

**MS | RISK**

## Global Piracy Report

Detailed Weekly Piracy Report Focusing on the Horn of Africa, Gulf of Guinea, Southeast Asia and South America; and Reporting of On - The - Ground in Somalia and Kenya

## About MS Risk

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MS Risk has a dedicated team of researchers, a 24/7 hotline service and a pool of trained and experienced consultants to support client needs.

MS Risk supports clients in a variety of business sectors with the following services:

- Security Consulting
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  - Due diligence and investigations.
- Project Management
  - Interim security
  - Training
  - Special assignments
- Crisis Response
  - Crisis management
  - Business continuity management
  - Hostile operations support to commercial interests
- Virtual Security Director service for clients lacking a full time security executive.

References are always available.  
More information is found at [www.msrisk.com](http://www.msrisk.com)

## 24 hr Contact Information:

Email: [operations@msrisk.com](mailto:operations@msrisk.com)  
Telephone: +44 207 754 3555

## Summary (December 28, 2015 – January 3, 2016 - Week 1; Edition 122)

### List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

**Gulf of Guinea/West Africa:** No incidents reported during this reporting period

**Somalia-Indian Ocean:** No incidents reported during this reporting period

**Southeast Asia:** One incident reported during this reporting period

**South America:** No incidents reported during this reporting period

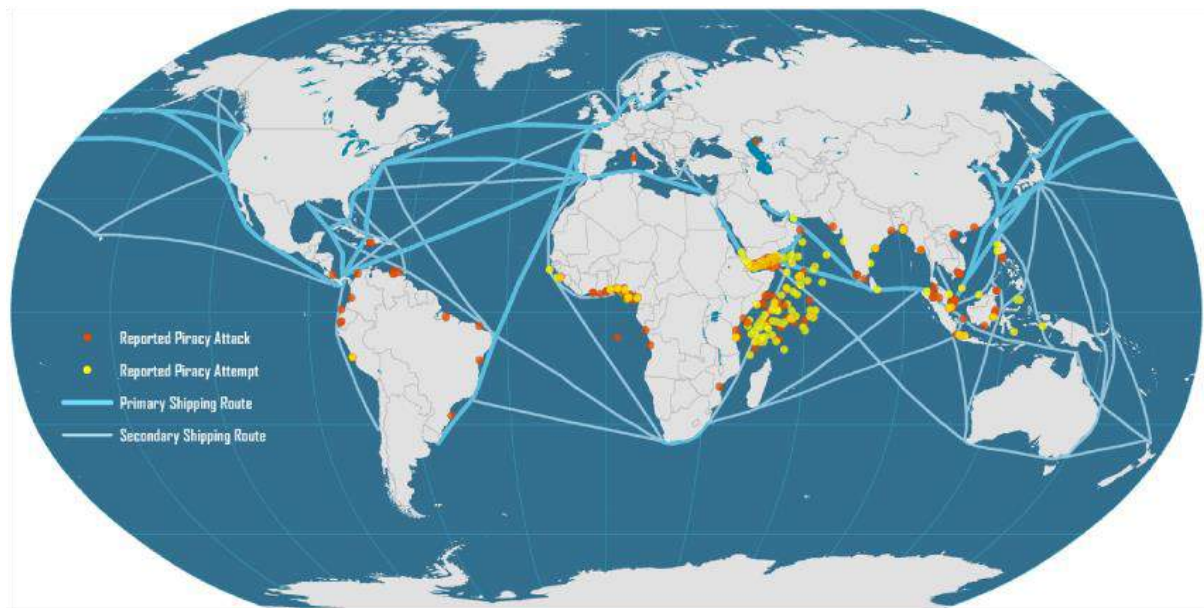
**North America:** No current incidents to report

**Central America-Caribbean:** No current incidents to report

**Atlantic Ocean Area:** No current incidents to report

**Northern Europe-Baltic:** No current incidents to report

**Mediterranean-Black Sea:** No current incidents to report



# SOMALIA

## Executive Summary

Masters are advised to remain vigilant at all times inside the HRA and are advised to adhere to strict guidance and protective measures as set down in BMP4. Sailing yachts should avoid transiting the HRA. Past activity has demonstrated that pirates will attack both large and small yachts transiting this region. While successful attacks and hijackings of merchant vessels have significantly decreased over the past two years, the possibility of attacks and the successful hijacking of sailing vessels continue to remain high. This is due to the reduction of revenue sources from pirated merchant vessels and the fact that sailing yachts are vulnerable and easier targets. PAG's continue to conduct "soft approaches" on merchant ships transiting the area. Skiffs have approached vessels in order to probe the reaction of the crewmembers and any possible Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP) onboard. If the pirate approach does not elicit a response, the pirates will likely proceed with an attack, in which additional skiffs may participate.

