



ICC INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUREAU

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD

1 January – 30 June 2023

WARNING

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ICC International Maritime Bureau
Cinnabar Wharf
26 Wapping High Street
London E1W 1NG
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 207 423 6960
Email: imb@icc-ccs.org
Web: www.icc-ccs.org

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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 of reported incidents.
- Assisting local law enforcement in apprehending and bringing the criminals to justice.
- Publish 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 65 global maritime piracy and armed robbery incidents reported to the IMB PRC from 1 January to 30 June 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

Tel ++ 60 3 2078 5763 Fax ++ 60 3 2078 5769

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

WhatsApp / Telegram: +60 11 2659 3057

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

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/>)

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

	Location	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
S E ASIA	Indonesia	11	15	5	7	7	
	Malaysia	3	2	1	1	1	
	Philippines	3	4	5	2	5	
	Singapore Straits		11	16	16	20	
	Thailand		1				
EAST ASIA	China	3					
	Vietnam		2	1		2	
INDIAN SUB	Bangladesh		2		4	1	
CONTINENT	India	2	5		2	2	
AMERICAS	Brazil	2	2	1	4	1	
	Colombia	3	1	4		2	
	Dominican Republic	1					
	Ecuador	2	3	1		1	
	Guyana				1		
	Haiti		3	1			
	Mexico		4				
	Panama	1				1	
	Peru	4	4	9	7	8	
	Venezuela	6			1		
	AFRICA	Angola		4	3	4	2
		Benin	1	6	2		
		Cameroon	1		1		3
		Democratic Rep. of Congo	1		1	1	
Dem. Rep. of Sao Tome & Principe			1	5			
Equatorial Guinea		2	2				
Gabon			2	2		1	
Ghana		3	1	3	5	3	
Guinea		1	1			1	
Gulf of Aden				1			
Ivory Coast		1	2		1	2	
Liberia		1			1		
Morocco		1					
Mozambique		1	3	1			
Nigeria		21	14	4		1	
South Africa					1		
The Congo			1	1		1	
Togo	3	1					
REST OF WORLD	Iraq		1				
	Sub total	78	98	68	58	65	
Total at year end		162	195	132	115		

CHART A: The following three locations contributed 54% of the total 65 incidents reported in the period January – June 2023.

