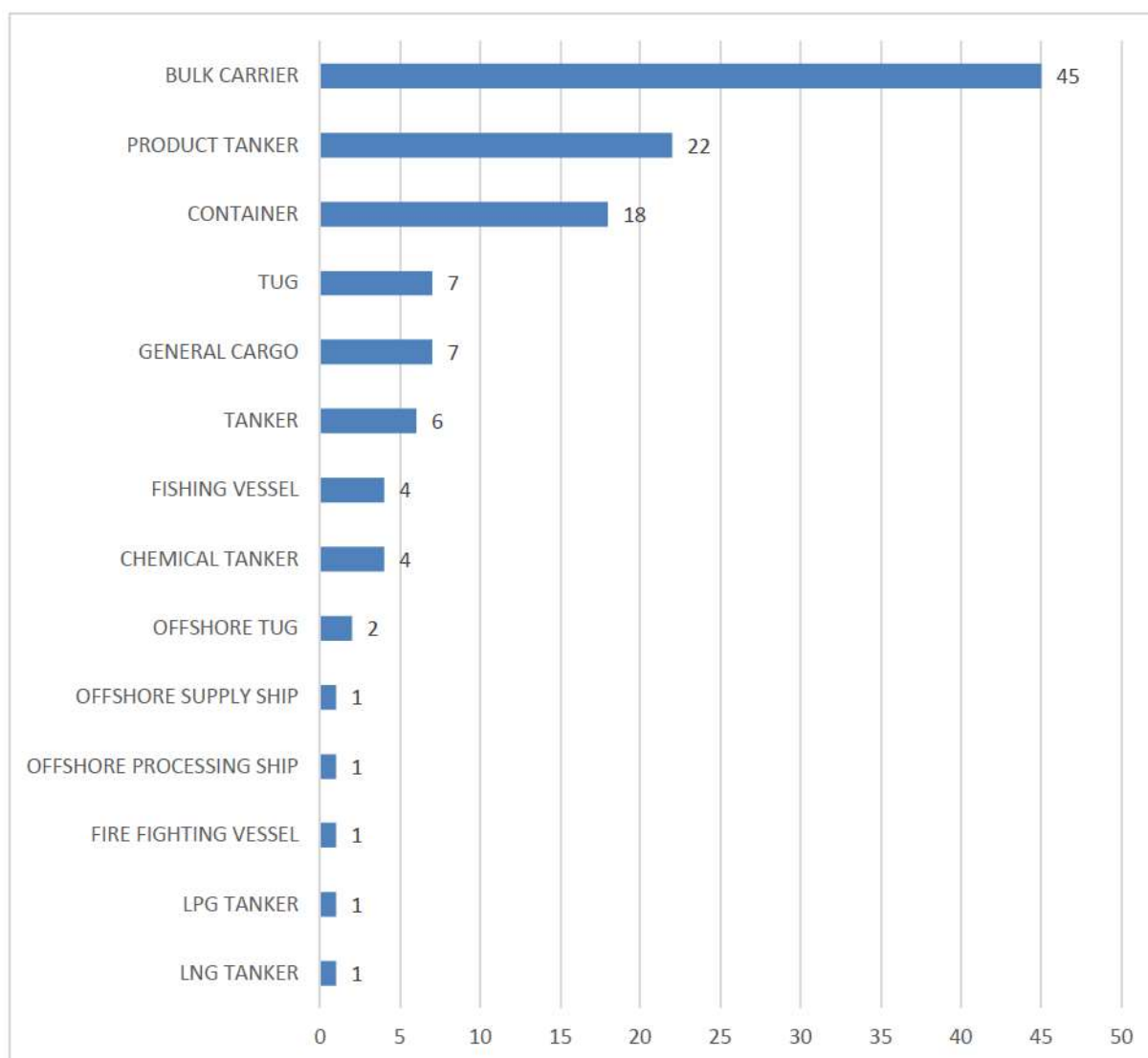


TABLE 12: Nationalities of vessels affected, January - December 2019 – 2023

Flag State	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Antigua & Barbuda	2	1	1	1	
Austria	1				
Bahamas	4	1	6	4	2
Bangladesh	1				
Barbados	1		1	1	
Belgium					1
Belize		1			
Bermuda	1	1	1		
Brazil			1	1	
Cameroon	1	2			
Cayman Islands	1	2	1	2	2
China	2	1	1		3
Comoros		3			
Cyprus	1	5	6	2	4
Denmark	2	4	6		3
Equatorial Guinea			1		
France	1		1	1	

Gabon		1			
Germany	1	2	1	1	1
Ghana		3	2		
Gibraltar	1	2	2		
Greece	4	3	4	1	1
Hong Kong (SAR)	9	10	6	4	8
India		2		1	2
Indonesia	1	2			1
Isle of Man	4	1	1	1	1
Italy		2			
Jamaica			1		
Japan				1	2
Korea South	1		1		
Liberia	19	32	18	11	17
Libya					1
Luxemburg			2		
Malaysia	3	1	2	2	4
Malta	10	9	5	7	8
Marshall Islands	28	33	17	20	16
Mongolia			1		
Netherlands	2	2			
Nigeria	6		1		
Niue	1	1			
Norway	3	1	2	1	
Palau	1	1	1		
Panama	17	26	6	25	16
Philippines		1			
Portugal	1	3	3	2	6
Saudi Arabia	4	3	1		
Senegal		1			
Singapore	22	28	24	20	19
Spain			1		
St Kitts & Nevis		1	2		
St Vincent & Grenadines		1		1	
Switzerland	1		1		
Togo	1	1		1	
Turkey	1		1		1
United Kingdom	1				
USA				1	1
Vanuatu	1	1		1	
Vietnam	1			1	
Not Stated				1	
Total at year end	162	195	132	115	120

CHART I: Nationalities of vessels involved in 12 times or more incidents, January – December 2023

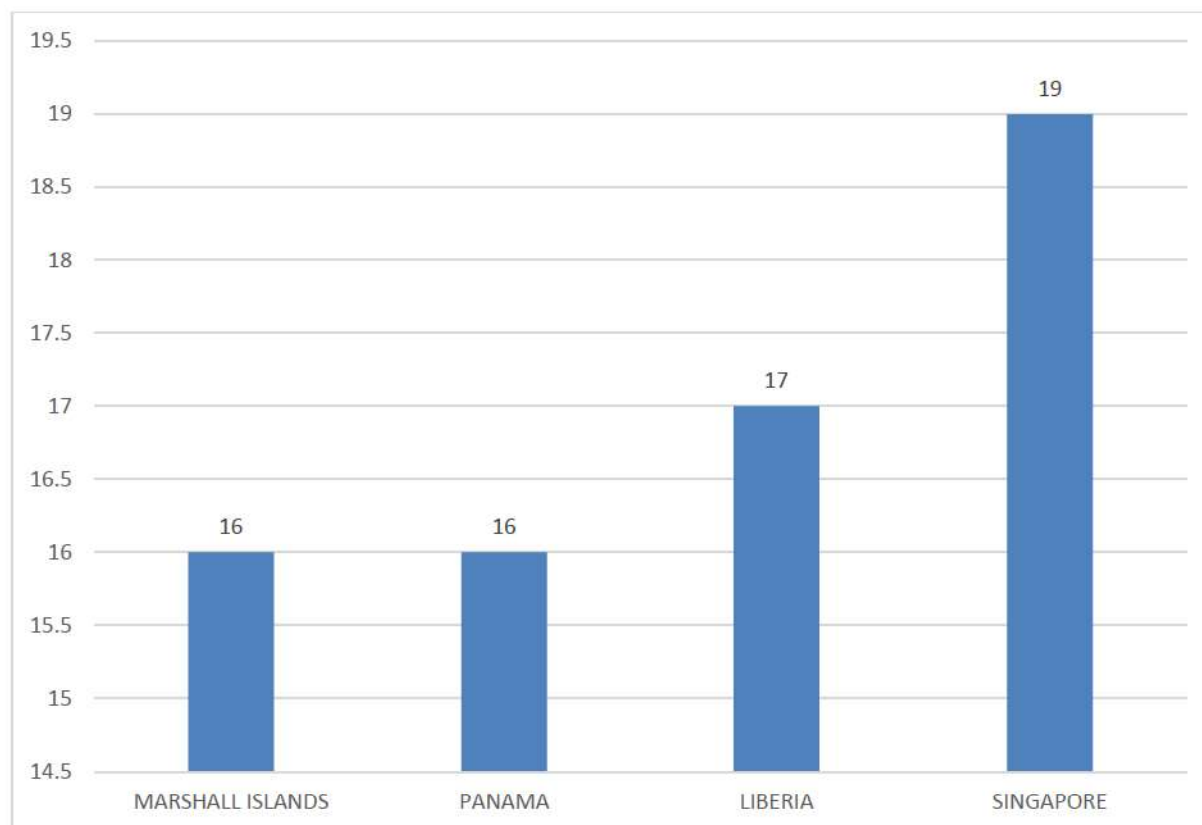
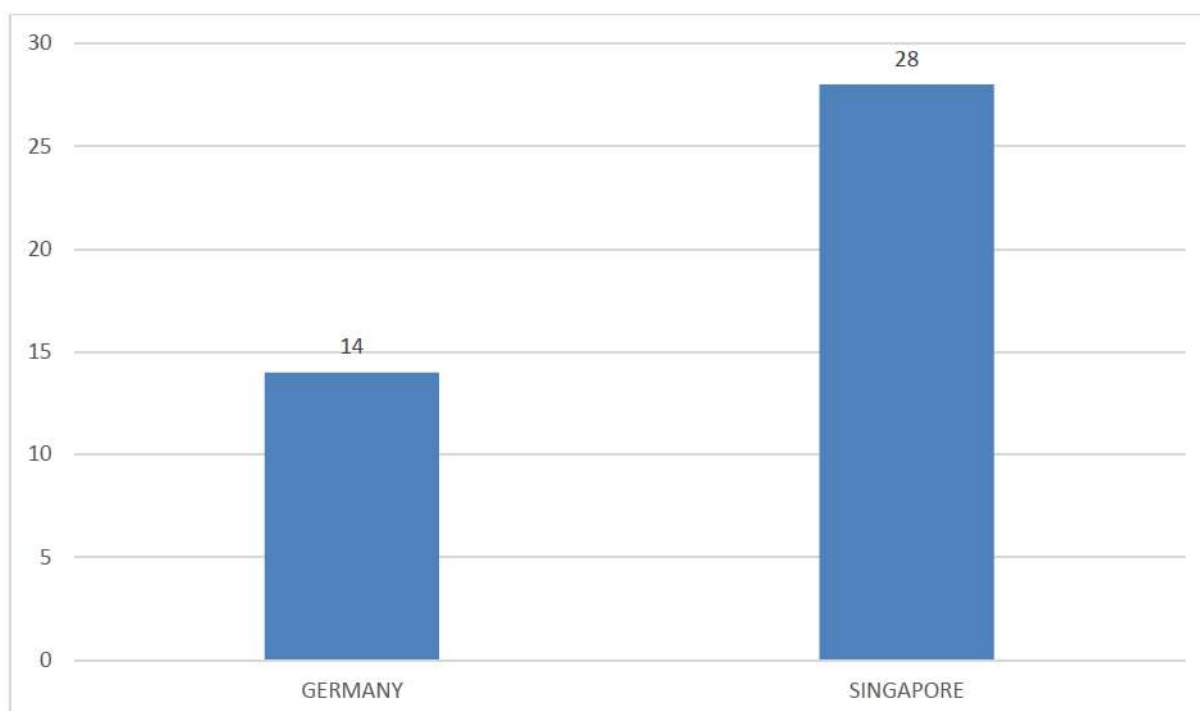


TABLE 13: Vessels affected – managed or controlled from January – December 2023

Country	No of Ships
Angola	1
Belgium	1
Bulgaria	1
Canada	3
China	3
Cyprus	4
Denmark	5
Germany	14
Greece	11
Hong Kong	3
India	9
Japan	9
Liberia	1
Malaysia	3
Mauritius	1
Netherlands	3
Norway	1
Philippines	2
Sierra Leone	1
Singapore	28

Switzerland	1
Taiwan	1
The Congo	1
UAE	4
United Kingdom	4
USA	2
NS	3
Total	120

CHART J: Managing countries whose vessels involved in 12 times or more incidents between January – December 2023



OFF SOMALIA / GULF OF ADEN / RED SEA ATTACK FIGURES UPDATE

From 1 January to 31 December 2023, one vessel hijacked in the waters off Somalia. This is the first successful hijacked incident by alleged Somali pirates since 2017.

