



**ICC INTERNATIONAL MARITIME BUREAU**

**PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY  
AGAINST SHIPS**

**REPORT FOR THE PERIOD**

**1 January – 31 March 2017**

**WARNING**

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May 2017

## 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, all interests and organization to co-operate and exchange information with each other and the IMB with a view to maintaining and developing a coordinated action in combating maritime fraud.

This report is an analysis of world-wide reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships from 1 January to 31 March 2017.

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

The key services of the PRC are:

Issuing daily status reports on piracy and armed robbery to ships via broadcasts on the Inmarsat-C SafetyNET service

Reporting piracy and armed robbery at sea incidents to law enforcement and the IMO

Helping local law enforcement apprehend pirates and assist in bringing them to justice

Assisting shipowners whose vessels have been attacked or hijacked

Assisting crewmembers whose vessels have been attacked

Providing updates on pirate activity via the Internet

Publishing comprehensive quarterly and annual reports detailing piracy statistics

The services of the PRC are provided free of charge to all ships irrespective of their ownership or flag.

The IMB also locates ships seized by pirates and recovers stolen cargoes on a chargeable basis.

The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre can be contacted at:

**ICC International Maritime Bureau (Asia Regional Office)**

**PO Box 12559, 50782 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

**Tel ++ 60 3 2078 5763**

**Fax ++ 60 3 2078 5769**

**E-mail: [imbkl@icc-ccs.org](mailto:imbkl@icc-ccs.org)**

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

Piracy report on the Internet: The IMB posts updates of attacks on the Internet at [www.icc-ccs.org](http://www.icc-ccs.org). By posting the information on the internet, ship owners and authorities ashore as well as ships at sea can access these updates regularly and make informed decisions on the risks associated with certain sea areas.

Sometimes, incidents occurring in the previous quarter(s) are reported to the Centre after a time lag. This late reporting of incidents results in changes to the figures in the tables. The Centre has, as at 31 March 2017, received reports of 43 incidents but may receive details of more in the coming months relating to the same period.

Because of the continued debate concerning Malacca Straits, narrations of incidents in this area are shown as separate categories. Similarly, because of the historical issues off Somalia incidents in this area are also shown as separate categories.

Attacks in the Gulf of Aden and off the east coast of Somalia have been grouped together in the narrations for easy reading.

## DEFINITIONS OF PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

Piracy is defined in Article 101 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and Armed Robbery defined by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in its 26<sup>th</sup> Assembly session as Resolution A.1025 (26).

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).*

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

## Community of Reporting

Piracy and Armed Robbery as a crime, continues to be concern to the shipping industry. A structured response by governments and their response agencies is critical to address this crime. At the same time, however, the shipping industry needs to be comfortable to report incidents and be confident that their reports will be actioned. Unfortunately, the latter has not been forthcoming, especially from the Gulf of Guinea region for several years. To address this the IMB, along with Oceans Beyond Piracy have conceptualised 'Community of Reporting'. This endeavour encourages all agencies; governmental, non-governmental, response agencies, commercial operators, etc. to share reports available to them with the IMB – in confidence. The IMB has undertaken to collate and present these figures in its reports.

As different agencies define and categorise incidents differently the IMB proposes to collate these under three generic levels – I, II, III. The types of incidents which will fall under these headings, will be defined by the effect the incident has on the crew, vessel and cargo.

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

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

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.

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

Table 9 is a representation of all incidents reported to the IMB PRC in 2016 and 2017 under the above Levels of risk and violence criteria.

The 2017 Q1 report does not have any incidents received through the Community of Reporting.

## **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
- Japan P&I Club
- Just Ships
- Standard Steam Ship Mutual P&I Association
- Steam Ship Insurance Management Services Limited
- Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in Malaysia
- The North of England P&I Association Ltd
- Tsakos Shipping

**The PRC is additionally non-financially supported by:**

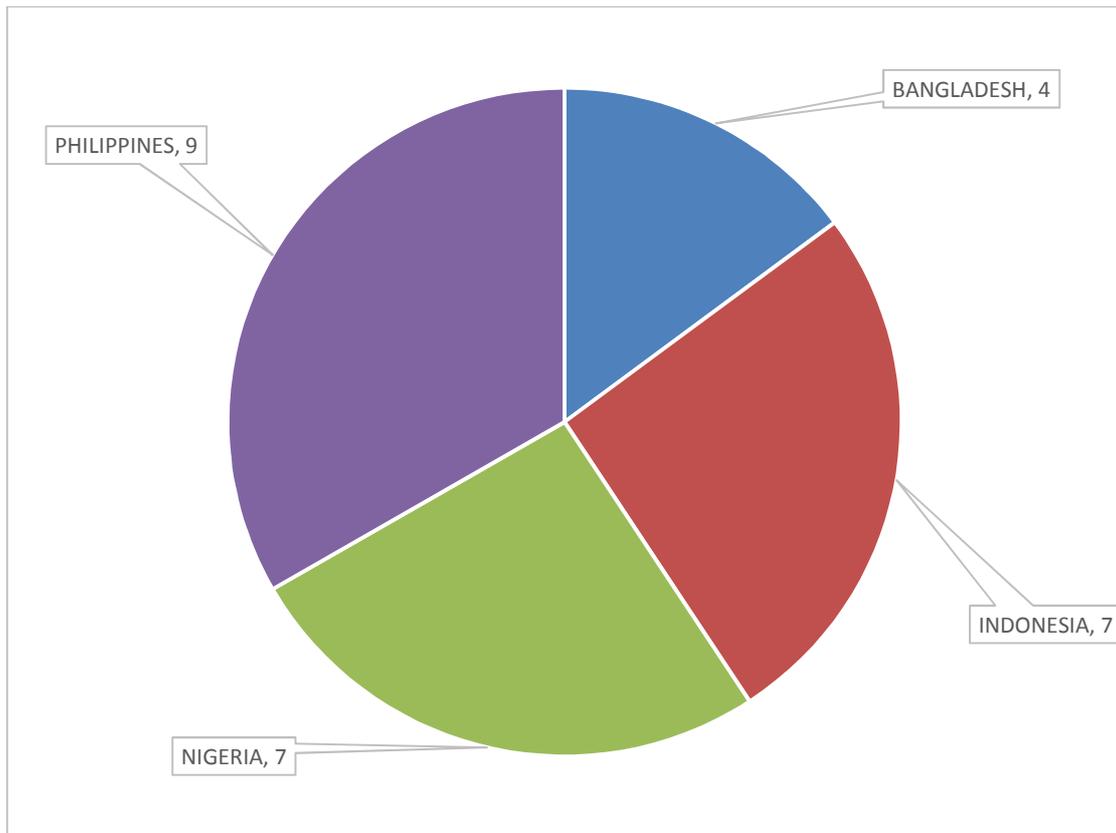
- ExactEarth ([www.exactearth.com](http://www.exactearth.com))
- Vesseltracker ([www.vesseltracker.com](http://www.vesseltracker.com))

**TABLE 1: Locations of ACTUAL and ATTEMPTED attacks January - March 2013 – 2017**

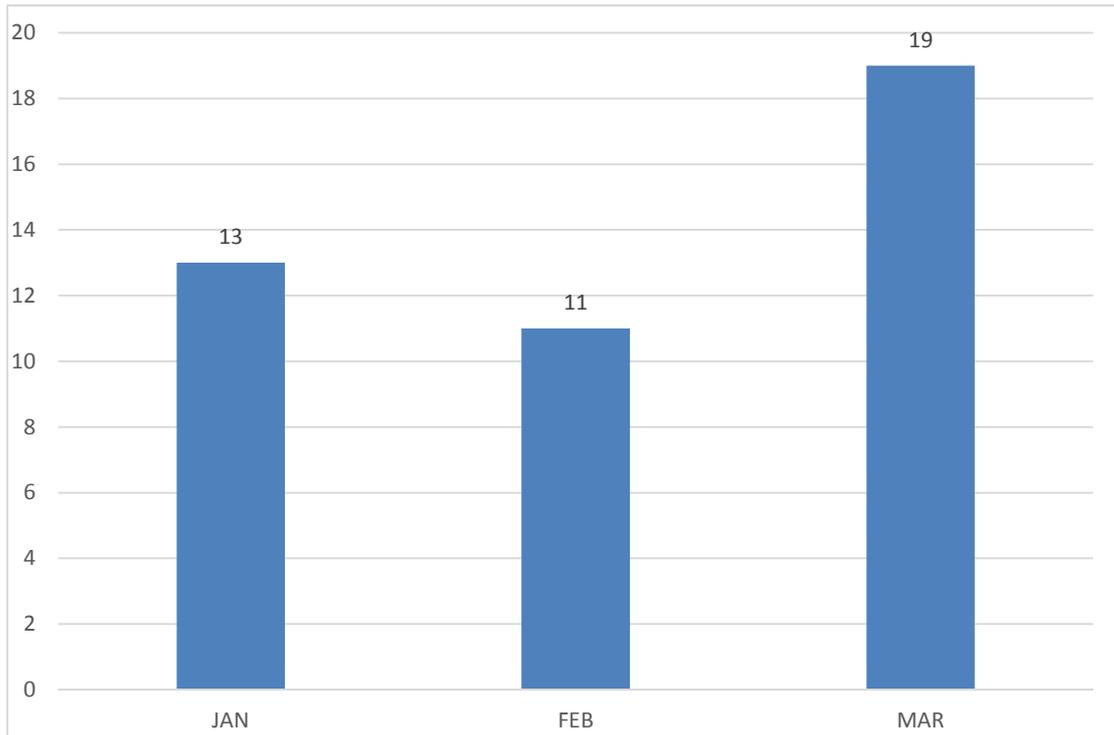
<b>Locations</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>S E ASIA</b> Indonesia	25	18	21	4	7
Malacca Straits			1		
Malaysia			3		1
Philippines	1		2	2	9
Singapore Straits	2	5	2		1
Thailand			1		
<b>EAST ASIA</b> China				1	1
South China Sea	1				
Vietnam	1		8	2	
<b>INDIAN SUB</b> Bangladesh	4	4	1		4
<b>CONTINENT</b> India	4	2	2	10	1
<b>AMERICA</b> Brazil					
Colombia	2		1		2
Ecuador					1
Guyana	1			1	
Haiti					
Peru	2			2	1
Venezuela				1	2
<b>AFRICA</b> Angola		1			
Benin					
Cameroon		1			
Dem. Rep. of Congo				2	
Egypt	1				
Gabon		1			
Ghana			2		
Gulf of Aden*	2	2			
Ivory Coast	3		1	1	
Kenya				1	
Liberia		1			
Mauritania	1				
Mozambique					1
Nigeria	11	6	7	10	7
Red Sea*		1			
Sierra Leone					2
Somalia	3	2			2
Tanzania	1	1			
The Congo	1	3	1		1
<b>REST OF WORLD</b> Oman		1			
Papua New Guinea			1		
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Total at year end</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>191</b>	

