

International Maritime Bureau (IMB)

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International Maritime Bureau Latest News

Global Maritime piracy and armed robbery incidents have seen a noticeable increase in the first three months of 2025, according to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB).

About International Maritime Bureau

- The ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB) is a **non-profit-making organisation, established in 1981**, to act as a focal point in the fight against all types of **maritime fraud, malpractice, and piracy**.
- It is a specialised **division of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)**.
- It serves as a **platform for cooperation** and information sharing among various stakeholders, including **governments, shipping companies, and law enforcement agencies**.
- By acting as a **central hub for reporting and disseminating information on maritime crimes**, the IMB helps in preventing and combating piracy, armed robbery, and other illicit activities that pose a threat to the safety of ships and crew members.
- The **IMB Piracy Reporting Centre** is located at **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**.

- The **key services of the PRC** are:
 - **Issuing daily status reports on piracy** and armed robbery **to ships via broadcasts** on the Inmarsat-C SafetyNET service.
 - **Reporting piracy** and armed robbery at sea incidents **to law enforcement and the International Maritime Organization (IMO)**.
 - **Helping local law enforcement apprehend pirates** and assist in bringing them to justice.
 - **Assisting shipowners** whose **vessels have been attacked** or hijacked.
 - **Assisting crew members** whose vessels have been attacked.
 - Providing updates on pirate activity via the Internet, twitter, and email alerts.
 - Publishing comprehensive **quarterly and annual reports** detailing piracy statistics.
- The **services** of the PRC are provided **free of charge to all ships** irrespective of their ownership or flag.
- The IMB **also locates lost ships or ships seized by pirates, recovers stolen cargoes**, and prepares customised reports on a chargeable basis.
- The United Nations (UN) International Maritime Organization (**IMO**), in its resolution A 504 (XII) (9) adopted on 20 November 1981, has, among other things, **urged all governments, interests, and organizations to exchange information** and provide appropriate **co-operation with the IMB**.
- The IMB also has an **observer status** with the International Criminal Police Organization (**ICPO - INTERPOL**).
- Through its expertise and extensive network, the IMB **offers mediation and arbitration services**, helping parties involved **in maritime disputes** to reach amicable settlements and avoid costly legal proceedings.
- IMB actively engages in **advocacy and awareness campaigns** to promote best practices in maritime security and trade facilitation.
- It **collaborates with international organizations**, such as the IMO, **to develop guidelines and standards** aimed at enhancing the security and efficiency of global shipping operations.

Source: MI

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