The international navies patrolling these waters continue to coordinate and liaise with merchant vessels and fishing fleets to identify and apprehend pirate action groups.

All vessels are advised and encouraged to adhere to the BMP 5 recommendations while transiting these waters. Vessels employing Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP) should be cautious and not mistake fishermen for pirates in some heavy fishing areas.

The IMB PRC continues to monitor the situation in the region. Although only one incident recorded, it cautions vessel owners and masters against complacency. Somali pirates still retain the capability and capacity to carry out attacks far from coast.

The IMB PRC supports and compliments the role of international navies by relaying all reports received to the response agencies, as well as by broadcasting alerts to vessels via the INMARSAT Safety Net Service.

CONTINUED COOPERATION

The positive information sharing, actions, and cooperation between the Indonesian Marine Police (IMP) and the IMB PRC has resulted in an overall decrease in the number of reported incidents in the 10 safe designated areas.

All vessels intending to anchor, waiting for berth or drift should do so at the designated areas where IMP patrol boats would be stationed to enable them to maximize their resources to provide greater protection for vessels.

Vessels are advised to cooperate by maintaining strict anti-piracy and robbery watches and report all attacks and suspicious sightings to the local Authorities / IMP, as well as the IMB PRC. The IMB PRC will also liaise with local and regional Authorities to render necessary assistance.

In line with the Road Map Program Police Reforms Wave III, the Indonesian Authorities will continue until future notice to allocate and position resources and assets in 10 key designated areas of concern, to prevent sea robbery and piracy in and around Indonesian waters.

The IMB thanks the IMP for their support and contribution to the shipping industry.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The IMB PRC appreciates the strong and vital cooperation from the Philippine and Malaysian Intel that have provided crucial information relating to the safety of vessels and seafarers, particularly in the Sulu Sea/eastern Sabah waters. The successful cooperation has directly and indirectly saved many lives and properties at sea. The IMB PRC looks forward to the continued cooperation, and thanks both intel agencies for their commitment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The IMB appreciates the assistance (past and present) and vital cooperation provided by the Coalition naval forces / EU naval force (EUNAVFOR ATALANTA) / MSCHOA / US Navy / French Alindien / NATO / UKMTO / Indian Navy / Iranian Navy / Malaysian Navy / Russian Navy / Chinese Navy / South Korean Navy / Japanese Maritime SDF/ Singapore Navy / Royal Thai Navy / and Yemeni Coast guard and Navy, for assisting the many vessels that have been attacked by suspected Somali pirates, both in the Gulf of Aden, and off eastern / southern Somali coast, Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea and other areas. The positive actions by the navies, including pre-emptive and disruptive counter piracy tactics, resulted in a drop in the number of attacks.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The IMB PRC appreciates the strong cooperation from the West African authorities / navies and international navies (past and present), especially the Danish, Italian, Russian, Spanish and Portuguese Navies in the Gulf of Guinea. A special thanks to the Nigerian Authorities, particularly the Nigerian Navy and NIMASA, who have continued to provide prompt information, actions, and valuable cooperation between agencies. The IMB PRC looks forward to the continued cooperation from the West African authorities / navies and international navies in the area.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The IMB PRC thanks all the masters and vessel owners / operators who have reported incidents to the Centre. It encourages all incidents to be reported in a timely manner.

While the IMB PRC endeavours to always get a meaningful response from regional authorities, the reports also play a crucial role to increase awareness of this crime. This allows for additional resources to be allocated by authorities to tackle the crime of piracy and armed robbery.

Transparent statistics from an independent, non-political, international organization such as the IMB PRC can act as a catalyst to achieve this goal.

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY PRONE AREAS AND WARNINGS

All vessels are advised to report all piracy and armed robbery incidents and suspicious sightings to local Authorities, their flag state and to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre as per IMO Cir 1334.

The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre can be contacted at:

24 Hours Anti-Piracy HELPLINE is: +60 3 2031 0014

E-mail: piracy@icc-ccs.org / imbkl@icc-ccs.org

Tel: +60 3 2078 5763

WhatsApp / Telegram: +60 11 2659 3057. (Photograph or video submission encouraged).

Mariners are advised to be cautious, take precautionary measures and follow all recommended guidelines, when transiting the following areas:

SOUTH EAST ASIA AND INDIAN SUB CONTINENT

Bangladesh: Robbers normally target vessels at anchor. Most incidents reported are at Chittagong anchorages and approaches. Incidents in Bangladesh have fallen significantly over the past few years because of the efforts by the Bangladesh authorities.

Indonesia: Belawan and Dumai/Lubuk Gaung and surrounding waters. Pirates / robbers are normally armed with guns / knives and / or machetes. Generally, be vigilant in other areas. Many incidents may have gone unreported. Pirates / robbers normally approach vessels during the night. When spotted and alarm is sounded, the pirates / robbers usually escape without confronting the crew. A strict anti-piracy watch is recommended.

Meetings and continued dialogue between the Indonesian Marine Police (IMP) and the IMB PRC resulted in positive actions by the Indonesian authorities, who have so far brought down the number of incidents significantly. With the assistance and actions of the IMP, the incidents appear to be decreasing each year with great success in many areas. Incidents in Indonesian waters have also dropped dramatically since the cooperation began.

The Indonesian Marine Police have advised all ships intending to anchor to do so at / near the following areas where Indonesian Marine Police will conduct patrols for greater protection:

(After IMP-IMB started the cooperation, since 2014, no incident has been reported in the Adang Bay region. With this in view, in March 2021, IMP has decided to replace Adang Bay with Tanjung Butan at 01:11.30N – 104:12.30E as Singapore Straits and surrounding waters are now classified as risky waters).

1. Belawan: 03:55.00N-098:45.30E
2. Dumai: 01:42.00N-101:28.00E
3. Nipah: 01:07.30N-103:37.00E
4. Tanjung Berakit/Bintan: 01:23.30N-104:42.30E
5. Tanjung Priok: 06:00.30S-106:54.00E
6. Gresik: 07:09.00S-112:40.00E
7. Taboneo: 03:41.30S-114:28.00E
8. Tanjung Butan: 01:11.30N-104:12.30E (effective 12 March 2021)
9. Muara Berau: 00:17.00S-117:36.00E
10. Balikpapan: 01:22.00S-116:53.00E

The Indonesian authorities have advised IMB that in accordance with the Road Map Program Police Reforms Wave III, the above given ten locations prevention action of sea robbery / piracy in Indonesian waters will continue until further notice.

Vessels are advised to maintain strict anti-piracy watch and measures and report all incidents and suspicious sightings to the local authorities and the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre. The IMB PRC will also liaise with the local authorities to render necessary assistance.

Malacca Straits: Although the number of incidents has dropped substantially due to increased and aggressive patrols by the littoral states' authorities since July 2005, vessels are advised to continue maintaining strict anti-piracy / robbery watches when transiting the Straits. Currently, there are no indications as to how long these patrols will continue or when they will be reduced. In some cases, incidents may have gone unreported. Situation currently remains stable although one serious incident was reported.

Malaysia: Bandar Penawar, Johor – past incidents reported on anchored vessels. Off Tanjung Piai – past incidents reported on vessels underway. Though incidents have stopped, the IMB PRC is monitoring the situation and will liaise with the Malaysian Authorities / MMEA as needed.

In / off Eastern Sabah – Kidnapping of merchant ship's crew by ASG has stopped for several years due to actions by the Malaysian and Philippines Authorities. Last kidnapping incident was reported in January 2020. It was reported that several ASG militants had been captured / killed by the authorities. Although the incidents have stopped, the waters remain risky.

Vessels are advised to continue to take precautionary measures and maintain strict anti-piracy watch and measures. Vessels transiting these waters should refer to the Sabah Notice to Mariners NTM 14 of 2017 on the Ship Reporting System. Vessels are also urged to monitor the IMB PRC Warnings on potential incidents / targets / description of militant boats issued on behalf of the Philippines and Malaysian Intel Agencies.

Philippines: In / off Sibutu passage / off Sibutu island / Tawi Tawi / Sulu Sea / Celebes sea / off eastern Sabah – past incidents included crew kidnappings. These kidnapping incidents have stopped for several years due to the actions by the Malaysian and Philippines Authorities. Last kidnapping incident was reported in January 2020. It was reported that several ASG militants had been captured / killed by the authorities. Although the incidents have stopped, the waters remain risky.

Vessels are advised to continue to take precautionary measures and maintain strict anti-piracy watch and measures. Vessels transiting these waters should refer to the Sabah Notice to Mariners NTM 14 of 2017 on the Ship Reporting System. Vessels are also urged to monitor the IMB PRC Warnings on potential incidents / targets / description of militant boats issued on behalf of the Philippines and Malaysian Intel Agencies.

Manila: Be vigilant. Several past and recent incidents / robberies have been reported.

Singapore Straits: A General Warning issued in December 2019 indicating a sudden rise in incidents in Singapore Straits especially during the night is still valid. The incidents are still occurring and increasing. It appears one or more groups are targeting passing ships, including tugs / barges to rob them. Authorities have been notified and are aware of the situation. Vessels are advised to remain vigilant and to continue maintaining adequate watches and measures. Robbers board vessels while underway or while at anchor especially during the night. Robbers will abort and move away when the alarm is sounded, and authorities notified. Therefore, a strict watch is necessary.

South China Sea: Although incidents have stopped in the vicinity off Tioman / off Pulau Aur / off Anambas / Natuna / Mangkai islands / Subi Besar / Merundung areas, vessels are advised to continue to remain vigilant, especially during the night. In the past, several hijackings of small product tankers occurred off the coast of Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and in the South China Sea area. This trend started in April 2014, but the hijackings stopped abruptly in late 2015. It has been reported that some criminals have been arrested by local authorities both in Malaysia and in Indonesia. There were three incidents reported in 2017 where two tankers were hijacked off Kuantan / Off Pulau Aur / East coast Malaysia. The IMB continues to monitor the situation.

WEST AFRICA (Gulf of Guinea) – As a general rule:

- (i) Follow recommendations and guidelines presented in the BMP WA.
- (ii) All crews to keep a vigilant lookout using all available means. Ships advised to adjust ETA for direct berthing or wait / drift / transit more than 300nm from the coast, if appropriate and agreed by all in venture. Incidents reported up to 300nm from the coast.

Angola (Luanda): Incidents of robberies reported.

Benin (Cotonou): No recent incidents reported. Past incidents reported in / off Benin. Vessels attacked and crews kidnapped. Incidents showed that the pirates / robbers in the area are well armed and violent. Pirates robbed vessels and kidnapped crews for ransom. In the past, tankers were hijacked, and part cargo stolen (gas oil).

Cameroon (Douala): Recent incidents including vessels fired upon at anchor and kidnapping of crew. Be vigilant.

Equatorial Guinea: Past incidents off Bioko Island and off Bata. One past incident involved kidnapping and the other fired upon at 87nm off Bata.

Gabon (Port Gentil / Owendo anchorage): Incidents stopped. Past incidents / kidnapping of crews occurred more than 70nm offshore.

Ghana (Takoradi): Incidents reported at Takoradi anchorages.

Guinea (Conakry): Incidents dropped. Past incidents involving robberies reported at anchorages.

Ivory Coast (Abidjan): Incidents dropped but remains risky.

Nigeria (Lagos / Apapa, Off Bayelsa / Brass / Bonny Island / Port Harcourt): Pirates / robbers are often well armed, violent and have attacked and hijacked / robbed vessels / kidnapped crews along or far from the coast, rivers, anchorages, ports and surrounding waters. Incidents have also been reported up to about 300nm from the coast. Generally, all waters in / off Nigeria remain highly risky. Vessels are advised to be vigilant as incidents may have gone unreported. Kidnapping for ransom remains the biggest risk for crews. Vessels are advised to take additional measures in these high-risk waters. In the past, tankers were also hijacked, and part cargo stolen (gas oil).

Incidents dropped drastically for Nigeria, but vessels are advised to be vigilant as waters remain risky.

Togo (Lome): Incidents appear to have stopped. Past attacks reported at anchorage / in / off Togo. Vessels robbed and crews kidnapped. In the past, tankers were also hijacked, and part cargo stolen (gas oil).

The Congo: Incidents reported off Pointe Noire.

Sao Tome & Principe: No recent reported incidents. Past incidents showed vessels hijacked / attacked, and crews kidnapped. Vessels advised to continue to maintain strict anti-piracy watch and measures. Waters are still considered high risk for fishing and merchant vessels although incidents have dropped.