All incidents with \* above are attributed to Somali pirates

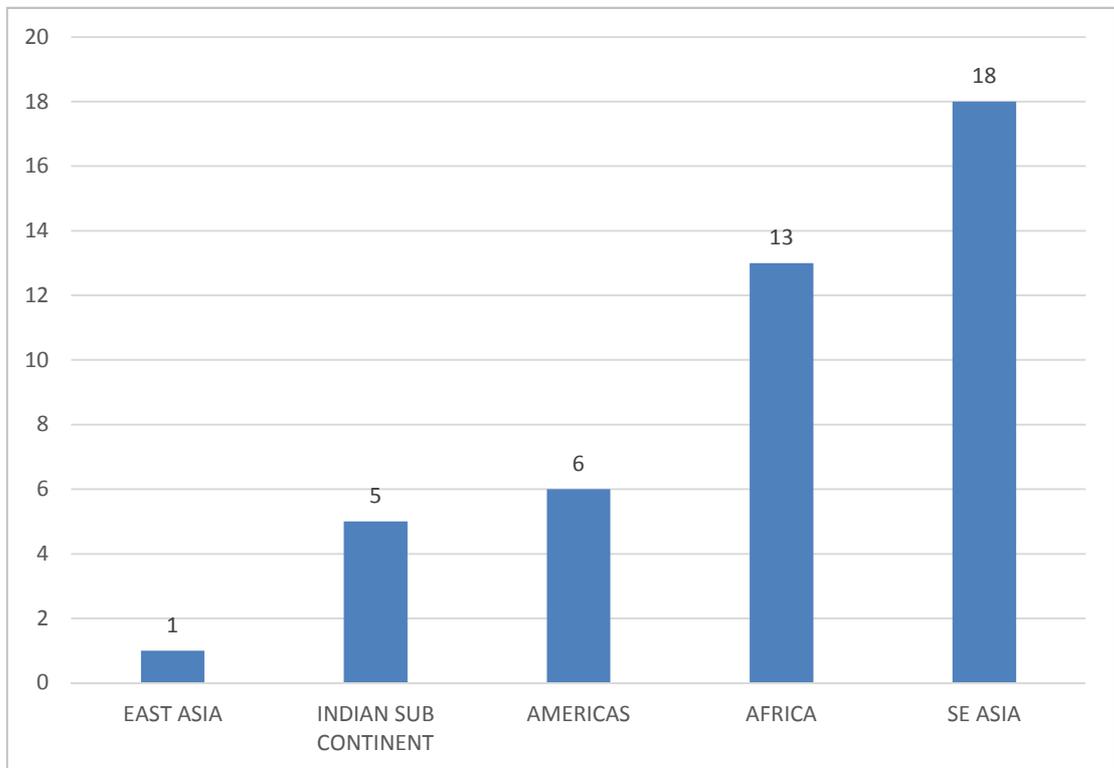
**CHART A: The following four locations were responsible for nearly two thirds of the total 43 reported incidents for the period.**



**CHART B: Monthly comparison of incidents during January - March 2017**



**CHART C: Total incidents as per regions of the world January - March 2017**



**TABLE 2: ACTUAL and ATTEMPTED attacks by location, January - March 2017**

Location	Actual attacks		Attempted attacks	
	Boarded	Hijacked	Attempted	Fired Upon
<b>AFRICA</b> Congo	1			
Mozambique	1			
Nigeria	4			3
Sierra Leone	2			
Somalia		2		
<b>AMERICAS</b> Colombia	2			
Ecuador	1			
Peru	1			
Venezuela	2			
<b>EAST ASIA</b> China	1			
<b>INDIAN SUB</b> Bangladesh	4			
<b>CONTINENT</b> India	1			
<b>SE ASIA</b> Indonesia	5		2	
Malaysia	1			
Philippines	7		1	1
Singapore			1	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>			

**TABLE 3: Ports and anchorages, with three or more reported incidents, January – March 2017**

Country	Location	01.01.2017 to 31.03.2017
Bangladesh	Chittagong / Kutubdia	4
Indonesia	Lubuk Gaung / Dumai	3
Philippines	Batangas	4

**TABLE 4: Status of ships during ACTUAL attacks, January – March 2017**

Location	Anchored	Berthed	Not Stated	Steaming
<b>AFRICA</b> Congo	1			
Mozambique		1		
Nigeria				4
Sierra Leone	2			
Somalia			1	1
<b>AMERICAS</b> Colombia	2			
Ecuador	1			
Peru	1			
Venezuela	2			
<b>EAST ASIA</b> China	1			
<b>INDIAN SUB</b> Bangladesh	4			
<b>CONTINENT</b> India	1			
<b>SE ASIA</b> Indonesia	5			

Malaysia		1		
Philippines	3	1		3
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>			

**TABLE 5: Status of ships during ATTEMPTED attacks, January – March 2017**

Location	Anchored	Berthed	Not Stated	Steaming
AFRICA Nigeria				3
SE ASIA Indonesia	2			
Philippines				2
Singapore				1
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>			

**TABLE 6: Types of arms used during attacks, January - March 2013 – 2017**

Types of Arms	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Guns	20	14	13	12	14
Knives	19	17	21	9	10
Not stated	26	16	17	16	18
Other weapons	1	2	3		1
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Total at year end</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>191</b>	

**TABLE 7: Comparison of the type of attacks, January - March 2013 – 2017**

Type of Attack	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Attempted	4	5	4	3	4
Boarded	51	37	42	29	33
Fired upon	7	5		2	4
Hijack	4	2	8	3	2
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Total at year end</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>191</b>	

**TABLE 8: Types of violence to crew, January - March 2013 – 2017**

Types of Violence	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Hostage	75	46	140	28	31
Kidnap	14	2	5	26	27
Threatened	3	3	1	1	3
Assaulted			13	1	
Injured	3	1	3	2	
Killed	1		1		2
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>63</b>

<b>Total at year end</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>236</b>	
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**TABLE 9: Level of attack and violence on crew, January – March 2016 – 2017**

<b>Level of Attack</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Level I	10	15
Level II	8	8
Level III	19	20
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Total at year end</b>	<b>191</b>	

**TABLE 10: Type of violence to crew by location, January – March 2017**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Hostage</b>	<b>Kidnap</b>	<b>Threatened</b>	<b>Killed</b>
<b>AFRICA</b> Nigeria		17		
Sierra Leone			1	
Somalia	28			
<b>AMERICAS</b> Peru	1			
Venezuela	1			
<b>SE ASIA</b> Indonesia	1			
Philippines		10	2	2
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>			

