

Circular 2020/03

Communications and notifications concerning ISPS security level, increase to level 3 for the Port area of PEMBA (Mozambique), BAY of PEMBA and the territorial waters around PEMBA

Date: 08/05/2020

The Belgian Directorate-general Shipping has received alarming messages regarding the situation in the port area of PEMBA, Mozambique.

Based on these message the Belgian Maritime Security Division has collected information concerning the current situation and possible threats.

Current situation:

- Fires in the vicinity of the port of PEMBA, Mozambique have been confirmed, These fires are manmade.
- Large groups of national security forces in the area
- Violent activities in the area, moving towards the port

Threats to navigation:

- Activities are most likely linked to Al Shabaab
- Possible takeover of the port area and closing the bay of Pemba; ships and crew will be trapped
- Overthrow of national forces and claim of weapons; larger reach and possibility to fire at ships at sea.

Al Shabaab is very active in the northern region, Cabo Delgado, of Mozambique.

Based on this information, the Directorate – general Shipping considers the area insecure for ships sailing the Belgian flag.

We therefor raise the ISPS level to SECURITY LEVEL 3 for the port area of PEMBA (Mozambique), the Bay of PEMBA and the territorial waters around PEMBA, Map below is an indication of the area.



Recommendations:

- Leave designated area immediately if possible;
- Do not stay or sail in designated area, except due to compelling need;
- When in port or bay area, close all doors to exterior – keep lockers/doors/manholes on deck locked at all times, except due to compelling need;
- Any suspicious sighting should be reported to the company security officers and the Belgian Maritime Security Division, maritime.security@mobiliteit.fgov.be or by phone +32 2 277 44 66;

These recommendations remain applicable until further notice

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