Sierra Leone: (off Turtle Islands). One past hijacking incident reported.

EAST AFRICA / GOA / RED SEA

Red Sea / Gulf of Aden / Somalia / Arabian Sea / Indian Ocean: One recent piracy attack and hijacking reported around 700nm East of Bossaso, Somalia. The incident on 14 December 2023 is the first successful hijacking of a merchant vessel by alleged Somali pirates since 2017. Reports also suggest two dhows were subsequently hijacked.

The recent successful incidents demonstrate the continued capabilities of these criminals. Vessels are advised to be vigilant, maintain strict anti-piracy watch and adhere to the recommendations in the latest BMP, while transiting in these waters. The IMB PRC will continue to alert and broadcast information to all ships in the region via Inmarsat EGC Safety Net.

In the past, Somali pirates have conducted their acts in waters off the southern Red Sea / Bab El Mandeb, Gulf of Aden including Yemen and the northern Somali coast, Arabian sea / off Oman, Gulf of Oman and off the eastern and southern Somali coast. Vessels have also been targeted off Kenya, Tanzania, Seychelles, Madagascar, Mozambique, as well as in the Indian ocean, and off the west and south coasts of India and west Maldives.

Generally, Somali pirates tend to be well armed with automatic weapons and RPGs. They sometimes use skiffs launched from mother vessels, which may be hijacked fishing vessels or dhows. Masters and ship owners are encouraged to register their vessel and report as per the latest BMP procedures, ensure their vessel is hardened prior to entering these waters and to maintain a 24-hour visual and radar watch. Keeping in mind the warnings and alerts for the area, an early sighting / detection of an approaching skiff will enable an accurate assessment, allowing the Master and PCASP to make informed decisions to keep clear of small boats, dhows, fishing vessels and, if necessary, take evasive actions and request assistance as needed.

Masters are reminded that fishermen in this region may try to protect their nets by attempting to aggressively approach merchant vessels. Some of the fishermen may be armed to protect their catch and they should not be confused with pirates.

Vessels transiting in / off Yemen / Gulf of Aden / Southern Red Sea / Bab El Mandeb: There is a heightened security risk to vessels transiting these waters. Vessels are being approached by skiffs and hailed via VHF allegedly by Yemeni naval forces to alter course into Yemeni waters. Masters are encouraged to be cautious, ignore these calls and immediately report any such activities to Coalition warships on VHF Ch 16. Ships transiting Gulf of Aden, Southern Red Sea and Bab El Mandeb are also advised to be vigilant and take precautionary measures as vessels have been targeted by missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles. The number of these reported incidents which are not piracy related are increasing.

Vessels transiting Straits of Hormuz / Gulf of Oman / Off Iran – incidents are not piracy related. Unauthorised boardings have been reported.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN WATERS

Brazil (Macapa): Incidents have dropped. Waters remain risky. Stay vigilant.

Colombia (Cartagena): Incidents have dropped. Past incidents reported at anchorages, river passage and pilot boarding ground. Stay vigilant.

Ecuador (Guayaquil): Incidents have stopped. Past incidents reported at anchorage / river passage with pilot. Robbers well-armed. Fired upon.

Haiti (Port Au Prince / Lafiteau): Incidents dropped. Advised to continue maintaining watch and to stay vigilant.

Mexico (Puerto Dos Bocas): Incidents dropped. Past reported incidents - pirates / robbers in this area armed with guns.

Peru (Callao): Incidents are continuing. Maintain vigilant watch and employ anti-piracy measures.

Venezuela (Puerto La Cruz / Puerto Jose / Guanta): Although incidents have stopped, vessels are still reminded to maintain strict anti-piracy watch and measures especially at anchor.

EASTERN EUROPE/UKRAINE

Not piracy related: Ukraine and Russia conflict: stay clear of Ukrainian coast. Mines reported in the Black Sea.

IMB Maritime Security Hotline

The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) has a dedicated hotline for seafarers, port workers, shipping agents, shipyard personnel, brokers, stevedores, and all concerned parties to report any information that they may have seen / heard / known etc. relating to any maritime crime including terrorism, piracy and other illegal activities. All information reported will be treated in strict confidence and will be passed on to relevant authorities for further action. Maritime crime and security concerns us all and with your help, we can try to minimize the risks and help save lives and property.

The Maritime Security Hotline can be contacted 24 hours every day at: Tel: +60 3 2031 0014

E-mail: imbsecurity@icc-ccs.org

WhatsApp or Telegram at +601126593057. Photograph or video submission encouraged.

REMEMBER: Your information may save lives. All information will be treated in strict confidence.

Trends within areas of continued concern

CHART K: SE Asia – Singapore Straits – Total number of reported incidents

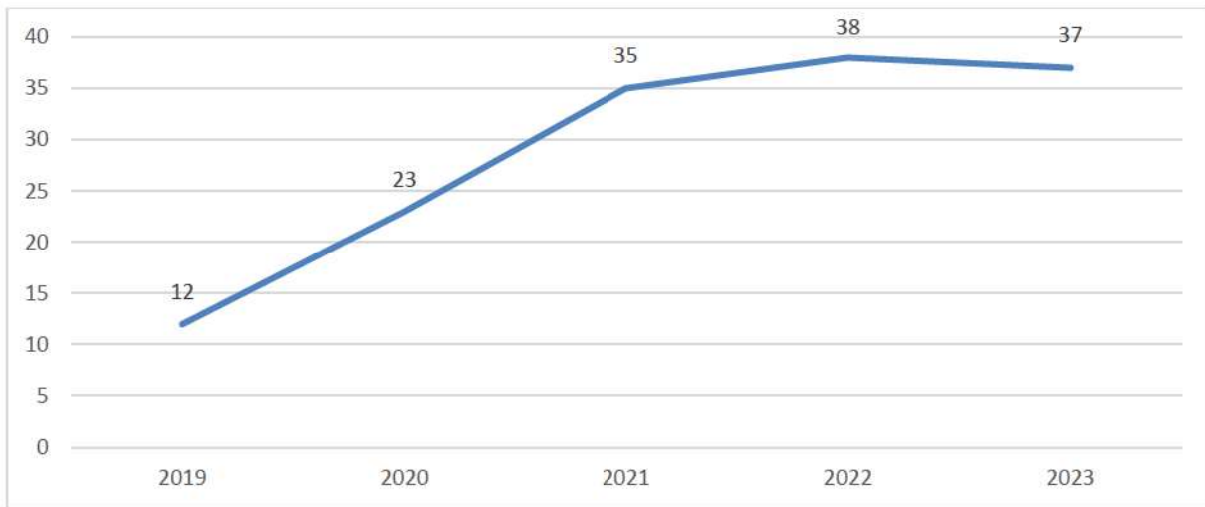


CHART L: West Africa – Gulf of Guinea – Total number of reported incidents

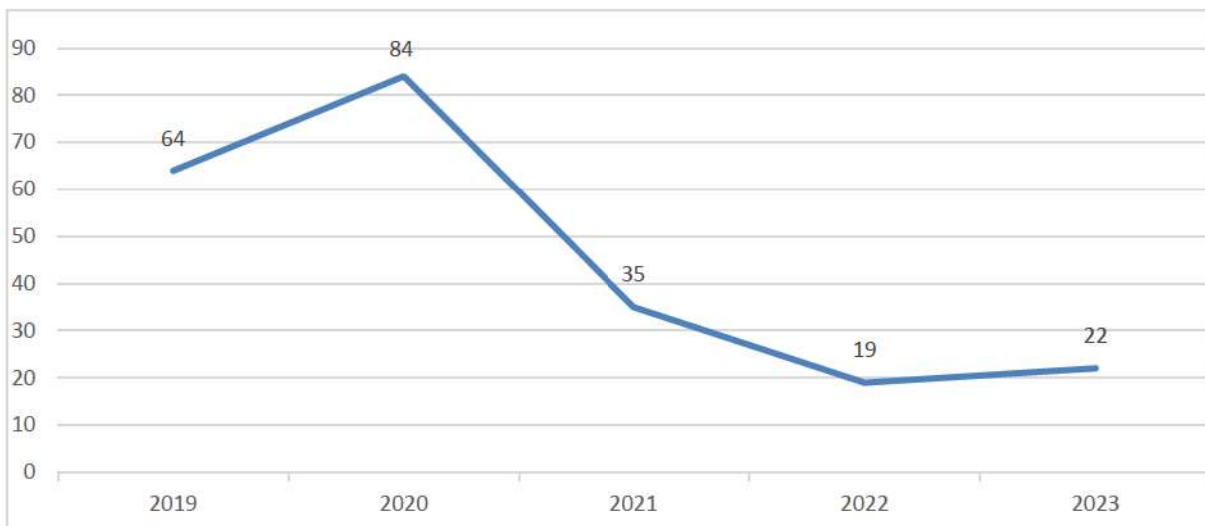
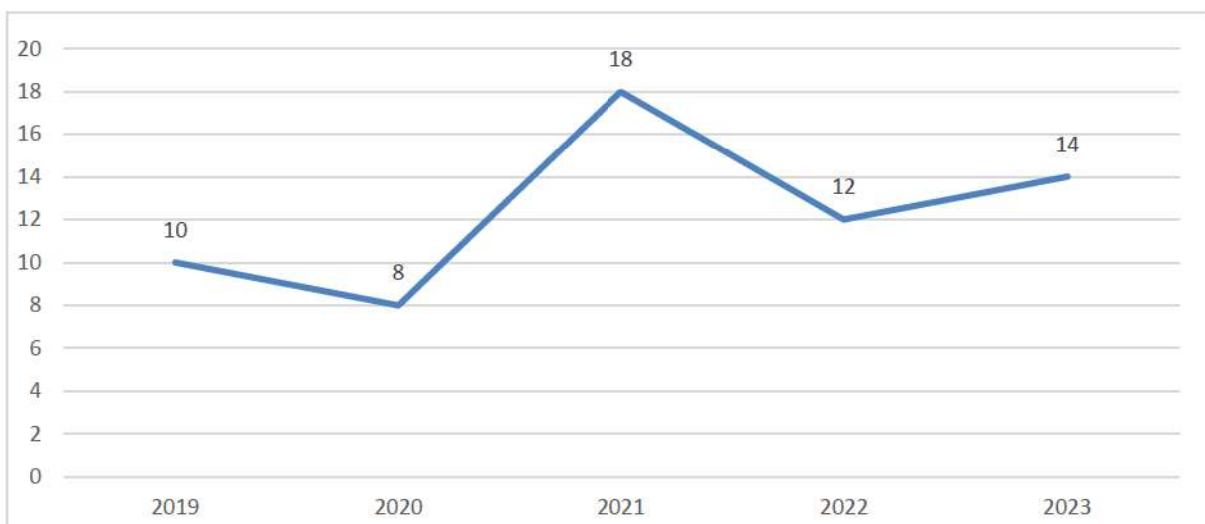


CHART M: Americas – Callao, Peru – Total number of reported incidents



TRENDS

The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC) received 120 reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in 2023 compared with 115 in 2022.

The 2023 figures are broken down as 105 vessels boarded, nine attempted attacks, four vessels hijacked and two fired upon. While the number of 2023 reported incidents has increased slightly compared to 2022, the number of crew taken hostage and kidnapped has increased from 41 to 73 and from two to 14 in 2022 and 2023 respectively. A further 10 crew were threatened, four injured and one assaulted in 2023.

On 14 December 2023, a handymax bulk carrier was boarded and hijacked and its crew taken hostage by alleged Somali pirates. The vessel was underway over 700nm East of Bosaso, Somalia demonstrating the continued capabilities of these criminals. Reports also suggest two dhows, a type of vessel with potential use as mother ships for further attacks, were subsequently hijacked. The IMB PRC continues to urge caution to masters and vessel owners as they transit these waters and to follow the BMP guidelines.

Gulf of Guinea activity is restrained compared to previous years, with 22 incidents reported in 2023 compared to 19 in 2022, 35 in 2021 and 81 in 2020. Crew, however, continue to be at risk with the region responsible for three of the four globally reported hijackings, all 14 crew kidnappings, 75% of reported crew hostages and two injured crew. Of the 22 reported incidents, four fall under the definition of piracy while the remainder as armed robbery at sea.