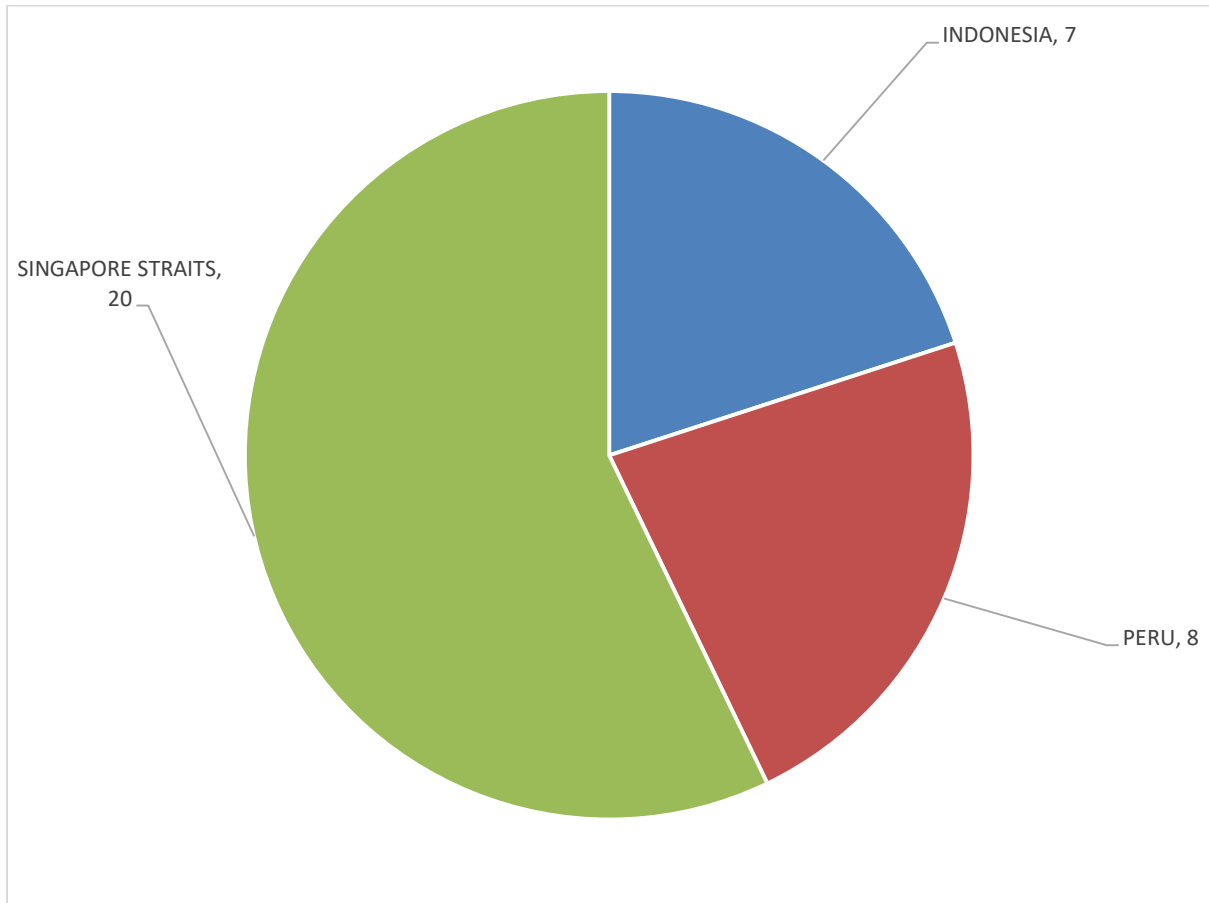


CHART B: Monthly comparison of incidents during January – June 2023

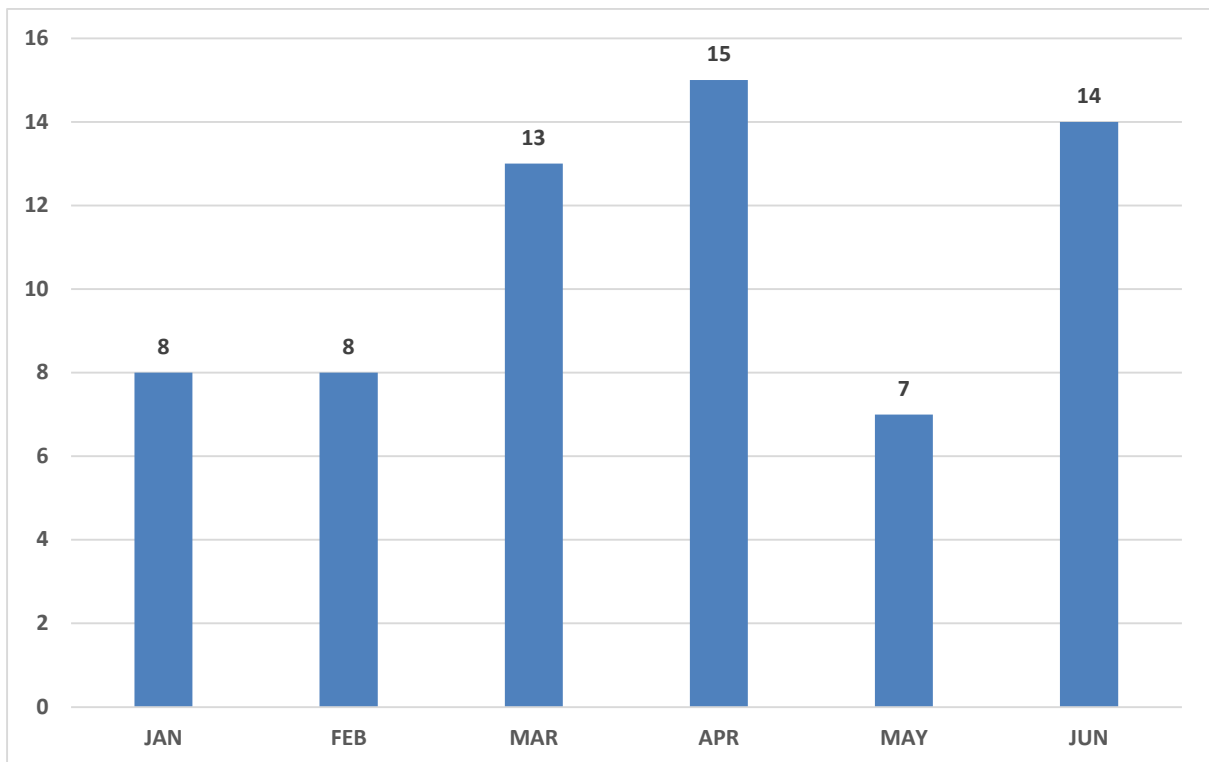


CHART C: Total incidents as per regions of the world January – June 2023

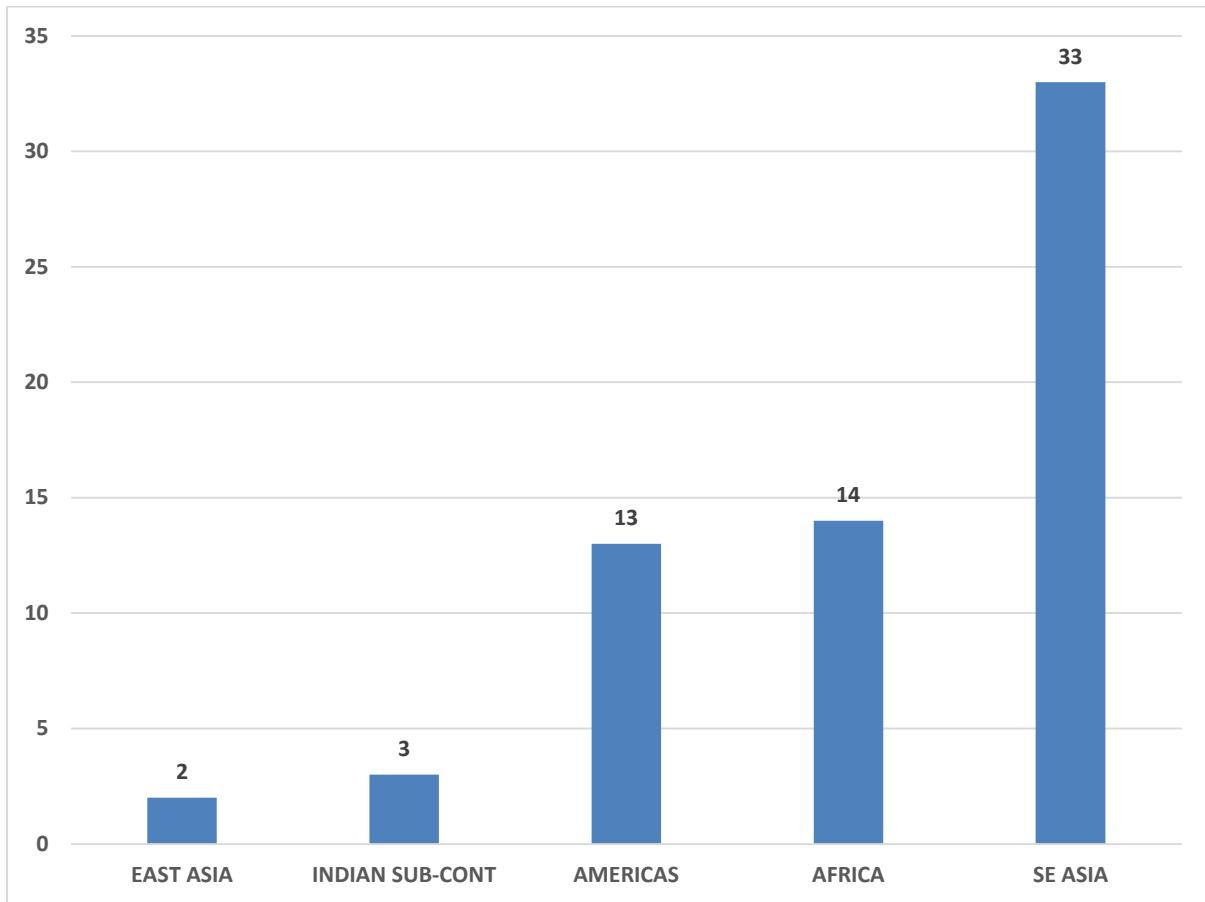


CHART D: Perpetrators successful in 91% of reported incidents. January – June 2023

