

MARSEC Weekly Report 21 – 27 Mar 20

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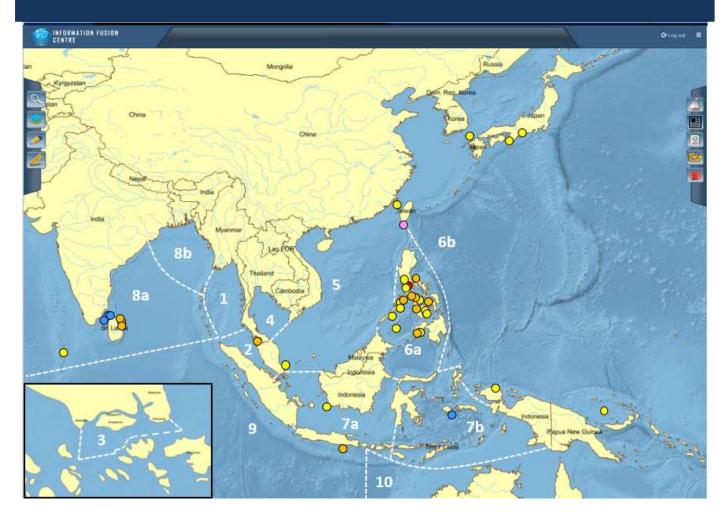


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OVERVIEW OF INCIDENTS IN THE IFC AREA OF INTEREST (A0I)



For the period from 21 Mar 20 to 27 Mar 20, the number of reported incidents within the IFC AOI are as follows:

Category	Number of Incidents	Page Reference
Theft, Robbery and Piracy at Sea (TRAPS)	1	2-3
Maritime Terrorism (MT)	0	4
Maritime Incidents (MI)	19	5-8
Illegal/Unregulated/Unreported Fishing (IUU)	12	9-11
Contraband/Weapons Smuggling (CS)	4	12
Irregular Human Migration (IHM)	1	13
Others	0	14

SECTION A: THEFT, ROBBERY AND PIRACY AT SEA (TRAPS)

23 Mar - Attempted Actions/ MT AU LIBRA/ Products Tanker/ Panama Flagged/ Berthed/ CAIP Terminal, Batangas Port, Philippines/ DB260320

1. An attempted action occurred on board a products tanker "AU LIBRA", while anchored at Lat: 13°45'6.93"N Long: 121° 2'12.54"E, Batangas Port, Philippines on 230255 (UTC +8) Mar 20.

2. Vessel Details:

a. Name: AU LIBRA b. Call sign: 3EXJ4 c. IMO: 9236339 d. MMSI: 373461000 e. Flag: Panama

f. Type: Chemical/Products Tanker g. Ship Owner: Indonesia Govt

h. Ship Operator/Manager: ICOF Ship Chartering Pte Ltd

i. LPOC: Batangas Port, Philippines

j. NPOC: Manila, Philippines

3. Incident Details:

Duty crew onboard the berthed tanker noticed a robber with a long knife near the forecastle and immediately informed the OOW. Alarm raised and all crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robber escaped. Vessel and crew safe.

IFC Comments:

Malaysia ILO updated that IMB verified that they received report from Ship Master that the incident happened while vessel was berthed at CAIP Terminal, Batangas for discharge operations. No harm to crew/vessel, no item stolen. Incident was reported to port authority and SSO.

https://gisis.imo.org/Public/PAR/Incident.aspx?Action=View&ID=9268 IMB-PRC (KL)

Events outside reporting period:

Information Update:

23 Mar - Attempted Actions/MT AU LIBRA/ Products Tanker/ Panama Flagged/ Berthed/ CAIP Terminal, Batangas Port, Philippines/ DB270320 (Update From DB260320)

1. An attempted action occurred onboard a products tanker "AU LIBRA", while berthed at Lat: 13°43'24.00"N Long: 121° 3'23.93"E, Batangas Port, Philippines on 230255 (UTC +8) Mar 20.

