

Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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SHIP SECURITY ADVISORY No. 06-25

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Company Security Officers, Recognized Security Organizations

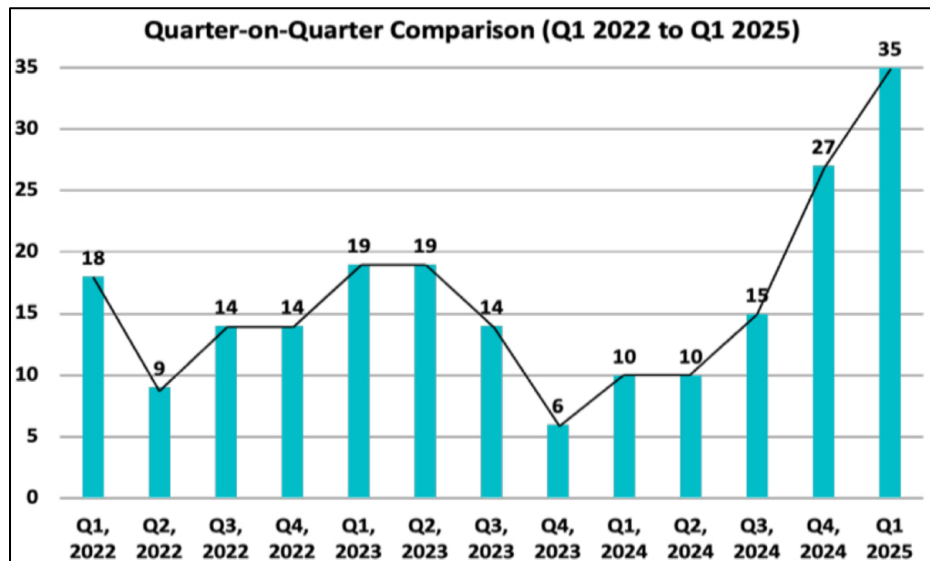
Subject: THREATS TO SHIPPING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Date: 29 April 2025

This Ship Security Advisory (SSA) supersedes SSA No. 06-24.

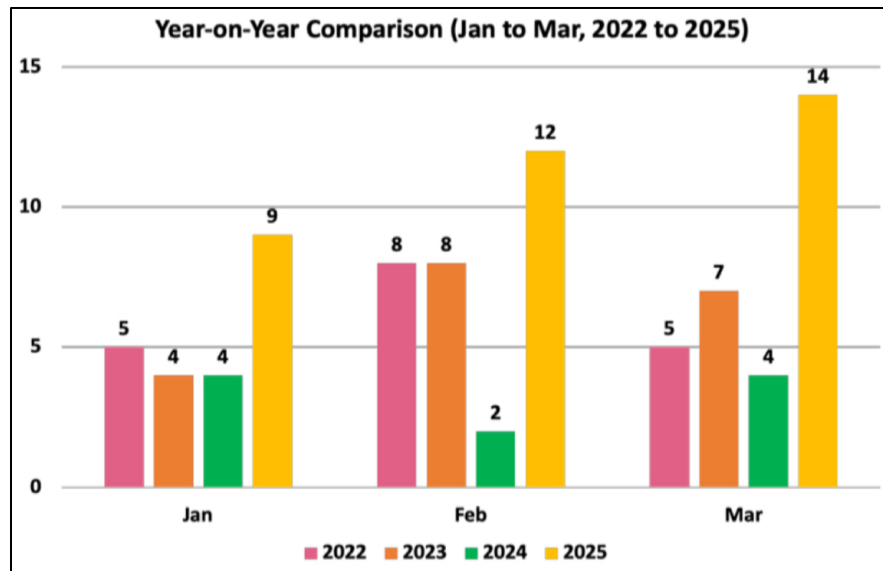
1.0 Recent Incidents

- 1.1 The Information Fusion Centre (IFC) Singapore recorded a total of 35 sea theft/robbery incidents in the Singapore Strait (SS) in the first quarter of 2025. This represents a 250% increase compared to the 10 incidents reported during the first quarter of 2024. Additional incident details are published on the [IFC Singapore website](#).



Source: [IFC Singapore – Quarterly Infographic 1-25](#).

This SSA is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.



Source: [IFC Singapore - Quarterly Infographic 1-25](#).

- 1.2 The Phillip Channel has remained an area of particular concern in the SS since Q4 2022, accounting for a large majority of total incidents. With the monsoon season abating, IFC assesses that the overall incident numbers in Q2 2025 are likely to remain high.
- 1.3 For the first time in more than five years, container vessels were targeted in the SS, with seven incidents involving such vessel type to-date in 2025. Container vessels typically transit the SS with freeboards greater than 10 meters, however it noticed that the four targeted container vessels had freeboards between 3 to 7 meters, making them easier to board.
- 1.4 On two occasions (28 February 2025 and 30 March 2025), three incidents occurred in one night. Given the incident locations, time intervals, and number of persons involved, it is likely that on these dates the same group of perpetrators conducted multiple attempts on different vessels when the initial attempt(s) were unsuccessful.

2.0 Risk Mitigation Measures

- 2.1 The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) reminds all vessels transiting the SS to adopt the following basic protective measures, as advised by IFC Singapore.
 - 2.1.1 Maintain an all-round lookout from an elevated position, with a focus on suspicious small craft(s) approaching or in proximity of the ship’s aft.
 - 2.1.2 Turn on weather deck lighting around the accommodation block and rear-facing lighting on the poop deck.
 - 2.1.3 Sound the ship’s alarm when suspicious small craft(s) are sighted.

- 2.2 IFC Singapore also encourages ships to provide photographic or video evidence to educate the industry on the modus operandi of the perpetrators and help the authorities with their investigation.

3.0 Additional IFC Singapore Resources and Guidance

- 3.1 The [IFC Singapore website](#) provides informative threat assessment and response tools for ships transiting the Asian region, including:
- 3.1.1 a [Bridge Card](#) to outline the Voluntary Community of Reporting (VCR) scheme;
 - 3.1.2 [recommended shipboard protection measures](#);
 - 3.1.3 weekly, monthly, and annual [incident reports](#); and
 - 3.1.4 [infographics](#) to help visualize incidents in the region.

4.0 Contact Information

- 4.1 All security incidents and suspicious activities must be reported by operators of RMI-flagged vessels to the Administrator, as per §12.5 of RMI Marine Notice [2-011-39](#).
- 4.2 Refer to *Global Maritime Security Contacts* ([MARSEC-210](#)) for all relevant regional reporting center contact information.

5.0 References

- 5.1 RMI Marine Notice [2-011-39](#), *Piracy, Armed Robbery, and the Use of Armed Security*.
- 5.2 IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1333/Rev.1](#), *Recommendations to Governments for Preventing and Suppressing Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships*.
- 5.3 IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1334](#), *Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships: Guidance to Shipowners and Ship Operators, Shipmasters and Crews on Preventing and Suppressing Acts of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships*.
- 5.4 ReCAAP [Guidance](#), *Regional Guide 2 to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery in Asia*.
- 5.5 Best Management Practice – Maritime Security ([BMP MS](#)).
- 5.6 Maritime Industry Security Threat Overview ([MISTO](#)).