

Merchant Shipping Directorate



## MERCHANT SHIPS NAVIGATING IN THE SOUTH RED SEA TRANSITING THE BAB EL-MANDEB STRAIT

## Merchant Shipping Notice 186

Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters, Owners' Representatives and Recognised Organisations

The Directorate draws the attention of all concerned to the escalating security situation in the Red Sea. All ships operating in the sea area are to note all security and advisory notices issued by the multinational cooperation centres and maintain good communications before proceeding with their navigation in this area.

Ships are recommended to avoid Bab el-Mandeb strait or transiting the south Red Sea, at least until the situation de-escalates given the elevated risks and possibility of collateral threats.

Masters and operators of Maltese ships that operate or that may operate in this area are strongly advised to evaluate the local security circumstances to determine whether their presence in the area is safe. To this effect, if ship masters and operators of Maltese ships, in their judgment, deem it necessary to proceed to this area, they are strongly advised to proceed with utmost caution and in a high state of vigilance.

It is crucial that all ships apply the required precautionary measures for ensuring the safety of their crew and assets.

Merchant Shipping Directorate

12 January 2024

Malta Transport Centre Hal Lija LJA 2021, Malta



Merchant Shipping Directorate ISO 9001:2015 certified