2. Vessel Details: a. Name: AU LIBRA b. Call sign: 3EXJ4 c. IMO: 9236339 d. MMSI: 373461000

e. Flag: Panama

f. Type: Chemical/Products Tanker g. Ship Owner: Indonesia Govt

h. Ship Operator/Manager: ICOF Ship Chartering Pte Ltd

i. LPOC: Batangas Port, Philippines

j. NPOC: Manila, Philippines

3. Incident Details:

Duty crew onboard the berthed tanker noticed a robber with a long knife near the forecastle and immediately informed the OOW. Alarm raised and all crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew, the robber escaped. Vessel and crew were reported safe.

IFC Comments:

Malaysia ILO updated that IMB verified that they received the report from Ship Master that the incident happened while vessel was berthed at CAIP Terminal, Batangas, for discharge operations. No harm to crew/vessel was reported, no item stolen. Incident was reported to port authority and SSO.

https://gisis.imo.org/Public/PAR/Incident.aspx?Action=View&ID=9268 IMB-PRC (KL)

SECTION B: MARITIME TERRORISM (MT)

SECTION C: MARITIME INCIDENTS (MI)

24 Mar – Missing/Cause Unknown/ Fishing Vessel/ Five Missing/ SAR/ Off Vaavu Atoll, Maldives/DB270320

The Maldives National Defence Force is searching for a fishing vessel with five people onboard that is missing, last seen off Vaavu Atoll, Maldives on 25 Mar.

https://avas.mv/en/79917

24 Mar - Mechanical Failure/Engine Failure/Cargo Ship/Korea Strait/DB270320

A cargo ship suffered engine trouble and went adrift en-route from Saldanha to Mutsure, in the Korea Strait. The ship dropped anchor off Kyushu, east of Tsushima.

https://www.vesseltracker.com/en/Ships/Nikolas-Iii-9493937.html

22 Mar - Vessel Detained/ Unauthorized Voyage/ Small Boat/ Off Limay, Bataan, Philippines/ DB270320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that a small boat was apprehended by Security Task Group – 7 for unauthorised transport of passengers off Barangay Luz Kitang II, Limay, Bataan.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

22 Mar - MOB/Cause Unknown/Trawler/One Rescued/Off Tanjung Sedili, Malaysia/DB250320

A fisherman used a biscuit tin to stay afloat for 15 hours after falling from his fishing trawler before being found by another fisherman off Tanjung Sedili.

https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/03/24/fisherman-stays-afloat-at-sea-for-hours-by-clinging-to-a-biscuit-tin

21 Mar - Mechanical Failure/ Engine Failure/ Small Boat/ One Rescued/ SAR/ Off Oslob, Cebu, Philippines/DB270320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that a fisherman onboard a motor boat was rescued by Coast Guard Station Southern Cebu SAR team after his boat encountered engine trouble and was adrift off Barangay Caceres, Oslob, Cebu.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

21 Mar - Mechanical Failure/Engine Failure/Fishing Vessel/15 Rescued/SAR/Off Roxas City, Capiz, Philippines/DB240320

Local authorities rescued 15 fishermen after their fishing vessel encountered engine trouble in the waters off Culasi Port, Roxas City, Philippines.

https://www.facebook.com/coastguardph/posts/496061767729149

21 Mar - Vessel Detained/ Maritime Safety Violation/ Two Fishing Vessels/ Off Pandilusan Island, Zamboanga Sibugay, Philippines/ DB270320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that two fishing boats were apprehended by Coast Guard Station Sibugay for various maritime safety violations in the vicinity off Pandilusan Island, Talusan, Zamboanga Sibugay.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

21 Mar - Sunk-Capsized/ Collision with Reef/ Fishing Vessel/ 24 Rescued/SAR/ Off Port Lae, Papua New Guinea/ DB240320

A fishing vessel sank off Port Lae, Papua New Guinea, after colliding with a reef. Local authorities rescued 24 people and no casualties were reported.