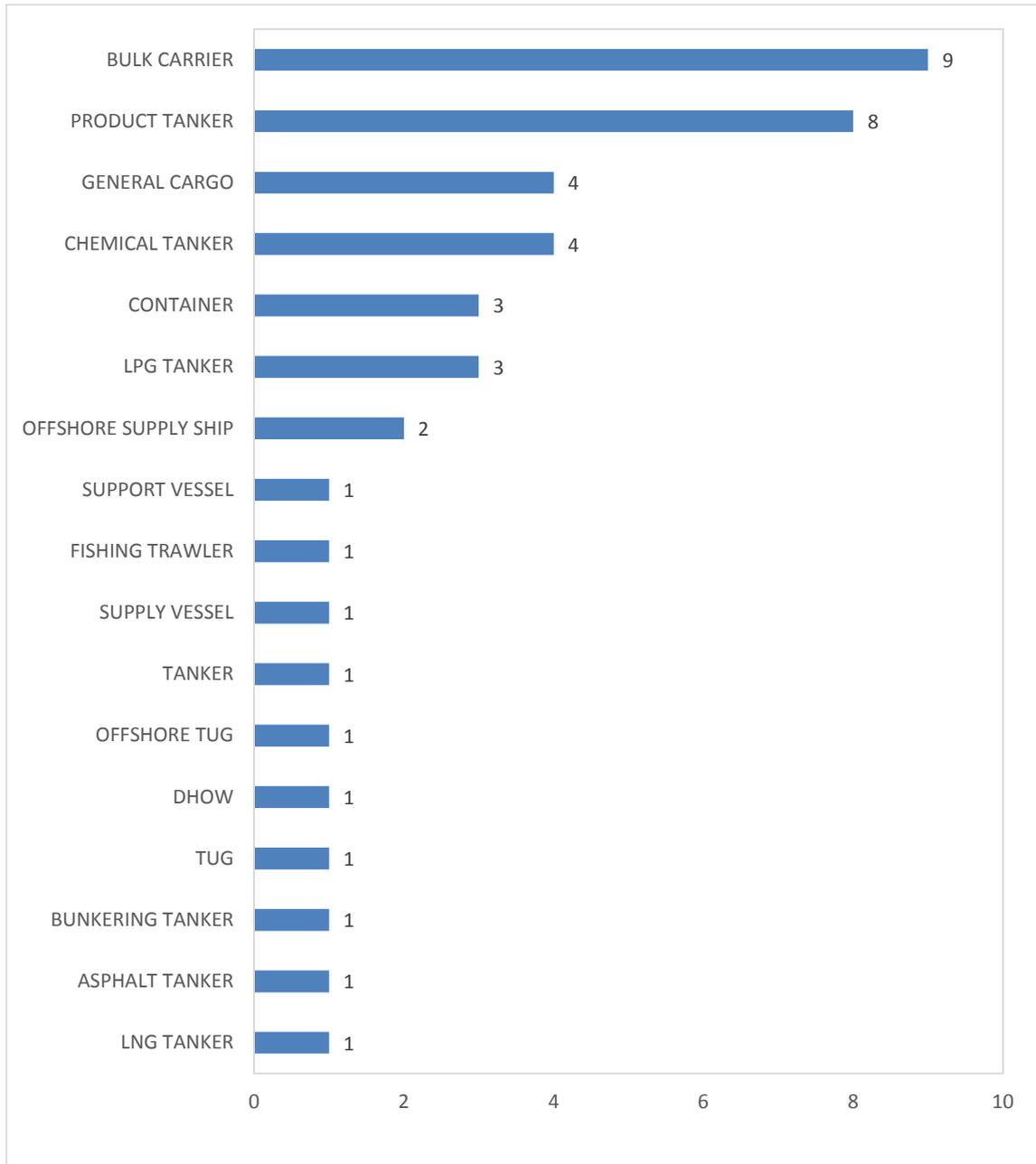
**TABLE 11: Types of arms used by geographical location, January - March 2017**

<b>Locations</b>	<b>Guns</b>	<b>Knives</b>	<b>Not Stated</b>	<b>Other weapons</b>
<b>S E ASIA</b> Indonesia		2	4	1
Malaysia			1	
Philippines	4	2	3	
Singapore Straits			1	
<b>EAST ASIA</b> China			1	
<b>INDIAN SUB</b> Bangladesh		2	2	
<b>CONTINENT</b> India			1	
<b>AMERICAS</b> Colombia			2	
Ecuador		1		
Peru	1			
Venezuela		1	1	
<b>AFRICA</b> Mozambique		1		
Nigeria	7			
Sierra Leone		1	1	
Somalia	2			
The Congo			1	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>			

**TABLE 12 Types of vessels attacked, January – March 2013 – 2017**

<b>Type</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Bulk carrier	16	9	22	9	9
Container	7	5	4	1	3
Dhow					1
General cargo	7	7	1	2	4
Hopper Dredger			1		
FPSO			1		
Offshore Support vessel				1	1
Passenger boat			1		
Pipe Layer vessel			1		
Refrigerated	1		2		
RORO		2			
Supply ship	4	2	1		3
Tanker Asphalt					1
Tanker Bunkering			1		1
Tanker Chem / Product	17	13	9	15	12
Tanker Crude Oil	8	7	2	1	1
Tanker LNG				1	1
Tanker LPG	3	2	1	1	3
Trawler / Fishing Vessel	1		1		1
Tug / Offshore Tug	2	2	4	4	2
Vehicle carrier			1	2	
Wood Chips carrier			1		
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Total at year end</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>191</b>	

**CHART D: Type of vessels attacked January – March 2017**

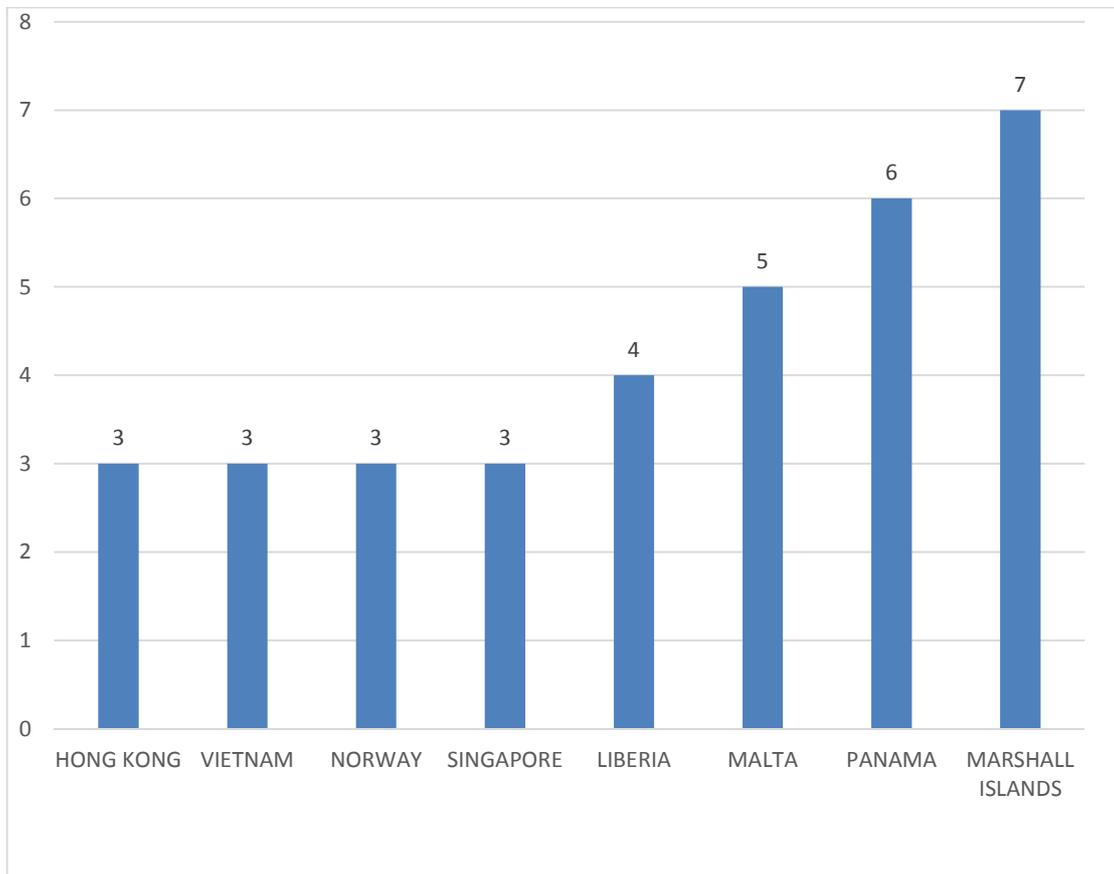


**TABLE 13: Nationalities of ships attacked, January - March 2013 – 2017**

<b>Flag State</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Antigua and Barbuda	2	2	1		1
Bahamas	2	1	1		1
Belgium			1		
Belize			1		
China	2				
Cook Islands			1		
Croatia	1			1	
Curacao			1		
Denmark	2	1		1	
Ethiopia				1	
Ghana			1		
Gibraltar	1	1			
Greece			2		
Hong Kong (SAR)	4	2	3	1	3
India				1	
Indonesia			1	1	1
Iran	1				
Isle of Man		1	1		
Italy		2			
Liberia	15	7	4	4	4
Luxemburg	2		1		
Malaysia	2	1	3		1
Malta	3	1	2	1	5
Marshall Islands	7	8	8	10	7
Netherlands		2			
Nigeria		1	1	2	
Norway	1	2		1	3
Panama	9	6	11	5	6
Papua New Guinea			1		
Philippines					2
Saudi Arabia		1			
Sierra Leone		1			
Singapore	6	6	6	7	3
Spain					1
Sri Lanka					1
St Vincent Grenadines	3				
Thailand			2		
Turkey	1				
United Kingdom	1			1	
USA	1	1			
Vanuatu			1		
Vietnam		1			3
Not Stated		1			1
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>

