

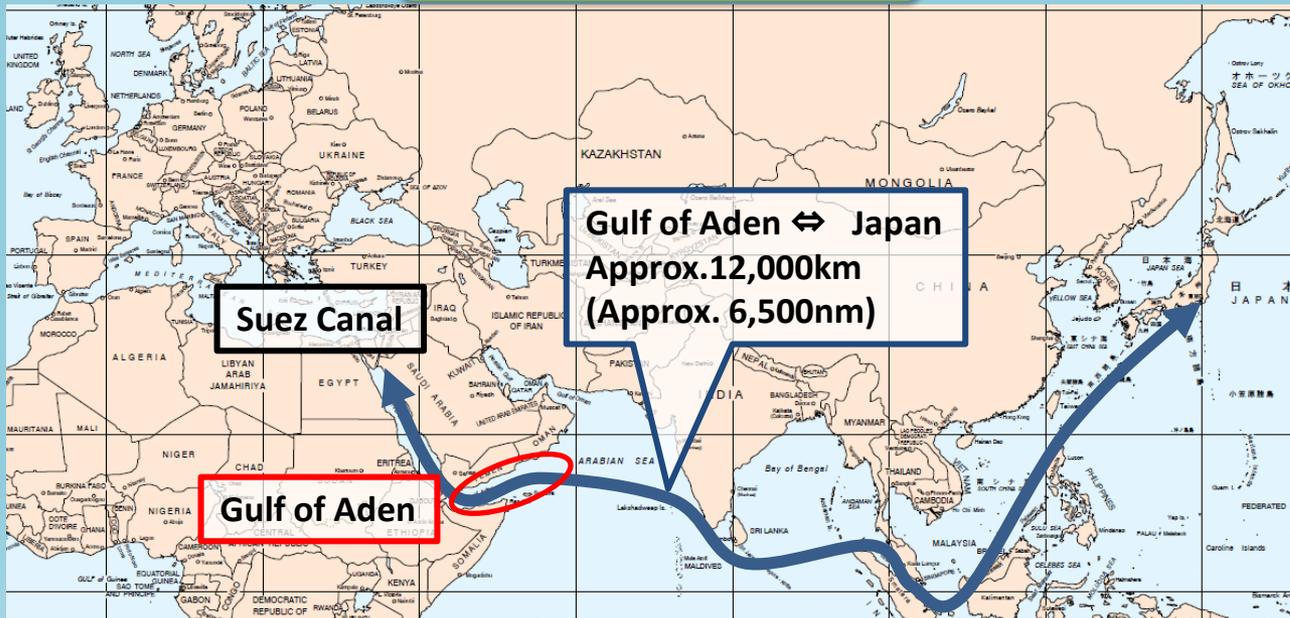
**Annual Report 2020**  
**“Japan's Actions against Piracy**  
**off the Coast of Somalia**  
**and in the Gulf of Aden”**

# □ Somalia and the Surroundings (off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden)

## ➤ Importance of the Gulf of Aden for Japan

Japan depends on maritime transportation for 99.6% of its trade volume. Therefore, the navigational safety is the key for the daily life of its people as well as for its economy. The Gulf of Aden is one of the vital shipping lanes for Japan, because it connects Asia with Europe via the Suez Canal. Furthermore, since approximately 16% of container cargos over the world and 18% of the vehicles for export from Japan were transported through the Gulf of Aden in 2020, the safety of merchant vessels is still one of the urgent and critical issues for Japan.

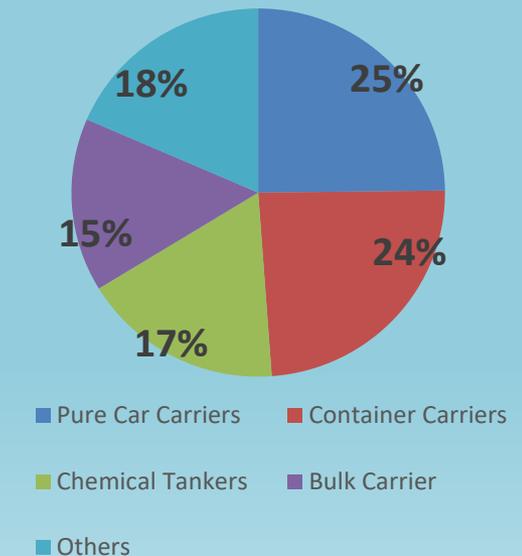
### Gulf of Aden



### 2020 Annual Passage of Japan-Related Vessels\* through the Gulf of Aden

\*Japanese flag vessels and foreign flag vessels operated by Japanese shipping companies or their wholly own overseas subsidiaries

