



Date: 27th April 2017

CIRCULAR Ref.:0018C/TG/04/17

To all Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Deputy Registrars / Agents of Togolese Flagged Vessels, and Recognized Organizations (ROs).

Subject :. HIGH RISK AREAS (HRA) / ANTI PIRACY MEASURES / IMPLEMENTING BMP4 REQUIREMENTS

Dear Sirs,

In order to prevent piracy actions against the Togolese flagged vessels which are operating in the High Risk Areas, the Togolese Maritime Authority do hereby strongly encourage owners and registered fleet for applying the BMP4 (enclosed).

Note that this also inquiries for registration/reporting process to be followed by vessel's captain for those ships intended to enter piracy high risk areas.

Although the boundaries of the High Risk Area (HRA) have been changed as of the first of December 2015, the MSCHOA Registration Area remains unchanged and is still bounded by the Strait of Hormuz and Suez to the North, 10S and 78E. To be compliant with BMP4, all Vessel movements should be registered with MSCHOA, even if the vessel does not enter the modified HRA. There is only a requirement to register with MSCHOA once for every movement

We recommend that all the vessels transiting the MSCHOA Registration Area register their transit using the online Vessel Movement Registration Form on the MSCHOA website (www.mschoa.org) and that all vessels report their position daily to UKMTO Dubai (ukmto@eim.ae). These reporting procedures are in keeping with the procedures set out in BMP4.

The MSCHOA website offers ship owners the latest comprehensive information and guidance on Somali piracy.

All vessels that are not capable of maintaining at least 18 knots with low/medium free-board and with limited self protection measures will be the Pirate's target of choice. To date, the most effective counter-measures against Somalia based pirates have proven to be speed and presence of armed security guards. Vessels being attacked outside the Gulf of Aden cannot be expected to be within immediate reach by the Coalition Forces. For any vessel scheduled to navigate within the High Risk Area, the Administration strongly encourages and recommend Owners , Operators and Masters as first option to participate in the EUNAVFOR's 'Group Transit system' using the 'Internationally Recommended Transit Corridor' (IRTC), or to join a National Naval convoy (Information to be found on the website).

Although the presence of armed security personnel on board has proved its efficiency , however it cannot considered as an alternative measure to Best Management Practice (BMP), it is recommended that BMP to be applied throughout the High Risk Area (HRA) and in the Internationally Recommended Transit Corridor (IRTC) as first preventative option . Placing armed security personnel on board as means to secure and protect the ship and its crew could be considered only after owners/managers apply to this administration to take the relative approval based on the following conditions and requirements :

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any requests should be directed to:

INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATIONS BUREAU (LB)

Phone Number: [+961-1-883794](tel:+961-1-883794)

E – Mail: administration@togoregistrar.com



Date: 27th April 2017

CIRCULAR Ref: 0018C/TG/04/17

- 1- The STA valid exclusively for operation and voyages within the Indian Ocean high risk area. Please be sure that the vessel will trade within any other high risk area in order to include it in the authorization, by mentioning port of departure and port of arrival of the vessel and any intermediary port...
- 2- The security personnel must be duly qualified, certified and trained to perform the intended security duties on board these vessels. Their qualifications, names, citizenship particulars and other biodata must be submitted to our Administration for our review and record prior to the issuance of the STA, along with the profile of the company under which they are employed...
- 3- All Firearms must be secured and stored in such a way that they are only accessible to qualified security personnel. A letter from management to that effect to be submitted and to specify where fire arms will be stowed on board.
- 4- Vessel's Company must send to our Administration an affidavit to the effect that our conditions are understood and complied with as well as that the Company understands that the relevant regulations regarding firearms and shipboard security personnel at vessels' ports of call will be observed and duly met.
- 5- Vessel's Owners and Managers will endeavor to implement on board this vessel preventive and proactive security measures aimed to reduce the likelihood of having to resort to an armed response in the event of a security or piracy incident. These measures may include but are not limited to: Best Management Practices (BMP4 attached), additional crew training on anti-piracy response, use of evasive maneuvers, use of patrolled "safe corridors" in the Somali high risk area, proper watch arrangements and other maritime security measures recommended by relevant International Organizations or Multi-national forces conducting anti-piracy patrols in the area.
- 6- Vessel's Owners and Managers shall submit to our Administration the Best Management Practices procedures to be followed by vessel's personnel while trading within high risk areas for our review.

As soon as all above conditions/requirements are submitted to our administration and met our satisfaction, we will proceed with the issuance of the Statement of Authorization (STA) for placing armed personnel on board of a Togolese vessel.

It is also understood that these conditions may be amended at our convenience and determination or in order to adjust to future developments and international requirements.

We look forward for your prompt compliance and in case of any further clarification kindly do not hesitate to contact us.

Your kind compliance for the above will be highly appreciated

For the International Ship Registry of Togo
Vera N. Medawar
Registrar



Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any requests should be directed to:
INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATIONS BUREAU (LB)
Phone Number: +961-1-883794
E – Mail: administration@togoregistrar.com