The Secretary General
International Maritime Organization [IMO]
4 Albert Embankment
LONDON SE 1 7SR
UNITED KINGDOM.

Dear Sir,

SUBJECT: NATIONAL LEGISLATION ON PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY.

Greetings extend from the United Arab Emirates Maritime Administration.

Reference is made to the IMO circular letter No.2933 /T2–MSS.2.11.4.1 dated 23 December, 2008 on request for information on State legislation to prevent and punish the crime of piracy and armed robbery at sea.

Following are the articles within our Commercial Maritime Law No.26 of 1981 relevant to the subject.

Article 208:

Any person involved in or conspired against the safety of the shipmaster or his freedom or his authority shall be liable to provisional imprisonment.

Article 209

Any person who sinks or burns or inflicts a life threatening damage to the ship or made or took an action leading to it, shall be imprisoned for life.

Death punishment shall apply if the above action leads to the death of a person, that is without prejudice to the sanction and blood money according to Islamic Sharia and the applicable laws in the Country.

Article 210

He who confiscates or tries to take possession of a ship in an illegal way shall be punished with provisional imprisonment.

This existing National Maritime Law is under review and updating to accommodate inter alia, more stringent measures on combating piracy and armed robbery. A copy of this revised / updated Maritime Law will be sent to IMO upon completion.

The National Transport Authority of the United Arab Emirates avails this opportunity to convey best regards to the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization.

Dr. Nasser Shafran Mansoori
Director General
National Transport Authority

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