Approx. 1,600 Vessels

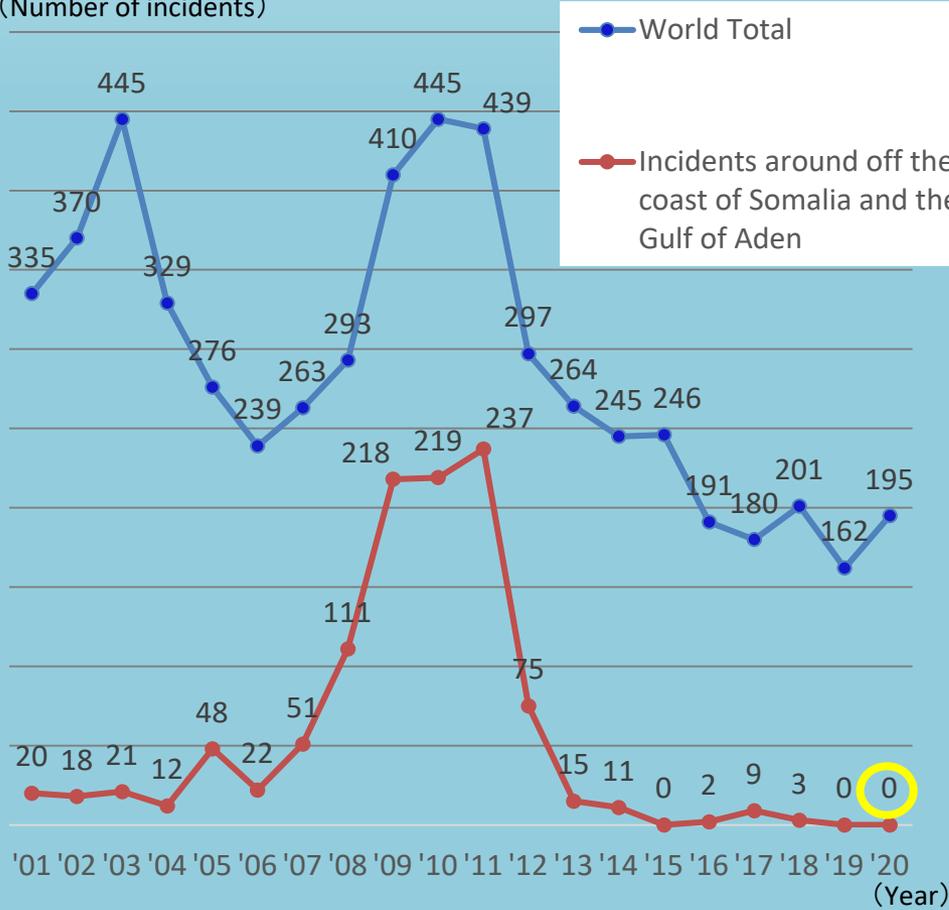


# ❑ Piracy Incidents off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden

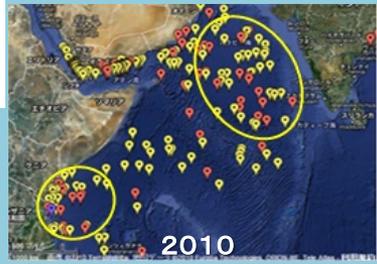
According to the ICC-IMB\*, no piracy incident was reported around off the Coast of Somalia and the Gulf of Aden in 2020.

\*International Chamber of Commerce International Maritime Bureau

(Number of incidents)



❑ Japan remains concerned about the continuing threat posed by piracy off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden. Although a marked reduction has been seen in the number of attacks and hijackings since 2012, Japan observes that the underlying causes of piracy remain in place, and the current decline is inherently reversible without the international effort.



