



MSC/Circ.905
31 March 1999

Ref. T1/13.01

REPORTS ON PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS

First quarterly report

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-fifth session in May 1995, instructed the Secretariat to issue, as from 31 July 1995, monthly reports of all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships reported to the Organization and, in addition, on a quarterly basis, composite reports accompanied by an analysis, on a regional basis, of the situation and an indication whether the frequency of incidents is increasing or decreasing and advising on any new feature or pattern of significance.

2 Annexed hereto is a composite report covering all incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships received between 1 January and the end of March 1999 and a regional analysis thereof.

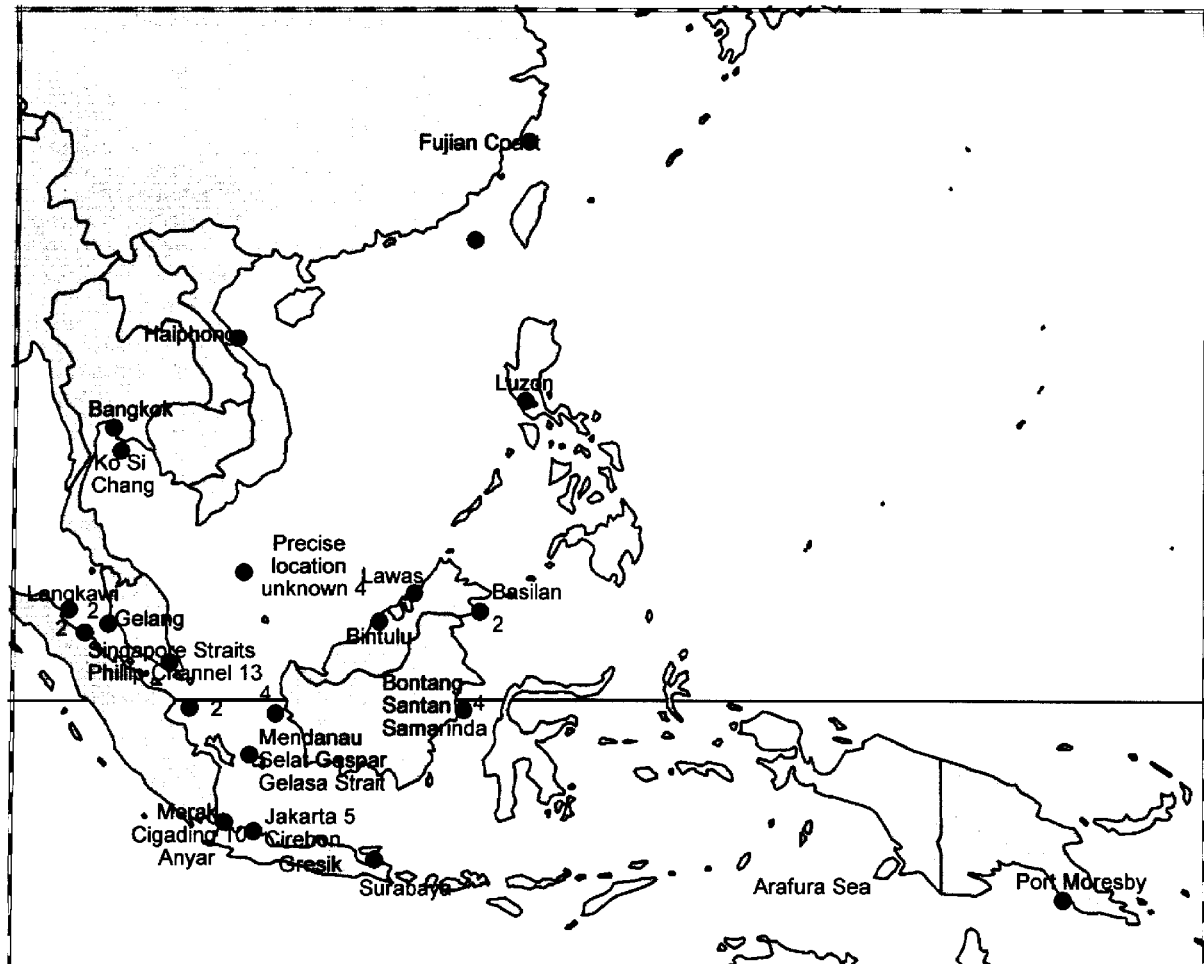
3 The areas most affected over the period under review were the South East Asian waters, South America and West and East Africa. Most of the attacks were reported in territorial waters while the ships were at anchor or on berth. In many of the attacks, the crews were violently attacked by groups of five to ten people carrying guns or knives. Twenty-six crew members were killed and seven were wounded during the period under review, while nine ships were reported hijacked or missing.