<b>Total at year end</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>191</b>	
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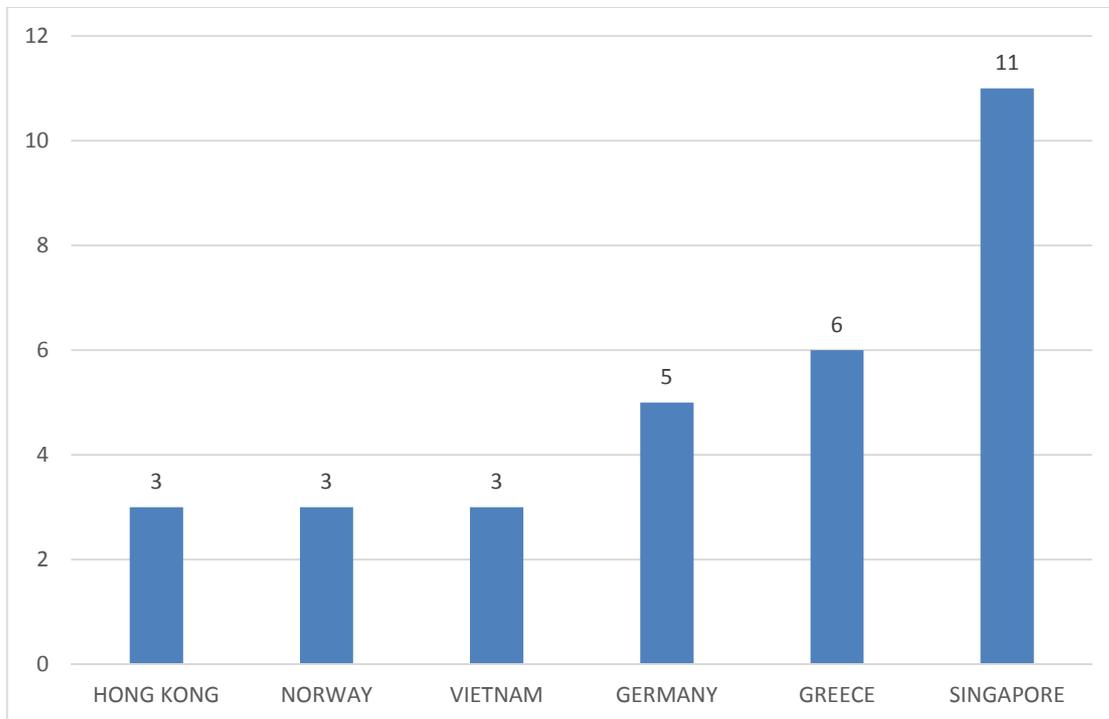
**CHART E: Flag States whose ships have been attacked three or more times from January – March 2017**



**TABLE 14: Countries where victim ships controlled / managed, January – March 2017**

Country	No of Ships
Australia	1
Germany	5
Greece	6
Hong Kong	3
Indonesia	1
Japan	1
Malaysia	1
Norway	3
Philippines	2
Singapore	11
Switzerland	1
Taiwan	1
UAE	2
United Kingdom	1
Vietnam	3
Not Stated	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>

**Chart F: Managing countries whose ships have been attacked three or more times from January – March 2017**



***OFF SOMALIA / GULF OF ADEN ATTACK FIGURES UPDATE***

**From 1 January to 31 March 2017, the IMB PRC has received reports on two successful hijackings.**

**All vessels, especially those transiting close to the Somali coast are at risk of being targeted by Somali pirates. All ships are advised to adhere to the latest BMP4 recommendations while transiting these waters.**

**It is easy to mistaken fishing boats as pirate skiffs. Vessels employing Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP) need to be especially cautious to prevent incidents due to mistaken identity.**

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

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

## **PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY PRONE AREAS AND WARNINGS**

*Mariners are warned to be extra cautious and to take necessary precautionary measures when transiting the following areas:*

### **SOUTH EAST ASIA AND INDIAN SUB CONTINENT**

**Bangladesh:** Robbers usually target ships preparing to anchor. Most attacks reported at Chittagong anchorages and approaches. Attacks in Bangladesh have fallen significantly over the past few years because of the efforts by the Bangladesh Authorities.

**Indonesia:** Tanjung Priok (Jakarta), Dumai, Batu Ampar / Batam, Samarinda, Taboneo, and Muara Berau anchorages and surrounding waters. Pirates / robbers are normally armed with guns / knives and / or machetes. Generally, be vigilant in other areas as well as attacks may have gone unreported. Pirates / robbers normally attack vessel during the hours of darkness. When spotted and alarm sounded, the pirates / robbers usually escape without confronting the crew.

Recent meetings and continued dialog between the Indonesian Marine Police (IMP) and the IMB PRC has resulted in positive actions by the Indonesian Authorities, which has resulted in a reduction of reported incidents.

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

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. Adang bay: 01:40.00S-116:40.00E
9. Muara Berau: 00:17.00S-117:36.00E
10. Balikpapan: 01:22.00S-116:53.00E

Ships are advised to implement anti-piracy measures and report all attacks and suspicious sightings to the local authorities and the IMB PRC. The IMB PRC, will also liaise with the local authorities to render necessary assistance.

**Malacca Straits:** The number of reported attacks have reduced substantially since 2005, due to the patrols by the littoral states authorities. In 2016, no incidents were reported in these waters, to the IMB PRC however, attacks may have gone unreported. Ships are advised to continue maintaining anti-piracy / robbery watches when transiting the Straits as currently, there are no indications as to how long the patrols will continue.

**Malaysia:** Off Sabah – Militant activities resulting in tugs / barges / fishing boats being attacked and crews kidnapped.

**Philippines:** Pirates / militants in the southern Philippines attacking vessels in / off Sibutu passage / off Sibutu island / Tawi Tawi / Sulu sea / Celebes sea / off eastern Sabah. Initially tug / barges and fishing vessels were targeted to rob and kidnap crews for ransom. Now, merchant ships and their crews have also been targeted.

Batangas – A sudden rise in attacks / robberies have been reported from the anchorage area.

**Singapore Straits:** Vessels are advised to remain vigilant and to continue maintaining adequate anti-piracy / robbery watch and measures. Pirates / robbers attack ships while underway or while at anchor especially during the night.

**South China Sea:** Although attacks have dropped significantly 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. In the past, hijackings of small product tankers have been reported off the coast of Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and in the South China Sea area. This trend started in April 2014 and the hijackings stopped abruptly in late 2015. The IMB is monitoring the situation. It has been reported that some criminals have been arrested by local Authorities both in Malaysia and in Indonesia.

**Vietnam:** Vung Tau – Attacks especially at anchorages.

### **AFRICA AND RED SEA**

**Benin:** Cotonou – Although the number of attacks has dropped significantly, the area remains risky. Past attacks showed that the pirates / robbers in this area are well armed and violent. In some incidents ships have been fired upon and hijacked ships. Masters were forced to sail to unknown location where ship's properties and sometimes part cargo stolen (gas oil). Crewmembers have been injured in the past. Recent patrols by Benin and Nigerian Authorities has resulted in a drop in the number of attacks. However, vessels are advised to continue to be vigilant and maintain strict anti-piracy / robbery watches and measures.

**Guinea:** Conakry.

**Ivory Coast:** Abidjan – Attacks dropped but remains risky.

**Nigeria:** Lagos – Pirates / robbers are often well armed, violent and have hijacked and robbed vessels and kidnapped and injured crews along the coast, rivers, anchorages, ports and surrounding waters. In the past, attacks have been reported up to 170nm from the coast. Vessels have usually been hijacked to steal cargo. During the hijack the vessel is usually ransacked and communication equipment damaged.

Off Bayelsa / Brass/Bonny Island / Port Harcourt – Recently, there has been an increase in the number of reported attacks / hijackings / kidnapping of crews off these areas. Vessels are advised to take additional measures in these high-risk waters.

Generally, all waters in / off Nigeria remain risky. Vessels are advised to be vigilant, as many attacks may have gone unreported.

**The Congo:** Pointe Noire

**Togo:** Lome – Attacks have dropped but the area remains a concern and risky. Pirates / robbers in the area are well armed, violent and dangerous. Attacks can occur at anchorages and off the coast, usually at night. Some attacks have resulted in vessels being hijacked for several days and ransacked and part cargo stolen (gas oil).

**Red Sea / Gulf of Aden / Somalia / Arabian Sea / Indian Ocean:** Two vessels have been hijacked off Somalia this quarter alone. Somali pirates continue to possess the capability and capacity to carry out attacks. It appears that they may now be seeking the opportunity as well. All merchant ships are advised to adhere to the latest BMP4 recommendations while transiting these waters. The IMB PRC will continue to alert and broadcast information to all ships in the region via Inmarsat C EGC Safety Net.

The threat of these attacks still exists in the waters off 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 been attacked 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. Incidents have also been reported close to the east African coastlines.

Somali pirates tend to be well armed with automatic weapons and RPG and sometimes use skiffs launched from mother vessels, which may be hijacked fishing vessels or dhows, to conduct attacks far from the Somali coast. Masters and ship owners are encouraged to register and report their vessels as per the BMP4 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. Early sightings / detection enable an accurate assessment, keeping in mind the warnings and alerts for the area, allowing the Masters and PCASP to make informed decisions to keep clear of small boats, dhows, fishing vessels and if necessary take evasive actions, increase speed 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.