\* 0 incident in '15  
2 incidents in '16

\* 0 incident in '19 and '20

- =Hijacked
- =Boarded
- =Fired upon
- =Attempted Attack
- =Suspicious vessel

- ❑ Japan's Actions against Piracy off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden
- The Counter-Piracy Operation by the JSDF and the JCG
- Act on Special Measures Concerning the Guarding of Japanese Ships in Pirate-Infested Waters

- The Counter-Piracy Operation by the Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) and the Japan Coast Guard (JCG) *(See "Overview" on Page 6)*

In Mar. 2009, with the approval of the Prime Minister for "Maritime Security Operations", two destroyers of the Maritime SDF started the mission to escort Japan-related vessels in order to prevent them from pirates off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden. The JCG staff also have been on board for judicial police activities of counter-piracy. In Jun. 2009, two P-3C patrol aircraft joined warning and surveillance activities in the Gulf of Aden to cover the extensive marine area. In Jun. 2009, the Anti-piracy law was enacted, and since the following month, the JSDF and the JCG have implemented "Counter-piracy operations". The current base of these activities is in the Republic of Djibouti.

In view of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, Japan subsequently enacted the Act concerning the Punishment of Acts of Piracy and Measures to Deal with Acts of Piracy (the Anti-Piracy Measures Act) in Jul. 2009 in order to deal appropriately and effectively with acts of piracy.

In Jul. 2013, the government of Japan decided to participate in the CTF151 for the purpose of conducting more flexible and effective operations with other countries deployed around Somalia for counter-piracy. In Dec. 2013, the Maritime SDF destroyers started so-called "zone defense\*" in addition to escort missions and in Feb. 2014, the Japan's flight team has been participating in the CTF151.



**The JSDF's Destroyer and P-3C  
on Warning and Surveillance Activities**



\*Stationing in certain waters to protect navigating vessels

In Nov. 2016, the government of Japan decided to scale down the number of destroyers deployed in the Gulf from two to one, because the needs for direct escort by the JSDF had been decreasing and this trend was expected to continue. While vulnerable vessels against pirates, such as tankers with relatively low speed and low broadside, still require escort service, some other vessels have taken initiatives of self-defense including private armed security guards on board. This scale-down has been applied later than Dec. 2016.

On the other hand, the P-3C patrol aircraft make use of the excellent cruising capability in conducting warning and surveillance activities. Currently they are responsible for about 70-80% of the warning and surveillance activities of each country in the vast area of the Gulf of Aden. The flight activities total 2,653 in flight missions and 19,610 in flying hours on as of Dec. 31, 2020, counted from Jun. 2009, when the JSDF started the surveillance activities. Furthermore, the aircraft have identified approx. 222,600 vessels and provided information to vessels navigating the area and other countries engaging in counter-piracy operations on around 15,155 occasions.

In addition, four JSDF officers have served as the CTF151 commander so far. (May to Aug. in 2015, Mar. to Jun. in 2017, Mar. to Jun. in 2018 and Feb. to Jun. in 2020). These opportunities have boosted the JSDF reliability in the international community and represented the JSDF's continuous contribution to maritime peace-keeping.



**The JSDF's P-3C ready for Warning and Surveillance Activities**



**Rear Admiral Ishimaki (right),  
the fourth JSDF personnel who serves as the Commander of CTF151  
in 2020**

# JSDF's Counter-Piracy Operations

## Deployment Forces for Counter Piracy Enforcement

- Deployment Surface Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement (approx. 200 personnel/1 destroyer) JCG (8 personnel)
- Deployment Air Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement (approx. 60 personnel/2 P-3C patrol aircraft)
- Deployment Support Group for Counter Piracy Enforcement (approx. 120 personnel)

## Activities by other countries

Naval Vessels		Patrol aircraft
<b>Escort</b>	<b>Zone Defense</b>	
National Tasking (Japan, China, India etc.)	CTF151 (Japan, Korea, Pakistan etc.)	CTF151 (Japan)
	EUNAVFOR (Spain, Italy etc.)	EUNAVFOR (Germany, Spain)

(Note) The scale of deployed forces depends on the timing as the operations are carried out by all the participating countries in rotation.

