

**[ MARINA ADVISORY NO. 2009-07, May 14, 2009 ]**

**MEASURES TO PREVENT AND SUPPRESS THE ACTS OF PIRACY  
AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS OFF THE COAST OF  
SOMALIA**

With alarming increase in the number of acts of piracy in the waters off the coast of Somalia against ships, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has issued several maritime safety circulars which contain preventive measures and recommendations to prevent and suppress these nefarious acts.

Taking into account the negative effects of piracy and armed robbery against ships in human lives, the safety of navigation and the environment, all concerned shipping companies, ship operators, ship managers, ship masters, charterers, crew and other maritime entities concerned are required to implement fully the preventive measures as provided in the IMO Circulars, as follows:

1. Maritime Safety Committee (MSC)/Circular 622/Rev. 1 – Recommendations to Governments for preventing and suppressing piracy and armed robbery against ships.
2. MSC/Circular 623/Rev. 3 – Guidance to shipowners and ship operators, shipmasters and crews on preventing and suppressing acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships; and
3. MSC.1/Circular 1302 – Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Waters Off the Coast of Somalia.

Further, the concerned parties are required to perform the suggested measures, as follows:

1. that shipmasters should not, unless unavoidable, plan their passage within 600 nautical miles of the Somali coast in the Western Indian Ocean;
2. to accept the advice of Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa (MSCHOA) and the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) as provided in MSC.1/Circular 1302;
3. unless operating under national schemes, register the intended movement of their ships with MSCHOA via the website [www.mschoa.org](http://www.mschoa.org);
4. unless operating under national schemes, report the navigation route of their ship to the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) Dubai and the International Maritime Bureau when navigating through the Gulf of Aden and/or the Western Indian Ocean;
5. take prompt action in response to any alerts or guidance issued by MSCHOA, UKMTO Dubai, Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) Bahrain, the