Incidents in the Singapore Straits continue with 37 incidents reported in 2023 compared to 38 in 2022. 95% of vessels targeted were boarded. Sixteen large vessels over 80,000 DWT were targeted, 14 of which were bulk carriers and five of these bulkers and a tanker were over 170,000 DWT and successfully boarded. While considered low level incidents, crew continue to be harmed with nine taken hostage and two threatened. Guns were reported in three incidents and knives in 15. The majority of incidents were reported during the hours of darkness and whilst vessels were underway. Local authorities are commended for investigating nearly all reported incidents. The IMB PRC is concerned of late reports as well as under reporting by vessels being boarded in these waters.

On 10 October 2023, a bulk carrier was boarded while underway in the Malacca Straits. The perpetrators stabbed the master and escaped. The vessel had to divert into Singapore as the master required medical attention. The last reported incident when crews were injured in the Malacca Straits was in 2015 during the spate of tanker hijackings for fuel cargoes.

A year-on-year increase in reported incidents has been observed in the Indonesian archipelago, up from 10 in 2022 to 18 in 2023. Seven crew were threatened and two taken hostage in 2023. Knives were reported in nine incidents.

Fourteen incidents were reported from vessels at Callao anchorage in Peru. Seven crew were taken hostage and one each assaulted and threatened. Gun and knives were reported in nine incidents. Other ports affected in South America are Macapa anchorage in Brazil, and Cartagena and Puerto Bolivar anchorages in Colombia.

Since 1991 the IMB PRC's 24-hour manned centre, has provided the maritime industry, governments and response agencies with timely and transparent data on piracy and armed robbery incidents – received directly from the Master of the vessel or its owners.

The IMB PRC's prompt forwarding of reports and liaison with response agencies, its broadcasts to shipping via Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) Safety Net Services and email alerts to Company Security Officers, all provided free of cost, has helped the response against piracy and armed robbery and the security of seafarers, globally.

OBSERVATIONS

Narrations of the 120 attacks for 01 January to 31 December 2023 are listed on pages 30 to 50. The following serious incidents, in chronological sequence are described in more detail.

Cameroon:

On 30 June 2023, a Panama flagged General Cargo ship, MV Oya 1, was boarded by armed persons while at anchor at position Latitude 04:00.05 North and Longitude 009:38.00 East at Douala Anchorage, Cameroon.

The armed persons boarded the anchored general cargo vessel, kidnapped five crew and escaped. Alarm raised and a patrol boat came to assist. Remaining crew reported safe.

Gabon:

On 02 May 2023, a Marshall Islands flagged Bulk Carrier, MV Grebe Bulker, was boarded by unknown persons while anchored at position Latitude 00:18.4 North and Longitude 009:24.3 East at Owendo Inner Anchorage, Gabon, at approximately 0030 UTC.

The Chief Officer onboard the anchored ship noticed that the door to the Master's cabin was damaged, opened and the Master missing. The ship's safe was also opened with contents missing. On searching the ship, it was discovered that the Second Officer and Third Officer were also missing, and their cabin doors also damaged and opened. The incident was immediately reported to the local Authorities who boarded the ship for investigations. Later, the CSO confirmed that all three crew were kidnapped and safely released on 21 May 2023.

Ivory Coast:

On 10 April 2023, a Singapore flagged Product Tanker, MT Success 9, was approached, boarded and hijacked by pirates while underway at position Latitude 00:06.9 North and Longitude 004:34.0 West, around 307nm SSW of Abidjan, Ivory Coast, at approximately 1350 UTC.

Around 12 pirates wearing ski masks and gloves and armed with guns attacked and hijacked the tanker. All communications with the tanker were thereafter lost. The pirates managed to self-navigate the tanker. On being notified of the incident, the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre immediately informed the regional and French Authorities in the Gulf of Guinea. A missing tanker message was also broadcasted to all ships to lookout for the tanker. Position updates and all information received from all sources were communicated with the relevant Authorities and Agencies for their coordination. On 15 April 2023, a French Naval Asset located the tanker which was subsequently escorted to a safe port by an Ivory Coast guard patrol boat. It was discovered that the pirates had destroyed the tanker's navigational equipment. The crew were tied with cable ties and kept hostage and part of the oil cargo was stolen.

Malacca Straits:

On 26 October 2023, a Marshall Islands flagged Bulk Carrier, MV Merchia, was boarded by armed robbers while underway at position Latitude 01:24.20 North and Longitude 103:03.33 East, in the Malacca Straits, at approximately 2030 UTC.

Around five to six robbers armed with knives in a small boat, approached and boarded the vessel while underway. They went into the Master's cabin and stabbed him in his chest and hand. Master was able to notify the bridge. Alarm raised and crew mustered resulting in the robbers escaping. Second Officer and Chief Officer tended to the Master's stab wounds. Vessel was diverted to Singapore anchorage. On anchoring, a medical team disembarked the Master for shore medical assistance and the Singapore coast guard boarded the ship to investigate.

Sierra Leone:

On 05 July 2023, a Turkish flagged Fishing Vessel, Hacı Erdogan, was approached and boarded by pirates while underway at position Latitude 08:53 North and Longitude 013:31 West, around 14.20nm WSW of Yelibuya Island, Sierra Leone, at approximately 0355 UTC.

Eight armed pirates attacked and boarded the fishing vessel engaged in fishing activities. The pirates destroyed the cameras onboard the vessel and other communication equipment. Before escaping, they stole valuables and shot the Captain. Authorities were informed and a naval patrol team was dispatched to the location to assist. The Fishing Vessel managed to sail into Freetown Port and the Captain was hospitalized and underwent surgical treatment.

On 22 July 2023, a Chinese Fishing Vessel, Shenghai2, was approached, boarded and hijacked by pirates while underway at position Latitude 08:22 North and Longitude 013:32 West, around 18nm SW of Freetown, Sierra Leone, at approximately 0500 UTC.

The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre received information from Regional Authorities that 13 masked pirates armed with guns attacked and hijacked the Fishing Vessel and took all 23 crew members hostage. The Liberian Coast guard located the fishing vessel off Monrovia, Liberia. After an exchange of gunfire between the pirates and the Coast guard, the fishing vessel and crews were rescued. Two pirates were detained while others managed to escape.

Somalia:

On 14 December 2023, a Malta flagged Bulk Carrier, MV Ruen was approached, boarded and hijacked by armed persons while underway at position Latitude 12:03 North and Longitude 061:20 East, around 700nm East of Bossaso, Somalia, at approximately 1200 UTC.

Further details awaited.

The Congo:

On 25 March 2023, a Liberian flagged Product Tanker, MT Monjasa Reformer, was approached, boarded and hijacked by pirates while underway at position Latitude 05:29.3 South and Longitude 009:34.0 East, around 144nm WSW of Pointe Noire, The Congo, at approximately 2239 UTC.

On being notified of the incident, the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre immediately informed the regional authorities in the Gulf of Guinea and the French authorities to assist the tanker and its crew members. The Owners had lost communication with their vessel and a missing tanker message was broadcast to ships at sea. On 30 March 2023, a French navy warship intercepted the tanker Off Bonny, Nigeria. Six crew were reported kidnapped. The tanker was escorted to a safe port.

1 January – 31 December 2023**ACTUAL ATTACKS****SOUTH EAST ASIA (MALACCA STRAITS)**

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	26.10.2023 2030 UTC Steaming Boarded	Merchia Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 36332 9702493	01:24.20N – 103:03.33E, Malacca Straits	Around five to six robbers armed with knives in a small boat, approached and boarded the vessel while underway. They went into the Master's cabin and stabbed him in his chest and hand. Master was able to notify the bridge. Alarm raised and crew mustered resulting in the robbers escaping. Second Officer and Chief Officer tended to the Master's stab wounds. Vessel was diverted to Singapore anchorage. On anchoring, a medical team disembarked the Master for shore medical assistance and the Singapore coast guard boarded the ship to investigate.

SOUTH EAST ASIA (EXCLUDING MALACCA STRAITS)

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	04.01.2023 0555 UTC Steaming Boarded	HK Tug 3 Tug Singapore 253 9399686 LKH 9889 Barge Singapore 1834 -	01:17.8N – 104:10.5E, Singapore Straits	Around three to four unauthorised persons, in fishing boats, boarded the barge under tow, stole some of the scrap metal being transported by the barge and escaped. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS and a coast guard boat responded.
2.	05.01.2023 0400 - 1000 UTC Steaming Boarded	SINHIN 5 Tug Malaysia 145 8739451 SINHIN 6 Barge Malaysia 1479 -	01:21N – 104:21E, Singapore Straits	Unauthorised persons boarded the barge laden with scrap metal, stole some of the cargo and escaped.
3.	25.01.2023 1915 UTC	Ceto Product Tanker	06:14.32S – 108:25.33E,	Around five persons in a small boat approached the anchored tanker. Duty

	Anchored Boarded	Panama 27972 9305348	Balongan Anchorage, Indonesia	crew on rounds noticed one unauthorised person standing on the poop deck assisting another one to board. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the unauthorised persons escaped with their accomplices in their boat. Incident reported to port control. Nothing reported stolen.
4.	27.01.2023 1530 UTC Steaming Boarded	Izumi Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 43987 9901831	01:02.53N – 103:38.85E, Singapore Straits	Two unauthorised persons boarded the ship underway. Alarm raised, crew mustered and VTIS informed. Seeing the crew alertness, the persons escaped without stealing anything. The coast guard escorted the ship to a safe anchorage and then boarded the ship for investigations.
5.	28.01.2023 2140 UTC Anchored Boarded	LBC Green Bulk Carrier Malta 42744 9609469	05:30.0S – 105:17.2E, Panjang Anchorage, Indonesia	Second engineer onboard the anchored ship noticed four unauthorized persons in the engine room. He shouted at them, and the persons ran inside the steering flat. The 2/E rushed and locked the steering flat door from outside and informed bridge. Alarm raised and crew mustered. The incident was reported to the local agent and port authorities. The authorities boarded the ship and made a search. No unauthorized persons were found, and nothing stolen.
6.	01.02.2023 Around 0630 UTC Steaming Boarded	HK Tug 9 Tug Singapore 299 9767120 LKH 2882 Barge Singapore 4430 -	01:17.57N – 104:10.52E, Around 2.8nm South of Pengerang Terminal, Malaysia	Three unauthorised persons were seen boarding the barge under tow. Incident reported to VTIS East and a Malaysian Coast guard patrol boat intercepted the tug and barge for investigation. Cargo of scrap metal reported stolen.
7.	08.02.2023 0930 UTC Steaming Boarded	HK TUG 2 Tug Singapore 152 9210763 LKH 3883 Barge Singapore 1847 -	01:11.50N – 103:51.74E, Singapore Straits	Four unauthorised persons boarded the barge under tow, stole some of its scrap metal cargo and escaped. Master reported the incident to Singapore VTS.
8.	14.02.2023 2110 UTC Steaming Boarded	Spica Harmony Bulk Carrier Liberia 22664 9832468	01:15.7N – 104:12.3E, Singapore Straits	Two robbers armed with knives boarded the ship underway and entered the engine room. The robbers were spotted by the duty crew. Alarm raised and crew mustered. A search was

				carried out and engine stores reported stolen. All crew members safe.
9.	17.02.2023 2010 UTC Steaming Boarded	Ocean Creation Bulk Carrier Japan 106352 9398125	01:15.9N – 104:11.9E, Singapore Straits	Duty crew onboard the ship underway spotted six unauthorized persons at the engine room entrance door. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the unauthorized persons escaped. Incident reported to VTIS and later a patrol boat arrived at the location. A search was carried out and nothing reported stolen.
10.	23.02.2023 1954 UTC Anchored Boarded	Metis Product Tanker Singapore 5256 9498949	05:29.90S – 105:18.14E, Panjang Anchorage, Indonesia	Three robbers armed with long knives boarded the anchored tanker during heavy rain. They entered the engine room, threatened the duty engineer and stole ship's engine spares. Incident reported to the OOW who raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping in a waiting boat along with two accomplices. Incident reported to VTIS.
11.	10.03.2023 2112 UTC Steaming Boarded	Chios Trinity Bulk Carrier Greece 27989 9279379	01:04.06N – 103:35.72E, Singapore Straits	Duty crew onboard the ship underway spotted three perpetrators onboard the ship and raised the alarm resulting in the perpetrators escaping without stealing anything. Incident reported to local authorities.
12.	12.03.2023 2050 UTC Anchored Boarded	Merkur Horizon Container Liberia 41331 9456989	14:35.8N – 120:52.0E, Manila Anchorage, Philippines	Duty crew on routine rounds onboard the anchored ship noticed the forecastle store door open and raised the alarm. Crew mustered and a search was carried out. Ship's properties reported stolen. VTMS port were informed.
13.	18.03.2023 2015 UTC Anchored Boarded	CO Nagoya Container Panama 40165 9380271	14:32.81N – 120:53.08E, Manila Anchorage, Philippines	Duty AB on routine rounds onboard the anchored ship noticed a small boat with two unidentified persons alongside near the forecastle and an additional three persons on the forecastle deck. Alarm raised and ship's horn sounded. Hearing the alarm, the persons escaped with their accomplices. A search was carried out and ship's stores were reported as stolen. Incident reported to Manila port control. Two patrol boats were dispatched and searched the waters around the ship.
14.	19.03.2023 1915 UTC Anchored Boarded	Stolt Sakura Product Tanker Cayman Islands 7228 9432969	03:55.5N – 098:44.9E, Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia	Two robbers boarded the anchored tanker via the anchor chain and broke into the paint store. Duty crew spotted the robbers and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping without stealing anything.
15.	29.03.2023 1357 UTC Steaming Boarded	Volta Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 92053 9587362	01:04.1N – 103:40.7E, Singapore Straits	Four robbers armed with a gun boarded the ship underway using a rope attached to a hook and entered the engine room. Alert crew noticed the robbers and raised the alarm. All crew mustered.

				Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped with stolen engine spares. The incident was reported to Singapore VTIS and the ship was escorted by Singapore coast guard.
16.	31.03.2023 1705 UTC Steaming Boarded	Prabhu Shakti Bulk Carrier Singapore 44213 9398981	01:05.79N – 103:33.36E, Singapore Straits	Around five to six unauthorised persons boarded the ship underway. Master observed the perpetrators on the poop deck and immediately raised the alarm. Hearing the alarm, the persons escaped in their speed boat. Crew mustered, a search was carried out and engine spares were reported stolen. A white colour drone was sighted by the 3/O and 4/E near the stern of the ship, which the crew suspect was used by the perpetrators to monitor the ship's activity. Incident reported to VTIS. Once the ship arrived at the pilot station the coast guard boarded the ship for investigation.
17.	02.04.2023 1755 UTC Steaming Boarded	Gibraltar Eagle Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 36332 9702508	01:08.6N – 103:28.7E, Singapore Straits	Duty crew onboard the ship underway spotted five unauthorised persons in the engine room and immediately informed the OOW who raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the perpetrators escaped with stolen engine spares. Crew mustered and a search was carried out. The incident was reported to VTIS. On anchoring the Singapore authorities boarded the ship for investigation.
18.	02.04.2023 2000 UTC Berthed Boarded	Name Withheld Chemical Tanker Liberia 17139 -	01:46.16N – 101:21.73E, OSM Jetty 1, Lubuk Gaung, Indonesia	Three persons in a small boat approached the berthed tanker. Duty crew immediately informed the bridge after identifying one unauthorised person onboard the tanker. Seeing the crew alertness, the person escaped without stealing anything. Incident reported to local agent.
19.	04.04.2023 1802 UTC Anchored Boarded	Ever Boomy Container Panama 33266 9787015	14:36.5N – 120:52.0E, Manila Anchorage, Philippines	Around eight robbers armed with knives and iron bars boarded the anchored ship. Alarm raised, ship's whistle sounded, and crew mustered. VTMS informed. The robbers stole ship's properties and escaped. Coast guard boarded the ship for inspection. One crew on duty was injured during the incident.
20.	14.04.2023 2055 - 2130 UTC Anchored Boarded	Maersk Ningbo Container Hong Kong 26404 9402639	14:33.45N – 120:55.55E, Manila Quarantine Anchorage, Philippines	Duty crew on routine rounds onboard the anchored ship noticed the forward store broken into and ship's properties reported stolen. The theft was reported to Manila VTMS and the authorities boarded for investigation.
21.	16.04.2023 2145 UTC	Name Withheld Chemical Tanker	03:55.1N – 098:46.2E,	Duty watchman onboard the anchored tanker noticed unauthorised persons

	Anchored Boarded	Cayman Islands 25196 -	Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia	near the paint locker and raised the alarm. Seeing the watchman, the persons jumped overboard and escaped in a small wooden boat with stolen ship's stores. Port Authorities informed through the agent.
22.	22.04.2023 0130 UTC Steaming Boarded	Lion Kimtrans TB 6 Tug Malaysia 138 8535506 Asia Pride 2330 Barge Malaysia 1352 -	01:16.8N – 104:06.8E, Singapore Straits	Unauthorized persons boarded the barge under tow, stole some of the scrap metal cargo and escaped. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS.
23.	30.04.2023 1830 UTC Steaming Boarded	Rainbow Star Product Tanker Hong Kong 26914 9380049	01:15.5N – 104:13.0E, Singapore Straits	Duty Engineer on board the tanker underway spotted four unauthorized persons and immediately informed the OOW. Alarm raised and crew mustered resulting in the persons escaping without stealing anything. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS.
24.	09.05.2023 1600 - 1800 UTC Steaming Boarded	Lanpan 30 Tug Singapore 1283 9734551 Ombak Biru Satu Barge Malaysia 2298 -	01:12.90N – 103:21.98E, Singapore Straits	Unauthorized persons boarded the unmanned barge under tow, twice within three hours. Incident reported to local authorities via VHF.
25.	21.05.2023 1800 UTC Steaming Boarded	Lucky Source Bulk Carrier Singapore 32505 9333929	01:05N – 103:33E, Singapore Straits	Four robbers armed with a knife, boarded the ship underway. Alarm raised and crew mustered resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen ship's stores. All crew reported safe. Incident reported to Singapore Police Coast guard.
26.	25.05.2023 1900 - 2300 UTC Steaming Boarded	Corinthian Phoenix Bulk Carrier Panama 93050 9451628	01:26.3N – 104:30.4E, Singapore Straits	Duty crew on routine rounds noticed the storeroom broken into and ship's properties missing. Theft reported to local authorities.
27.	29.05.2023 1500 UTC Steaming Boarded	Nord Adriatic Bulk Carrier Singapore 34830 9767584	01:04.41N – 103:42.24E, Singapore Straits	Four robbers armed with a knife, boarded the ship underway. They took hostage and tied the duty crew, stole personal properties and ship's engine spares. Alert crew raised the alarm and crew mustered. Hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's engine spare parts and personal

				properties. Incident reported to local authority.
28.	02.06.2023 1900 UTC Anchored Boarded	Orange Harmony Bulk Carrier Panama 43088 9764099	01:17.3N – 104:02.0E, Singapore Straits	Unnoticed, thieves boarded the anchored ship while the crew were busy with bunkering operations and store replenishment. They stole ship's engine spares. The theft was noticed after departure. Footprints were discovered at the poop deck and a search was carried out.
29.	04.06.2023 1750 UTC Anchored Boarded	Merkur Horizon Container Liberia 41331 9456989	14:36.7N – 120:50.5E, Manila Anchorage, Philippines	Unnoticed, robbers boarded the anchored ship, stole ship's properties, and escaped. Theft noticed by deck crew on routine rounds. Incident reported to VTMS Manila via VHF Ch.16.
30.	10.06.2023 1735 UTC Steaming Boarded	CL Century Bulk Carrier Belgium 34349 9715816	01:09.83N – 103:26.77E, Singapore Straits	Duty Engineer on board the ship underway spotted four unauthorized persons in the engine storeroom and immediately informed the Master. Alarm raised and crew mustered resulting in the persons escaping without stealing anything. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS.
31.	21.06.2023 1910 UTC Steaming Boarded	Sea Vigour Tanker Malta 81368 9774185	01:05.4N – 103:42.8E, Singapore Straits	Duty engineer onboard the tanker under pilotage spotted two unauthorised persons armed with knives trying to gain access to the steering gear room. Alarm raised, crew mustered, and a search carried out. The incident was reported to VTIS and once anchored, the Singapore authorities boarded the tanker for investigation.
32.	23.06.2023 1630 UTC Steaming Boarded	Bonny Island Bulk Carrier Hong Kong 32377 9610731	01:16.47N – 104:11.87E, Singapore Straits	Four unauthorised persons boarded the ship underway and entered the engine room. They were spotted by the duty engine crew. Alarm raised and crew mustered. A search was carried out and found that engine spares were stolen. The incident was reported to VTIS.
33.	26.06.2023 2000 UTC Anchored Boarded	Lila Ace Product Tanker Liberia 11662 9352597	01:42.2N – 101:28.7E, Dumai Inner Anchorage, Indonesia	Duty oiler onboard the anchored tanker noticed three robbers armed with steel bars near the engine room. The robbers saw the duty oiler and threatened to attack him, but the oiler managed to escape and raised the alarm. Crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped. Authorities notified via agent.
34.	02.07.2023 2045 UTC Anchored Boarded	Marianna Golden LPG Tanker Indonesia 17527 9166766	06:01.0S – 106:54.2E, Tanjung Priok Anchorage, Jakarta, Indonesia	Duty crew on rounds onboard the anchored tanker noticed an unauthorized person on the aft deck. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Hearing the alarm, the person escaped with his accomplices in their boat. A

				search was carried out, nothing reported stolen.
35.	11.07.2023 2000 UTC Steaming Boarded	Atlantic Prestige Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 35906 9856232	01:05.6N – 103:33.4E, Singapore Straits	Five robbers armed with a knife boarded the ship underway. The robbers threatened the duty oiler on routine rounds who retreated and alerted the bridge. Alarm raised, PA announcement made, and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's engine spare parts. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS. All crew members reported safe.
36.	14.07.2023 1810 UTC Steaming Boarded	Efraim A. Bulk Carrier Cyprus 43024 9520778	01:16.53N – 104:14.78E, Singapore Straits	Five robbers armed with knives boarded the ship underway. Duty watchman noticed the robbers and immediately informed the bridge. Alarm raised and all deck lights switched on. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped with stolen crew personal belongings and ship's spares. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS.
37.	15.07.2023 1308 UTC Steaming Boarded	Tomini Royalty Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 44015 9842736	01:02.58N – 103:39.09E, Singapore Straits	Around five to six robbers armed with knives boarded the ship underway. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with stolen engine spares. Incident reported to Singapore VTS and once the ship anchored, the coast guard boarded the ship for investigation.
38.	19.07.2023 1925 UTC Anchored Boarded	Super Ruby Tanker Marshall Islands 30965 9308120	01:10.54N – 103:56.60E, Batam Anchorage, Indonesia	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored tanker. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped. Incident reported to the Batam VTIS.
39.	21.07.2023 1925 UTC Steaming Boarded	Fiji Bulk Carrier Malta 43990 9630664	01:04.17N – 103:41.66E, Singapore Straits	Six robbers armed with knives boarded the ship underway. They took hostage and tied up the 2/E and 4/E. Prior to escaping the robbers stole engine spares and personal effects of the 4/E. The crew were released by the C/E who raised the alarm. Incident reported to VTIS and Singapore Port Police. The authorities boarded the ship for investigation.
40.	21.07.2023 2215 UTC Steaming Boarded	Stella Alice Bulk Carrier Singapore 94710 9522697	01:08.6N – 103:28.4E, Singapore Straits	Duty oiler on routine rounds onboard the ship underway noticed four persons in the engine room. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the persons escaped with stolen ship's engine spares.
41.	22.07.2023 1900-2200 UTC	Name Withheld Offshore Processing Ship	13:46.0N – 120:59.3E,	Duty crew on routine rounds onboard the anchored tanker noticed the hawse pipe cover open and notified the duty

