



UKMTO QUARTERLY MARITIME SECURITY REPORT

Q1 2023

JAN – MAR

13 Apr 23

United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organisation



Contents

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Executive Summary | 3 |
| Maritime Security Events | 3-4 |
| Reporting Rates | 5 |
| Comparison with Q4 2021 | 5 |
| Appendices | 6-7 |
| UKMTO Maritime Security Definitions | 6 |
| Incident Reporting | 7 |
| Contact Details | 7 |
| Other Sources of Information | 7 |
| Disclaimer | 7 |

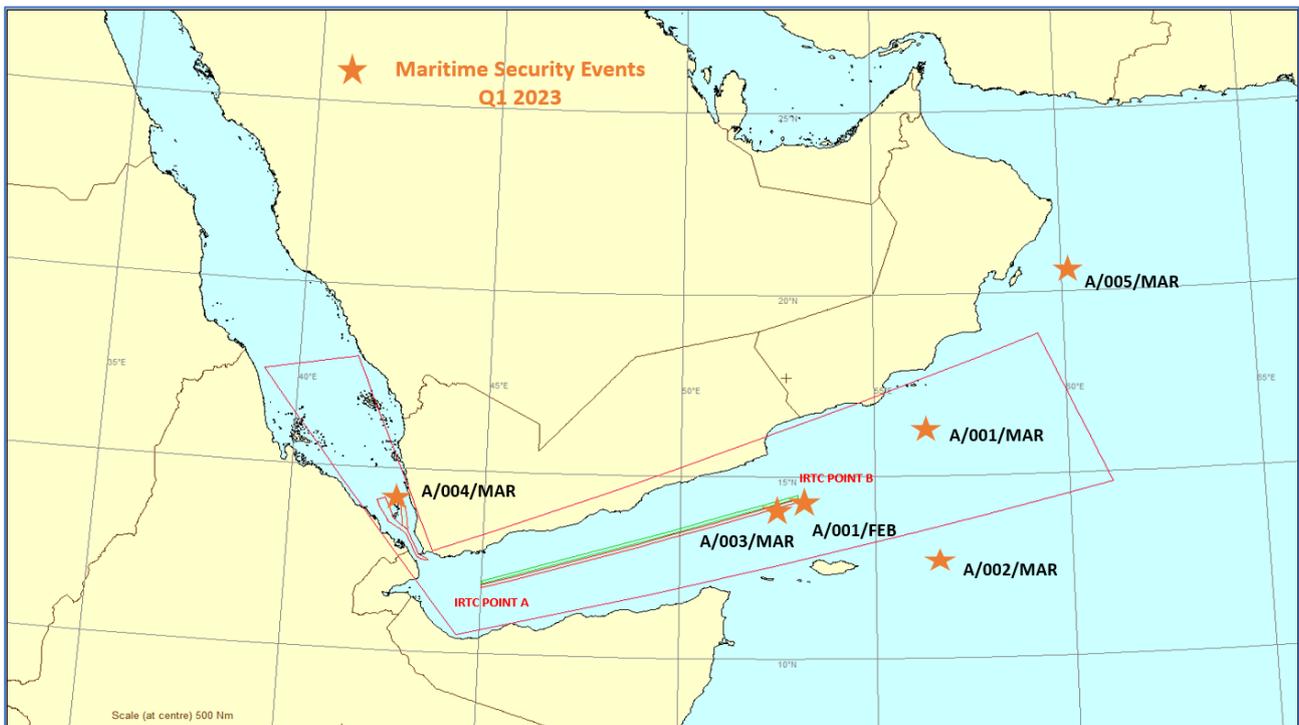
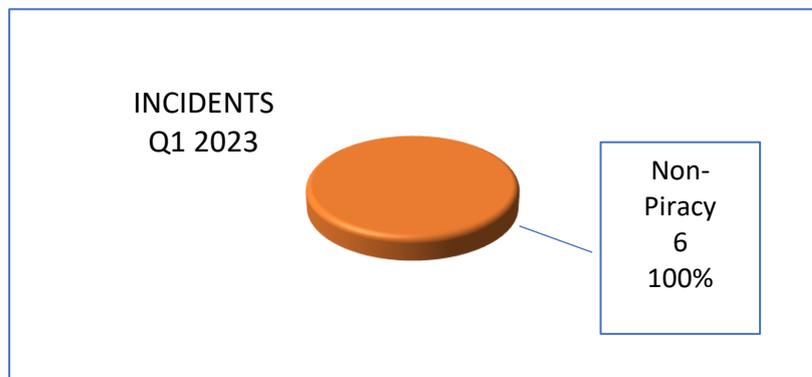
Executive Summary

