



Question of: Combating Maritime Crime and Piracy

Submitted by: Ukraine

Co-submitted by: China, Estonia, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Venezuela

The DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE,

Alarmed by the sharp rise of the act of piracy,

Bearing in mind that modern piracy consist of heavily armed and well-planned pirate attacks which continues to threaten the safety of crew and passengers,

Fully aware of the fact that around 85% of the world's trade passes through the sea routes,

Deeply concerned over the fact that pirates tend to prefer waters that the state does not have the ability to control, hence further risking the lives of people on board,

Underlining the importance of sea trade on the world's economy and the damage it faces due to the increasing violence at sea,

Bearing in mind that the 1982 Convention on the Law of the Sea authorises pirates to be pursued by official government vessels such as warships and other commissioned vessels,

Fully alarmed by the fact that the sustainability of fishing activities, which are the traditional economic activity for many coastal populations, is under threat of overfishing,

Noting with regret that while a possible revision is considered for the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, maritime crimes are not included for the discussed revision,

1. Advises the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) to make an extensive investigation regarding the crimes committed in the high seas which can form a basic understanding about what 'sea piracy' means in the modern world and how to identify its elements in order to:

- a. Decipher the reasons behind the crimes committed on the seas with the help of data collected from different parts of the world, which would be passed on to the officials of DOALOS to have a general opinion on the piracy issue, in order to:
 - i. Minimise the causes that drive citizens to participate in piracy to maintain their current living conditions,
 - ii. Inspect the reasons behind the failure of local populations to secure steady incomes and political instability, which pushes citizens to partake in criminal activities, and possible means to prevent it by studying various data collected from people around the world,
 - iii. Seek patterns behind the committed acts of piracy to compose a thoroughly established knowledge regarding the common elements of the criminal activities in order to take efficient actions,
 - b. Detect the common techniques used to commit maritime crimes, and through the identified elements, search for any and all ways to prevent those techniques to ever used for such purposes, by:
 - i. Narrowing the number of strategies that could be used in an act of piracy to a smaller number, therefore identifying a smaller pool of possibilities to study and a better opportunity to furnish an efficient report on the techniques used, such as but not limited to approaching vessels by acting as ordinary ships not to raise suspicion,
 - ii. Administering the armament within the regions such as but not limited to the Indian Ocean off the coast of Somalia, the Gulf of Guinea, the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Aden to prevent pirates from gaining access to weapons;
2. Encourages a detailed research to be made by the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DAOLOS) officials regarding the lives of citizens who may be tempted to participate in maritime crimes, gathering data about the causes of piracy in order to minimise the effects it has on citizens by:
- a. Forming a group of economy specialists to investigate the regions where people are most likely to be affected by piracy in order to:
 - i. Determine the type of actions that must be taken to promote and facilitate the economy in such regions, hence preventing the alarmingly increasing shift to illegal acts such as piracy,
 - ii. Prepare a specialist-supervised plan to improve the life standards of the civilians, seeing that the major drive to participate in piracy is for the sake of maintaining a sufficient economic income,
 - b. Educating the civilians who might partake in criminal acts regarding the dangers of piracy, granting the fact that knowledge is essential to flourish, as well as the negative results it leads to if they insist on enduring their current life-style in order to:
 - i. Inform the younger generations regarding the perilous effects of piracy, therefore teaching them that relying on the outcome of piracy and the money gained with it damages their country's economy,
 - ii. Assist the civilians to unite with the teams assigned to detect the pirates and charge fines, thus forming an environment where the pirates can no longer thrive, and in case they do, sentencing them with monetary penalties;

3. Emphasizes the importance of keeping track of the armament within regions where piracy is common, having regard of the now violent and heavily armed attacks, thus controlling the weaponry accessible to the pirates, by:
 - a. Decreasing the amount of weaponry items that can be transported via sea routes, hence lowering the chance of the pirates of obtaining weapons in cases of hijacking,
 - b. Creating modernised control points where appointed guards will inspect the ships and vessels passing through in order to:
 - i. Verify the amount of weaponry present on the ships,
 - ii. Monitor the weapons on board to certify the fact that nothing was lost or illegally transmitted to criminal groups, and that unauthorised weaponry isn't present on the ship/vessel, therefore regulating the transported armament;

 4. Urges all the Member States to take a hardened stance against the rising number of maritime crimes, especially Somalia who receives the heaviest outcome, in order to strengthen the security of the sea routes by:
 - a. Replacing the outdated sonar systems with new and advanced ones,
 - b. Encouraging using technology to effectively track ships and other vessel movements to ensure the safe passage for both passenger and cargo boats to move across the seas by means such as:
 - i. satellites GPS and built-in radar satellite to track pirate ships nearby and thus prevent pirate attacks,
 - ii. navigation systems that share pirate data to identify areas with potential piracy risk and build the route for ships to bypass them,
 - iii. Promoting the innovations of the monitors used to track the vessels on seas and re-manufacturing them to ensure running at all times while removing the ability to manually turn them off, therefore preventing the interference of the pirates,
 - iv. Stationing more naval patrols and convoys while tightening the ones already present, specifically in desolated areas to deter piracy;

 5. Invites Member States to cluster within the United Nations General Assembly to review the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and administer the decisions which are omitted due to lack of governing, thus fixing the unresolved issues concerning sea piracy in order to:
 - a. Establish an international legal mechanism that could thoroughly focus on the global cases of piracy instead of disregarding them,
 - b. Transform the maritime crimes into an international dispute that requires recognition, which in the case of piracy is highly required,
 - c. Electing representatives to inspect the regions where citizens are most likely to become pirates or commit sea crimes in order to observe civilians and their behaviour regarding the laws determined by the UNCLOS,
 - d. Establishing the circumstances of the crucial distinction between the characteristics of the criminal acts that are qualified as sea piracy from the rest of the criminal acts directed against the safety of sea routes and trade;

 6. Urges the creation of an International Fund for the countries which can't economically support the citizens and the fisherman in order to:
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- a. Aid the states with crumbling economies to support their citizens with the help of the fund by creating job opportunities that do not depend on fishing, such as encouraging manufacturing depending on the natural sources of the country, hence combating the shift to piracy,
- b. Provide each country with the tools, which will get monitored by the UN, they require to patrol their Territorial Waters, considering that it is mandatory for each state to keep track of the security of their waters, therefore also preventing:
 - i. Foreign trawlers from poaching billions of dollars' worth of fish, which is a case of maritime criminal activities beside piracy, thus keeping the money that would help to bolster the exploited states' fishing industry as well as improving the economy,
 - ii. Pirates from approaching shores with the help of the patrols executed with the tools such as vessels provided by the international fund to inspect their Territorial Waters;

7. Wishes to remain actively seized of the matter.