	Anchored Boarded	Panama 103746 -	Batangas Anchorage, Philippines	officer. On searching the vessel, ship's properties were reported as stolen.
42.	22.07.2023 2050 UTC Anchored Boarded	Edzard Schulte Product Tanker Isle of Man 11246 9439852	05:32.76S – 105:18.55E, Tarahan Anchorage, Indonesia	Three robbers armed with knives were noticed in the engine room by duty crew onboard an anchored tanker. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with stolen engine spares. Incident reported to Panjang VTS via VHF Ch 16. Local authorities boarded the tanker for investigation.
43.	23.07.2023 1420 UTC Steaming Boarded	Jin Hwa 49 Tug Malaysia 143 9373981 Jin Hwa 39 Barge Malaysia 1479 -	01:17.84N – 104:10.92E, Singapore Straits	Four robbers in a wooden boat approached and boarded the laden barge under tow. The tug Captain noticed the robbers stealing scrap metal from the barge and immediately reported the incident to the Owners, who in turn notified the Authorities. The Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agencies (MMEA) sent a patrol boat to the location and were able to apprehend the robbers.
44.	06.08.2023 1650 UTC Steaming Boarded	Jal Kamal Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 35835 9875056	01:16.5N – 104:15.1E, Singapore Straits	Duty 2/E onboard the ship underway noticed several unauthorized persons in the engine room store and notified the C/E and 2/O. General alarm raised, VTIS informed, crew mustered, and a search was carried out. No unauthorized persons were found onboard, but some M/E spares were missing.
45.	08.08.2023 1350 UTC Steaming Boarded	Osaka Star Bulk Carrier Liberia 47003 9740809	01:02.69N – 103:38.98E, Singapore Straits	Four unauthorised persons boarded the ship underway and entered the engine room. Alert crew noticed the persons and raised the alarm resulting in the persons escaping with stolen engine spares. The incident was reported to VTIS and once the ship anchored the Singapore authorities boarded the ship for investigation.
46.	08.08.2023 1435 UTC Steaming Boarded	Doric Warrior Bulk Carrier Liberia 51208 9453511	01:02.9N – 103:30.0E, Singapore Straits	Ten robbers armed with knives and steel bars boarded the ship underway and entered the engine room. They took hostage and tied up the 3/E in the Engine Control Room. Prior to escaping, the robbers stole engine spares. On activation of the dead man alarm, the C/E found the 3/E tied up and immediately informed the Master. General alarm raised and incident reported to Singapore VTS. Coast guard boarded the ship for investigation.
47.	08.08.2023 1930 UTC Steaming Boarded	Sophocles Graecia Bulk Carrier Cyprus 44095	01:03.94N – 103:41.22E, Singapore Straits	Duty oiler onboard the ship underway noticed three robbers in the engine room and immediately notified the bridge. Alarm raised, VTIS informed,

		9843730		and all crew mustered. A search was carried out and ship's engine spares were reported stolen. After dropping anchor, the coast guard boarded the ship for investigation.
48.	10.08.2023 1602 UTC Anchored Boarded	CNC Pluto Container Malta 18826 9760586	14:35.58N – 120:50.53E, Manila Anchorage, Philippines	Eight robbers armed with guns boarded the anchored ship. They took the duty crew hostage, tied him up and stole his cell phone. Alarm raised and the crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped. The incident was reported to VTMS and Philippines Coast guard boarded the ship for investigation.
49.	23.08.2023 1850 UTC Anchored Boarded	Shotan Chemical Tanker Panama 5518 9709271	01:43.18N – 101:26.23E, Dumai Inner Anchorage Indonesia	Duty crew onboard the anchored tanker noticed three robbers armed with knives near the engine room. The robbers threatened the duty crew, who fled from the vicinity and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen engine spare parts.
50.	29.08.2023 0900 UTC Berthed Boarded	SLNC Severn Bulk Carrier USA 33737 9629988	03:47.30N – 098:42.21E, Berth 112, Belawan Port, Indonesia	Duty crew onboard the berthed ship noticed three robbers armed with knives on the forecabin. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Upon hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's stores. Incident reported to the local authorities through the local agent.
51.	31.08.2023 1730 UTC Steaming Boarded	Yangze 8 Bulk Carrier Liberia 36426 9725732	01:02.8N – 103:40.4E, Singapore Straits	Around three robbers armed with a gun boarded the ship underway. The duty engineer was made to squat with his hands behind his head while the robbers stole engine spares and escaped. Alarm raised, crew mustered, and incident reported to the Singapore and Indonesian Authorities. The Singapore Authorities escorted the ship to the anchorage and boarded for investigation.
52.	13.10.2023 1700 UTC Steaming Boarded	TRF Horten Tanker Marshall Islands 157316 9740342	01:03.2N – 103:38.5E, Singapore Straits	Duty Engineer on board the tanker underway spotted four unauthorised persons on deck and immediately informed the bridge. Alarm raised, PA announcement made, and crew mustered resulting in the persons escaping with stolen ship's engine spare parts. The incident was reported to VTIS and once anchored, the Singapore authorities boarded to investigate.
53.	15.10.2023 1850 UTC Steaming Boarded	PS Falcon Tanker Panama 40690 9283617	01:02.7N – 103:39.1E, Singapore Straits	Six robbers armed with knives boarded the tanker underway. Three engine crew were tied up and their heads covered with cardboard boxes. After about twenty minutes, one of the engine crew managed to untie himself and the others. Master was informed, general

				alarm raised, and PA announcement made. Incident reported to Singapore VTIS and the tanker was instructed to anchor. Singapore coast guard boarded the tanker for investigation. It was found that engine spares were stolen.
54.	16.10.2023 2230 UTC Berthed Boarded	Fairchem Edge Product Tanker Marshall Islands 11917 9788954	03:47.28N – 098:41.83E, Berth 107, Belawan Port, Indonesia	Security watchmen onboard the berthed tanker informed the watchkeeper that manifold items had been stolen. Theft confirmed by chief officer after investigating. Incident reported to the local agent.
55.	17.10.2023 2230 UTC Berthed Boarded	Maersk Valencia Container Singapore 18327 9344954	05:48.53N – 118:05.06E, Sandakan Port, Sabah, Malaysia	Upon sailing from port duty crew noticed ship's properties missing.
56.	22.10.2023 1650 UTC Steaming Boarded	Navios Helios Bulk Carrier Panama 40689 9330317	01:04.2N – 103:35.9E, Singapore Straits	About four or five robbers armed with a gun and knives boarded the vessel underway. They took hostage the third engineer and tied him up. Duty oiler noticed the robbers and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen spare parts. Incident was reported to Singapore VTIS and the Singapore coast guard boarded the ship for investigation.
57.	23.10.2023 1700 UTC Steaming Boarded	Etoile Bulk Carrier Liberia 87590 9232060	01:10N – 103:26E, Singapore Straits	Duty crew onboard the vessel underway noticed three unauthorized persons entering the engine room. One of the persons was armed with a knife. The duty crew notified the bridge. Ship's general alarm raised, announcement made on PA and VTIS informed. A small boat trail was noticed on the radar screen, moving away from the ship. Crew mustered and a search was made. Footprints were found in the steering gear room leading to the main deck. Nothing reported stolen. Vessel anchored at Eastern bunkering anchorage and the coast guard boarded for inspection.
58.	01.11.2023 1845 UTC Anchored Boarded	Matsushiro General Cargo Panama 9998 9477672	01:43.25N – 101:26.61E, Dumai Anchorage, Indonesia	Five robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored ship. They threatened the duty AB, who managed to escape and raise the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen spare parts.
59.	14.11.2023 2245 UTC Anchored Boarded	Argent Daisy Product Tanker Singapore 20517 9382061	03:56.49N – 098:45.20E, Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia	Alert duty crew onboard an anchored tanker noticed three perpetrators armed with a knife. Alarm raised resulting in the perpetrators escaping without stealing anything.
60.	19.11.2023 2145 UTC	Argent Daisy Product Tanker	03:47.23N – 098:41.81E,	Alert crew onboard the berthed tanker noticed unauthorised persons on deck

	Berthed Boarded	Singapore 20517 9382061	Ujung Baru Wharf No. 106, Belawan Port, Indonesia	and raised the alarm resulting in the perpetrators escaping with stolen ship's properties. Incident reported to the local authorities through the local agent.
61.	22.11.2023 2135 UTC Anchored Boarded	Argent Daisy Product Tanker Singapore 20517 9382061	01:43.20N – 101:26.72E, Dumai Anchorage, Indonesia	Four robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored tanker. They threatened and took hostage the duty AB while the OS managed to escape and inform the Duty Officer. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the perpetrators escaped empty handed.
62.	25.11.2023 1845 UTC Anchored Boarded	G. Crown Container Liberia 18680 9982483	14:36.72N – 120:49.56E, Manila Bay Anchorage, Philippines	Five unauthorised persons boarded an anchored ship through the hawse pipe. Duty AB on rounds noticed the persons and raised the alarm resulting in the persons escaping with stolen ship's properties. VTMS Manila notified, and a patrol boat was dispatched to search the area.
63.	25.11.2023 1830 UTC Anchored Boarded	Hansa Colombo Container Marshall Islands 17964 9357781	14:35.58N – 120:51.53E, Manila Bay Anchorage, Philippines	Duty crew onboard an anchored ship noticed the storeroom open and ship's properties missing. Theft reported to VTMS Manila via VHF Ch.16/14 and email.
64.	26.12.2023 1900 UTC Anchored Boarded	Shokai Product Tanker Panama 5997 940710	1:43.35N – 101:26.18E, Dumai Anchorage, Indonesia	Four robbers armed with long knives boarded the anchored tanker. They took hostage the duty AB and tied him up. The onboard shore security watchman abandoned his post when threatened with knives. Duty engineer on routine rounds noticed the robbers and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen engine spares. Incident reported to the port authority via local agent.

EAST ASIA

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	16.04.2023 1730-2300 UTC Steaming Boarded	Nordocelot Container Malta 18826 9673642	10:09.0N – 107:09.0E, Ho Chi Minh Anchorage, Vietnam	Duty crew on routine rounds onboard the drifting ship noticed the paint store padlock broken and ship's stores stolen. Crew tried to contact port control on VHF but no response received.
2.	19.05.2023 1645 UTC Anchored Boarded	Levante Bulk Carrier Malta 51255 9457854	10:14.5N – 107:02.6E, Vung Tau Anchorage, Vietnam	Duty AB on routine rounds onboard the anchored ship, noticed the paint store padlock broken and ship's stores stolen. A search was carried out.
3.	05.11.2023 1850 UTC Anchored	Elisabeth Oldendorff General Cargo	10:13.4N – 107:00.8E,	Unnoticed, robbers boarded an anchored ship and escaped with ship's stores. During security rounds, the

	Boarded	Portugal 25431 9717656	Vung Tau Anchorage, Vietnam	watchman noticed footprints on the deck and observed the paint store padlock broken and stores missing. Alarm raised, crew mustered, and a search was carried out. Incident reported to port control.
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INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	17.04.2023 1615 UTC Berthed Boarded	PPS Luck Bulk Carrier Singapore 30811 9407524	22:02N – 008:05E, Haldia Port, India	Unnoticed, robbers boarded the berthed ship and escaped with engine spares. Authorities informed through the local agent.
2.	24.04.2023 2000 UTC Anchored Boarded	Solar Roma Product Tanker Liberia 18335 9887372	22:45.4N – 070:00.9E, Kandla Anchorage, India	Crew onboard the anchored tanker noticed ship's cargo equipment missing. Checking the CCTV footage showed five unauthorised persons onboard the tanker. Incident reported to port control.
3.	23.05.2023 1915 UTC Berthed Boarded	Success Tanker India 29335 9285718	22:16.53N – 091:48.16E, Berth DOJ-03, Chittagong, Bangladesh	Around six to eight robbers armed with knives boarded the berthed tanker. Alert crew raised the alarm and mustered resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen ship's stores. Incident reported to the coast guard who boarded the tanker for investigation.
4.	20.09.2023 1730 UTC Anchored Boarded	Maersk Belfast Product Tanker Singapore 19758 9299446	17:02.7N – 082:26.2E, Kakinada Anchorage, India	Crew onboard an anchored tanker noticed the ship's stores stolen. Alarm raised, search carried out and incident reported to the local authorities who boarded and inspected the tanker.
5.	13.11.2023 1705 UTC Anchored Boarded	Ginga Kite Product Tanker Singapore 12044 9228291	22:48.6N – 069:59.9E, Kandla Anchorage, India	Alert duty crew onboard an anchored tanker noticed around ten robbers armed with knives. Ship's horn sounded, PA announcement made, and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's properties. Authorities boarded the tanker for investigation and later managed to recover all the stolen ship's properties.

