

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Office of the

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY NO. 52-09

To: Regional Marine Safety Offices, Nautical Inspectors, Masters, Owners/Agents

Subject: WARNING: HIJACKING AND PIRACY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

Date: 5 November 2009

Pirates attacked and hijacked a vessel in a position immediately north of the Comoros Islands, in the Indian Ocean, today (5 November). This latest incident occurred outside of the southern boundary of the "High Risk Area" identified in the Best Management Practices (BMP) Guidelines, Marshall Islands Marine Notice No. 2-011-31, and reflects a greater operating area of the perpetrators.

The Administration urges all shipowners/operators and Masters of vessels transiting this area to maintain the highest levels of vigilance and anti-piracy precautions in accordance with the BMP Guidelines. The Administration recommends that anti-piracy precautions are implemented 24 hours prior to entering the High Risk Area and 24 hours after departing the area.

The Administration is broadcasting this information to shipowners/operators as a reminder to observe enhanced Security Level procedures and strict 24-hour Piracy Watches at all times whilst transiting or operating in the waters of the northwest Gulf of Aden as well as those southeastern waters. If there is a threat or act of Piracy, Armed Attack, Hijacking and/or Terrorism, Masters or owners/operators are required to promptly notify the Administration pursuant to Marshall Islands Marine Safety Advisory No. 31-08 and are urged to contact:

UKMTO Dubai: +971 505 523 215 / ukmto@eim.ae

Such reports may also be relayed to IMB-PRC, MSCHOA or MARLO using the following contact details:

IMB PRC: +60 3 2031 0014 / imbkl@icc-ccs.org or piracy@icc-ccs.org

MSCHOA: postmaster@mschoa.org

MARLO: +973 39401395 / marlo.bahrain@me.navy.mil