CTF151

**[Surveillance flight (P-3C patrol aircraft)]**  
Provision of information regarding the airspace over the escort route

Yemen

Djibouti

Somalia

CTF151

National Tasking

**[Zone Defense]**  
Warning and surveillance activities within specific waters

OR

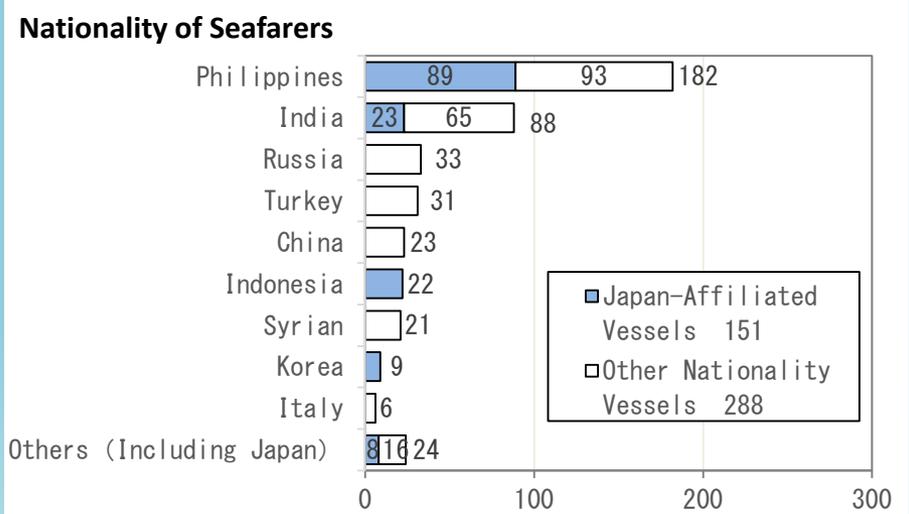
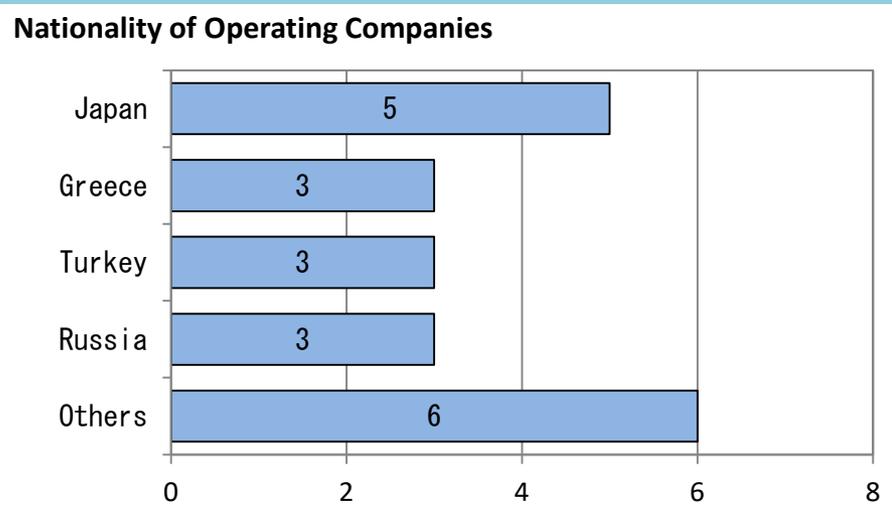
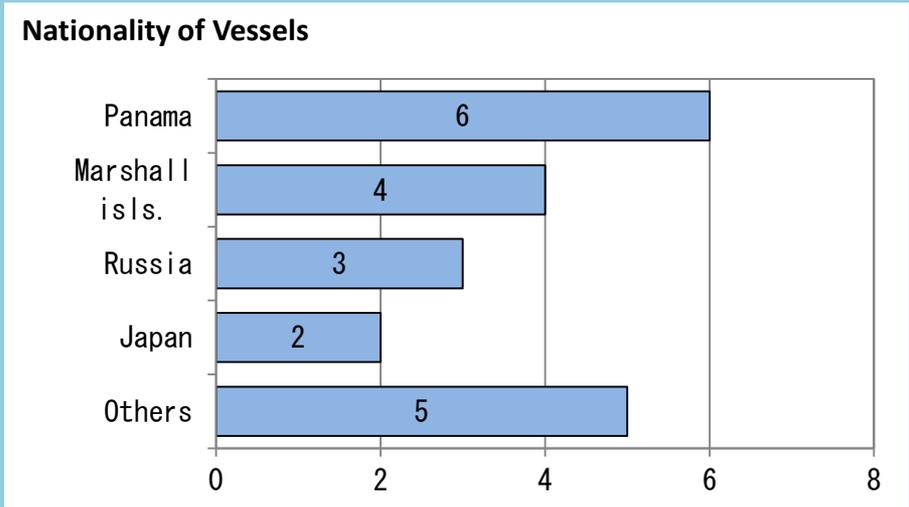
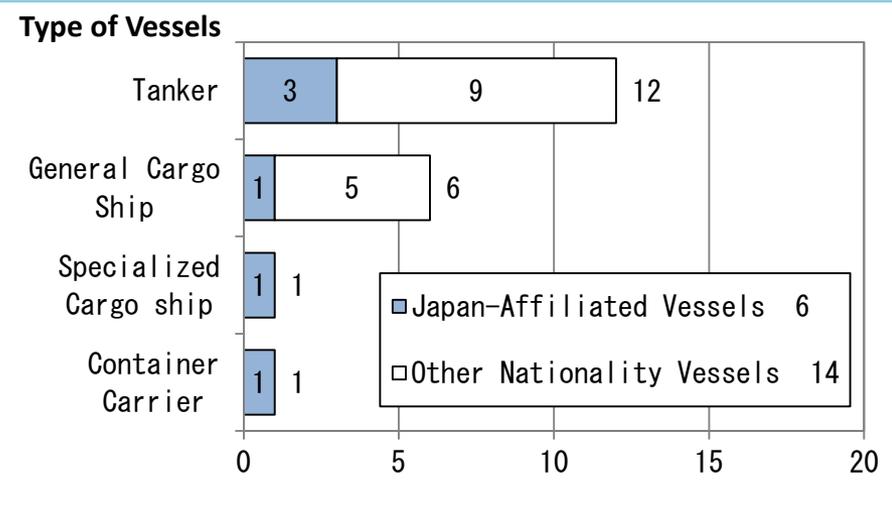
**[Escort]**  
Escorting private vessels using the direct escort

