# Republic of the Marshall Islands

#### MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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#### SHIP SECURITY ADVISORY No. 05-23

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Company Security Officers, Recognized Security Organizations

Subject: SECURITY INCIDENTS IN THE SINGAPORE STRAIT

**Date:** 10 August 2023

#### 1.0 Recent Incidents

1.1 With the most recent incident occurring on 7 August, there have now been eight reported cases of armed robbery against ships involving Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)-flagged vessels in the <u>Singapore Strait</u> in 2023. Photographic evidence of perpetrators carrying out these incidents in the Singapore Strait is also provided by the Information Fusion Centre (IFC) Singapore in <u>Shipping Advisory 1/23</u>.

## 2.0 Risk Mitigation Measures

- 2.1 The RMI Maritime Administrator (the "Administrator") reminds all vessels transiting the Singapore Strait to adopt the following basic protective measures, as advised by IFC Singapore:
  - .1 Maintain an **all-around lookout** from an **elevated position**, with a focus on suspicious small craft(s) approaching or in proximity of the **ship's aft**.
  - .2 Turn on weather deck lighting around the accommodation block and **rear-facing lighting on the poop deck**.
  - .3 Sound the **ship's alarm** when suspicious small craft(s) are sighted.
- 2.2 The IFC also encourages ships to provide photographic or video evidence to educate the industry on the modus operandi of the perpetrators and help the authorities with their investigation.

# 3.0 Additional IFC Resources and Guidance

- 3.1 The <u>IFC Singapore website</u> provides informative threat assessment and response tools for ships transiting the Asian region, including:
  - .1 a Bridge Card to outline the Voluntary Community of Reporting (VCR) scheme;

This SSA is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.

- .2 recommended shipboard protection measures;
- .3 weekly, monthly, and annual Incident Reports; and
- .4 <u>infographics</u> to help visualize incidents in the region.

#### 4.0 Contact Information

4.1 All security incidents and suspicious activities must be reported by RMI-flagged vessels to the Administrator, as per §12.5 of RMI Marine Notice <u>2-011-39</u>.

#### The Administrator

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**IFC Singapore** 

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+65 6594 5728 (Office) WhatsApp: bit.ly/WhatsApp\_IFC

**Telegram:** bit.ly/Information Fusion Centre **X:** @Info Fusion Ctr

Website: <u>www.ifc.org.sg</u>

#### **International Maritime Bureau Piracy Reporting Centre (IMB PRC)**

Telephone: +60 3 2031 0014 (24/7 Help Line) Email: <a href="mailto:imbkl@icc-ccs.org">imbkl@icc-ccs.org</a>

+60 3 2078 5763 piracy@icc-ccs.org

**Fax:** +60 3 2078 5769 **Telex:** MA 34199

Website: www.icc-ccs.org/piracy-reporting- Form: Piracy & Armed Robbery

<u>centre</u> <u>Report</u>

# Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP)

**Telephone:** +65 6376 3091 **Email:** secretariat@recaap.org

Fax: +65 6376 3066 Website: www.recaap.org

See the ReCAAP Regional Guide for additional Contact Point details

### 5.0 References

- .1 **IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1333/Rev.1**, Recommendations to Governments for preventing and suppressing piracy and armed robbery against ships
- .2 **IMO Circular** MSC.1/Circ.1334, Guidance to shipowners and ship operators, shipmasters and crews on preventing and suppressing acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships
- .3 RMI Marine Notice 2-011-39
- .4 ReCAAP, Regional Guide 2 to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery in Asia
- .5 Global Counter Piracy Guidance for Companies, Masters and Seafarers (GBMP)