



# **UKMTO QUARTERLY MARITIME SECURITY REPORT**

**Q1 2022**

**JAN – MAR**

26 Apr 22

United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organisation

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## Executive Summary

UKMTO received reports of 4 maritime security events within the Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) during Q1 2022, compared to 6 events during Q1 2021.

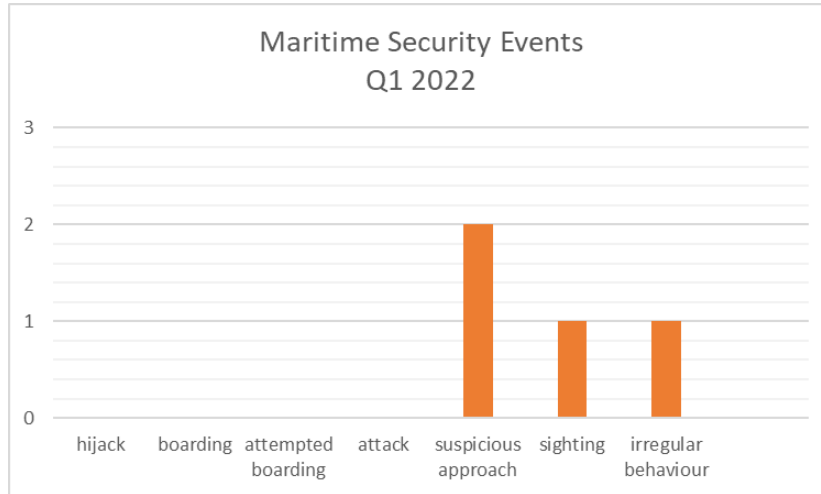
UKMTO reporting rates in remain steady at around 94% of traffic within the VRA.

UKMTO issued 5 maritime security alerts during this period, 4 relating to maritime security events, and one subsequently confirmed as national activity.

Of the four maritime security events recorded by UKMTO none resulted in a piracy or armed robbery-related attack or boarding (see UKMTO maritime security definitions).

# Maritime Security Events

During the period 1 Jan 22 to 31 Mar 22 UKMTO received information relating to four maritime security events within the UKMTO Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA).



Of the four maritime security events reported to UKMTO in Q1 2022, none resulted in an attack or boarding related to piracy or armed robbery.



UKMTO Advisories 001/01/22 and 002/01/22 related to close approaches by unknown small craft recorded as suspicious approaches.

UKMTO Advisory 003/01/22 involved a sighting of 3 small craft and one larger vessel, with one small craft passing at approximately 1nm of the reporting vessel recorded as a sighting.

UKMTO Advisory 001/02/22 reporting irregular activity involving 2 unknown persons in diving suits on a small boat, coming alongside an MV at anchor. Port authorities were informed and the suspicious vessel departed the area.

UKMTO Warning 001/01/22 was initially reported to UKMTO as an attack, but subsequently confirmed as national activity and therefore is not included in UKMTO reporting of maritime security events.

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), and report maritime security events and suspicious activity to UKMTO.