4 The total number of acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships so far reported to the Organization is 1,433, an increase of 95 since 31 December 1998.

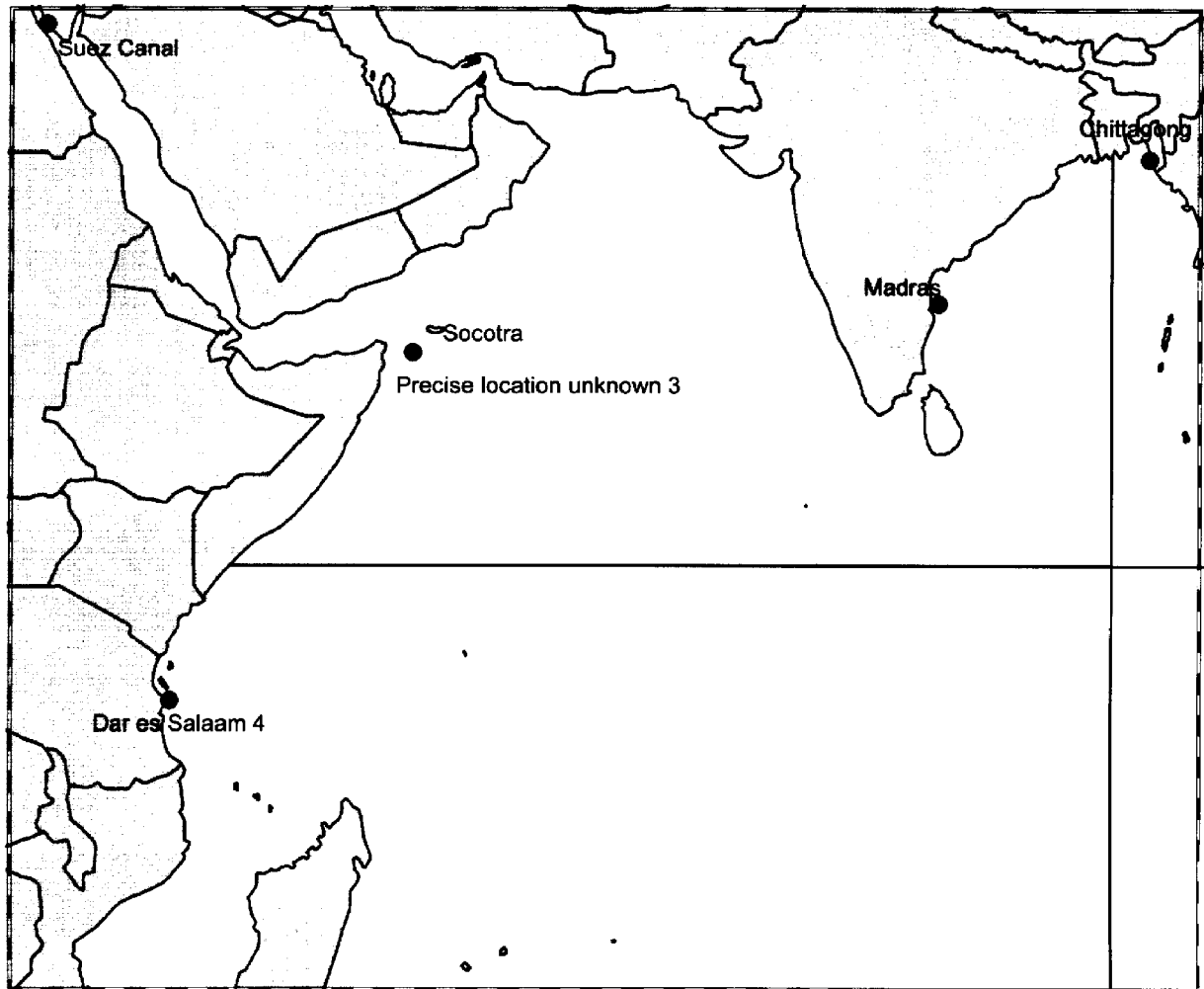
ANNEX 1
REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS OF INCIDENTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS
WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1999

