



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
(AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ)
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MERCHANT MARINE
(DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MARINA MERCANTE)
DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE
(DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROL Y CUMPLIMIENTO)**

F-265
(DCCM)
V.00



MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-349

To: Master, Ship-owners, Operators, Company Security Officers, Ship Security Officers, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates, and Recognized Security Organizations (RSO's) of Panamanian Flagged Vessel.

Subject: Imperative Anti-Piracy security measurements to be taken in urgent basis.

Reference: SOLAS 74/78 Chapter XI-2
MMC-133
MMC-208
MMC-230
MMC-238
MMC-286
MMC-320
MMC-327

1. The Panama Maritime Authority strongly recommends to all the ship owners and operators of the Panamanian flagged vessels to keep the proper anti-piracy security measures on board in order to reduce the likelihood of being attacked by pirates. The level of threat in the hot spots for piracy attacks i.e. **Gulf of Guinea** and **Gulf of Aden (off Somalia)** have been risen in the last days, according to the intelligence reports; which have been also supported by a recent speech given by the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).
2. The Administration urges Companies, Company Security Officers (CSO), Ship Security Officers (SSO) and Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) of Panamanian flagged vessels to implement the necessary security measures described in the latest edition of the Best Management Practices BMP , before, during and after the transit through High Risk Areas.
3. All the Panamanian flagged vessels whether using or not the services of Private Maritime Security Companies should maintain a wide communication with the Administration and to liaise with the International Contact Centers according to the BMP in order to counter piracy in the High Risk Areas of the Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and any other Region of High Risk, as determined by this Administration before, during and after the transit.
4. For this reason, we strongly encourage to all the Panamanian flagged vessels to complete and submit the "Vessel Position Reporting Form" to UMKTO, and the "Vessel Movement Registration Form" to MSCHOA, both described in the latest edition of the Best Management Practices (BMP) prior to entering the High Risk Area, including the International Recommended Transit Corridor (IRTC).
5. In this sense you will find all our recommendations e.g. High Risk Areas (HRA) and precautionary zones, Security

Measures sailing in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG), IMB Piracy Reporting Centre, IRTC and the latest edition of the Best Management Practices (BMP) among others in the Merchant Marine Circulars mentioned as reference of this document.

6. **The Panama Maritime Authority encourage all Operators, CSO and Owners of Panamanian flag vessels, to contact the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) Piracy Reporting Center 24/7, in case of any incident of piracy or armed robbery that occurs in any part of the country world.**

The information received is important in order to be able to alert the response agencies in the region to take action as well as raise awareness for other ships in the vicinity by broadcasting via Inmarsat Safety Net Service.

IMB

Piracy Reporting Centre (PRC)

Tel: +(60 3) 2078 5763 / 2031 0287 / 2031 3106

24 Hrs ANTI PIRACY HELPLINE: + 60 3 2031 0014 (Manned 24 Hrs everyday)

Fax: + 60 3 2078 5769

General E-mail: imbkl@icc-ccs.org <<mailto:imbkl@icc-ccs.org>>

Piracy E-mail: piracy@icc-ccs.org <<mailto:piracy@icc-ccs.org>>

Also, we exhorted the Captains of the vessels that the above information from the Piracy Report Center be placed in areas where there is communication such as the bridge, the engine room, citadel, among others.

7. This Administration informs that the Information Fusion Center - Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR), is functioning as an information sharing hub for sense-making of maritime data and cuing incident responses to Maritime Security situations through a collaborative approach, the Center has already established linkages with more than 25 countries and agencies including various established maritime constructs.

To continuously develop information exchange relationships with relevant stakeholders so as to contribute towards keeping the seas safe and secure for all Panamanian Flag Vessels, we exhort to contact:

Information Fusion Centre - Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR)

Naval Transmitting Station

Sohna Road, Sector - 33, Gurugram - 122 001

Email: ifc-ior.gurugram@navy.gov.in

Tel: (+91) 124 -2208385, Fax - (+91) 124 -2209385

Website: <https://www.indiannavy.nic.in/ifc-ior/index.html>

8. For further assistance and/or inquiries please note the following contact points:

Maritime Ships Security Department (weekdays 08:30-16:30 hrs local time)

Phone: +507-501-5020

E-mail address: asp@amp.gob.pa

SEGUMAR Panama (Evenings, Weekends and Holidays)

Phone: +507-501-5350/48 or +507-501-5032

E-mail address: authorizations@segumar.com

June, 2019 – Updated of paragraph number 6 and inclusion of paragraph number 7.

November, 2018 – Modification of BMP last version.

January, 2018 - Update of mail

March, 2017 – New Circular

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:

Maritime Ships Security Department

Directorate General of Merchant Marine

Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-5037 / (507) 501-5020

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