CIRCULAR NO.3-2021/MARITIME SECURITY

28 OCTOBER 2021

This Circular serves to provide regular information from the Maritime Security Committee about maritime security and security information of interest in Solomon Islands.

The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) 1974 have force of law in Solomon Islands as per the Shipping Act 1998 as amended. The Chapter XI-2 of SOLAS on Special Measures to Enhance Maritime Security and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code contain detailed security-related requirements for governments, port authorities and shipping companies visited by or operating vessels engaged in international voyages. The Maritime Safety Administration (Ship and Port Security) Regulations 2011 provide for maritime security management and responsibilities in Solomon Islands.

SECURITY LEVEL

Solomon Islands is currently at the **Security Level 1**. Section 2.1 of the ISPS Code Part A defines **Security Level 1** as: "*the level for which minimum appropriate protective security measures shall be maintained at all times.*"

Security Level 2 *"means the level for which appropriate additional protective security measures shall be maintained for a period of time as a result of heightened risk of a security incident."*

Security Level 3 *"means the level for which further specific protective security measures shall be maintained for a limited period of time when a security incident is probable or imminent, although it may not be possible to identify the specific target."*

FROM THE MARITIME SECURITY COMMITTEE

The Solomon Islands Ports Authority (SIPA) organised a two-day workshop on 19-20 October for security awareness and prepare for a security exercise in Honiara Port.

Attendees were SIPA employees and shipping agents (Tradco, BJS), the Solomon Islands Maritime Authority (SIMA) and divisions/services from the government such as RSIPF (Maritime Division, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), Fire Services) and Customs.

Thanks to SIPA and its facilitator, Andrew Kilimani Port Facility Security Officer, for a very successful and helpful workshop increasing awareness on security issues and understanding of duties and responsibilities of private and public organisations concerned by maritime security but also strengthen the security network and communication.

DID YOU KNOW?

WHAT IS A PORT FACILITY SECURITY OFFICER?

Port Facility Security Officer (PFSOs) appointed by, and reporting to, the management of a port facility play an essential role in establishing and maintaining the security of their port facility. You need to attend a training course for PFSO to be appointed for such a function which is recognized internationally. In a port, the PFSO is the person designated as responsible for the development, implementation, revision and maintenance of the Port Facility Security Plan (PFSP) and for liaison with the ship security officers and company security officers. The duties and responsibilities of a PFSO are prescribed by the ISPS Code Part A section 17.

We have two PFSOs in Solomon Islands. Do not hesitate to contact them for any security issue or incident or any question related to security in their respective ports:
- Mr. Andrew Kilimani, SIPA, PFSO for Honiara and Noro Ports, akilimani@sipa.com.sb, and
- Mr. Patterson Ashley Hanagio, Leroy Wharf Port, PFSO for LWP facility, ashleyh-solfish@solomonfish.com.sb.

NEWS

AUSTRALIA'S WORK IN THE SHARED SECURITY SECTOR

This page gives an overview of Australia's work in the shared security sector, under Pillar 2 (stability) of Australia's *Partnerships for Recovery: Australia's COVID-19 Development Response*. It also outlines key related initiatives and summaries of programming and related documents.

Australia is committed to supporting Pacific Island Countries build resilience to their security challenges, as articulated in the 2018 Boe Declaration on Regional Security.

Australia's longstanding security cooperation with Pacific countries covers defence, law enforcement, transnational crime, climate and disaster resilience, border management and human security.
"…a stable and resilient security environment provides a platform to achieve the region's sustainable development aspirations"

Ewen McDonald, Head of the Office of the Pacific

Source: https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/pacific/shared-security-in-the-pacific

IMO GUIDANCE AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

IMO has adopted appropriate guidance aimed at addressing maritime security, as well as piracy and armed robbery against ships.

For piracy and armed robbery, this includes Guidance to Governments, shipowners and ship operators, shipmasters, and crews on preventing and suppressing acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships, investigation of offences and the use of armed personnel on board ships. Best Management Practices (BMP), which were developed by the shipping industry, outline the appropriate procedures to be employed when responding to acts or attempted acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships in specific regions. The IMO supports the Best Management Practices, which have been disseminated publicly by the Organization.

Consult IMO security information from the Maritime Security Committee (MSC) through IMODOCS and at the address:
https://www.imo.org/en/OurWork/Security/Pages/MaritimeSecurity.aspx

CONTACT

For anything related to maritime security please contact Duri Qalorusa, Senior Officer, Maritime Security at SIMA
duri.qalorusa@sima.gov.sb or visit SIMA's website at: https://www.sima.gov.sb/shipping-ops-safety/maritime-security/.