AMERICAS

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	09.01.2023 0425 UTC Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld General Cargo Portugal 7498	12:01.5S – 077:12.0W, Callao Anchorage,	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored ship via the anchor chain and broke into the forecandle store. Duty watchman on routine rounds was

		-	Peru	threatened with a knife as he approached the forecandle. Alarm raised, ship's horn sounded, and crew mustered. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped without stealing anything. Local authorities informed through the agents.
2.	19.01.2023 0540 UTC Steaming Boarded	NYK Rigel Container Panama 55487 9416977	10:12.8N – 075:50.6W, Cartagena, Colombia	Three unauthorised persons boarded the ship underway. Alarm raised, ship's horn sounded, crew mustered, and coast guard notified. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness the persons escaped in their boat. The coast guard escorted the ship and after berthing boarded the ship for investigation. All crew safe.
3.	21.02.2023 0548 UTC Anchored Boarded	Los Angeles Spirit Tanker Bahamas 81339 9318072	12:01.4S – 077:13.2W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Three robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored tanker, stole ship's stores, and escaped. Alarm raised, ship's horn sounded, and crew mustered. Incident was reported to the Port Authorities and a patrol boat was dispatched to search the waters around the tanker.
4.	28.02.2023 0245 UTC Anchored Boarded	Brigitte Bulk Carrier Cyprus 34206 9730270	00:05N – 050:58W, Macapa Anchorage, Brazil	Five robbers armed with long knives boarded the anchored ship. Duty crew on routine rounds noticed the robbers near the forecandle and informed the duty officer. Alarm raised, ship's horn sounded, crew mustered, and port control notified. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped with the stolen ship's stores.
5.	09.03.2023 0645 UTC Anchored Boarded	Gillingham Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 32837 9490741	12:01.25S – 077:13.44W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Around 15 robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored ship. They assaulted and tied the duty crew and stole his cell phone. Alarm raised and crew mustered. The robbers escaped with stolen ship's properties. Incident was reported to the Port Authorities and a patrol boat was dispatched to search the waters around the ship.
6.	26.03.2023 2359 UTC Anchored Boarded	Sankaty Eagle Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 32839 9490820	12:01.83S – 077:12.08W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Unauthorised persons boarded the anchored ship and attempted to steal ship's property. Deck watch noticed the persons and notified the OOW who raised the alarm and sounded the ship's horn. Port control informed via VHF Ch.16. All crew mustered on the bridge. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the persons escaped without stealing anything. Coast guard boarded the ship for inspection.
7.	28.03.2023 0730 UTC Anchored	Tomini Entity Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands	12:00.58S – 077:13.77W,	Ten robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored ship. They took hostage and tied the duty crew, stole crew

	Boarded	36380 9831775	Callao Anchorage, Peru	personnel belongings, and escaped with stolen ship's stores. Incident reported to the Port Authorities and the Coast guard boarded the ship for investigations.
8.	27.04.2023 0700 UTC Anchored Boarded	MSC Bari Container Liberia 153115 9461441	12:00.7S – 077:13.4W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Unauthorised persons boarded the anchored ship, tied two duty crew, stole their personal properties and ship's stores, and escaped. Alarm raised, crew mustered, and a search was carried out. Incident was reported to the port control and a patrol boat was dispatched to the location.
9.	03.06.2023 0842 UTC Anchored Boarded	Bochem London Chemical Tanker Hong Kong 12136 9743849	12:00.77S – 077:11.76W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	An unauthorised person boarded the anchored tanker from the bow area and unlashed the anchor hawse pipe cover giving access to his accomplices. They broke into the forecandle store and stole ship's stores. Alert crew noticed the thieves and raised the alarm resulting in the persons escaping with the stolen items.
10.	21.06.2023 0500-0905 UTC Anchored Boarded	Caipirinha Bulk Carrier Liberia 25546 9714769	12:02.09S – 077:11.08W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Unnoticed, perpetrators boarded the anchored ship, stole ship's stores and escaped. Theft noticed by duty crew on routine rounds. Incident reported to the local agent.
11.	24.07.2023 0830 UTC Anchored Boarded	Nippon Maru Bulk Carrier Panama 31244 9478949	12:01.25S – 077:12.06W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Duty crew on routine rounds onboard the anchored ship, noticed the store padlock broken and ship's stores stolen. A search was carried out and no unauthorised persons were found onboard the ship. Incident was reported to the Port Control and a patrol boat was dispatched to the location.
12.	02.09.2023 0720 UTC Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld Product Tanker Denmark 30302 -	11:59.8S – 077:12.4W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Four robbers armed with knives boarded the anchored tanker. They took the duty crew as hostage and tied him up. General alarm raised. Hearing the alarm, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's properties and stores. Incident was reported to the Port Control and the coast guard boarded the ship for investigation.
13.	23.09.2023 0830 UTC Anchored Boarded	Murex LNG Tanker Bahamas 113557 9705641	11:59.3S – 077:13.7W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Six persons in a small boat approached the anchored tanker. Two persons armed with knives managed to board the tanker by crawling in between the anchor chain and hawse pipe cover which they later removed. The persons threw the hawse pipe cover securing bar towards approaching crew, who raised the alarm resulting in the persons escaping in their boat. Nothing reported stolen. Several attempts were made to call the Authorities, but no response received.

14.	29.09.2023 0650 UTC Anchored Boarded	Maetiga Product Tanker Libya 29341 9386861	12:00.6S – 077:11.6W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Around 15 to 18 robbers boarded the anchored tanker. They tied up the duty crew and shore watchmen on routine rounds and held them at knifepoint. The robbers stole ship's stores and escaped. The incident was reported to port VTS TRAMAR and Peru coastguard boarded the tanker for investigation.
15.	16.11.2023 0540 UTC Anchored Boarded	Nordmosel Bulk Carrier Portugal 25546 9741877	12:01.36S – 077:11.85W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Two robbers armed with a gun boarded an anchored vessel and stole ship's stores. Incident reported to Callao VTS port control. All crew safe.

AFRICA (SOMALIA / GULF OF ADEN / RED SEA)

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	14.12.2023 1200 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Ruen Bulk Carrier Malta 27781 9754903	12:03N – 061:20E, Around 700nm East of Bossaso, Somalia	Armed persons boarded and hijacked the ship underway and sailed it towards the Somali coast. Further details awaited.

AFRICA (EXCLUDING SOMALIA / GULF OF ADEN / RED SEA)

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	25.01.2023 2350 UTC Anchored Boarded	Seaclipper Product Tanker Hong Kong 30302 9570101	04:55N – 001:05W, Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana	Duty officer onboard the anchored tanker spotted three unauthorised persons on the forecandle deck. Alarm raised, crew mustered, and port control notified. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness the persons escaped without stealing anything. A patrol boat was dispatched to the location and investigated.
2.	02.03.2023 0236 UTC Anchored Boarded	Nord Stingray Product Tanker Denmark 30010 9419735	04:53.7N – 001:41.2W, Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana	Duty crew onboard the anchored tanker noticed an unauthorised person near the forecandle and immediately raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the individual escaped with stolen ship's stores. The incident was reported to Takoradi port control, and a patrol boat was sent to investigate.
3.	25.03.2023 2138 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Monjasa Reformer Product Tanker Liberia 8829 9255878	05:03S – 009:35E, Around 135nm WSW of Pointe Noire, The Congo	More than ten pirates armed with guns attacked and boarded the tanker underway. Alarm raised and all crew members mustered in the citadel. On being notified of the incident, the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre immediately informed the regional authorities in the

				<p>Gulf of Guinea and the French authorities and requested their assistance. The pirates managed to break into the citadel, took hostage all crew members, and took control of the tanker. They hijacked the tanker and sailed to another location. All communication with the tanker was lost as the pirates had destroyed the navigational and communication equipment. The IMB broadcast a missing tanker message to all ships at sea. On 30 March 2023, a French naval asset intercepted the tanker Off Bonny, Nigeria. Part of the cargo was stolen and six crew were reported kidnapped. The tanker was escorted to a safe port. On 08 May 2023, the Owners confirmed that the six kidnapped crew were released safely.</p>
4.	26.03.2023 0230 UTC Anchored Boarded	Komodo Offshore Tug Malta 2593 9328273	08:44.61S – 013:17.36E, Luanda Anchorage, Angola	<p>Robbers in a canoe approached and boarded the anchored tug. Alert crew noticed the robbers and informed the OOW who raised the alarm and crew mustered resulting in the robbers escaping with stolen ship's properties. Port Authorities informed.</p>
5.	10.04.2023 1350 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Success 9 Product Tanker Singapore 4374 9258131	00:06.9N – 004:34.0W, Around 307nm SSW of Abidjan, Ivory Coast	<p>Twelve pirates armed with guns attacked, boarded, and hijacked the tanker underway. All communications with the tanker were lost. The pirates self-navigated the tanker. On being notified of the incident, the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre immediately informed the regional and French authorities in the Gulf of Guinea. A missing tanker message was broadcast to all ships to lookout for the tanker. Position updates received from all sources were communicated with the relevant authorities for their coordination. On 15 April 2023, a French naval asset located the tanker and the tanker escorted to a safe port by an Ivory Coast guard patrol boat. The pirates had destroyed the navigational equipment, handcuffed all crew with cable tie and stolen part of the cargo before escaping. All crew reported safe.</p>
6.	25.04.2023 0230 UTC Anchored Boarded	Bourbon Shamal Offshore Supply Ship Panama 464 9656931	08:47.06S – 013:14.85E, Luanda Inner Anchorage, Angola	<p>Alert crew noticed unauthorised persons onboard the anchored vessel attempting to steal an outboard engine of the FRC. Alarm raised and ship's horn sounded resulting in the robbers</p>

				escaping. Authorities informed and the police boarded to investigate.
7.	28.04.2023 0500 UTC Berthed Boarded	MSC Wave F General Cargo Liberia 11894 9232462	06:25.76N – 003:20.53E, Tin Can Island Terminal, Lagos, Nigeria	Around eight armed robbers boarded the berthed ship. Alert crew on rounds spotted the robbers resulting in the persons escaping empty handed in their boat.
8.	02.05.2023 0030 UTC Anchored Boarded	Grebe Bulker Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 33064 9441312	00:18.4N – 009:24.3E, Owendo Inner Anchorage, Gabon	C/O onboard the anchored ship noticed the door to the master’s cabin damaged, opened and the Master missing. The ship’s safe was also opened with contents missing. On searching, the 2/O and 3/O were also missing, and their cabin doors damaged and opened. The incident was immediately reported to the local authorities who boarded the ship for investigation. The three kidnapped crew were released on 21 May 2023.
9.	22.06.2023 0340 UTC Anchored Boarded	Nyon Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 35564 9888039	09:13.53N – 013:50.44W, Conakry Anchorage, Guinea	Four robbers armed with guns boarded the anchored ship. Duty crew noticed the robbers and notified the duty officer who raised the alarm. SSAS activated and all crew instructed to remain in their cabins. The robbers entered the accommodation, stole crew personal belongings and contents from the ship’s safe prior to escaping in a waiting boat. One crew was injured with minor bruises during the incident. Port authorities notified and a patrol boat was dispatched to the location for investigation.
10.	28.06.2023 0055 UTC Anchored Boarded	Maersk Roubaix Container Hong Kong 13800 9332688	04:53.3N – 001:38.6W, Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana	Duty crew onboard the anchored ship spotted three unauthorised persons on the main deck. Alarm raised, crew mustered and port control notified. Upon hearing the alarm, the persons escaped with stolen ship's stores. The incident was reported to Takoradi port control and a patrol boat was sent to investigate.
11.	30.06.2023 2245 UTC Anchored Boarded	Oya 1 General Cargo Panama 851 8512126	04:00.05N - 009:38.00E, Douala Anchorage, Cameroon	Armed persons boarded the anchored general cargo vessel, kidnapped five crew members and escaped. Alarm raised and a patrol boat came to assist. Remaining crew and vessel reported safe.
12.	05.07.2023 0355 UTC Steaming Boarded	Haci Erdogan Fishing Vessel Turkey 249 -	08:53N – 013:31W, Around 14.20nm WSW of Yelibuya Island, Sierra Leone	Eight armed pirates boarded the fishing vessel engaged in fishing activities. They destroyed the cameras onboard the vessel and other communication equipment. Before escaping, they stole valuables and shot the captain. Authorities informed. A naval patrol