https://www.yna.co.kr/view/AKR20200321056400051?input=1195m

http://www.kookje.co.kr/news2011/asp/newsbody.asp?code=0200&key=20200322.99099008421 http://www.maritimebulletin.net/2020/03/21/south-korean-seiner-with-24-crew-sinking-off-png-bismarck-sea/

https://www.fleetmon.com/maritime-news/2020/29165/south-korean-seiner-24-crew-sinking-png-bismarck-s/

Events outside reporting period:

20 Mar - MOB/ Cause Unknown/ General Cargo Ship/ One Missing/ Off Teluk Air Hitam, Indonesia/DB240320

IFC received information from the ship master of a tanker that he received a MOB distress call from a cargo ship on 20 Mar. Local authorities have been informed and search for MOB has begun.

Ship Master

20 Mar - Missing/ Cause Unknown/ Small Boat/ One Dead/ SAR/ Off Sta. Maria, Batangas, Philippines/DB240320

The body of a fisherman was recovered in the waters off Sta. Maria, Batangas, in the morning of 21 Mar, after being reported to have drowned the day before.

https://www.facebook.com/coastguardph/posts/494932431175416

20 Mar - Collision/Cause Unknown/General Cargo Ship vs General Cargo Ship/Nagoya Port, Japan/DB250320

Two general cargo ships collided in Nagoya Port in Japan but no injuries or significant damages were reported.

https://www.vesseltracker.com/en/Ships/Kosho-Maru-No.5-8738275.html

19 Mar - Collision/ Cause Unknown/ General Cargo Ship vs Small Boat/ Off Awaji Island, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan/ DB250320

A general cargo ship collided with a small boat off Awaji Island in Japan, but no injuries or damage was reported.

https://www.vesseltracker.com/en/Ships/Aqua-Blue-93253620.html

17 Mar - Sunk-Capsized/ Cause Unknown/ General Cargo Ship/18 Rescued/ SAR/ Off West Papua, Indonesia/DB240320

All the crew members of the general cargo ship were rescued when the ship sunk in the waters of West Papua, Indonesia.

http://www.maritimebulletin.net/2020/03/21/general-cargo-ship-sank-off-west-papua-1-crew-missing/

https://www.merdeka.com/peristiwa/seluruh-abk-km-surya-express-tenggelam-di-perairan-manokwari-selamat.html

https://papuakini.co/2020/03/21/km-surya-express-tenggelam-di-saukorem-17-kru-kapal-dan-1-pengawas-selamat/

https://www.fleetmon.com/maritime-news/2020/29169/general-cargo-ship-sank-west-papua-1-crew-missing/

16 Mar - Collision, Violent Confrontation/Fishing Dispute/Speed Boats vs Government Vessels/Off Little Kinmen, Taiwan/DB240320

Taiwanese government vessels were collided by speedboats off Little Kinemon, Taiwan, while they were driving off fishing vessel and removing illegal fishing nets.

https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/3901015

https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2020/03/22/2003733168

https://www.forbes.com/sites/hisutton/2020/03/21/image-shows-chinese-boat-ramming-taiwanese-coast-guard/#44db2dcccfea

https://defence.pk/pdf/threads/10-chinese-speedboats-attack-taiwan-coast-guard-cutters.657941/

16 Mar - Mechanical Failure/Propeller Shaft Problem/Local Passenger Vessel/35 Rescued/SAR/Off Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines/DB260320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that 35 passengers of a local passenger vessel were rescued by Coast Guard Sub-Station Puerto Bay SAR team after the propeller shaft of their boat was broken off Barangay Bagong Silang, Puerto Princesa, Palawan.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

16 Mar - Vessel Detained/Unauthorized Voyage/Small Boat/Toledo, Cebu, Philippines/DB260320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that a fishing boat was apprehended along the shoreline of Barangay Sto Niño, Toledo City, Cebu, by Coast Guard Sub-Station Toledo maritime law enforcement team for carrying unauthorised passengers.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