## **SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN WATERS**

**Ecuador:** Guayaquil – Attacks stopped but ships advised to be vigilant.

**Peru:** Callao – Incidents increasing

### **Reporting of incidents:**

Ships are advised to maintain strict anti-piracy watches and report all piratical attacks (actual and attempted) and suspicious sightings to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Tel: +60 3 2078 5763 Fax: +60 3 2078 5769 E-mail: [imbkl@icc-ccs.org](mailto:imbkl@icc-ccs.org)

The Centre's 24 Hours Anti-Piracy HELPLINE is: +60 3 2031 0014

### **IMB Maritime Security Hotline**

The IMB Maritime Security Hotline is dedicated 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 maritime crime and security including terrorism, piracy and other illegal activities. All information received will be treated in strict confidence and will be passed on to relevant Authorities for further action.

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](mailto:imbsecurity@icc-ccs.org)

**REMEMBER: Your information may save lives.**

## **OBSERVATIONS**

*Narrations of the 43 attacks for 01 January to 31 March 2017 are listed on pages 27 to 35. The following serious incidents, in chronological sequence are described in more detail.*

### **Nigeria:**

On 05 February 2017, an Antigua and Barbuda flagged General Cargo Ship MV BBC Caribbean was attacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 04:00.5 North and Longitude 005:29.3 East, around 31 nm SW of Bayelsa coast, Nigeria at approximately 1025 UTC. Armed pirates in three speed boats and one tug reportedly attacked the ship with 11 crew onboard. The pirates boarded the ship, kidnapped eight crew members and escaped. After the pirates left the vessel, one crew emerged from hiding and activated the SSAS. The IMB PRC received the notification from the Netherlands Coast Guard and contacted the ship and owners. The IMB PRC also liaised with the Nigerian Navy for assistance. A warship was dispatched to assist. Later, two more crew emerged from hiding and steered the ship further away from the coast before heading towards a safe port.

On 07 February 2017, a Panama flagged LPG Tanker MT Gaz Providence was attacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 03:22.0 North and Longitude 007:13.5 East, around 60 nm South of Bonny Island, Nigeria at approximately 1904 UTC. Armed pirates attacked and boarded the tanker with 25 crew onboard. Alarm raised and most crew retreated into the citadel. The Owners notified the IMB PRC, who then liaised with the Nigerian Navy and all other relevant Agencies. A naval vessel was dispatched to assist the tanker. The naval vessel intercepted the tanker and a boarding team boarded the tanker and confirmed it to be free of pirates. The three crews who did not enter the citadel were reported missing and believed to be kidnapped. The naval vessel then escorted the tanker to Bonny Anchorage for further investigation. On 28 February 2017, the three crew members were released safely.

On 30 March 2017, a Malta flagged Bulk Carrier MV Eleni M was attacked by armed pirates while underway at position Latitude 04:01 North and Longitude 006:48 East, around 32 nm SW of Bonny, Nigeria in the early morning hours. As the Bulk Carrier approached the pilot boarding station the crew noticed a small boat approaching. Four armed pirates were seen in the boat who attacked and successfully boarded the ship, kidnapped six crew including the Captain and escaped.

### **Philippines:**

On 19 January 2017, a Malaysian flagged Fishing Trawler BN-838/4/F was attacked by armed persons while underway near Taganak Island, Philippines. The Fishing Trawler, with three crew had sailed from Sandakan Jetty on 18 January 2017 at around 1500 Hrs LT. On 19 January 2017 at around 1500 Hrs LT, the Owners received information from the Malaysian Marine Police in Sandakan that the Fishing Trawler was found drifting off Taganak Island. Information received from the Taganak Authorities indicated that the trawler was found without any crew onboard. The Fishing Trawler was then towed to Taganak for investigations. The missing three crew are believed to be kidnapped.

On 19 February 2017, a Vietnam flagged General Cargo ship MV Giang Hai was attacked by armed persons while underway at position Latitude 06:09.26 North and Longitude 119:39.18 East, around 17 nm North of Pearl Bank, Philippines at approximately 1024 UTC. Armed persons in a speedboat attacked, fired upon and successfully boarded the ship with 17 crew. They then damaged the navigational equipment, kidnapped six crew and escaped. As the crew was transferred to the pirate boat one crew fell into the water, was not able to be rescued and presumed dead. The pirates took the remaining five crew. Two crew killed during the incident. The remaining crew managed to sail the ship until the Philippines Coast Guard intercepted and boarded the ship for investigations.

On 23 March 2017, a Philippines flagged Tugboat Super Shuttle Tug 1 was attacked by armed persons while underway at around 24 nm SE of Sibago Island, Philippines at approximately 1159 LT. Six persons armed with rifles in speed boats attacked and boarded the tug with 11 crew. The tug was towing a Ro-Ro ship. They stole crew and tug's documents, kidnapped two crew and escaped. The incident was reported to the Philippines Authorities who conducted a rescue operation and successfully rescued the two kidnapped crew members.

**Somalia:**

On 14 March 2017, a Sri Lankan flagged Bunkering Tanker MT Aris 13 was attacked and hijacked by armed persons while underway at position Latitude 11:59 North and Longitude 050:45 East, around one nm north of Aluula, Bari, North of Somalia at approximately 1830 UTC. All eight crew were taken hostage. On 16 March 2017, the crew and tanker were released safely. No further information available.

On 23 March 2017, a Dhow Casayr II – No. 30 was attacked and hijacked by armed pirates near Eyl, Somalia in the morning hours. The pirates took hostage the dhow's 20 crew. The dhow also had three skiffs onboard. The pirates released 13 crew in one skiff. The dhow with the remaining crew and an unknown number of pirates then sailed the dhow to an unknown location. The pirates released the dhow on 26 March 2017 after stealing one skiff along with food and diesel. No further information available.

***ACKNOWLEDGEMENT***

**The IMB appreciates the assistance 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 in the past 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 have resulted in the drop in the number of attacks.**

## **TRENDS**

A total of 43 incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships was reported to the IMB PRC in the first quarter of 2017.

This is broken down as 33 vessels boarded, four vessels fired upon, four attempted attacks and two hijackings. Sixty-three crew were directly affected in these incidents including two crew reported killed – the highest first quarter figure since 2013. Additionally, 31 crew were taken hostage, 27 crew kidnapped and three crew threatened.

Within the SE Asian region more incidents were reported on vessels at anchor, while in the African region more vessels were targeted while underway. This pattern remains consistent with 2016.

The waters off Southern Philippines including the Sulu Sea and the Sibutu Passage remain a growing concern. Nine incidents were reported in the first quarter compared to only two for the corresponding period in 2016. Two crew were killed and 10 crew kidnapped from a fishing trawler, a tug and a general cargo vessel. The killing of the crew occurred on the general cargo vessel and may be seen as an escalation of violence within this region, possibly influenced by militant activity rather than piracy.

The Gulf of Guinea remains a kidnap hotspot with 17 crew taken from three separate incidents – all while the vessels were underway at distances ranging from 30 to 60 nautical miles off the Bayelsa coast. Three vessels were also fired upon while underway at distances ranging between 60 to 110 nautical miles off the Bayelsa coast.

After a lull of nearly five years' Somali pirates successfully hijacked a dhow and a small bunkering tanker within their territorial waters. A total of 28 crew were taken hostage and subsequently released within a relatively short time. These incidents appear to have been opportunistic particularly as the vessels involved were not employing any BMP4 recommended measures. These incidents do however, show the capability of the Somali pirate still exists. Masters are therefore strongly encouraged to employ all recommended BMP4 procedures while transiting these waters.

The IMB PRC remains the world's only independent 24-hour manned centre to receive reports of pirate attacks from around the world. IMB strongly urges all shipmasters and owners to report all actual, attempted and suspected piracy and armed robbery incidents to the IMB PRC. This first step in the response chain is vital to ensuring that adequate resources are allocated by authorities to tackle piracy. Transparent statistics from an independent, non-political, international organization can act as a catalyst to achieve this goal.

**PIRACY NEWS**

**Collaboration between Indonesia Marine Police (IMP) and IMB**

In view of the successful cooperation between the IMP and IMB on the safe designated areas from January 2014 to January 2017, the IMP and IMB are pleased to announce that this effort will continue for another three years.

The Indonesian Authorities have officially advised the IMB, that in accordance with the Road Map Program, Police Reforms Wave III, the prevention action of sea robbery / piracy in the below Indonesian ports / waters will continue until 2019.

The designated areas have assisted to bring down incidents in these waters, due to the actions and commitment of the IMP. The same is reflected in the table below.

All ships intending to anchor, waiting for berth or drift should do so at the designated areas where IMP patrol boats are stationed. This enables the IMP to maximize their resources and provide greater protection to ships.

Merchant ships are advised to cooperate by maintaining strict anti-piracy and robbery watches and report all attacks and suspicious sightings to the local Authorities including the IMB PRC who will liaise with local and regional Authorities to render assistance.