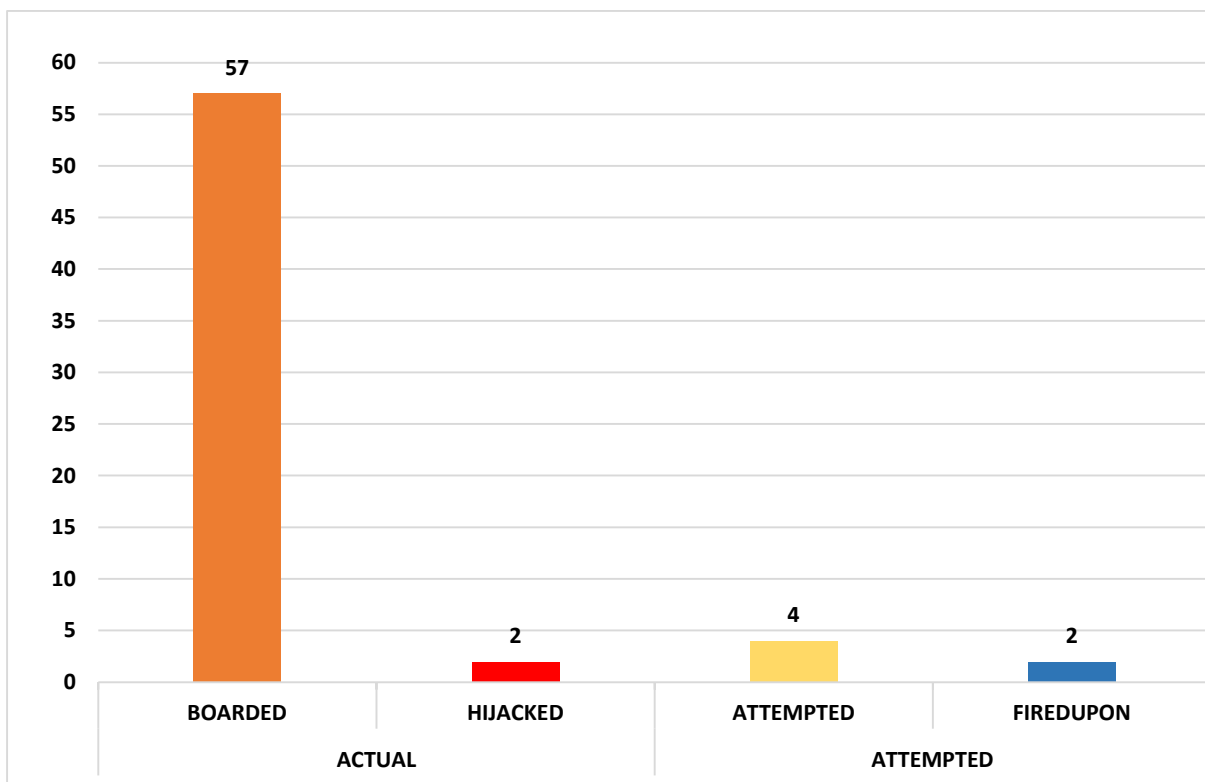


CHART E: Type of incident in relation to the status of vessel movement January – June 2023

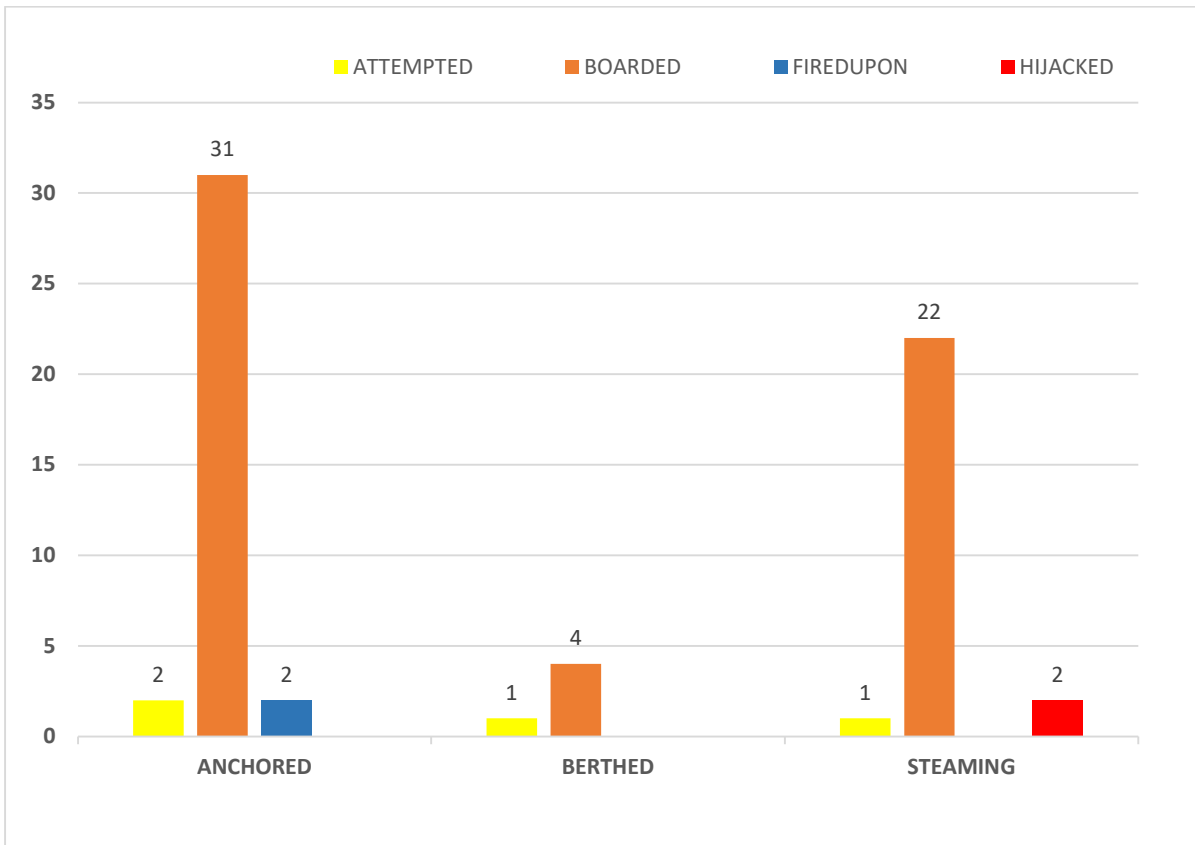


CHART F: Region specific type of incident in relation to the status of vessel movement January – June 2023