## At Sea

### Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

### Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

## On the Ground Reporting

- **1 January 2016** – Al Shaabab in Somalia executed at least five men on charges of spying for the US government, on Thursday. The militants carried out the mass executions in the city of Saakow in the Middle Juba region, south of Somalia. All of the victims were young men, four of them were shot dead, while one man who they accused of helping the US intelligence with their drone strikes was beheaded. Middle Juba has been under Al Shabaab's control since 2008.
- **28 December 2015** – The Somali Islamist group al Shabaab said it ambushed a Kenyan security vehicle in remote northeastern Kenya on Sunday, killing four members of the security forces. The Kenyan Red Cross said in a post on Twitter that two police officers had been killed and two others injured, while a Kenyan police spokesman said he was unaware of the attack. "Security has been beefed up in the region. Tension remains high," the Red Cross said. Sheikh Abdiasis Abu Musab, al Shabaab's military spokesman, told Reuters the militants had ambushed the car on the main road in Mandera County, on the Somali border, killing four Kenyan soldiers, and seizing their weapons. The statement made no mention of police. Al Shabaab and officials often given conflicting details and death tolls.

## Regional Reporting

- **2 January 2016** – Over 200 Ethiopian troops part of the African Union Peacekeeping in Somalia have been deployed to the strategic Southern Somalia port town of Kismayo, sources confirmed. The deployment of the 250 Ethiopian forces is seen as the replacement of the departed Sierra Leone peacekeepers once based in the port town. Sierra Leone prematurely ended its contribution to AMISOM last year at the height of the Ebola epidemic after the Somali government expressed fear over a possible transmission of the disease. According to a local official in Kismayo who spoke on the condition of anonymity, an extra 800 Ethiopian troops deployment will take soon.

# GULF OF GUINEA

## Executive Summary

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off West Africa is currently at a low level, with no incidents reported during this period. All vessels transiting this region however are reminded to remain vigilant.

## At Sea

### Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

### Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:

- None reported during this period.

### Vessels Boarded:

**18 December** – Pirates attacked three passenger boats in the Kula waterways in the Akuku-Toru local government area of Rivers State. Several dozen people are believed to have perished in the attack as many could not swim when the pirates forced them to jump in the river before stealing belongings.

### Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

### Kidnapping:

- None reported during this period.

### Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.

# SOUTHEAST ASIA

## Executive Summary

The threat of violent attacks, crime and hijackings remains high in waters off Southeast Asia. Pirate Action Groups (PAG's) are likely to target vessels to siphon fuel or oil onto another ship. Masters are therefore reminded to remain vigilant at all times in all regions, including at ports and anchorages. Attacks and robberies can occur at any time. Incidents involving the siphoning of oil/fuel have been on the rise in recent months. Masters are reminded to remain vigilant at all times and to report any incidents, suspicious activity, attacks or hijackings to the local authorities.

## At Sea

### Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

### Vessels Boarded:

- None reported during this period.

### Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:

**18 December** –Positon: 38:47.7N - 118:16.2E, Caofeidian Anchorage, China. Five robbers in large boat came alongside and attempted to board an anchored bulk carrier. Alert crew spotted the boat, raised the alarm and all crew mustered. Seeing the alerted crew the robbers aborted and moved away.

### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

### Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

### Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.



# SOUTH AMERICA

## Executive Summary

While there have been no recent reported incidents in this region, the threat of violent attacks and robberies remains high in waters throughout South America. Masters are reminded to remain vigilant at all times and in all regions, including ports and anchorages. Attacks and robberies can occur at any time.

## At Sea

### Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

### Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.





South Suite, Ragnall House, 18 Peel Road  
Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 4LZ

24 hr Global Contact: +44 207 754 3555  
[www.msrisk.com](http://www.msrisk.com)

**Directors**

S.J. Bingham, V.K. Prentice, P.O.J Tracy  
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