Incidents reported at the 10 designated areas are as follows: (Updated as of 31 March 2017)

	Locations	2013 Total	2014 Total	2015 Total	2016 Q1	2016 Q2	2016 Q3	2016 Q4	2016 Total	2017 1st
1	Belawan: 03:55.00N - 098:45.30E	18	9	15	-	1	-	-	1	-
2	Dumai: 01:42.00N - 101:28.00E	12	1	5	-	2	3	4	9	3
3	Nipah: 01:07.30N - 103:37.00E	14	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	TanjungPriok/Jakarta: 06:00.30S - 106:54.00E	6	9	4	3	2	-	1	6	-
5	Gresik: 07:09.00S - 112:40.00E	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Taboneo: 03:41.30S - 114:28.00E	8	2	4	-	-	1	2	3	1
7	Adang Bay: 01:40.00S - 116:40.00E	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Muara Berau: 00:17.00S - 117:36.00E	4	6	1	-	-	2	3	5	1
9	Balikpapan: 01:22.00S - 116:53.00E	5	1	-	-	2	-	-	2	-
10	Bintan Island / Tanjung Berakit: 01:23.30N - 104:42.30E	-	35	1	-	1	-	-	1	-

Due to successful counter robbery measures the IMP has now removed the port and anchorage of Muara Jawa.

### **Indonesian Marine Police (IMP) arrest suspected robbers at Dumai anchorage**

The IMP has arrested four robbers after responding to a call from a vessel in Dumai anchorage.

The IMP has stationed a patrol vessel at Dumai anchorage for the protection of ships. On 26 March 2017, the IMP was alerted of an incident onboard an anchored tanker. The patrol boat responded and four robbers were apprehend.

With the arrest of this gang, the IMP hopes that the incidents at Dumai will reduce even further. The IMP has indicated that they are committed to bring down the attacks in their waters. Those arrested will be punished as per local laws.

### **Somali piracy increasing**

The first quarter of 2017 has seen two vessels hijacked and released by suspected Somali pirates. It is currently unclear if these will spark another wave of incidents off the Somali coast – similar to that seen between 2007 and 2012. The IMB is closely monitoring the situation. The circumstance of the capture and release of both these vessels are not fully known.

The IMB once again reiterates its advice to Masters and ship owners / operators to follow company and ship specific procedures and pay heed to the recommendations given in the BMP4 while transiting the high-risk waters off Somalia.

### **Situation in the waters of Sulu Sea, Celebes Sea and off eastern Sabah remain risky**

The waters of the Sulu Sea, Celebes Sea, Off Sibutu, off Tawi – Tawi and off Eastern Sabah and generally southern Philippines remain risky for attacks resulting in the kidnapping of crews.

These kidnappings are believed to be linked to local militant groups and the Philippine, Malaysia and Indonesian Authorities are concerned and continue to cooperate in an effort to secure these waters.

Ships are advised to remain vigilant and adhere to IMO recommendations. Additionally, vessels are also encouraged to apply hardening measures as identified under BMP4.

The IMB recommends vessels to avoid these waters and sail west of Kalimantan, if possible and agreed by all parties under the venture.

### **Attacks and kidnapping of crews continue in Gulf of Guinea**

Ships continue to be attacked and crews kidnapped in the Gulf of Guinea.

Attacks can occur more than 100 nm from coast. The IMB recommends ships to sail more than 200 nm off the Nigerian coast if possible not entering these ports. It is also recommended to drift more than 200 nm and only make way once pilot boarding is confirmed.

The IMB PRC works and cooperates very closely with the Nigerian Authorities and will liaise with them in all attacks that are reported to the Centre.

**NARRATIONS OF ATTACKS**

**1 January – 31 March 2017**

**ACTUAL ATTACKS**

**SOUTH EAST ASIA (EXCLUDING MALACCA STRAITS)**

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	07.01.2017 1450 UTC Anchored Boarded	Silver Express Product Tanker Panama 26900 9380099	13:44.0N – 121:02.2E, Batangas Anchorage, Philippines	Robbers in two boats approached and boarded an anchored tanker. Duty AB on routine rounds noticed the robbers and raised the alarm resulting in the robbers escaping. Crew mustered and a search was carried out and ship's properties reported stolen. Incident reported to Coast Guard who boarded the tanker for investigation.
2.	08.01.2017 1735 UTC Anchored Boarded	Alpha Bulker Bulk Carrier Panama 19885 9336763	00:15.2S – 117:34.0E, Muara Berau Anchorage, Samarinda, Indonesia	Five robbers boarded an anchored ship. They took hostage the duty crew and tied him at the fore mast. Another duty crew tried to contact the crew but received no response. As he approached the forecandle to investigate, he noticed the robbers and informed the OOW who raised the alarm. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped in their speed boat with the stolen ship's stores.
3.	16.01.2017 1930 UTC Berthed Boarded	Name Withheld Product Tanker Malta 30000 -	05:47.2N – 118:01.5E, Mowtas Oil Terminal (MOT), Sandakan Port, Sabah, Malaysia	During cargo operations, crew onboard the berthed tanker observed a robber on the forecandle. Alarm raised. Seeing the alert crew approaching the robber escaped with stolen ship's stores.
4.	19.01.2017 - Steaming Boarded	BN-838/4/F Fishing Trawler Malaysia - -	Vicinity of Taganak Island, Philippines	A fishing trawler with three crew onboard sailed from Sandakan Jetty on 18.01.2017 at around 1500 LT for fishing activities. On 19.01.2017 at around 1500 LT, the Owners received information from the Marine Police of Sandakan that the fishing vessel was found drifting at Taganak Island. Information from Taganak Authorities indicated that the vessel was found without the crew. The vessel was towed to Taganak for investigation. The

				missing three crew members are believed to be kidnapped.
5.	19.02.2017 1024 UTC Steaming Boarded	Giang Hai General Cargo Vietnam 2875 9557329	06:09.26N – 119:39.18E, Around 17nm North of Pearl Bank, Philippines	Armed persons in a speedboat attacked, fired-upon and boarded the ship with 17 crew. They damaged navigational equipment, kidnapped six crew and escaped. As the crew was transferred to the pirate boat one crew fell into the water, was not able to be rescued and presumed dead. The pirates took the remaining five crew. Two crew killed during the incident. The remaining crew managed to sail the ship until the Philippines Coast Guard intercepted and boarded the ship.
6.	23.02.2017 0355 LT Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld Offshore Tug Indonesia 6641 -	01:10.9N – 103:59.2E, Batu Ampar Anchorage, Batam, Indonesia	Five robbers armed with a knife boarded an anchored offshore tug. Alert crew noticed the robbers on the CCTV cameras and raised the alarm. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped without stealing anything.
7.	09.03.2017 1906 UTC Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld Product Tanker Norway 42835 -	05:52.9S – 105:59.6E, Merak Anchorage OPL, Indonesia	Duty crew onboard an anchored tanker noticed a boat close to the stern and informed the OOW. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Hearing the alarm, one robber was seen jumping overboard and escaping with two others waiting in the boat. Nothing stolen.
8.	11.03.2017 1845 UTC Anchored Boarded	Maersk Aegean Chemical Tanker Singapore 23297 9636644	01:42.80N – 101:26.04E, Lubuk Gaung Inner Anchorage, Dumai, Indonesia	An unknown number of robbers boarded an anchored tanker, stole ship's properties and escaped. The theft was noticed by the duty crew during routine rounds. Incident reported to the local agents.
9.	13.03.2017 1750 – 1820 UTC Anchored Boarded	Nancy P Product Tanker Marshall Islands 29225 9702194	13:44.9N – 121:01.5E, Batangas Anchorage, Philippines	Unnoticed, robbers boarded an anchored tanker. Duty AB on routine rounds noticed that the forepeak store lock broken and immediately informed the duty officer on the bridge. A search was made throughout the tanker. It was reported that ship's properties were stolen.
10.	21.03.2017 1800 UTC Berthed Boarded	Global Phenix LPG Tanker Panama 5917 9552719	13:40.48N – 121:03.10E, JG Summit Berth, Batangas, Philippines	During loading operations, duty crew on board a LPG carrier, noticed a robber hiding near the starboard winches and threatened the crew with a long knife. Alarm raised and crew alerted. Seeing the alerted crew, the robber escaped in a waiting boat with his accomplice.

				On searching the tanker after the incident, the crew reported ship's properties were stolen. Authorities and agents informed.
11.	23.03.2017 1159 LT Steaming Boarded	Super Shuttle Tug 1 Tug Philippines 225 8609709	Around 24nm SE of Sibago Island, Philippines	Six persons armed with rifles in speed boats approached the tug towing a ro-ro ship. They boarded the tug, stole crew and vessel's documents, kidnapped two crew members and escaped with stolen properties. Philippine Authorities notified and rescue operation launched resulting in the two crew being rescued.
12.	26.03.2017 1200 UTC Anchored Boarded	Ocean Ambition Bulk Carrier Hong Kong 44855 9717709	03:43.08S – 114:25.08E, Taboneo Anchorage, Banjarmasin, Indonesia	Duty AB on routine rounds onboard an anchored ship noticed the forecandle store door lock was broken. Further checks made on the forecandle indicated that the hawse pipe cover securing arrangements were cut through. The AB immediately informed the bridge and alarm raised. Crew mustered and went to the forecandle and found ship's stores were stolen. Port Control informed.
13.	26.03.2017 1730 UTC Anchored Boarded	Overseas Andromar Product Tanker Marshall Islands 30018 9265885	13:43.7N – 121:02.2E, Batangas Anchorage, Philippines	Duty crew onboard an anchored tanker noticed a robber on the forecandle as he approached during routine rounds. The robber threatened the crew with a knife, resulting in the duty crew raising the alarm and retreating. Seeing the crew alertness, the robber escape in a boat. On conducting a thorough security check, ship's properties found missing. Incident reported to the Philippines Coast Guard and Port Authority.