IRTC  
(900~1,100km)  
International Recommended Transit Corridor

# ➤ Outline of the Escorted Vessels and Seafarers

As of Dec. 31 2020, 3,922 vessels have been escorted under the protection of the JSDF's destroyers. Not a single vessel has come to any harm from pirates and these vessels have all passed safely across the Gulf of Aden. The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) of Japan provides a sole contact point for coordination with the JSDF's escort.

## Escort Results of 2020



Japan-Affiliated Vessels : Japanese flag vessels, foreign flag vessels operated by Japanese shipping companies, Japanese ship owner, Japanese ship management companies etc. to be related to Japan

# ➤ Act on Special Measures Concerning the Guarding of Japanese Ships in Pirate-Infested Waters (Act No.75 of 2013, Enacted on Nov. 13 2013 , Enforced on Nov. 30 2013)

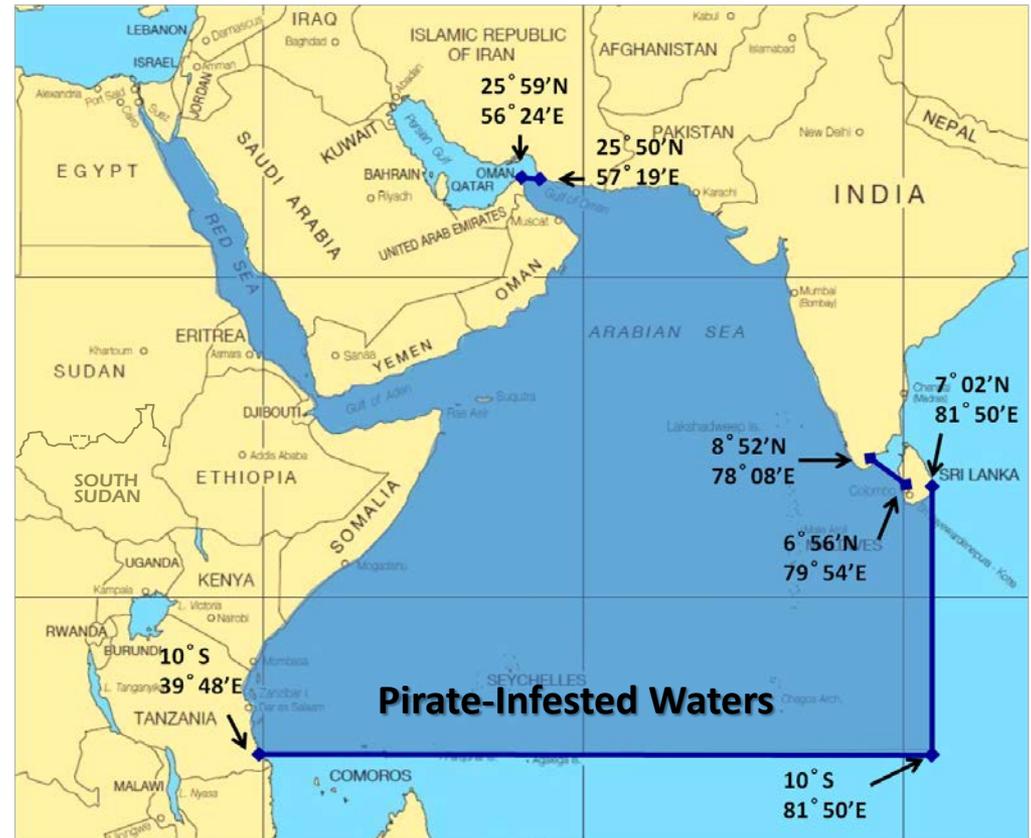
The number of piracy incidents in the Gulf of Aden rapidly increased in 2008, and spread to the Indian Ocean later. Under these circumstances, it became common among major maritime countries that Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP) were on-board of their flag vessels. These PCASP contributed to decrease of attacks by Somali pirates. However, under Japanese laws, it was prohibited to employ PCASP on Japanese flag vessels .

Therefore, the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Guarding of Japanese Ships in Pirate-Infested Waters was enforced on Nov. 30 2013 to ensure the security of Japanese flag vessels by PCASP.

Under the Act, PCASP that is confirmed by the Minister of the MLIT of Japan can guard Japanese flag vessels in the Pirate-Infested Waters based on the Designated Guarding Plan authorized by the Minister.

## Overview of the Act

- (1) Applicable sea areas  
: Pirate-infested waters as shown in the map  
Applicable vessels  
: High risk Japanese flag vessels prone to piracy
- (2) Ship owners, seeking to protect their vessels by PCASP, shall submit, for each vessel, a Designated Guarding Plan(DGP) specifying any Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC), implementation method of guarding, etc., and shall obtain the authorization from the Minister of the MLIT of Japan.
- (3) The ship owners, before they implement their DGPs, shall obtain confirmation from the Minister of the MLIT of Japan that both of the PMSC and the PCASP meet all the requirements stipulated by the Act.



## ➤ Joint Counter-Piracy Exercises with Other countries' troops

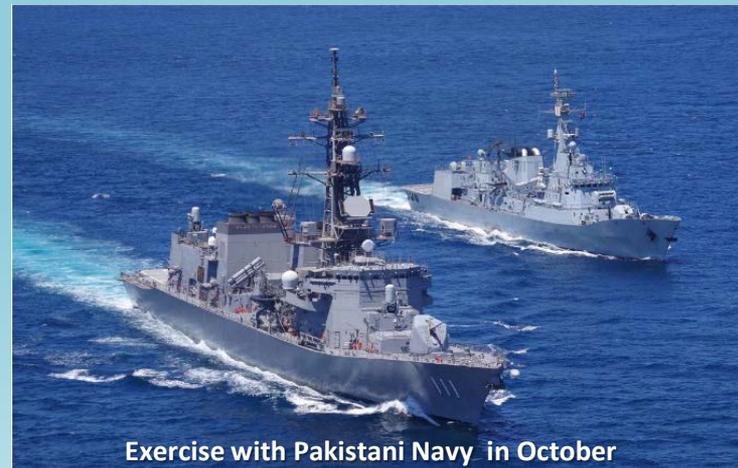
In 2020, the JSDF's counter-piracy units conducted joint counter-piracy exercises as follows with the various navies of the European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) and CTF151 off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden.

