



INTERGRATED MARINE SECURITY SOLUTIONS

### **Intelligence update, April 3, 2009**

02.04.2009: 1400UTC: INDIAN OCEAN 05 31N 056 32E. CONTAINER VESSEL WAS ATTACKED BY TWO BLUE PIRATE SKIFFS LAUNCHED BY A MOTHER VESSEL. SMALL ARMS WERE FIRED ON THE CONTAINED VESSEL, THAT INCREASED TO MAXIMUM SPEED AND EXECUTED EVASIVE MANOEUVRES. AT 1424 PIRATES REDUCED SPEED AND GAVE UP.

### **Short Term Metrological Synopsis (Gulf of Aden)**

The outlook continues to be settled with light and variable winds and maximum expected wave height less than 1.0 m. Wind speed can be expected to increase slightly to Force 3/4 but sea state will remain slight with moderate/good visibility.

### **Piracy news (Gulf of Aden)**

PIRATE attacks off Somalia have surged in the past month, according to an International Maritime Bureau alert.

In January and February, just two pirate assaults were reported, but 15 attacks were reported in March, the IMB said.

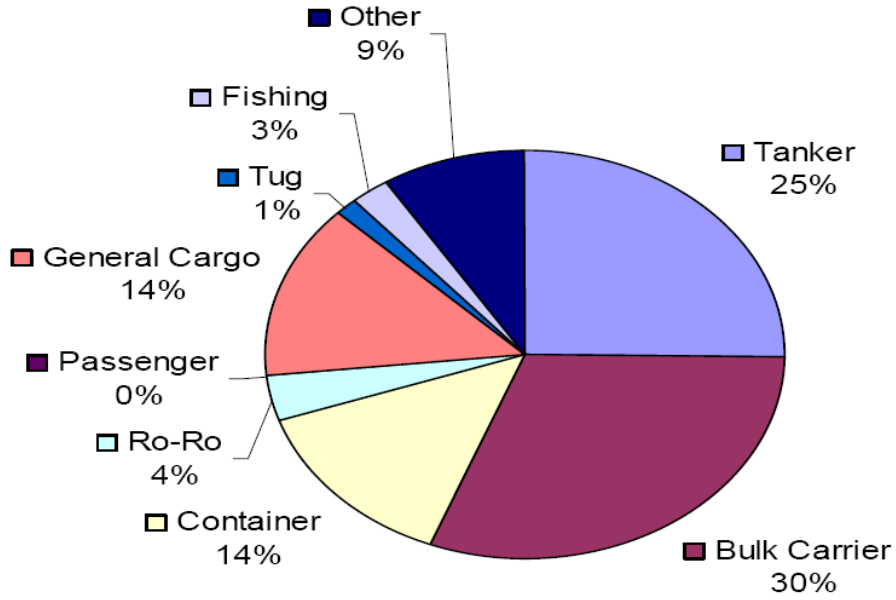
Director Pottengal Mukundan commented: "This is a worrying development."

The alert followed a warning at a recent security conference from John Bainbridge, assistant secretary of the International Transport Workers' Federation, who said pirates are now likely to be well-armed militia fighters, perpetrating well-planned, organised and resourced assaults.

Meanwhile, China sent two more warships to relieve a pair of destroyers that have been on anti-piracy patrols in the Gulf of Aden and off the coast of Somalia since 6 January.

The replacement vessels, the destroyer DDG-167 Shenzhen and the frigate FFG-570 Huangshan, will act with the supply ship Weishanhu.

**Ship Types involved in East Coast Africa Piracy Activity  
December 2008 onward**



**All Statistics based upon figures correct up until 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009**