



INFORMATION LETTER 001-2011

to

**all Owners, Managing Owners operating ships and crew under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda;
all Masters and Officers serving on board vessels sailing under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda.**

**Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea
Preventive Measures for Ships operating in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia**

This information letter should be read in conjunction with IMO Circular MSC/ Circ. 1337 a copy of which should be placed on board to assist the crew in handling piracy incidents.

Increasing threats of Piracy and Robbery at Sea against ships navigating the Somali Basin area of the Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden is of great concern to this Administration. All ship owners and managers of ships navigating these regions are advised that all vessels must implement anti-piracy measures based on IMO and International Shipping Industry Best Management Practices (BMP) to deter piracy in these areas, links to the latest versions will be provided on the website.

Ship owners and managers, company security officers and masters of Antigua and Barbuda vessels are advised to instruct their masters, ship security officers and crew in order to be familiar with the Best Management Practice BMP3, as revised, and continue to remain vigilant when passing through the Gulf of Aden and off the Coast of Somalia.

Additionally ship owners and managers are encouraged to register their ships and passage plan with the coordinators of the international joint naval presence in these regions at Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa, as set out in information letter 001-2009.

The use of private security forces at sea is at the discretion of the Company but the use of armed guards is not recommended.

The Administration continues to assess the situation regarding the effectiveness of the measures suggested and will continue to provide any necessary updates accordingly.

If you should have any further questions or seek further advice please contact the ADOMS St John's office directly.

**Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping
Antigua and Barbuda W.I.**

Corner Popeshead & Dickenson Bay Street
P.O. Box 1394 * St. John's * Antigua W.I.
Phone ++1 268 462 1273 or 462 4353 * Fax: ++1 268 462 4358
E-mail: MarineServ@candw.ag