13 Mar - Grounding/ Bad Weather/ Small Boat/ Seven Rescued/ SAR/ Off Dumaran, Palawan, Philippines/DB260320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that seven persons onboard a small boat were rescued by Coast Guard Station Roxas SAR team together with local government unit after their boat ran aground due to big waves off Barangay Capayas, Dumaran, Palawan.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

12 Mar - Missing/Rough Seas/Small Boat/Seven Rescued/SAR/Off Coron, Palawan, Philippines/DB250320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that seven persons onboard a small boat was rescued by Philippine Coast Guard Sub-Station Culion and Local Government Unit after they were stranded Ditaytayan Island, Coron, Palawan due to rough sea condition on 12 Mar 20.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

10 Mar - MEDEVAC/ Head Injury/ Bulk Carrier/ One Rescued/ SAR/ Off Tubbataha Reef, Philippines/ DB250320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that a crew of a Bulk Carrier who suffered head injury after falling from a portable ladder while working at the cargo hold was medically evacuated by Philippine Coast Guard vessel off Tubbataha Reef in Palawan.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

Information Update:

SECTION D: ILLEGAL/UNREGULATED/UNREPORTED FISHING (IUU)

25 Mar - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Illegal Fishing Methods/ Off Jayanagar, Sri Lanka/ DB270320

The Sri Lankan Navy detained a fishing vessel that has been used for illegal fishing using explosives, and the vessel along with the explosive and other fishing gear were handed over to local authorities for further investigation.

https://news.navy.lk/eventnews/2020/03/26/202003261615/

25 Mar - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/Illegal Fishing Methods/ Off Erakkandi, Trincomalee, Sri Lanka/DB270320

The Sri Lankan Navy detained a fishing vessel that contained illegally caught fish using explosives and handed the vessel, fish, explosives, and other fishing gear over to local authorities for further investigation.

https://news.navy.lk/eventnews/2020/03/25/202003252130/

21 Mar - Local/Two Fishing Vessels Detained/19 Local Fishermen Arrested/Illegal Fishing Methods/Off Pandilusan Island, Zamboanga Sibugay, Philippines/DB270320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that 19 fishermen onboard two fishing boats were apprehended by joint operatives of Coast Guard Station Sibugay, local police, and local government unit for illegally fishing using Danish Siene fishing at vicinity West South West off Pandilusan Island, Talusan, Zamboanga Sibugay.

IFC Comments:

Philippine Coast Guard ILO noted that this incident is also categorized as a Maritime Incident: 21 Mar - Vessel Detained/ Maritime Safety Violation/ Two Fishing Vessels/ Off Pandilusan Island, Zamboanga Sibugay, Philippines/DB270320

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

21 Mar - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Seven Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing Methods/ Off Caluya, Antique, Philippines/ DB270320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that seven fishermen onboard fishing boat were apprehended by joint operatives of Coast Guard Sub-Station Caluya, local police, and local government unit for illegally fishing using compressor off Sibato Island, Caluya, Antique.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

21 Mar - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Three Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing Methods/Off Infanta, Quezon, Philippines/DB260320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that three fishermen onboard a fishing boat were apprehended by joint operatives of Coast Guard Sub-Station Infanta and local government unit for illegally fishing using unauthorised nets and active gears off Barangay Dinahican, Infanta, Quezon.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

Events outside reporting period:

18 Mar - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Two Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off Neuva Valencia, Guimaras, Philippines/ DB260320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that two fishermen onboard fishing vessel were apprehended by local authorities for illegally fishing at Marine Protected Area in the waters of Unisan Island, Nueva Valencia, Guimaras.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

17 Mar - Local/ Two Fishing Vessel Detained/ Eight Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing Methods/Off Sta Fe, Romblon, Philippines/DB260320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that eight fishermen onboard two fishing boats were apprehended by joint operatives of Coast Guard Station Romblon and local police unit for illegally fishing using compressor off Barangay Agmanic, Sta Fe, Romblon.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

14 Mar - Local/Unknown Vessel/One Local Fishermen Arrested/Illegal Fishing/Off Tulungagung, East Java. Indonesia/DB240320