		SOUTH EAST ASIAN WATERS	INDIAN OCEAN	EAST AFRICA	WEST AFRICA	SOUTH AMERICA	MEDITERRANEAN SEA
Location of incident							
	In international waters	17					
	In territorial waters	27	1	5	7	4	
	In port areas	15	1	3	4	9	2
Status of ship when attacked							
	Steaming	31		3	1		
	At anchor or on berth	28	2	4	9	13	2
	Not stated			1	1		
Number of persons involved in the attack							
	1-4 persons	8	1	2	2	4	1
	5-10 persons	11		1	2	4	1
	More than 10 persons		1	1	2		
	Not stated	40		4	5	5	
Consequences to the crews							
	Actual violence used against crews	23	1		6	7	2
	Threat of violence (including crew being tied up but not physically attacked)	6				4	
	Ship missing	4					
	Ship hijacked	2		3			
	None/not stated	24	1	5	5	2	
Weapons used by attackers							
	Guns	11		3	4	6	
	Knives	9	1		1	3	1
	Other						
	None/Not stated	39	1	5	6	4	1
Parts of the ship raided							
	Master and crew accommodation	24		3	4	9	1
	Cargo area	9		1	3	1	1
	Store rooms	15	1	4	4	3	
	Engine room	1					
	Not boarded	10	1				
	Not stated						
Total number of incidents reported per areas		59	2	8	11	13	2
Total number of incidents reported		95					

