

NT Branch Cir. No:NT/ISPS/5/2012

Sub: **Amendments to Ship Security Plans of Indian flag ships - incorporating anti-piracy measures- reg.**

1. Incidents of piracy continue unabated in the Gulf of Aden and Western Arabian seas. This Directorate has issued detailed 'Guidelines' on anti-piracy measures to be taken on board Indian flag ships vide the M. S. Notice No. 1 of 2011(F.No.44-NT(6)/2010 dated 14.1.2011)

2. While the process of an implementation of such anti-piracy measures is underway on board Indian flag ships, it has also become necessary to 'institutionalize' these anti-piracy steps through an amendment to the 'Ship Security Plan' so that the "Guidelines" referred in para 1 above are mandatorily followed by all Indian flag ships.

3. Therefore, all Owners, Masters, Ship Owners, Managers, Operators and Agents are requested to ensure that Ship Security Plan (SSP) of their vessels are suitably amended to address the possible contingency of piracy or armed robbery and that the anti-piracy /armed robbery measures as per the said M. S. Notice No. 1 of 2011 of this office (except fitment of AIS thereon which is optional) are incorporated in the Ship Security Plan after undertaking calibrated, timely and comprehensive ship security assessment towards anti piracy measures. The amendments to the SSPs should, in that light, include, but not limited to, following issues;

3.1 Watch-keeping and enhanced vigilance;

3.2 Effective use of monitoring and/or surveillance equipment;

- 3.3 Maneuvering practice;
- 3.4 Alert systems to demonstrate an awareness of any potential attacker;
- 3.5 Use of the deck lighting and illumination to demonstrate an awareness of any potential attacker;
- 3.6 Denial of use of the ship's tools and equipments and protection of tools equipments stored on the upper deck of the ship;
- 3.7 Protection of navigation and engineering control spaces and erection of physical barriers;
- 3.8 Other equipments used for self-defense; and
- 3.9 Safe, muster points and 'citadels'/'safe houses'.

4. The Indian Register of Shipping, the nominated Recognized Security Organization, for the purpose, is requested to take note of the foregoing amendments to the SSPs while conducting future verification audits in the matter (towards intermediate verification/ additional verification/ initial/renewal verification for an issuance of the International Ship Security Certificates) of the Indian flag ships.

5. This is issued with the approval of the Director General of Shipping, Govt.of India.



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