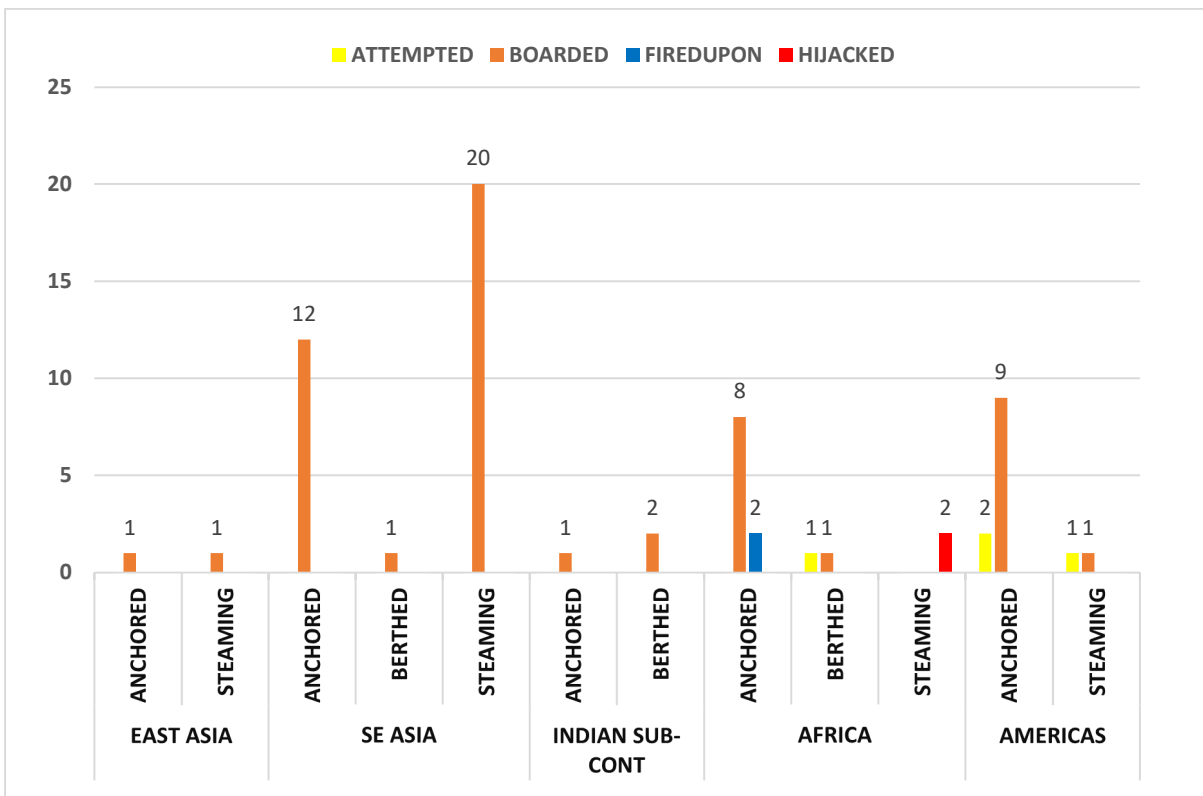


CHART G: Region specific severity of incident in relation January – June 2023
(Severity level I, II, III – see page 4 for clarification)

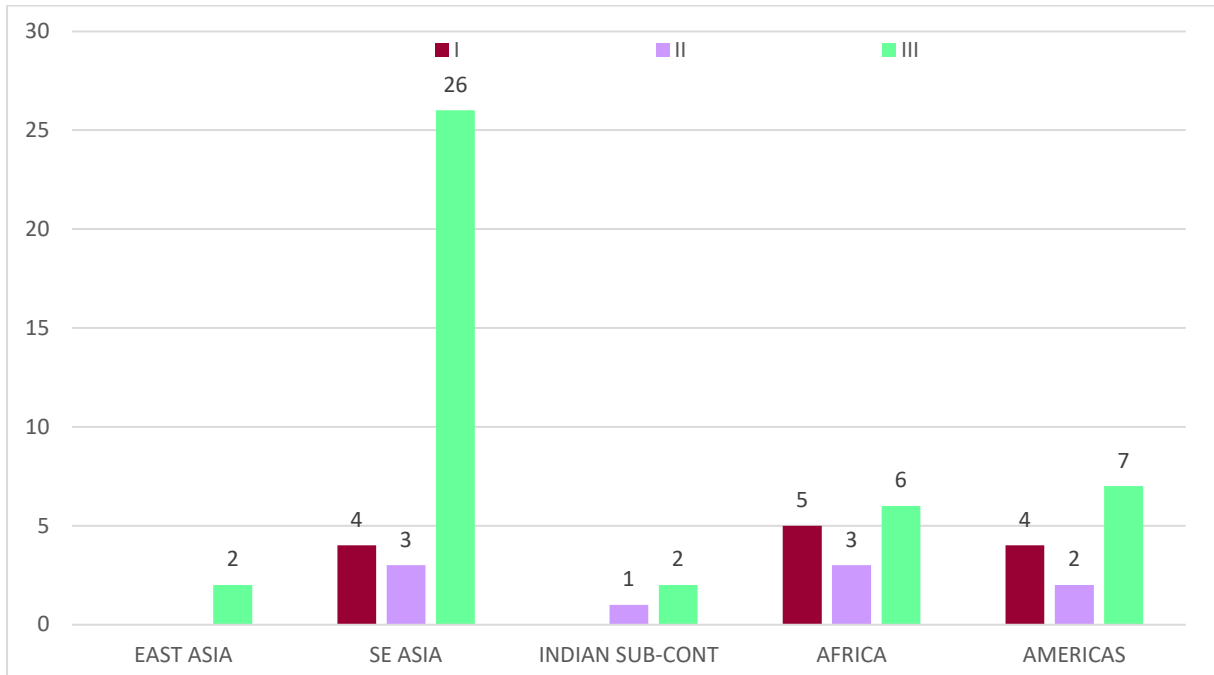


TABLE 2: ACTUAL and ATTEMPTED incidents by location, January – June 2023

Location	Actual		Attempted	
	Boarded	Hijacked	Fired upon	Attempted
SE ASIA Indonesia	7			
Malaysia	1			
Philippines	5			
Singapore Straits	20			
EAST ASIA Vietnam	2			
INDIAN SUB CONT Bangladesh	1			
India	2			
AMERICAS Brazil	1			
Colombia	1			1
Ecuador				1
Panama				1
Peru	8			
AFRICA Angola	2			
Cameroon	1		2	
Gabon	1			
Ghana	3			
Guinea	1			
Ivory Coast		1		1
Nigeria	1			
The Congo		1		
Sub total	57	2	2	4
Total	65			

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

Country	Location	01.01.2023 to 30.06.2023
Cameroon	Douala	3
Ghana	Takoradi	3
Peru	Callao	8
Philippines	Manila	5

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

Location	Berthed	Anchored	Steaming
SE ASIA Indonesia	1	6	
Malaysia			1
Philippines		5	
Singapore Straits		1	19
EAST ASIA Vietnam		1	1
INDIAN Bangladesh	1		
SUB CONT India	1	1	
AMERICAS Brazil		1	
Colombia			1
Peru		8	
AFRICA Angola		2	
Cameroon		1	
Gabon		1	
Ghana		3	
Guinea		1	
Ivory Coast			1
Nigeria	1		
The Congo			1
Sub total	4	31	24
Total		59	

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

Location	Berthed	Anchored	Steaming
AMERICAS Colombia		1	
Ecuador			1
Panama		1	
AFRICA Cameroon		2	
Ivory Coast	1		
Sub total	1	4	1
Total		6	

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

Type of Arms	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Guns	25	30	15	6	8
Knives	10	23	20	19	18
Other weapons	3	3	3	1	1
Not stated	40	42	30	32	38

Sub total	78	98	68	58	65
Total at year end	162	195	132	115	

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

Type of Attack	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Attempted	9	10	4	2	4
Boarded	57	81	61	55	57
Fired upon	9	6	2		2
Hijack	3	1	1	1	2
Sub total	78	98	68	58	65
Total at year end	162	195	132	115	

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

Type of Violence	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Hostage	38	23	3	23	36
Kidnapped	37	54	50		14
Threatened	4	5	3	5	3
Assaulted	1	5	2		1
Injured	2	6	1		2
Killed	1		1		
Sub total	83	93	60	28	56
Total at year end	210	191	82	55	

