



# JAPAN P&I NEWS

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To the Members

## Conflicts in the Middle East (No.5)

We have received information from our correspondents in the UAE, Gulf Agency Company (Dubai) L.L.C., regarding the recent update of the situation in the Middle East as of 12 March 2026 following attacks by the United States and Israel against Iran.

### 1. The United Arab Emirates (UAE)

All major UAE ports are currently functioning under normal working conditions. Cargo operations, pilotage, and other port services are being provided without interruption; however, strict attention is required regarding the following points:

- **Heightened Monitoring:** Local authorities have implemented heightened security and monitoring measures, and port users are required to comply strictly with all navigation advisories and reporting requirements.
- **Massive Congestion:** Since the Strait of Hormuz is effectively blocked, carriers are offloading their cargo at Khor Fakkan for onward land transport to cities such as Dubai and Abu Dhabi.
- **GPS Interference:** Intense electronic interference (GPS jamming) is occurring in the offshore waters of Khor Fakkan and Fujairah, and the navigation risk is considered "critical."

### 2. Other Middle East Ports

Ports in neighbouring Gulf countries are also generally operational, but the security environment remains unstable.

- **Suspension of Salalah Port (Oman):** Following a suspected drone attack on a shore tank facility located outside the port, operations at Salalah Port have been suspended until further notice. All vessels at berth have been shifted to anchorage.
- **Airspace Restrictions:** While the airspace remains partially open, flight availability is extremely limited, with non-scheduled charter flights being the primary option and daily cancellations being reported.

According to the report from our correspondents, no suspension of port operations in the UAE has been confirmed. However, considering the potential impact on vessel schedules, we strongly recommend that Owners continue to monitor official advisories, circulars, and flag state guidance.

The situation remains highly fluid and unpredictable. Please act with the utmost caution, prioritising Crew Safety and Vessel Security over all commercial instructions.

We will provide further updates as further information becomes available.

Yours faithfully,

**The Japan Ship Owners' Mutual Protection & Indemnity Association**