



Ref. T1/13.01

MSC/Circ.924  
5 July 1999

## **REPORTS ON PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS**

### **Second quarterly report (April to June 1999)**

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<sup>1</sup> 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 April and the end of June 1999, and a regional analysis thereof.

3 The areas most affected over the period under review were the South East Asian waters, West and East Africa and South America. Most of the attacks were reported in territorial waters while the ships were steaming. In many of the attacks, the crews were violently attacked by isolated people or groups of two to ten people carrying guns or knives. Five crew members were wounded during the period under review, while three 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 1,480, an increase of 47 since 31 March 1999.

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<sup>1</sup>The following definition of piracy is contained in article 101 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS):

“Piracy consists of any of the following acts:

- (a) any illegal acts of violence or detention, or any act of depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed:
  - (i) on the high seas, against another ship or aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft;
  - (ii) against a ship, aircraft, persons or property in a place outside the jurisdiction of any State;
- (b) any act of voluntary participation in the operation of a ship or of an aircraft with knowledge of facts making it a pirate ship or aircraft;
- (c) any act inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in sub-paragraph (a) or (b).”



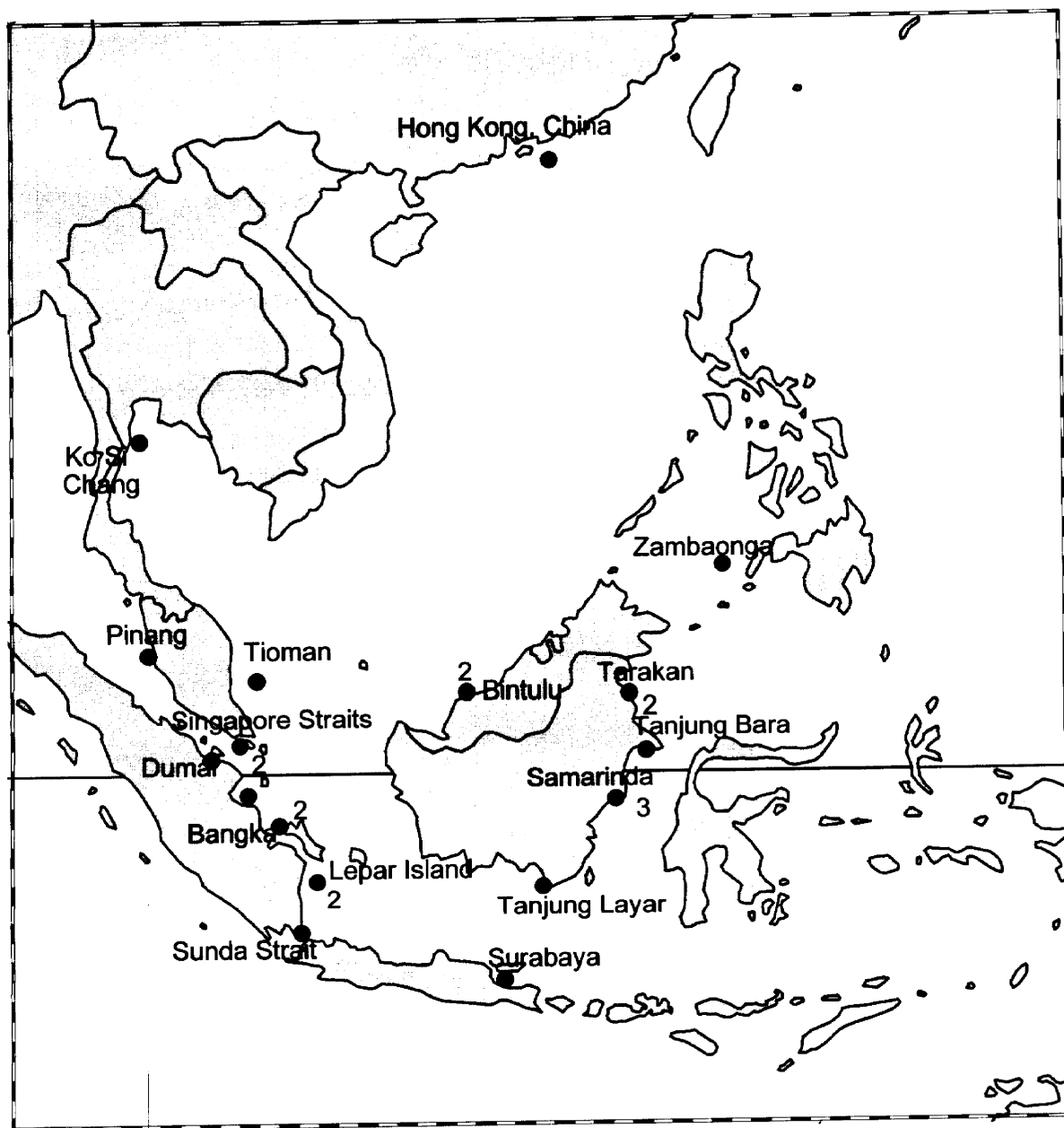
## ANNEX 1

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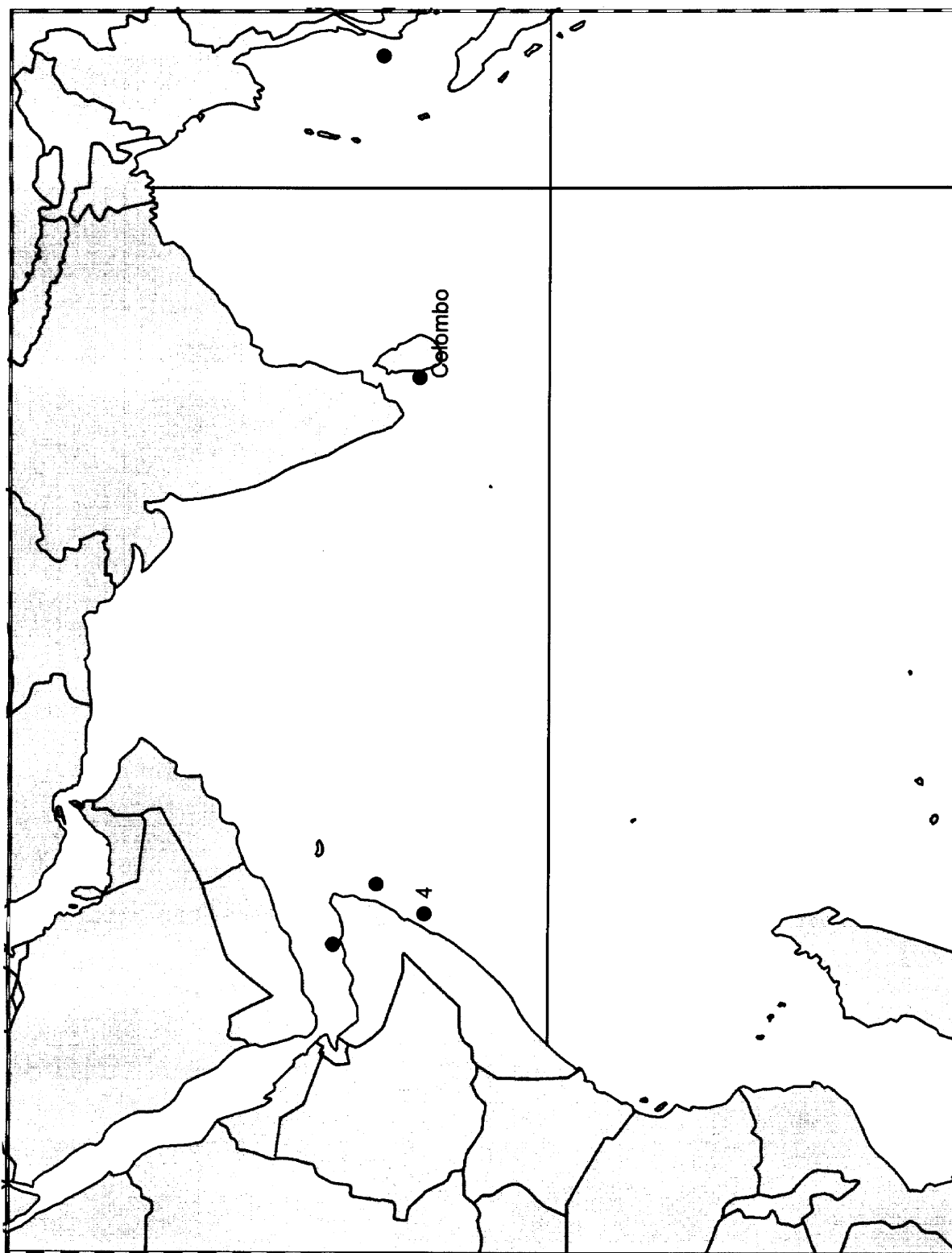
**REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF REPORTS OF INCIDENTS OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY AGAINST SHIPS  
WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1999**