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

Location	Kidnapped	Hostage	Threatened	Assaulted	Injured
SE ASIA Indonesia			2		
Philippines					1
Singapore Straits		1			
AMERICAS Peru		4	1	1	
AFRICA Cameroon	5				
Gabon	3				
Guinea					1
Ivory Coast		21			
The Congo	6	10			
Sub total	14	36	3	1	2
Total	56				

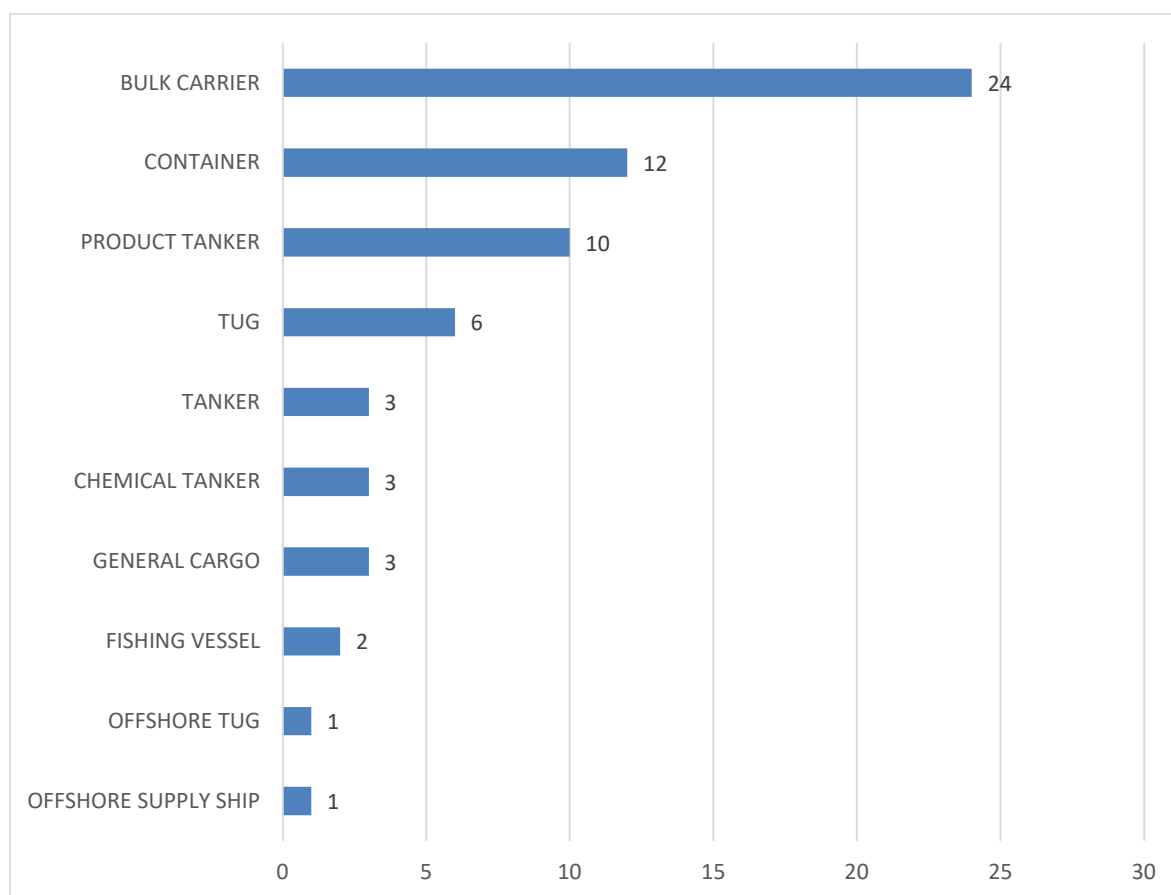
TABLE 10: Types of arms used by geographical location, January – June 2023

Locations	Guns	Knives	Not Stated	Other
S E ASIA Indonesia		1	5	1
Malaysia			1	
Philippines		1	4	
Singapore Straits	1	7	12	

EAST ASIA	Vietnam		1	1	
INDIAN	Bangladesh		1		
SUB CONT	India			2	
AMERICAS	Brazil		1		
	Colombia			2	
	Ecuador			1	
	Panama			1	
	Peru		5	3	
AFRICA	Angola		1	1	
	Cameroon	3			
	Gabon	1			
	Ghana			3	
	Guinea	1			
	Ivory Coast	1		1	
	Nigeria			1	
	The Congo	1			
Sub total		8	18	38	1
Total			65		

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

Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Accommodation Barge		1			
Bulk Carrier	20	21	20	30	24
Container	9	17	17	5	12
Crew Boat				2	
Drilling Ship			1		
General Cargo	3	3	1		3
Heavy Load Carrier	1				
Landing Craft	1				
Offshore Support Vessel	1	2	1		
Pipe Layer / Barge		2			
Pleasure Craft	1				
Refrigerated		1	1		
Sailing Vessel	1				
Supply Vessel	1	7	3	1	1
Tanker Asphalt/Bitumen		1			
Tanker Chemical/Product	22	26	11	12	13
Tanker Crude Oil	12	7	2	5	3
Tanker LNG	1		2		
Tanker LPG	1	2	2	1	
Trawler / Fishing	1	5	3		2
Tug / Offshore Tug	2	3	3		7
Vehicle Carrier	1		1	2	
Sub total	78	98	68	58	65
Total at year end	162	195	132	115	

CHART H: Incidents as per type of vessels, January – June 2023**TABLE 12: Nationalities of vessels affected, January - June 2019 – 2023**

Flag State	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Antigua & Barbuda	1				
Austria	1				
Bahamas	3	1	4	2	1
Barbados	1		1	1	
Belgium					1
Bermuda	1	1	1		
Cayman Islands	1	1		1	2
China	2	1	1		2
Comoros		2			
Cyprus	1	2	4	1	1
Denmark		3	2		1
France	1		1	1	
Gabon		1			
Germany	1	2	1	1	1
Ghana		1	2		
Gibraltar		2	1		
Greece	1	2	1		1
Hong Kong (SAR)	4	3	2	1	7
India		2		1	1
Indonesia		2			

Isle of Man	2	1	1	1	
Italy		1			
Jamaica			1		
Japan				1	2
Liberia	14	14	9	7	10
Luxemburg			2		
Malaysia	1	1	1		2
Malta	5	3	3	5	5
Marshall Islands	12	15	11	13	8
Mongolia			1		
Netherlands	1	1			
Nigeria	3				
Niue	1				
Palau	1	1			
Panama	6	16	1	13	8
Philippines		1			
Portugal	1	3	1	1	1
Saudi Arabia		2	1		
Senegal		1			
Singapore	10	11	14	8	11
Spain			1		
St Vincent & Grenadines		1			
Switzerland	1				
Togo	1				
Vanuatu	1				
Sub total	78	98	68	58	65
Total at year end	162	195	132	115	