UKMTO issued 6 maritime security alerts during Q1 2023 compared to 4 alerts during Q1 2022.

UKMTO received several reports of interactions with small craft in or near Point B of the Internationally Recognised Transit Corridor (IRTC), and attacks by perpetrators unknown in the vicinity of the Hanish Islands. Merchant vessels also reported irregular activity by Uncrewed Ariel Systems (UAS) in the northern Indian Ocean.

UKMTO reporting rates remain steady at around 95%.

Maritime Security Events



During the period 1 Jan 23 to 31 Mar 23 UKMTO received reports of 6 maritime security events within the UKMTO Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA), 4 were reports of irregular behaviour or suspicious activity, one sighting of a concentration of small vessels and one small arms attack by unknown perpetrator believed to relate to maritime crime.

UKMTO received two reports of irregular activity involving small vessels with multiple persons on board during this period. Two were near Point B of the Internationally Recognised Transit Corridor (ITRC) (UKMTO Advisories 001/Feb and 003/Mar refer) with 8-10 small vessels with multiple occupants (4-6) reported in or near the ITRC.

UKMTO also received one report of a suspicious approach East of Socotra (UKMTO Advisory 002/Mar refers). No aggressive maneuvering or piracy paraphernalia was reported, but the two small craft, with 5-6 persons onboard, approached the merchant vessel to 0.1nm. A larger blue hulled vessel was reported in the vicinity.

UKMTO received one report of an attack by perpetrators unknown against a merchant vessel in the vicinity of the Hanish Islands (UKMTO advisory 004/Mar refers). The vessel reported approximately 4-5 bursts of automatic fire from one small vessel, merchant vessel and crew were reported as safe.

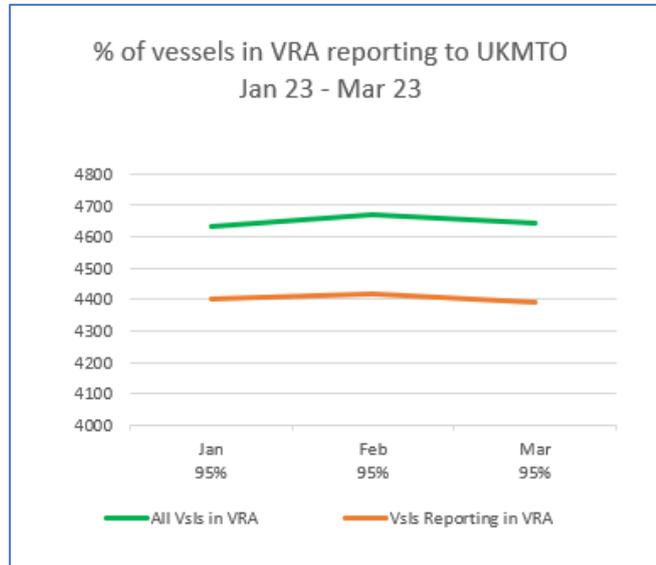
UKMTO also received one reports of irregular activity by an uncrewed ariel system (UAS) (UKMTO Advisory 001/mar refers). The UAS approached a merchant vessel to within 10 meter for a period of 2 minutes. Vessel and crew reported as safe, no further incidents reported to UKMTO.

UKMTO received a report of irregular AIS activity via third party (UKMTO Advisory 005/Mar refers). Local authorities investigated an AIS alert broadcasting the boarding of a FV but were unable to determine the source of the broadcast, and no further reports were received by UKMTO.