				team was dispatched to the location. The vessel managed to sail into Freetown port. The captain was hospitalised and underwent surgical treatment.
13.	10.07.2023 0035 UTC Anchored Boarded	UAL Osprey General Cargo Portugal 6190 9594315	04:53.7N – 001:41.8W, Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana	Crew on routine rounds onboard the anchored ship noticed the rigged razor wire around the forward port bow partly removed and two unauthorised persons onboard. Alarm raised, crew mustered, and port control informed. Hearing the alarm and seeing the alerted crew, the persons escaped empty handed with their accomplices who were waiting in a boat.
14.	16.07.2023 1030 UTC Anchored Boarded	Vishva Vikas Bulk Carrier India 33185 9487902	19:55.21S – 035:05.15E, Beira Anchorage, Mozambique	Crew onboard the anchored ship noticed ship's stores stolen. A search was carried out. No unauthorised persons found onboard the ship.
15.	22.07.2023 0500 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Shenghai2 Fishing Vessel China - -	08:22N – 013:32W, Around 18nm SW of Freetown, Sierra Leone	The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre received information from the Regional Authorities that 13 pirates armed with guns boarded and hijacked the fishing vessel underway and took hostage its 23 crew. The Liberian Coast guard located the vessel off Monrovia, Liberia. After an exchange of gunfire between the pirates and the Coast guard, the vessel and crew were secured. Two pirates were apprehended while the others escaped.
16.	04.09.2023 0215 UTC Anchored Boarded	Maersk Logger Offshore Tug Denmark 6821 9425722	08:44.67S – 013:18.41E, Luanda Anchorage, Angola	Two unauthorised persons in a canoe approached and boarded the anchored tug. Duty AB on routine rounds noticed the persons and immediately raised the alarm. Upon hearing the alarm, the persons escaped with the stolen ship's properties.
17.	10.09.2023 2335 UTC Berthed Boarded	MSC Wave F General Cargo Liberia 11894 9232462	06:25.7N – 003:20.4E, Tin Can Berth 10, Lagos, Nigeria	Around four to five robbers armed with knives and a steel bar boarded the berthed ship. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped in a wooden boat with stolen ship's properties.
18.	29.09.2023 1745 UTC Berthed Boarded	Nordsun Bulk Carrier Portugal 34586 9705158	31:10.51N – 032:20.41E, East Port Said, Egypt	C/O onboard the berthed ship noticed two stevedores exiting from the helicopter store. He called out to them and told them to stop resulting in the stevedores attempting to escape. One stevedore was caught with the help of the port safety officer. Ship's stores and properties were reported stolen.
19.	03.10.2023 0024 UTC Anchored	Maersk Vigo Container Singapore	04:53.25N – 001:40.20W,	Duty crew on routine rounds onboard an anchored vessel noticed two unauthorised persons on deck and

	Boarded	18326 9401697	Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana	raised the alarm resulting in the persons escaping with stolen ship's properties. Incident reported to local authorities.
20.	01.12.2023 2110 UTC Anchored Boarded	Pacific Kohinoor Product Tanker Liberia 29513 9800661	14:32.4S – 040:39.1E, Nacala Anchorage, Mozambique	Duty crew onboard an anchored tanker noticed aft station stores missing. A search was carried out.

ATTEMPTED ATTACKS

1 January – 31 December 2023

SOUTH EAST ASIA (EXCLUDING MALACCA STRAITS)

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	13.07.2023 1545 UTC Steaming Attempted	Name Withheld Bulk Carrier Cyprus 39035 -	01:11.98N – 103:35.03E, Singapore Straits	Duty crew on routine rounds onboard the ship underway noticed a wooden boat with seven unauthorised persons near the starboard quarter. One person was attempting to board using a rope. Alarm raised and all deck lights switched on. Upon hearing the alarm, the attempted boarding was aborted. Incident reported to Singapore VTS.
2.	15.07.2023 1840 UTC Steaming Attempted	MSM Bulk Carrier Panama 26094 9121730	01:08.8N – 103:27.6E, Singapore Straits	Around five persons in a small boat approached the ship underway with intent to board. The alert crew noticed the persons and raised the alarm and the ship's horn sounded. Hearing the alarm, the robbers aborted the attempted boarding and moved away. The incident was reported to Singapore VTIS. After dropping anchor, the Authorities boarded the ship for security inspection.

AMERICAS

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	12.02.2023 0830 UTC Anchored Attempted	Frontier Sky Bulk Carrier Japan 93270 9488009	12:17.4N – 072:01.7W, Puerto Bolivar Anchorage, Colombia	Two unauthorised persons in a motorized boat approached the anchored ship and attempted to board using a rope attached to a hook. Duty AB on routine rounds noticed the attempt and notified the bridge. Alarm raised and ship's horn sounded. Hearing

				the alarm, the persons aborted the attempted boarding and moved away. Incident reported to Puerto Bolivar Marine Operations via VHF Ch14. A patrol boat responded and searched the waters around the ship.
2.	22.04.2023 0350 UTC Anchored Attempted	CSCL Zeebrugge Container Hong Kong 108069 9314234	08:52.67N – 079:29.09W, Panama East Anchorage, Panama	Duty AB on routine rounds onboard the anchored ship noticed unauthorised persons attempting to board via the anchor chain and hawse pipe. Alarm raised, PA announcement made, and crew mustered. Hearing the alerted crew, the persons aborted the boarding attempt.
3.	10.06.2023 0215 UTC Steaming Attempted	Callao Express Container Germany 118945 9777606	02:54.2S – 080:33.2W, Around 21nm WSW of Posorja, Ecuador	An unknown number of persons in speed boats came alongside and attempted to board the ship underway using ladders. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Deck lights switched on and evasive manoeuvres carried out. Coast guard notified and a patrol boat was sent to the location. Seeing the approaching patrol vessel, the persons aborted the attempted boarding and moved away.
4.	18.07.2023 2350 UTC Anchored Attempted	Seaspan Oceania Container Hong Kong 90645 9286009	12:01.8S – 077:10.9W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Duty AB on routine rounds onboard the anchored ship noticed an unauthorised person attempting to board via the anchor chain. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Hearing the alarm, the person aborted the boarding attempt. Incident reported to the Port Control and a Security Message was broadcast to all vessels in the vicinity.

AFRICA

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	31.03.2023 2200 UTC Berthed Attempted	Maersk Vigo Container Singapore 18326 9401697	04:44.48N – 006:37.13W, Port of San Pedro, Ivory Coast	Two unauthorised persons attempted to board the berthed ship by crawling under the razor wire while a third was assisting from their wooden canoe to move the razor wire. Alert crew detected the persons and raised the alarm. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the persons escaped without stealing anything. At the time of event the pilot was still onboard.
2.	30.06.2023 2140 UTC Anchored Fired upon	Hai Lu Feng 13 Fishing Vessel China - -	04:00.56N – 009:38.31E, Douala Anchorage, Cameroon	Armed persons fired upon the anchored fishing vessel. The armed naval security team onboard retaliated resulting in the persons aborting the attempted boarding.

3.	30.06.2023 2140 UTC Anchored Fired upon	Hai Lu Feng 14 Fishing Vessel China - -	04:00.56N – 009:38.31E, Douala Anchorage, Cameroon	Armed persons fired upon the anchored fishing vessel. The armed naval security team onboard retaliated resulting in the persons aborting the attempted boarding.
4.	05.07.2023 0150 UTC Anchored Attempted	CB Caribic Product Tanker Portugal 27250 9851713	09:17.0N – 013:45.7W, Conakry Anchorage, Guinea	Duty AB on routine rounds onboard the anchored tanker noticed six unauthorised persons attempting to board via the stern, using a long ladder. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Hearing the alerted crew, the persons aborted the boarding attempt. Incident reported to the authorities through the local agent.
5.	05.08.2023 2352 UTC Anchored Attempted	Anggun Fire Fighting Vessel Malaysia 2339 9390056	04:50.0N – 001:43.0W, Takoradi Anchorage, Ghana	Around five unauthorised persons in a canoe approached and attempted to board the anchored vessel twice within 48 hours. Alert crew raised the alarm resulting in the persons aborting the attempted boarding and moving away. Incident reported to local authorities via VHF.



IMB Piracy Report – January to December 2023

-  = Attempted Attack
-  = Boarded
-  = Fired upon
-  = Hijacked
-  = Suspicious vessel



Total number of attacks – 120



IMB Piracy Report – January to December 2023

 = Attempted Attack  = Boarded  = Fired upon  = Hijacked  = Suspicious vessel



Total attacks Indian Sub-Continent – 5
Total attacks East & SE Asia – 70



IMB Piracy Report – January to December 2023

- = Attempted Attack
- = Boarded
- = Fired upon
- = Hijacked
- = Suspicious vessel



Gulf of Guinea – 22



IMB Piracy Report – January to December 2023

- = Attempted Attack
- = Boarded
- = Fired upon
- = Hijacked
- = Suspicious vessel





IMB Piracy Report – January to December 2023

- = Attempted Attack
- = Boarded
- = Fired upon
- = Hijacked
- = Suspicious vessel



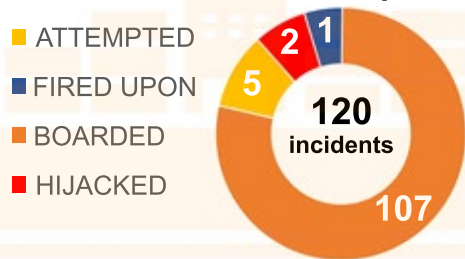
Somalia based incidents – 1

IMB PIRACY REPORT

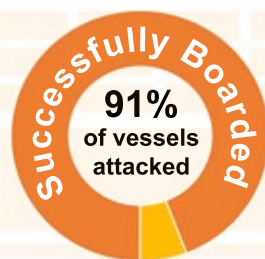
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2023



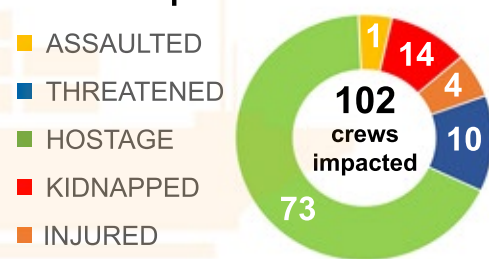
Number of incidents reported:



Vessels boarded:

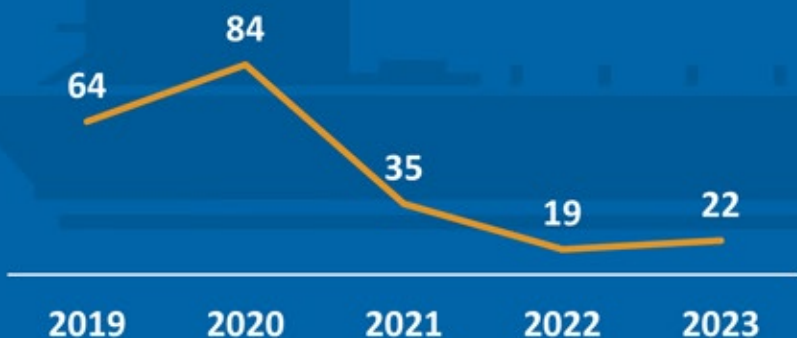


Impact on crew:



Gulf of Guinea

Reported incidents



Increase in number of reported incidents and risk to crew in 2023. With **54 crew taken hostage**, 14 kidnapped and two crew injured.

GoG authorities **encouraged** to increase their **active patrols** to ensure safer waters for seafarers and trade.

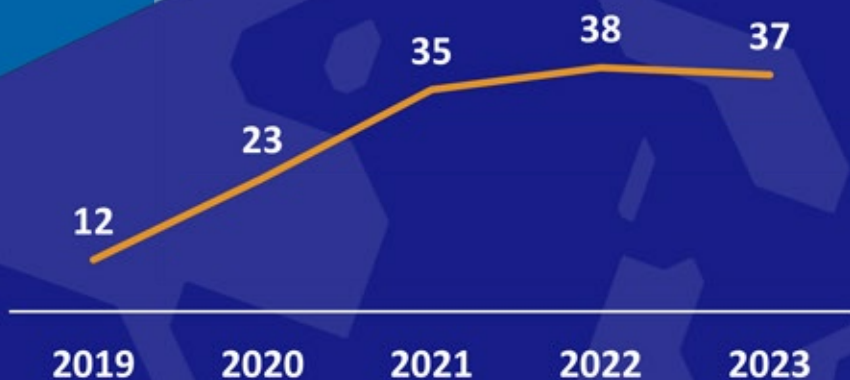
Somali Based Piracy

One vessel hijacked over 700nm East of Bosaso. Two dhows also reported as hijacked. Somali pirates continue to demonstrate their capabilities of hijacking vessels.

Masters and vessel owners encouraged to continue employing BMP recommendations.

Singapore Straits

Reported incidents



35 vessels boarded. 16 vessels over 80,000 DWT, **including six over 170,000 DWT**, boarded. Weapons reported in 18 incidents, nine crew taken hostage and two threatened.

Callao Anchorage

Reported incidents



Seven crew taken hostage and one each assaulted and threatened.

Weapons reported in nine incidents.

@IMB_Piracy
#IMBpiracy