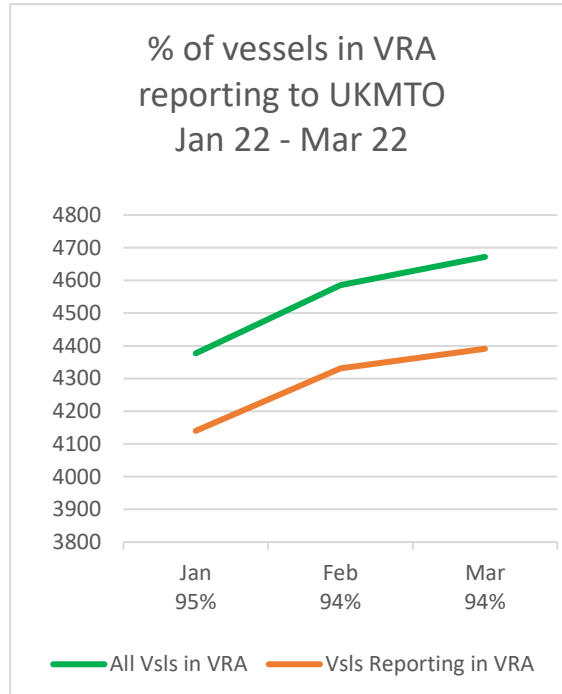
## UKMTO Maritime Security Alerts

Warnings	Definition	Details	Vessel Type
W/001/01/22	NA	Reports of attack on MV approx. 23nm W of Ras Isa Marine Terminal, subsequently reported to authorities as national activity	Cargo Ship

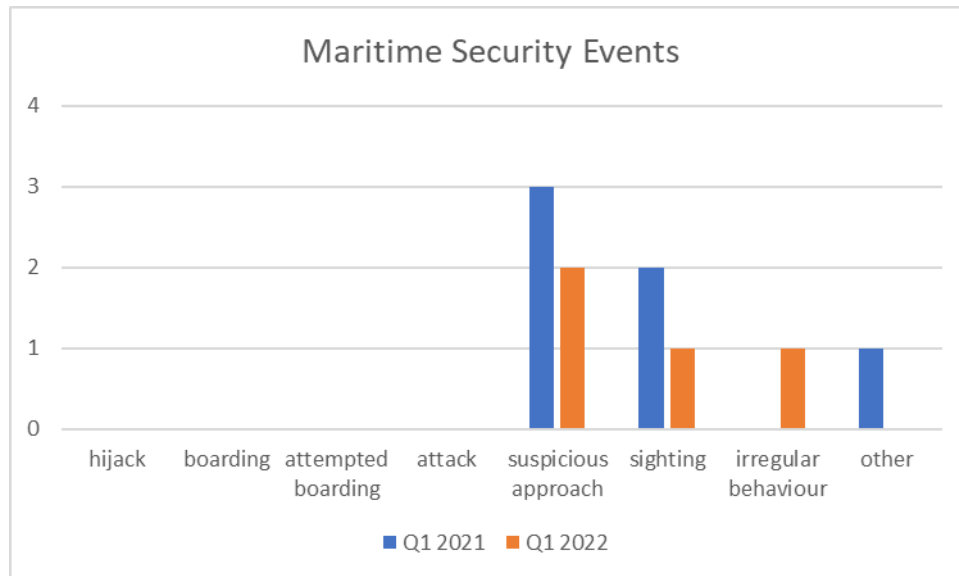
Advisories	Definition	Details	Vessel Type
A/001/01/22	Suspicious Approach	Close approach by unknown craft approx. 30nm West of Saleef	Chemical/Oil Tanker
A/002/01/22	Suspicious Approach	Approach by 8 white hulled unknown craft approx. 70nm East of Muscat	Oil Tanker
A/003/01/22	Sighting	Report of sighting of 3 small vessels and 1 larger vessel. 1 small craft passing at 1nm of MV approx. 53nm SW of Aden	Chemical/Oil Tanker
A/001/02/22	Irregular Activity	Unknown small boat with 2 POB in diving suits came alongside MV. Port authorities informed, suspicious vessel departed the area approx. 9nm E of Khor Fakkan	Oil Tanker

## 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 2021



None of the maritime security incidents reported to UKMTO during the first quarters of 2021 and 2022 resulted in a piracy or armed robbery-related attack or boarding.

UKMTO Advisory 002/02/21 was reported as an attack by perpetrators unknown, not related to piracy or armed robbery (other).

UKMTO Advisory 001/01/21 and Warning 001/01/22 were subsequently reported to authorities as national activity and are therefore not included in UKMTO maritime security reports.

Piracy is widely acknowledged to be 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), and report maritime security events and suspicious activity to UKMTO.



## 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

## Disclaimer

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