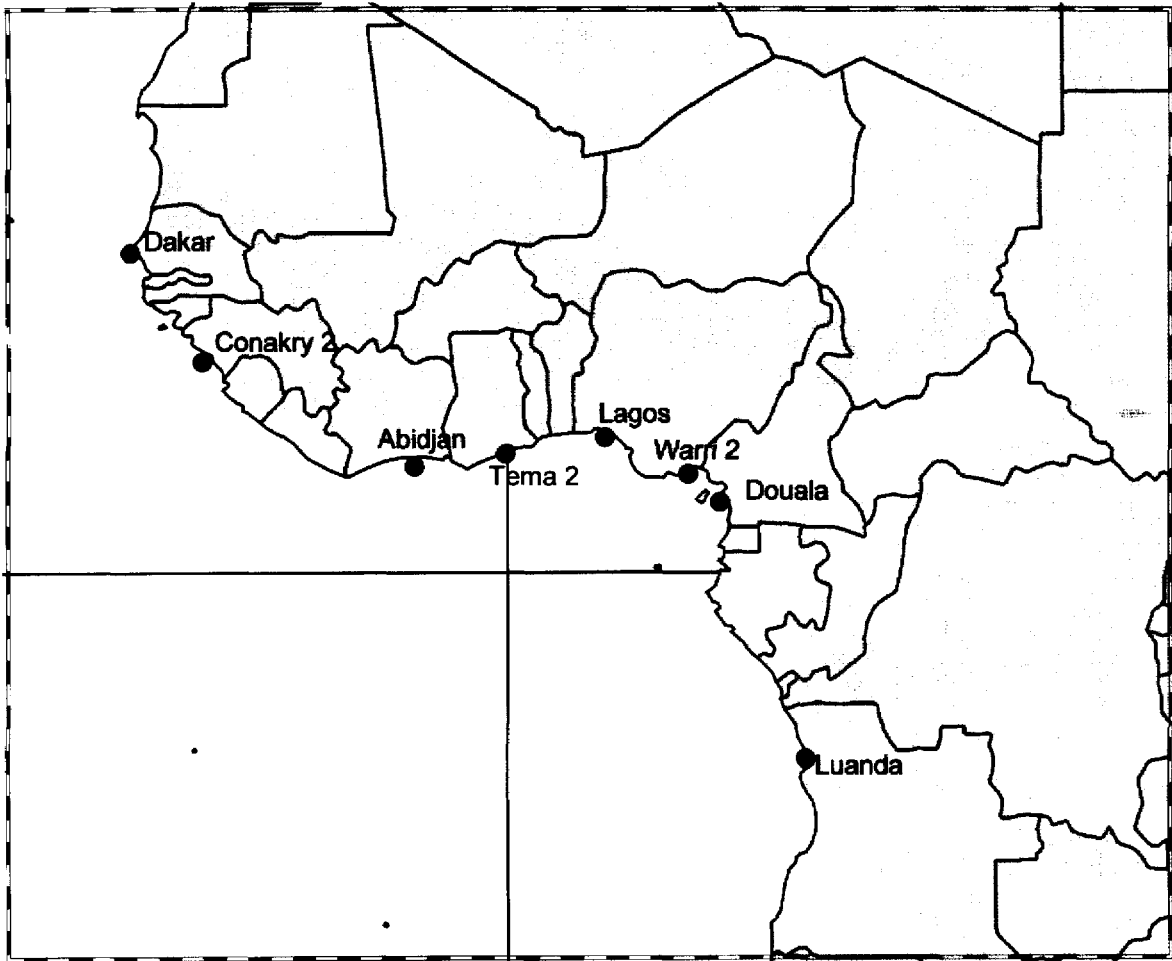
SOUTH EAST ASIAN WATERS



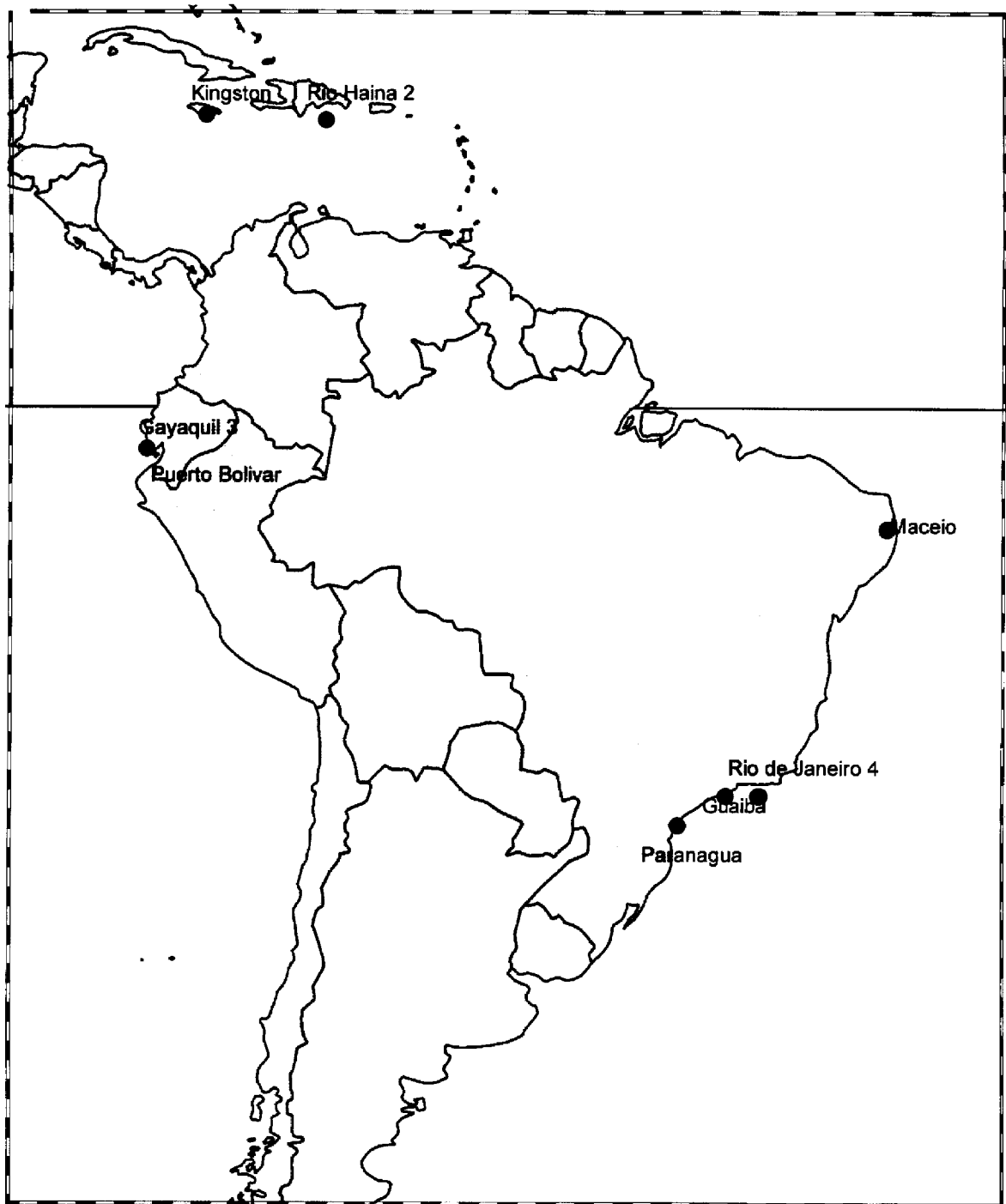
INDIAN OCEAN AND EAST AFRICA



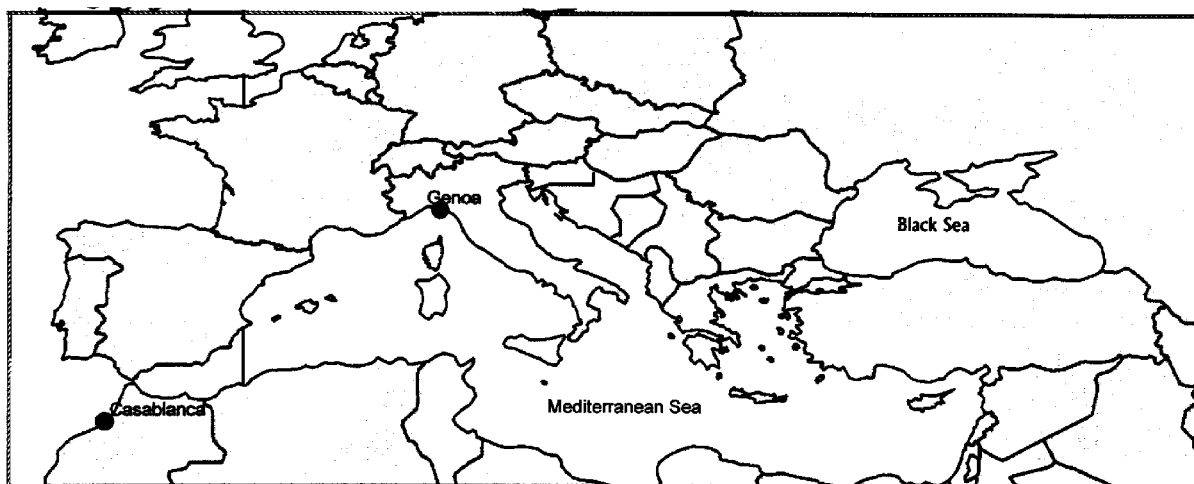
WEST AFRICA



SOUTH AMERICA



MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND EASTERN ATLANTIC OCEAN



ANNEX 2

PIRACY INCIDENTS REPORTED DURING THE PERIOD
1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 1999

(Presentation based on the date of reporting to IMO)