### EAST ASIA

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	14.02.2017 1710 UTC Anchored Boarded	Skythia Bulk Carrier Malta 89990 9423920	38:52.6N – 119:10.0E, Jingtang Anchorage, China	Four robbers boarded an anchored ship and tried to open the port side Marine Diesel Oil (MDO) manhole. Duty officer raised the alarm and SSAS Alert was activated. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped without stealing anything. Crew mustered and a search was

				carried out. Incident reported to the port authorities and the local agents.
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### INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	16.01.2017 2050 UTC Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld Container Marshall Islands 16986 -	22:06.6N – 091:44.4E, Chittagong Anchorage, Bangladesh	Robbers, armed with knives boarded an anchored ship. The duty crew on security watch noticed the robbers and notified the duty officer who raised the alarm, made a PA announcement and mustered the crew. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped with ship's stores. The incident was reported to the Authorities who boarded the ship to investigate.
2.	18.01.2017 1955 UTC Anchored Boarded	Santa Fiorenza Container Liberia 21583 9162253	22:05.8N – 091:48.8E, Chittagong Anchorage, Bangladesh	Four robbers armed with knives boarded an anchored ship using a hook attached with a rope. Duty crew noticed the robbers on the aft mooring station and raised the alarm, made an announcement on PA system and mustered the crew. Seeing the alerted crew, the robbers escaped with the ship's stores. The incident was reported to the Port Control and Chittagong Coast Guard. After a few hours, the Coast Guard notified the ship that two suspicious boats were stopped and searched but the stolen stores were not recovered.
3.	04.02.2017 1400 to 0000 UTC Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld Offshore Supply Ship Norway 3181 -	21:51.53N – 091:48.36E, 1nm West of Kutubdia Island, Bangladesh	Robbers boarded an offshore supply vessel at anchor. They attempted to enter the accommodation but were unsuccessful as the crew has secured all doors.
4.	04.02.2017 1400 to 0000 UTC Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld Offshore Supply Ship Bahamas 3181 -	21:51.53N – 091:48.36E, 1nm West of Kutubdia Island, Bangladesh	An unknown number of robbers boarded an anchored offshore supply vessel. They broke into the paint locker and escaped with a large amount of paint. The theft was noticed by crew when they commenced work in the morning. Authorities informed.
5.	17.02.2017 2155 UTC Anchored Boarded	MMA Pinnacle Support Vessel Singapore 5138 9696187	18:54N – 072:52E, 6.3nm West of JNPT Port, Mumbai,	Two robbers boarded an offshore support vessel from an unlit wooden boat, stole ship's equipment and escaped. Incident reported to Coast

			India	Guard who boarded the vessel to investigate and to collect evidence.
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## AMERICAS

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	15.01.2017 0215 UTC Anchored Boarded	Nijinsky LPG Tanker Singapore 16804 9364966	10:12.0N – 064:47.9W, Jose Anchorage, Venezuela	Two robbers boarded an anchored tanker via the anchor chain. The robbers took hostage the duty AB on the forecastle, tied him up and threatened him with a knife. They then removed the hawse pipe cover and four more robbers boarded the tanker. The robbers took the AB's mobile phone, stole ship's properties and escaped. The AB managed to free himself and informed bridge who raised the alarm and crew mustered. Port Control informed.
2.	19.01.2017 0755 UTC Anchored Boarded	Imabari Logger Bulk Carrier Hong Kong 23452 9663855	02:43.0S – 080:24.0W, Guayaquil Outer Anchorage, Ecuador	An unknown numbers of robbers boarded an anchored ship, stole ship's properties and escaped. The theft was noticed by the duty crew during routine rounds. Incident was reported to the local agents.
3.	24.01.2017 1750 LT Anchored Boarded	Name Withheld Chemical Tanker Malta 29658 -	10:19.3N – 075:32.1W, Mamonal Inner Anchorage, Colombia	Unnoticed, robbers boarded an anchored tanker, stole the ship's properties and escaped. The theft was discovered by the crew during routine rounds.
4.	07.02.2017 0630 UTC Anchored Boarded	Jumeirah Beach Bulk Carrier Hong Kong 20969 9642045	12:01.2S – 077:12.0W, Callao Anchorage, Peru	Four robbers in a small boat came alongside and boarded an anchored ship using a rope. They took hostage the duty crew and tied him up. The robbers then stole ship's stores and escaped. Duty officer raised the alarm, crew mustered and a search was carried out. Incident reported to port authorities and the local agents.
5.	01.03.2017 0250 LT Anchored Boarded	Adamas I Chemical Tanker Panama 29924 9428683	10:16.9N – 064:42.8W, Puerto La Cruz Anchorage, Venezuela	Three robbers boarded an anchored tanker. Alert crew noticed the robbers. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped without stealing anything.
6.	28.03.2017 0845 UTC Anchored Boarded	Angelica Schulte Tanker Liberia 56163 9296822	10:19.3N – 075:32.1W, Cartagena Anchorage, Colombia	Four robbers boarded an anchored tanker. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's properties. Port Control notified.

**AFRICA (SOMALIA)**

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	14.03.2017 1830 UTC Steaming Hijacked	Aris 13 Bunkering Tanker Sri Lanka 1188 9012501	11:59N – 050:45E, 1nm North of Aluula, Bari, North of Somalia	Armed pirates hijacked the tanker and took hostage its eight crew members. On 16.03.2017 the crew and the tanker were released. All crew safe.
2.	23.03.2017 Morning Hrs Not Stated Hijacked	Casayr II - No.30 Dhow - - -	Vicinity of Eyl, Somalia	Pirates attacked and hijacked the dhow and took hostage its 20 crew members. The dhow had three skiffs onboard. The pirates released 13 crew members in one skiff. The dhow with the remaining crew and an unknown number of pirates sailed to an unknown location. The pirates released the dhow on 26.03.2017 after stealing one skiff along with food and diesel.

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

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	25.01.2017 0035 UTC Anchored Boarded	Charlotte Selmer Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 92079 9435064	08:27.1N – 013:21.2W, Pepel Outer Anchorage, Sierra Leone	Three robbers with knives boarded an anchored ship. Duty crew noticed the robbers on the forecandle and notified the duty officer who raised the alarm. Robbers threatened the duty AB with knives and escaped with stolen ship's properties.
2.	30.01.2017 0345 UTC Anchored Boarded	JPO Gemini Container Liberia 25672 9294020	08:27.3N – 013:26.4W, Freetown Outer Anchorage, Sierra Leone	Duty deck crew onboard an anchored ship informed the OOW that two robbers were sighted on the forecandle. Alarm raised, PA announcement made and crew mustered. Hearing the alarm and seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped without stealing anything.
3.	19.02.2017 0709 UTC Steaming Boarded	Name Withheld Asphalt Tanker Malta 4703 -	05:12.66N – 004:48.57E, Around 33nm WSW of Forcados, Nigeria	Armed pirates in a speedboat approached and boarded the tanker underway. Alarm raised, SSAS activated and all crew retreated to the citadel. The IMB PRC received the information from the Nigerian Navy and contacted the Owners for further details and liaised with all parties. Two naval vessels were

				dispatched to assist the tanker. The pirates damaged ship's equipment, stole ship's properties and crew personal belongings and escaped before the naval teams boarded the tanker to rescue the crew. All crew were reported safe.
4.	09.02.2017 2130 UTC Anchored Boarded	Far Starling Supply Vessel Norway 3527 9629017	04:45.2S – 011:49.2E, Pointe Noire Anchorage, Congo	Duty crew onboard an anchored vessel noticed a boat alongside near the bow and informed the OOW. Alarm raised and crew mustered. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers escaped with stolen ship's properties.
5.	07.02.2017 1904 UTC Steaming Boarded	Gaz Providence LPG Tanker Panama 16777 9448504	03:22.0N – 007:13.5E, Around 60nm South of Bonny Island, Nigeria	Armed pirates boarded the tanker underway. Alarm raised and most crew members managed to retreat into the citadel. The Owners notified the IMB PRC, who in turn informed and liaised with the Nigerian Navy and all other relevant parties. A naval vessel was dispatched to assist the tanker. The naval boarding team reported the tanker to be free of pirates before the crew emerged from the citadel. Three crew members were reported missing and believed to be kidnapped. The naval vessel escorted the tanker to Bonny anchorage for investigation. On 28.02.2017, the three crew members were released safely.
6.	05.02.2017 1025 UTC Steaming Boarded	BBC Caribbean General Cargo Antigua and Barbuda 5261 9378242	04:00.5N – 005:29.3E, Around 31nm SW of Bayelsa Coast, Nigeria	Armed pirates attacked and boarded the ship underway, kidnapped eight crew members and escaped. One crew came out from hiding and raised the SSAS. The IMB PRC received information from the Netherlands Coast Guard and contacted the ship, Owners and liaised with the Nigerian Navy for assistance. Later, two more crew members came out of hiding and steered the ship further away from the coast, before heading towards a safe port.
7.	22.03.2017 2115 UTC Berthed Boarded	Zita Bulk Carrier Marshall Islands 38237 9760043	19:48.85S – 034:50.06E, Berth 6/7, Beira Port, Mozambique	During cargo operations, duty crew on routine rounds onboard the ship noticed two robbers armed with knives on the poop deck. Chief Officer informed via walkie talkie. Crew mustered and then proceeded to the poop deck. Seeing the crew alertness, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped without

				stealing anything. The incident was reported to the Authorities who boarded the ship to investigate.
8.	30.03.2017 Early Morning Hours Steaming Boarded	Eleni M Bulk Carrier Malta 28718 9228033	04:01N – 006:48E, Around 32nm SW of Bonny, Nigeria	Four persons in a small boat approached, came alongside and boarded the ship as it approached the pilot boarding station. They kidnapped six crew members and escaped.

