

# Republic of the Marshall Islands

## Office of the

### MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

11495 COMMERCE PARK DRIVE, RESTON, VIRGINIA 20191-1507

TELEPHONE: +1-703-620-4880 FAX: +1-703-476-8522

EMAIL: maritime@register-iri.com WEBSITE: www.register-iri.com

#### MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY NO. 66-09

**To: Regional Marine Safety Offices, Nautical Inspectors, Masters, Owners/Agents**

**Subject: HIGH RISK TRANSIT ADVISORY – INDIAN OCEAN**

**Date: 30 December 2009**

Please be advised that the Administration has received the following notice:

“INDIAN OCEAN: High risk piracy area transit advisory from Risk Intelligence, 17 December 2009. All north-south bound traffic in the western Indian Ocean between the Arabian Sea and the Cape of Good Hope is advised to stay east of the area bounded by the following coordinates (waypoints 4 and 5 changed):

1. Rass al Hadd (Oman, eastern tip), ca. 22.30N - 062E;
2. N 19°, E 062°;
3. N 10°, E 062°;
4. S 5°, E 062°;
5. Cap d’Ambre (Madagascar, northern tip), ca. S 11°08’, E 49°15’;
6. Seaward edge of the land border between Tanzania and Mozambique.

Furthermore, the high risk area boundary in the Red Sea extends along N 16° from coast to coast.

#### **Routing guidance:**

Southbound traffic in the western Indian Ocean for Mombasa and Dar es-Salaam is advised to sail outside the Risk Intelligence warning area to a position ca. S 10°50’ and E 51°15’ south of the Farquhar Group in the western Seychelles group before turning onto a westerly course along approximately S 10°50’ latitude. Ships should sail due west between Astove Island and La Glorieuse Island in the Comoros to at least E 42°30’ before turning onto northerly courses to their destination ports on the East African coast. Outgoing northbound traffic is advised to follow the reverse route.

This advice remains in effect for the remainder of the current transition period and is due to increased pirate activity west of the Seychelles. East-west bound traffic between the Gulf of Aden and India, including traffic to and from the Persian/Arabian Gulf, is advised to exercise increased vigilance and to consider implementing counter-piracy in the Arabian Sea as far east as 67.5E. This area is not identical to the 600 NM line, but goes beyond it taking into account current pirate activity beyond this limit. This warning replaces all earlier MaRisk recommendations for this area.”

It must be remembered that hijackings can take place anywhere in these high risk areas. Thus, the Administration urges all vessels operating in the region to actively implement recommended Best Management Practices for anti-piracy measures, register with the MSCHOA, regularly report their position/course/speed to UKMTO (+971 505 523 215 / [ukmto@eim.ae](mailto:ukmto@eim.ae)), participate in the SSRS service (<http://ssrs.org>), continue to maintain a heightened state of awareness, maintain strict 24 hour anti-piracy visual and radar watches, and report all attacks and suspicious sightings to the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre (24 hours anti-piracy helpline: +603 2031 0014, Email: [piracy@icc-ccs.org](mailto:piracy@icc-ccs.org), Telex: MA 34199).