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Abstract

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

"Measures to Prevent Piracy at Sea"

Introduction

The problem of piracy and armed robbery against ships is a pressing issue for the entire world and unfortunately there is no country to be an exception to it. Some mechanisms designed to deal with such practices have been already developed, as we can judge by the results of the long-term IMO anti-piracy project, initiated in 1998. None the less it is still vitally important to overlook and assess its strong and weak points as well as suggest new alternatives in order to improve and perfect the whole system of prevention of such acts. In spite of your potentially implacable positions and heated debates I believe that our collective effort will bring the body to its main goal - the adoption of a progressive and realistic resolution, a compromise that will serve the world's best interests.

Due to the fact that agenda consolidates a lot of specific issues that have its roots in piracy several problems are to be discussed during the simulation:

Recommended practices and guidance to ship owners, shipmasters and crews on preventing acts of piracy

A large number of important tips for ships and crews are described in Annex to MSC/Circ.623/Rev.3 (e.g. reducing the temptation for piracy and armed robbery, smaller crews, firearms, ship security plan, precautions connected with routing, watch keeping and lighting etc.).

Are all of these measures coincide with contemporary situation in the costal/port States, are there any other practices that should be implemented in order to improve recommendations for IMO-members?

Ongoing campaigns against piracy and armed robbery often evoke involvement of pirates in such actions.

How governments should act in order to neutralize activities of pirates during the anti-piracy campaigns?

While piracy and armed robbery attacks a lot of environmental damage is created, which is especially important in areas with restricted navigation (subsequent oil spills or leakages of hazardous substances)

What measures should take all national agencies involved in preventing and suppressing piracy and armed robbery against ships for the purpose of minimizing any relevant adversity?