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24 January 2018

MC(18)06

TO: MARINE COMMITTEE

Copy: All Full and Associate Members (for information)

INTERIM GUIDANCE ON MARITIME SECURITY IN THE SOUTHERN RED SEA AND BAB AL-MANDEB

Action Required: Members are invited to consider the Interim Guidance on Maritime Security in the Southern Red Sea and Bab al-Mandeb and to circulate it to their members.

Members will recall that at its most recent meeting (MC(17)58) the Marine Committee considered Maritime Security Threats in Waters off Yemen, instructing the Secretariat, in cooperation with experts from other associations, to draft guidance for CSOs and Masters as soon as possible. The Secretariat can confirm that this work has now been completed and the Interim Guidance on Maritime Security in the Southern Red Sea and Bab al-Mandeb is provided at Annex A.

The guidance is intended to help Company Security Officers (CSOs) and Masters to conduct a threat assessment for transits through the Southern Red Sea and Bab al-Mandeb and should be applied in conjunction with BMP 4. The document provides information on the threat profile and the maritime security threats other than piracy that ships could face in the affected waters. This includes advice on preparations and self-protection and reporting and registration requirements to ensure that companies and ships' crews are fully aware of the security situation and any developments when they transit the area. The document draws heavily on the Industry Releasable Threat Assessments and Bulletins produced by CMF and EUNAVFOR, previously forwarded to the Committee (MC(17)60; MC(17)63 and; MC(18)02).

Members are invited to consider the Guidance provided at Annex A and to circulate it to their members immediately. Any comments or questions with respect to the guidance or security in the Southern Red Sea and Bab al-Mandeb should be directed to the undersigned (john.stawpert@ics.shipping.org).

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