Local authorities arrested a fisherman for catching nine long-beaked dolphins which were in the list of protected plants and animals.

https://www.thestar.com.my/news/regional/2020/03/22/fisherman-arrested-for-catching-dolphins

18 Mar - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ One Local Fisherman Arrested/ Illegal Fishing/ Off Coron, Palawan, Philippines/DB270320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that a fisherman onboard fishing vessel was apprehended by Coast Guard Station Coron maritime law enforcement team for fishing without appropriate certification off Coron Island, Palawan.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

14 Mar - Local/One Fishing Vessel Detained/Three Local Fishermen Arrested/Illegal Fishing/Off Seenanweli, Sri Lanka/DB250320

Three fishermen were arrested for possession of turtle flesh and eggs in their dinghy and were handed over to local authorities for further investigation.

https://news.navy.lk/eventnews/2020/03/23/202003231700/

14 Mar - Local/ One Fishing Vessel Detained/ Two Local Fishermen Arrested/ Illegal Fishing Methods/Off Ternate, Cavite, Philippines/DB200320

The Malaysia Fisheries Department seized 222 banned dragon fish traps during an operation held between the waters near Juru and Batu Kawan, Malaysia.

https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/03/20/222-dragon-fish-traps-worth-rm13320-seized

13 Mar - Local/One Fishing Vessel Detained/13 Local Fishermen Arrested/Illegal Fishing Methods/Off Placer, Masbate, Philippines/DB250320

IFC received information from Philippine Coast Guard ILO that 13 local fishermen onboard fishing vessel were apprehended by Philippine Coast Guard Station Masbate maritime law enforcement team for illegally fishing using trawl fishing off Guinauayan, Placer, Masbate.

Philippine Coast Guard Command Center

Information Update:

SECTION E: CONTRABAND AND WEAPONS SMUGGLING (CS)

24 Mar - Drugs/Cannabis (96kg)/Adrift/To Sri Lanka/Off Dhanushkodi, Sri Lanka/DB250320

Local authorities sized 96kg of cannabis off a coastal village in Dhanushkodi, Sri Lanka, after receiving a call that a huge packet was floating in the sea.

https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Madurai/96-kg-of-ganja-seized-from-danushkodi/article31156032.ece

23 Mar - Others/ Cyanide (1 ton)/ Small Boat/ Domestic/ Off Ambalau Islands, Maluku Province, Indonesia/DB270320

Local authorities intercepted a motor boat carrying one ton of cyanide after the perpetrators escaped into the woods after landing the vessel to a nearby beach.

https://en.antaranews.com/news/144558/maluku-police-seize-boat-carrying-one-ton-of-cyanide

22 Mar- Drugs/Cannabis (76kg)/ Adrift/Off Thalaimannar, Sri Lanka/DB240320

The Sri Lankan Navy seized 76kg of cannabis which were adrift in the seas North of Thalaimannar and handed it over to local authorities for further investigation.

https://news.navy.lk/eventnews/2020/03/23/202003230900/

21 Mar- Drugs/Cannabis (120kg)/ Adrift/Off Thalaimannar, Sri Lanka/DB240320

The Sri Lankan Police Navy recovered 120kg of cannabis during a patrol in the seas North of Thalaimannar and handed it over to local authorities for further investigation.

https://news.navy.lk/lead-story/2020/03/22/202003211831/

Events outside reporting period:	
NSTR	
Information Update:	

SECTION F: IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION (IHM)

21 Mar - Human Smuggling/31 Vietnamese Migrants going from Vietnam to Taiwan/Fishing Vessel/Off Pingtung County, Taiwan/DB240320

Taiwan Coast Guard arrested 31 stowaways aboard a fishing boat in the waters of Pingtung County and two suspect has been detained for being linked to a smuggling ring.

https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/3902487 https://focustaiwan.tw/society/202003220013

Events outside reporting period:

NSTR

Information Update:

SECTION G: OTHERS

IFC RECOMMENDATIONS

IFC advises:

- 1. All mariners to report any incidents timely to the nearest coastal state and to the IFC at the earliest possible time.
- 2. Ships moving at slow speed or are choosing to remain at anchor in areas where sea robbery/theft is regularly reported should remain vigilant and adopt necessary and/or added security measures.
- 3. All mariners to take note on the description of the perpetrators and to take photos of the perpetrators if possible. Where available, CCTV footage capturing the incident should be provided to the coastal state authorities for follow-on investigation.
- 4. Shippers and Seafarers operating in the Sulu-Celebes seas are strongly recommended to be vigilant and to establish contact with the Philippines, Malaysian and Indonesian Authorities to report their presence. Please refer to IFC Spot Commentary 4/18 for the latest assessment of the situation in that affected area.
- 5. Shippers are advised to take note that the threat of terrorist activity in the maritime domain remains a possibility in the region due to ISIS and the Al-Qaeda. The possibility of this threat was previously quoted in Al-Qaeda's online magazine "Resurgence", which called for the disruption of global trade and shipping through acts of piracy, among other tactics. Shippers are therefore advised to exercise vigilance and to adopt self-defensive measures as stated in the Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, especially when transiting narrow choke points and areas which are known to have experienced incidents of sea robbery/piracy.

PAST IFC SPOT COMMENTARIES

2019

IFC SPOT COMMENTARY 3/19 – Observations of Sea Robbery, Sea Theft and Attempted Actions Incidents in Singapore Strait and Approaches

IFC Spot Commentary 2/19 - Observations of TRAPS incidents in the Southern Approaches-South China Sea (SCS) since 31 May to 26 Sep 2019

IFC Spot Commentary 1/19 – Observations of TRAPS incidents in the area off Tg Piai,

Malaysia/Western Approaches-Singapore Strait since 1 January to 27 May 2019

2018

IFC Spot Commentary 4/18 – Observations between 5 to 8 December for incidents in the Sulu-Celebes Sea/Eastern Sabah

IFC Spot Commentary 3/18 – Kidnapping Incident of Two Crew on Fishing Vessel "DWIJAYA 1", Off Semporna.

IFC Spot Commentary 2/18 – Attempted Actions on Tug boat "EVER ALPHA", Pulau Tambisan, Malaysia.

IFC Spot Commentary 1/18 – Observations on Sea Theft and Robberies recorded in Singapore Strait and its approaches – January to December 2017.

2017

IFC Spot Commentary 5/17 – Abduction of 5 Local Fishermen off Poblacion coast, Pangutaran, Sulu, Philippines.

IFC Spot Commentary 4/17 – Attempted Piracy / Oil Siphoning Incident on Oil Tanker MT MGT 1, Malaysia.

IFC Spot Commentary 3/17 – Abduction of Crew from SUPER SHUTTLE TUGBOAT 1, Basilan Strait.

IFC Spot Commentary 2/17 – Abduction of Crew of Giang Hai off Sibutu Passage.

IFC Spot Commentary 1/17 – Kidnapping, Harassment and Suspicious Activities in Waters off East Sabah and Southern Philippines.

2016

IFC Spot Commentary 2/16 – Kidnapping, Harassment and Suspicious Activities in Waters off East Sabah and Southern Philippines.

IFC Spot Commentary 1/16 – Kidnapping at Sea by Armed Groups in Waters off East Sabah and Southern Philippines.

Note: Information herein were derived from various internal and external sources such as Focal Points, OPCENs and other maritime stakeholders. Seafarers should remain vigilant especially in areas where the threat level is assessed to be of concern in accordance with the IFC's Assessments via its Weekly Report or Spot Commentaries. Ships should apply the appropriate security measures (such as Tugs and Barge Guide, Guide for Tankers Operating in Asia, or Regional Guide to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia). Ship masters should also be aware and refer to the Maritime Security Charts Q6112 and Q6113, both published by the UK Hydrographic Office.

SAFEANDSECURE SEAS FOR ALL







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