Month	JSDF	EU NAVFOR	Types of Exercises
January	Destroyer "Harusame"	"Victoria" (Spanish Navy)	Maneuvering Exercise and Photographing
February		"Victoria" (Spanish Navy)	On-site Inspection, Emergency Transferring, Photographing and Deck Landing
June		"Numancia" (Spanish Navy)	Maneuvering Exercise, Approaching Maneuvering, Firing Exercise, Communication, Photographing and Deck Landing
		"Santa Maria" (Spanish Navy)	Approaching Maneuvering, Firing Exercise, Communication, Photographing and Deck Landing
July	Destroyer "Oonami"	"Santa Maria" (Spanish Navy)	Approaching Maneuvering, Surface Gunnery Exercise, Communication, Response against approaching small boats and Photographing
October		"Santa Maria" (Spanish Navy) P-3M (Spanish Air Force) P-3C (German Navy)	Photographing and Deck Landing

Month	JSDF	CTF151	Types of Exercises
October	Destroyer "Oonami"	"Zulfiquar" (Pakistani Navy)	Maneuvering Exercise, Photographing and Deck Landing



Exercise with EU NAVFOR (Spanish Navy) in June



Exercise with Pakistani Navy in October

# ➤ Japan's Financial and Technical Cooperation to Tackle Piracy

## Assistance to Somalia

### Total Assistance to Somalia (2007-2019 Fiscal Year): US\$500 million

Japan considers the stability of Somalia is critical for ensuring human security as well as for the fundamental solution of terrorism and piracy, which threaten the security of the international community. From this point of view, Japan has been providing Somalia, through international organizations, with necessary assistance for responses to the humanitarian crisis and for stability over the medium to long term in such sectors as public security, humanitarian assistance, and infrastructure development since 2007, and Japan will continue to assist Somalia with the three pillars of 1) Recovery of Basic Social Services, 2) Improvement of the Capability of Security Institutions, and 3) Revitalization of Domestic Industries.

#### 1) Recovery of Basic Social Services

- Food aid, Water supplies, Public health, Education, Basic infrastructure development
- Assistance to counter human trafficking and illegal migration

#### 2) Improvement of the Capability of Security Institutions

- Assistance to the Somali Police Force
- Assistance to enhance migration management
- Collection and destruction of small arms and light weapons in the Horn of Africa
- Assistance to AMISOM (African Union Mission in Somalia)

#### 3) Revitalization of Domestic Industries

- Vocational training, Employment generation
- Repair of roads, ports and harbors



Restoration for Regional Stability through Skills & Employment for the Youth in Somalia



Practical exercise of Detention to Djibouti Coast Guard

## Assistance to Improve Capacities for Maritime Security in the Region

- Contributing US\$15.53 million to the IMO Djibouti Code of Conduct Trust Fund (a Japan-initiated multi-donor trust fund) for capacity-building in Somalia and its neighboring countries (including assistance for construction of the Djibouti Regional Training Centre) , and US\$4.50 million to the Trust Fund to Support Initiative of States countering piracy off the coast of Somalia for the purpose of prosecution of suspected pirates
- Providing patrol vessels and technical assistance to the Djibouti Coast Guard for improvement of its capacities for maritime security (On-line training delivery is also considered.)



Technical Assistance to Djibouti Coast Guard

## ❑ Anti-Piracy activities amid the COVID-19



Amid the Covid-19 that is rampant all over the world, it is necessary to take all possible measures to prevent the infection even for maritime units, so once a destroyer dispatches, landing is severely restricted. Everyone on board is compulsory to conduct PCR inspections immediately after the dispatch, and take training etc. around the sea in Japan for 14 days. After this period, with no members observed to be infected, they can head for the Gulf of Aden. Also they thoroughly implement the standard prevention measures such as hand washing, cough etiquette and temporary health checkup.



For P-3C unit, members also conduct quarantine measures at each base for two weeks before departure, performing PCR inspection, and they leave for Djibouti, if the inspection for everyone shows “negative”. Members being appointed to Djibouti by commercial aircraft must take quarantine at Djibouti base for two weeks, too.

These conditions make the anti-piracy mission harder than ever both physically and mentally, but the “team Japan” will continue to work for the safe sea navigation.

