



Office of  
Deputy Commissioner  
of Maritime Affairs

## THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

### LIBERIA MARITIME AUTHORITY

22980 Indian Creek Drive,  
Suite 200  
Dulles, Virginia 20166, USA  
Tel: +1 703 790 3434  
Fax: +1 703 790 5655  
Email: [security@liscr.com](mailto:security@liscr.com)  
Web: [www.liscr.com](http://www.liscr.com)

**19 March 2024**

### **MARINE SECURITY BULLETIN – 10/2024**

**Dear Shipowners, Operators and Masters**

**Subject: Piracy Attack Off the Coast of Somalia**

On March 12, 2024 at approximately 0730 UTC at position 01 27 00N, 054 53 00E about 550 NM from Mogadishu Somalia, a bulk carrier with 23 crew members was hijacked. According to reports, the Chief Officer contacted the owners of the vessel reporting that a high-speed boat approached the vessel. The Chief officer was ordered to the citadel while the Captain and second officer sounded the alarm and remained on the bridge. The vessel initiated a zigzag maneuver, sent out an SOS, and attempted to contact the UKMTO.

The vessel was taken on a route from Mozambique to United Arab Emirates more than 500 miles off the coast of Somalia. The vessel did not implement additional security measures, according to the vessel owners, because they were on a secure path away from the coast.

Liberian flagged vessels transiting the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Northern Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea are to increase their security level to security level 3 and implement all protective measures in their Ship Security Plan. In addition, Liberian flagged vessels should avoid calling ports in Yemen. The decision to transit remains at the discretion of the Company, considering the number of recent targeted attacks on commercial ships. The Liberian Registry encourages all vessels transiting the Red Sea to report to the UKMTO and register with the Maritime Security Centre for the Horn of Africa (MSCHOA) in accordance with industry BMP (Best Management Practices) and take advise from the collation forces operating in the area. Best Management Practices 5 (BMP5) will continue to provide the necessary guidance for shipping to ensure threat and risk assessments are developed for every voyage to mitigate the risks presented by remaining security threats in the region. The shipping industry will continue to monitor and advise on maritime security threats to assist the safe transit of vessels and the seafarers.

When operating within territorial seas or calling ports within the previously defined HRA as shown on UKHO Chart Q6099, Masters shall set the vessel security level to the level set by the port State authority but may implement security measures in excess of the security level set by the port authorities based on their assessment of the conditions in the port. When operating outside territorial seas or ports within the previously defined HRA shown on UKHO chart Q6099, all Liberian flagged vessels shall operate at security level III. All security level changes should be reported directly to the Flag Administration by the Master via email [security@liscr.com](mailto:security@liscr.com).

The Liberian Administration strongly recommends that Vessels Owners, Characters, Operators and Ships Masters continue to carry out pre-voyage threat and risk assessments to consider the latest maritime security information from organizations supporting the Voluntary Reporting Area. In addition, Liberian flagged vessels may consider using a Private Maritime Security Company (PMSC) to provide additional armed or unarmed security personnel while transiting the high-risk area. [Authorized Private Maritime Security Companies](#).

In an emergency, vessels transiting the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea, should contact NAVCENT Battle Watch Phone: +973-1785-3879; Naval Cooperation and Guidance for Shipping (NCAGS) Primary Watch Floor Phone: +973-1785-0033, Contingency Mobile Phone: +973-3940-4523, Email: [m-ba-cusnc-ncags@us.navy.mil](mailto:m-ba-cusnc-ncags@us.navy.mil).

Contact MSCHOA prior to transiting the Western Indian Ocean, the Somali Basin, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman and the Red Sea.

The contact details of MSCHOA are:

Maritime Security Centre – Horn of Africa (MSCHOA)

Email [postmaster@mschoa.org](mailto:postmaster@mschoa.org)

Telephone +44 1923 958545 +44 1923 958700

Fax +44 1923 958520 Website [www.mschoa.org](http://www.mschoa.org)

When transiting the Western Indian Ocean, the Somali Basin, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman and Red Sea.

Register their vessels with UKMTO

Email: [watchkeepers@ukmto.org](mailto:watchkeepers@ukmto.org) and [ukmto@eim.ae](mailto:ukmto@eim.ae)

Phone: +44 - 2392-222060, +971-50-552-3215

Fax +44 1923 958520

Please keep LISCR's Security Department informed of any security incidents at:

Office of the Senior Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs

Republic of Liberia

22980 Indian Creek Drive, Suite 200 Dulles, Virginia 20166 USA

D: +1 571 495 5944 / O: +1 703 790 3434 / F: +1 703 790 5655

Email: [Security@liscr.com](mailto:Security@liscr.com)

[www.liscr.com](http://www.liscr.com)

\*\*\*\*\*