### ATTEMPTED ATTACKS

1 January – 31 March 2017

#### SOUTH EAST ASIA (EXCLUDING MALACCA STRAITS)

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/ IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	03.01.2017 1524 LT Steaming Fired upon	Ocean Kingdom General Cargo Philippines 7541 9202091	06:36.0N – 122:41.0E, Around 21.6nm East of Basilan Island, Philippines	Six persons in two speed boats, armed with automatic rifles, chased and fired upon the ship underway. Alarm raised and increased speed. Ship's distress message was relayed by Zamboanga radio station to the local authorities who dispatched patrol boats to assist the ship. Due to the firing, the ship sustained multiple gunshot damage on the port and starboard sides. Ship however, managed to evade the attack. All crew safe.
2.	05.03.2017 0800 - 1030 UTC Steaming Attempted	Phu An 268 General Cargo Vietnam 1599 9549293	06:20.5N – 118:08.0E, Around 4.43nm NE of Lihiman Island, Philippines	A skiff with around six persons onboard approached and followed the ship for around 1.5 hours. Master raised the alarm, increased speed and activated fire hoses. Incident reported to Malaysian authorities. A patrol vessel rendezvoused with the ship and escorted her to Sandakan port. All crew safe.
3.	05.01.2017 1630 UTC Steaming Attempted	Great Sailor Chemical Tanker Vietnam 9419 9183477	01:15.1N – 104:03.4E, Singapore Straits	A tanker underway was chased by a speed boat. Master raised the alarm, contacted the VTS, commenced evasive manoeuvres, increased speed and directed the spot light towards the speed boat. Seeing the alerted crew, the speed boat aborted and moved away.
4.	19.03.2017 2020 UTC Anchored Attempted	Name Withheld Product Tanker Marshall Islands 15591 -	01:42N – 101:28E, Dumai Anchorage, Indonesia	Duty AB on routine rounds onboard an anchored tanker noticed one person attempting to climb onboard by using a bamboo stick attached to a hook. The duty AB informed the

				DO who raised alarm. Seeing the alerted crew, the intruders aborted and moved away.
5.	25.03.2017 1815 UTC Anchored Attempted	Ping An Product Tanker Marshall Islands 11438 9495856	01:43N – 101:26E, Lubuk Gaung Anchorage, Dumai, Indonesia	A robber attempted to board an anchored tanker. Alert crew noticed the robber and raised the alarm. Seeing the crew alertness, the robber escaped in a boat with three accomplices. The robbers were apprehended by the IMP who were patrolling in the vicinity.

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

Ref	Date Time	Name of Ship Type/Flag/Grt/IMO Number	Position	Narration
1.	08.03.2017 0800 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Sofia Bulk Carrier Liberia 32983 9472086	03:20.0N – 004:28.9E, Around 106nm SW of Bayelsa Coast, Nigeria	Seven persons armed with guns in a skiff approached and fired upon the ship underway. Ship increased speed and commenced evasive maneuver. All non-essential crew retreated to the Citadel. After 40 minutes, the skiffs aborted the attack and moved away. All crews reported safe.
2.	10.03.2017 0518 UTC Steaming Fired upon	La Mancha Knutsen LNG Tanker Spain 116246 9721724	03:03N – 006:57E, 84nm South of Bonny, Nigeria	A speed boat approached and fired upon the tanker underway. Master raised the alarm, activated the water spray and SSAS, broadcast a distress message via VHF and mustered non-essential crew in the citadel. The boat managed to come alongside near the mid-ship manifold and attempted to hook on a ladder, which was unsuccessful due to the evasive manoeuvring. A security boat in the vicinity contacted the tanker via VHF and indicated that they were proceeding to assist, and the small boat moved away. The tanker continued her voyage. All crew safe.
3.	29.03.2017 1200 UTC Steaming Fired upon	Cora A Product Tanker Panama 8251 9357638	04:05.89N – 004:42.03E, Around 64nm SW of Bayelsa Coast, Nigeria	Armed pirates in a boat chased and fired upon the tanker underway. The onboard armed naval security team returned fire resulting in the pirates aborting the attack and moving away. All crew safe. The tanker continued her voyage to her next port.



# IMB Piracy Report – January to March 2017

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

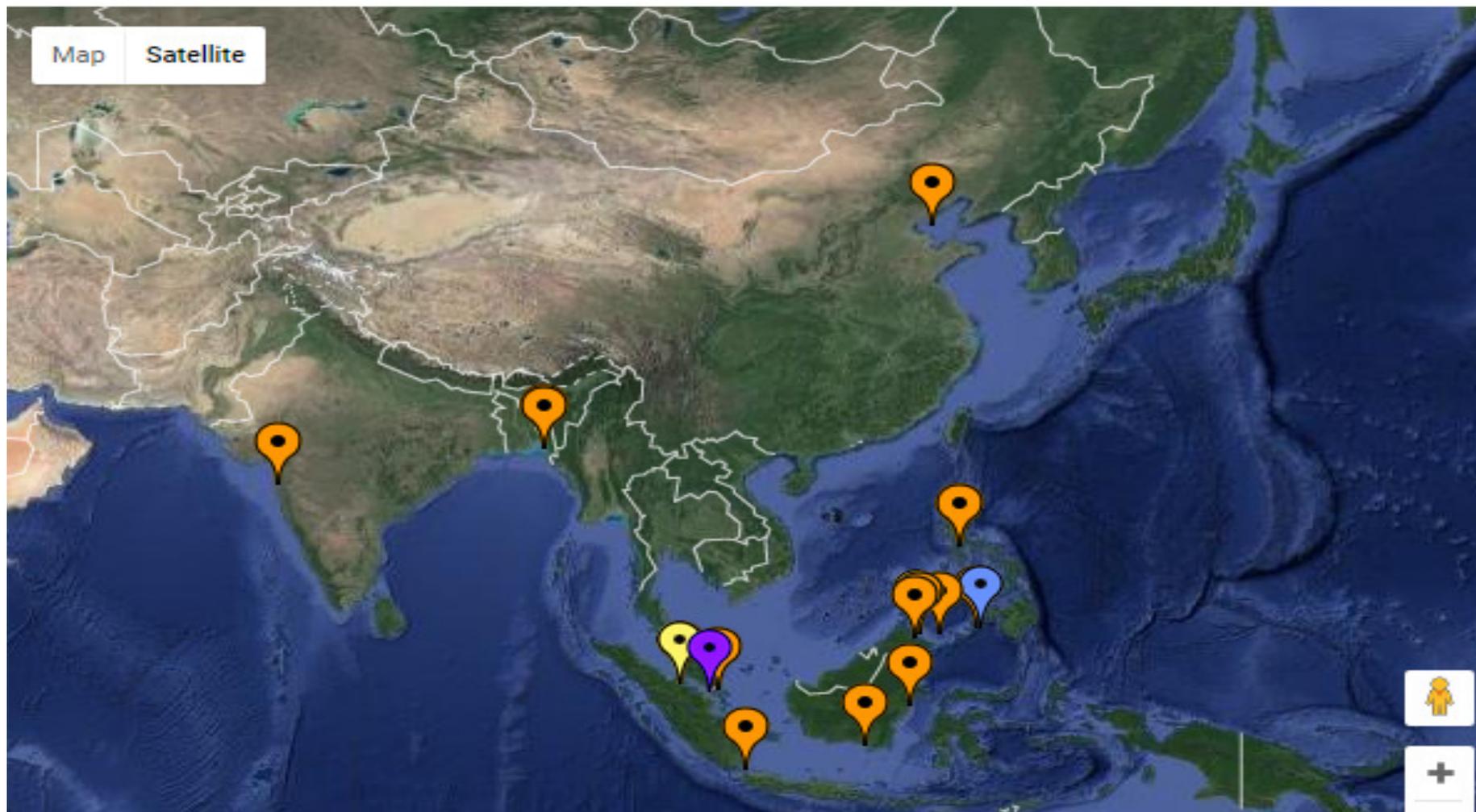


**Total number of attacks - 43**



## IMB Piracy Report – January to March 2017

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



**Total attacks Indian Sub-Continent – 5**

**Total attacks East & SE Asia – 19**



## IMB Piracy Report – January to March 2017

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



**Total attacks Red Sea / Gulf of Aden – 0**

**Total attacks east coast Somalia / Arabian Sea – 2**



# IMB Piracy Report – January to March 2017

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



**Total attacks Gulf of Guinea - 10**