		SOUTH EAST ASIAN WATERS	INDIAN OCEAN	EAST AFRICA	WEST AFRICA	SOUTH AMERICA
<b>Location of incident</b>						
	In international waters	2	1	3		
	In territorial waters	20	1	3	6	3
	In port areas	2			3	3
<b>Status of ship when attacked</b>						
	Steaming	11	2	6	4	1
	At anchor or on berth	13			5	5
	Not stated					
<b>Number of persons involved in the attack</b>						
	1-4 persons	1			5	
	5-10 persons	3			1	2
	More than 10 persons	1	2		3	
	Not stated	19		6		4
<b>Consequences to the crews</b>						
	Actual violence used against crews	6		4	6	1
	Threat of violence (including crew being tied up but not physically attacked)	5		1	1	1
	Ship missing	1	1			
	Ship hijacked			1		
	None/not stated	12	1		2	4
<b>Weapons used by attackers</b>						
	Guns	3	1	6	5	1
	Knives	4			1	1
	Other					
	None/Not stated	17	1		3	4
<b>Parts of the ship raided</b>						
	Master and crew accommodation	7	1	1	4	2
	Cargo area	1	1		2	3
	Store rooms	12			1	1
	Engine room					
	Not boarded	4		5	2	
	Not stated					
<b>Total number of incidents reported per areas</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total number of incidents reported</b>		<b>47</b>				