Piracy is widely described as suppressed but not eradicated within the region. It is strongly recommended that all vessels within the UKMTO VRA adhere to the guidance within Best Management Practice Edition 5 (BMP5), reporting maritime security events and suspicious activity to UKMTO.

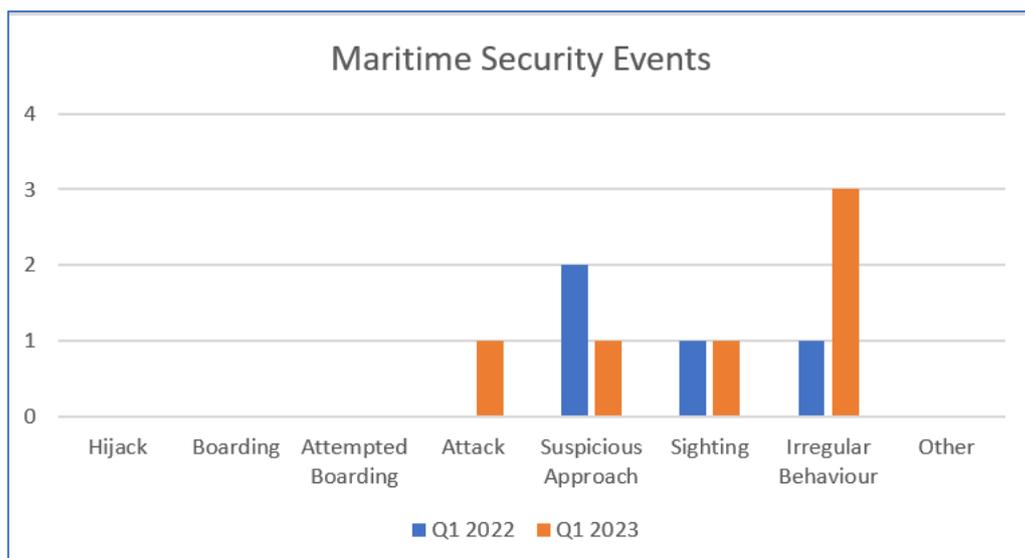
Reporting Rates

An average of 94% of vessels within the UKMTO Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) reported to UKMTO as recommended in BMP5.



Comparison with Q1 2022

6 non-piracy maritime security events were reported to UKMTO in Q1 2023, compared to 4 non-piracy related reports received in Q1 2022 (see UKMTO Maritime Security Definitions).



Appendices

| UKMTO Maritime Security Definitions | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Hijack | Unauthorised persons have illegally boarded and taken control of the vessel against the will of the Master and crew |
| Boarding | Unauthorised persons have boarded but have not taken control of the vessel |
| Attempted Boarding | Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat, but were thwarted by BMP measures, PAST, weather conditions, lack of appropriate equipment, etc |
| Attack | An aggressive approach by unidentified craft and weapons have been discharged |
| Suspicious Approach | Definite alteration towards the ship, rapid increase in speed which cannot be accounted for in the prevailing conditions. Sudden changes in course towards ship and aggressive behaviour |
| Sightings and Irregular Behaviour | Suspicious activity not associated with the locality or prevailing conditions |
| Other | Maritime security events not related to piracy or armed robbery |

Incident Reporting

As contained in BMP5 Section 6 Reporting.

UKMTO administers the Voluntary Reporting Scheme, under which merchant ships are encouraged to send regular reports. These include; initial reports, daily reports, final reports and reports of suspicious or irregular activity.

UKMTO Contact Details

| Maritime Security Information | |
|--|--|
| UKMTO Watchkeepers (24/7 emergencies) | +44 2392 222 060 watchkeepers@ukmto.org |
| UKMTO Dubai (local office hours) | +971 4309 4268 |
| UKMTO website (regional maritime security alerts) | www.ukmto.org |
| UKMTO on social media (regional maritime security alerts) | @UK_MTO |

Other Sources of Information

| Maritime Security Information | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Best Management Practice series | www.ocimf.org |
| Admiralty Maritime Security Charts | www.admiralty.co.uk/ukho |
| Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa | www.mschoa.org |
| International Maritime Bureau Live Piracy Reports | www.icc-css.org |

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