

**MS Risk continues to advise extreme caution for vessels traveling through Bab Al Mandab, the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean.**

Attacks in and near Yemen's maritime waters in recent months indicated an increased risk for commercial maritime travel through the region. Travel may be adversely impacted by piracy or terrorism as the result of the ongoing war in Yemen. Attacks from ship-to-shore or vice versa could cause accidental damage to vessels or disrupt shipping routes.

**MS Risk advises a heightened level of vigilance.** Risks of passage may be more elevated than expected, as some incidents may not have been reported through proper channels. Ship crews should be drilled for actions on identifying suspect vessels, and for the possibility of attack. Any suspicious activity should be immediately reported through the proper channels. Vessels should also remain aware of changes to protocol when entering Yemeni maritime waters.

**United Nations Inspections**

The UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism (UNVIM) is operational for commercial imports to Yemen. Please follow the guidance below:

*Shipping companies or owners delivering to ports not under the control of the Government of Yemen* must apply for permits upon departing from the port of origin of their cargo. Yemen-based importers/traders are required to submit this notification form. More information about the UNVIM program is available here: <https://www.vimye.org/home>.

*Vessels applying to go to ports under the control of the Government of Yemen* need obtain permission for entry from the Yemeni Ministry of Transport. This should be done through the ship's agent and/or receivers prior to the vessel's arrival. The form should be completed by the ship's master and sent directly to the Ministry of Transport.

**Saudi Coalition Inspections**

*All vessels calling at Yemeni ports will only be allowed to enter Yemeni territorial waters following an inspection by the Saudi Arabian coalition forces.* Upon arrival outside Bab Al-Mandab, the shipmaster should call the naval forces of the Saudi Arabian coalition by VHF on channel 16 for the arrival registration, and indicate his location (ideally three miles from Bab Al Mandab). Coalition authorities will advise on the anchor position until they provide final approval to enter the port. This procedure will not take more than 48 hours.

Coalition inspectors do not conduct investigation with the crew; contact will be with the ship's master or Chief Officer about the cargo and documents. Once the vessel is permitted into Yemeni ports, the Master will be required to call port control by VHF on channel 14 or 16 for the arrival registration. The shipmaster will be advised the anchor position until the Harbour master confirms berthing prospects.

Coalition forces require AIS to be kept on at all times. The situation is subject to change and vessels should check frequently with local sources for any changes.