CHART I: Nationalities of vessels involved in six or more incidents, January – June 2023

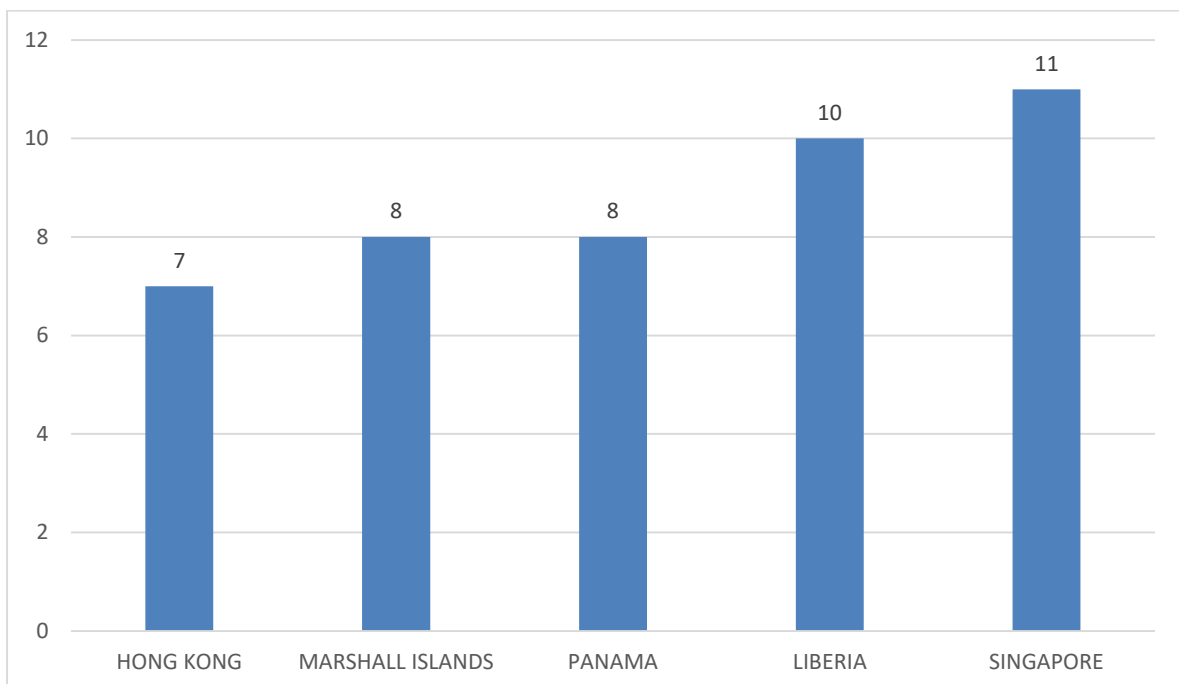
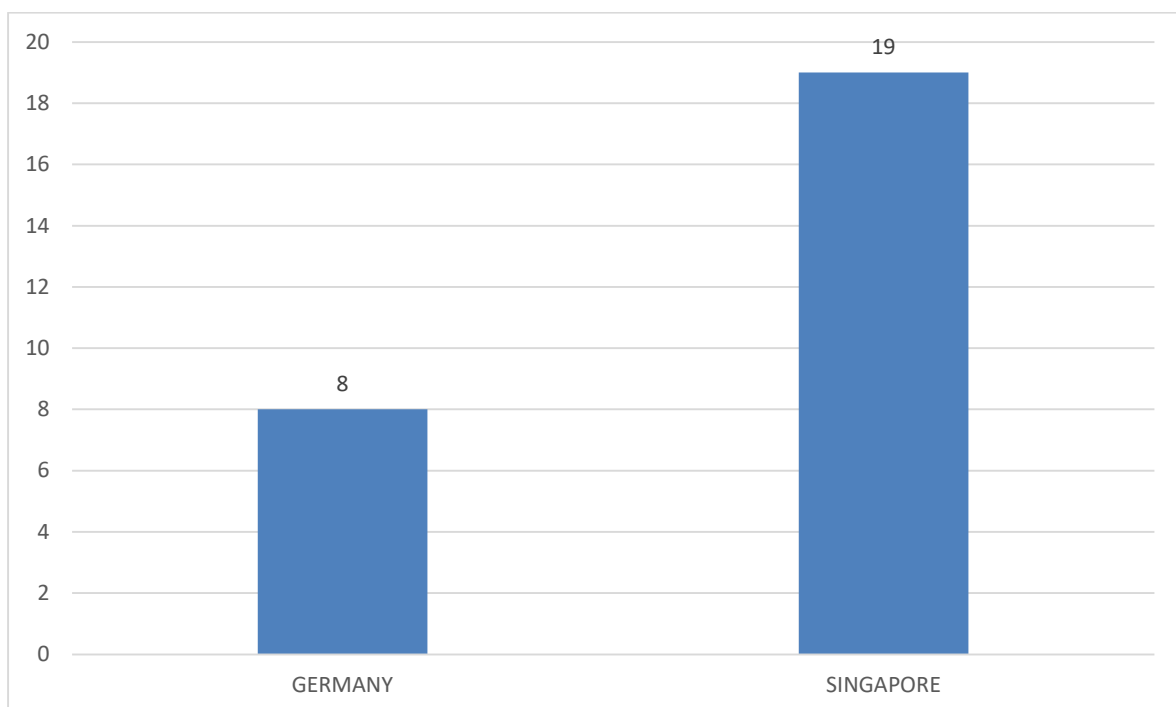


TABLE 13: Vessels affected – managed or controlled from January – June 2023

Country	No of Ships
Angola	1
Belgium	1
Canada	2
China	1
Cyprus	3
Denmark	2
Germany	8
Greece	3
Hong Kong	2
India	4
Japan	2
Malaysia	2
Netherlands	3
Philippines	2
Singapore	19
Switzerland	1
Taiwan	1
The Congo	1
UAE	2
United Kingdom	2
USA	1
NS	2
Total	65

CHART J: Managing countries whose vessels involved in six or more incidents between January – June 2023



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

From 1 January to 30 June 2023, no incident reported to the IMB PRC for Gulf of Aden.

The international navies patrolling these waters continue to coordinate and liaise with merchant 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.

As the IMB PRC continues to monitor the situation in the region, it cautions vessel owners and masters against complacency. Somali pirates still retain the capability and capacity to carry out attacks.

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 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.

In January 2021, the IMB was informed that the successful cooperation resulting in a year on year drop in incidents in almost all areas, will continue until further notice.

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 / UKMT0 / 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, 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 in a timely manner. 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, which 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.

The IMB PRC wishes all seafarers safe and secure voyages and remains available to assist in any manner.