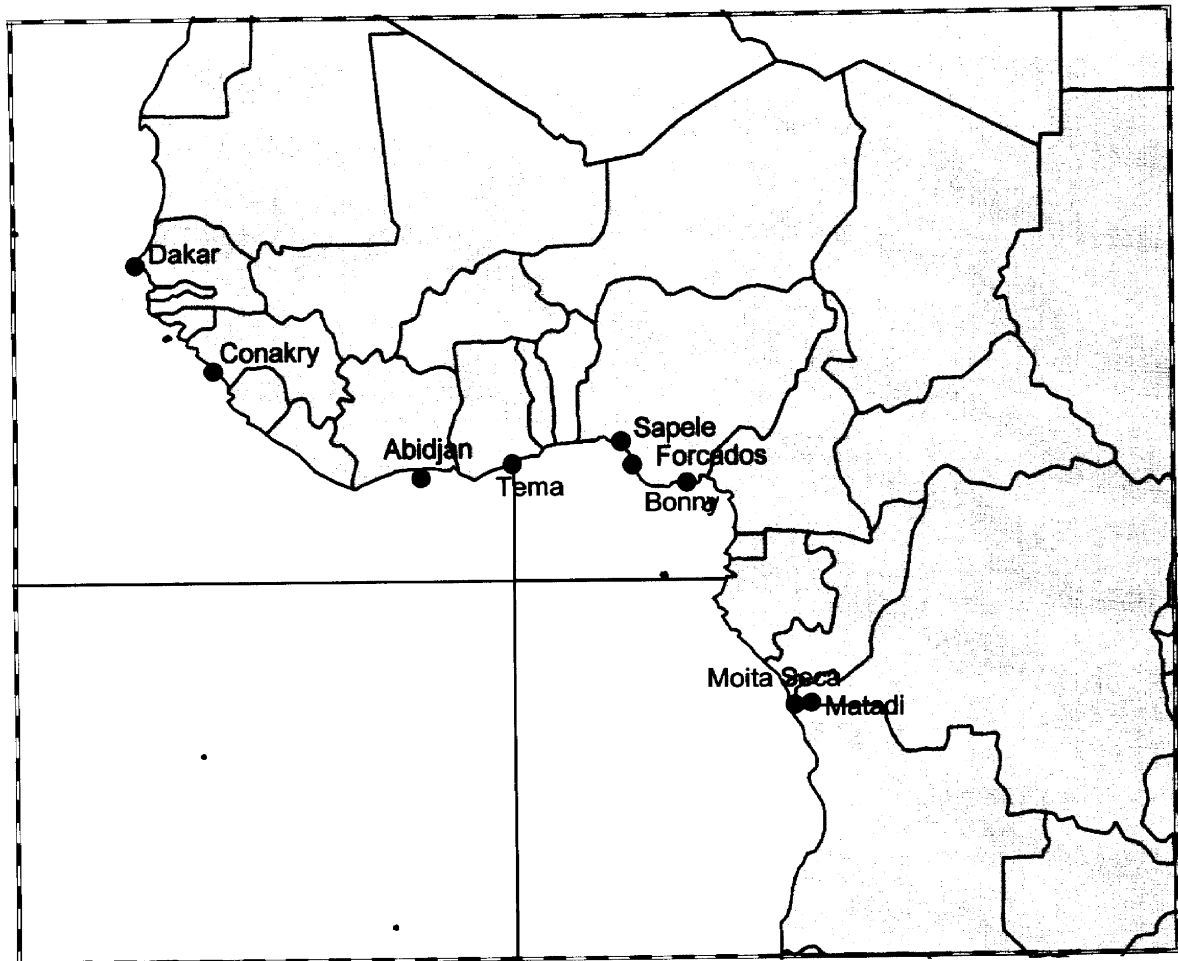
## SOUTH EAST ASIAN WATERS



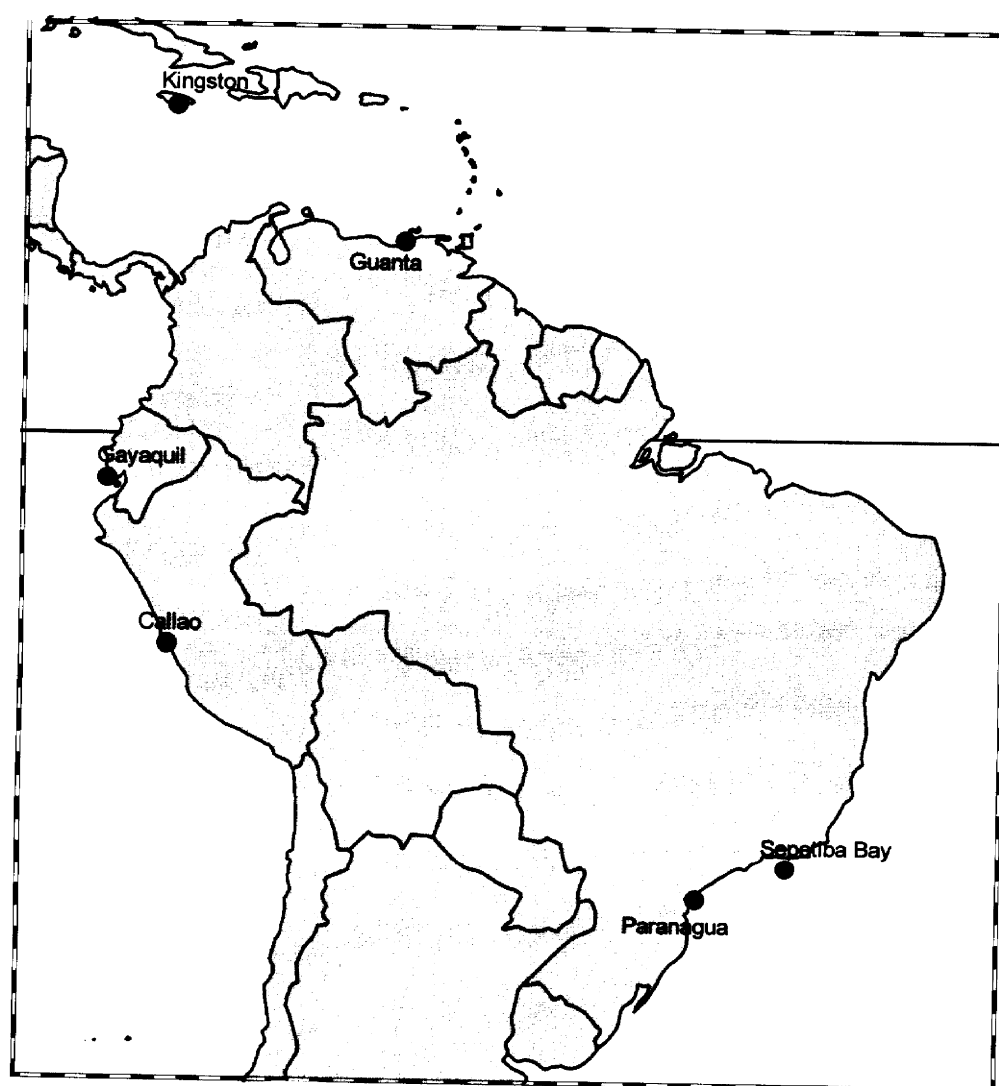
# INDIAN OCEAN AND EAST AFRICA



## WEST AFRICA



## SOUTH AMERICA



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**ANNEX 2**

Piracy incidents reported during the period  
1 April to 30 June 1999  
(Presentation based on the date of reporting to IMO)

