



Office of
Deputy Commissioner
of Maritime Affairs

THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
Bureau of Maritime Affairs

8619 Westwood Ctr. Dr.
Vienna VA. USA 22182
Telephone: +1 703 790 3434
Fax: +1 703 790 5655
Email: Security@liscr.com

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MARITIME SECURITY ADVISORY – 13/2008

**SUBJECT: REGISTRATION WITH MARITIME SECURITY CENTER – HORN OF AFRICA
(MSCHOA) WWW.MSCHOA.ORG**

Dear Owners/Operators/Masters:

The Maritime Security Center – Horn of Africa (MSCHOA) has been established to provide a service to mariners operating or transiting in the Gulf of Aden, the Somali Basin and off the Horn of Africa.

Masters and Owners of vessels that intend to transit the Gulf of Aden, the Somali Basin or off the Horn of Africa are **strongly urged to register** at the MSCHOA website (www.mschoa.org). The site is secure. It can take 48 hours to obtain a user ID and Password. The MSCHOA website offers ship owners and ships Masters the facility to register their details securely with MSCHOA, update positions of their vessels and receive information and guidance designed to reduce the risk of pirate attacks. MSCHOA is one of a number of centers providing a service to mariners and their aim is to cooperate as closely as possible with all the organizations operating in the region and to eventually minimize the number of agencies that the ship owner or master needs to communicate with

MSCHOA is also a Coordination Centre dedicated to safeguarding legitimate freedom of navigation in the light of increasing risks of pirate attacks against merchant shipping in the region, in support of the UN Security Council's Resolutions (UNSCR) 1814, 1816 and 1838.

MSCHOA has been set up by the EU as part of a European Security and Defense Policy initiative to combat piracy in the Horn of Africa.

EU NAVFOR ATALANTA – is a naval mission that has been set up by the Council of the European Union to improve maritime security off the Somali coast by preventing and deterring pirate attacks. From mid-December 2008, an EU Naval Task Group, supported by maritime patrol aircraft, will be operating in the region. Both MSCHOA and the Naval Task Group are under the command of the Rear Admiral in charge of the EU Naval Task force, based at Northwood, United Kingdom.

For more information please contact the Security Department at telephone + 1 703 251 2435 email security@liscr.com; LISCER Duty Officer + 1 703 963 6216 email: dutyofficer@liscr.com.

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