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY PRONE AREAS AND WARNINGS

All ships 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:

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

Tel: +60 3 2078 5763 **Fax:** +60 3 2078 5769

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

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

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 ships 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 Tanjung Priok / Jakarta anchorage 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. 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.

Malaysia: Bandar Penawar, Johor – past incidents reported on anchored vessels. Off Tanjung Piai – 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 ships 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 300 nm from the coast, if appropriate and agreed by all in venture. Incidents reported up to 300 nm 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 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 ships / kidnapped crews along or far from the coast, rivers, anchorages, ports, and surrounding waters. Incidents have also been reported up to about 300 nm from the coast. Generally, all waters in / off Nigeria remain highly risky. Vessels are advised to be vigilant as many incidents may also 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 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: No recent reported piracy attacks. There were several suspicious reports. Although the opportunity for incidents has reduced, the

Somali pirates continue to possess the capability and capacity to carry out incidents. All merchant ships are advised to 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.

Although no reported incidents, the threat still exists in the 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. In the past, 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. Be vigilant.

Generally, Somali pirates tend to be well armed with automatic weapons, RPGs and sometimes use skiffs launched from mother vessels, which may be hijacked fishing vessels or dhows. Masters and ship owners are encouraged to register and report their vessels as per the latest BMP procedures and ensure that their vessel is hardened prior to entering the high-risk area. While transiting through these waters it is essential 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: Security risk due to civil war in Yemen. Vessels have been fired upon and approached. (not piracy related).

Vessels transiting Straits of Hormuz / Gulf of Oman / Off Iran – a number of incidents reported involving explosions and unauthorised boarding. (not piracy related).

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN WATERS

Brazil (Macapa): Incidents increasing. 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 dropped, 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 Fax: +60 3 2078 5769 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

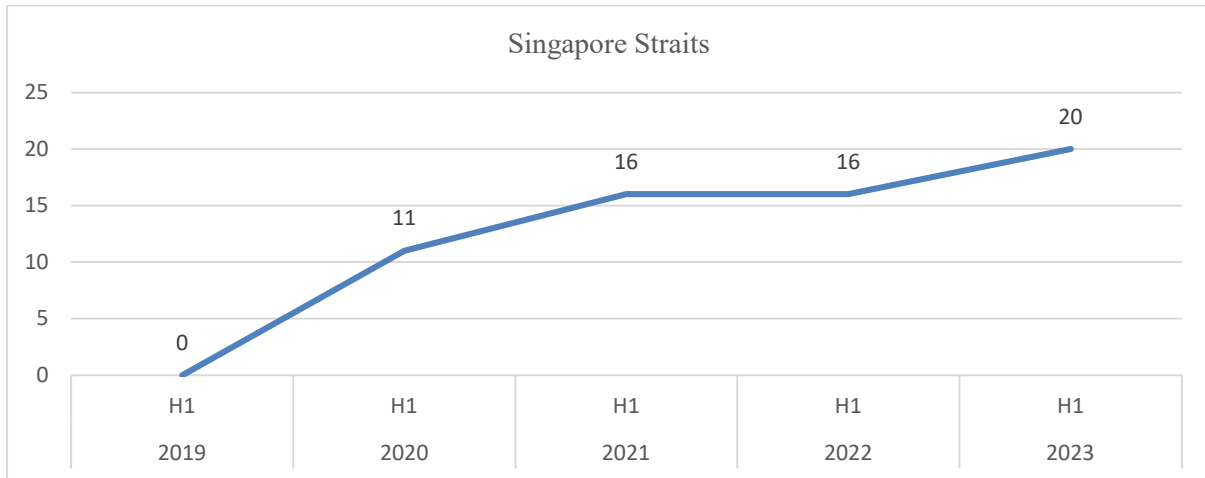


CHART L: West Africa – Gulf of Guinea – Total number of reported incidents

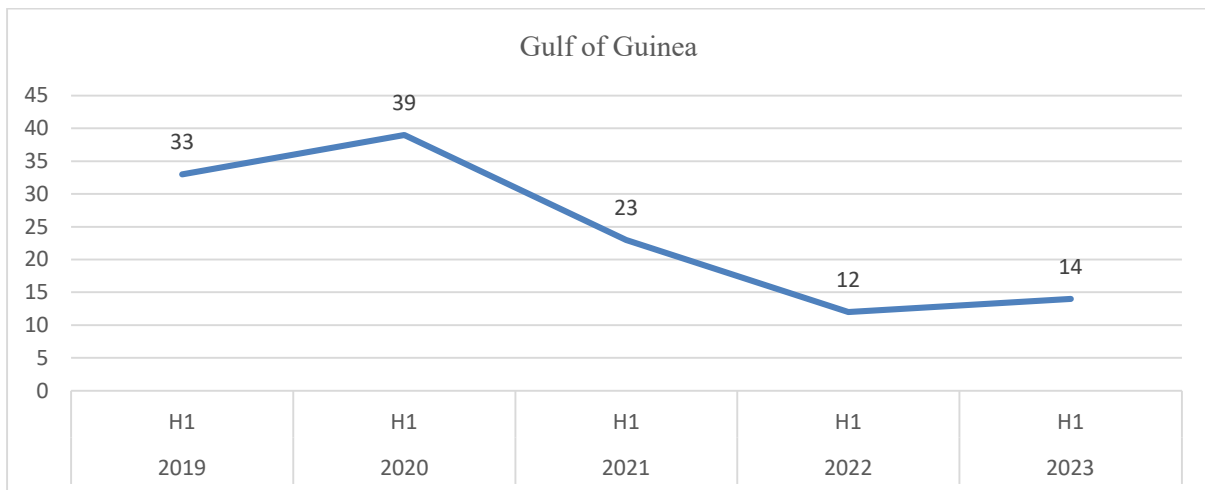
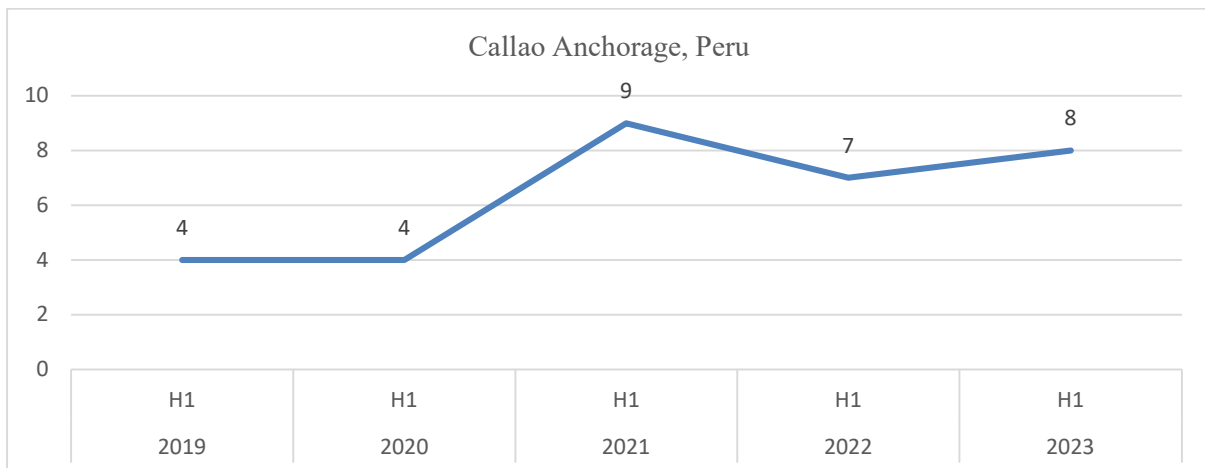


CHART M: Americas – Callao, Peru – Total number of reported incidents



TRENDS

Sixty-five incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships were reported to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (IMB PRC) in the first half of 2023 compared to 58 in 2022.

The H1 2023 figures are broken down as 57 vessels boarded, four attempted attacks, two hijackings and two vessels fired upon. Perpetrators successfully boarded 90% of vessels targeted globally.

Violence towards crew continues with 36 crew taken hostage, 14 kidnapped, three threatened, two injured and one assaulted.

The Gulf of Guinea saw an increase with five incidents in Q1 2023 and nine incidents in Q2 in the Gulf of Guinea. Of these, 12 are defined as armed robbery and the remaining two as piracy. Both vessels fired upon were anchored and reported from these waters.

Of the 14-crew kidnapped in the Gulf of Guinea waters, eight were taken from vessels anchored within the internal waterways of coastal states in two separate Q2 incidents. Additionally, 31 crew were taken hostage in two separate hijacking incidents and communication and navigation equipment destroyed and part cargoes stolen. Six crew were also kidnapped in one of these incidents. The IMB PRC commends and thanks the French authorities and the naval asset which assisted to locate both these hijacked vessels. The IMB PRC also raises concern relating to the increase in the number of incidents and violence against crew. The IMB PRC once again calls on all Gulf of Guinea regional authorities and the international community to renew the focus on the region with a view to standup long term, sustainable solutions to address this crime and safeguard the seafaring and fishing communities.

Vessels transiting the Singapore Straits continue to be targeted and boarded. There has been a 25% increase in reported incidents in these congested waters compared to the same period in 2022. The perpetrators were successful in boarding all 20 vessels, 19 of which were underway. While considered low level opportunistic crimes, crews continue to be at risk with weapons reported in at least eight incidents. Large bulk carriers account for 13 incidents, tankers two and low and slow tugs and barges for the remaining five H1 incidents.

The Indonesian archipelago continues to demonstrate a continued reduction in reported incidents compared to years preceding 2020. Of the seven incidents reported six were on vessels at anchor and one while at berth. Crews continue to be at risk with at least two crew threatened and knives reported in at least one incident.

As a region, South and Central American ports accounted for 14% of the global incidents, with 13 incidents reported – eight at Callao Anchorage, Peru, two in Colombia, one each at Macapa anchorage, Brazil and Panama anchorage and one attempted boarding against a container vessel underway off the coast of Ecuador. Four crew were taken hostage and one each assaulted and threatened during these incidents.

Since 1991 the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre's 24-hour manned center, remains a single point of contact to report the crimes of piracy and armed robbery. The Centre has not only assisted ships in a timely manner, it provides the maritime industry, response agencies and governments with transparent data – received directly from the Masters of the vessel under attack – or its owners.

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

OBSERVATIONS

Narrations of the 65 attacks for 01 January to 30 June 2023 are listed on pages 27 to 38. 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 members 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 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 twelve 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 navigational equipment. The crew were tied with cable ties and kept hostage and part of the oil cargo was stolen.

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 – 30 June 2023

ACTUAL ATTACKS

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 Anchored Boarded	Ceto Product Tanker Panama 27972 9305348	06:14.32S – 108:25.33E, Balongan Anchorage, Indonesia	Around five persons in a small boat approached an anchored tanker. Duty 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 an anchored ship noticed four unauthorised 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 an 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	Chios Trinity Bulk Carrier Greece	01:04.06N – 103:35.72E,	Duty crew onboard the ship underway spotted three perpetrators onboard the ship and raised the alarm resulting in

	Boarded	27989 9279379	Singapore Straits	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 an anchored ship noticed the forecandle 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 an anchored ship noticed a small boat with two unidentified persons alongside near the forecandle and an additional three persons on the forecandle 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 an 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	Gibraltar Eagle Bulk Carrier	01:08.6N – 103:28.7E,	Duty crew onboard the ship underway spotted five unauthorised persons in the

	Steaming Boarded	Marshall Islands 36332 9702508	Singapore Straits	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 an 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 an 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 Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld Chemical Tanker Cayman Islands 25196 -	03:55.1N – 098:46.2E, Belawan Anchorage, Indonesia	Duty watchman onboard an anchored tanker noticed unauthorised persons 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	Unauthorised persons boarded an 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 an 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 an 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.

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 an anchored ship, noticed the paint store padlock broken and ship's stores stolen. A search was carried out.

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 an 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.

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, Peru	Four robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored ship via the anchor chain and broke into the forecandle store. Duty watchman on routine rounds was 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 an 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 an 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 fifteen robbers armed with knives boarded an 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 an 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 Boarded	Tomini Entity Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 36380 9831775	12:00.58S – 077:13.77W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Ten robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored ship. They took hostage and tied the duty crew, stole crew 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 an 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 an anchored tanker from the bow area and unlashed the anchor hawse pipe cover giving access to his accomplices. They broke into the forecastle 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 an anchored ship, stole ship's stores and escaped. Theft noticed by duty crew on routine rounds. Incident reported to the local agent.

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 an anchored tanker spotted three unauthorised persons on the forecastle 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 an anchored tanker noticed an unauthorised person near the forecastle 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 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.
4.	26.03.2023 0230 UTC Anchored Boarded	Komodo Offshore Tug Malta 2593 9328273	08:44.61S – 013:17.36E, Luanda Anchorage, Angola	Robbers in a canoe approached and boarded an 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.

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	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, 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.
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	Alert crew noticed unauthorised persons onboard an anchored vessel attempting to steal an outboard engine of the FRC. Alarm raised and ship's horn sounded resulting in the robbers 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	Chief Officer 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 an 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.

ATTEMPTED ATTACKS

1 January – 30 June 2023

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 an 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 an 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	Callao Express Container Germany	02:54.2S – 080:33.2W,	An unknown number of persons in speed boats came alongside and attempted to board the ship underway



	Attempted	118945 9777606	Around 21nm WSW of Posorja, Ecuador	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.
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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.



IMB Piracy Report – January to June 2023

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



Total number of attacks – 65



IMB Piracy Report – January to June 2023

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



Total attacks SE and East Asia – 35
Total attacks Indian Sub-Continent – 3



IMB Piracy Report – January to June 2023

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



Total attacks Gulf of Guinea - 14

