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Journal Name:	British Journal of Economics, Management & Trade
Manuscript Number:	2014_BJEMT_8893
Title of the Manuscript:	TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF MODERN MARITIME PIRACY: A Comparison of Somali Piracy, Gulf of Guinea Piracy and Asian Piracy
Type of the Article	

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	The title is very ambitious for the content: TRENDS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF MODERN MARITIME PIRACY: A Comparison of Somali Piracy, Gulf of Guinea Piracy and Asian Piracy . The content should include more characteristics of Somali, Nigerian and Asian piracy. As the author says in the Abstract: "The paper discusses the differences in the strategies used by the Somali pirates and by the pirates in the Gulf of Guinea". I am afraid Asian piracy is not treated properly. You can study and include ReCAAP reports on Asian piracy: http://www.recaap.org/AlertsReports/IncidentReports.aspx?EntryId=291 The alternative choice is to talk only about piracy in Somalia and in the Gulf of Guinea. The paragraphs 2. A and 3 entitled (VERY) BRIEF HISTORY OF PIRACY THROUGH THE AGES and 3. INTERNATIONAL LAW AND MARITIME PIRACY don't provide any new information. I think they could be replaced to write more about Asian piracy. Title talks about Asian piracy, but there is not any specific paragraph about "Objectives of Asian Pirates". There is a map of Africa but not a map of Asia. The author explains possible causes of the Somali piracy (former fishermen, dumping toxic wastes...). It would be convenient to do the same with Nigerian and	The title has been changed to better reflect the intent. The discussion of Asia has been refocused to South East Asia except where relevant data on Asia was available to enhance the discussion. The paper and author benefited from the suggestion to study the ReCAAP materials. The coverage while not deep given time constraints does enhance the paper which is intended as an overview. While tempting to drop Asia and handle only Africa instead, I decided it was preferable to enhance the Asian discussion throughout the manuscript. I believe this material is relevant for the audience. My research is on problems in Human and Economic issues in Sub-Saharan Africa. This paper evolved from my book on that topic. The paper is not intended solely for the persons well-



SDI Review Form 1.6

	Asian piracies (political, social and economic reasons, insecurity in ports, links between local authorities and pirates, corruption...). Nigerian pirates activities and the oil theft are well treated in this recent report: http://www.chathamhouse.org/publications/papers/view/194254 Talking about trends suppose to explain the causes of the rise and decline of Somali piracy. It should be explained the evolution of Somali pirate attacks: Why do they rise in 2008? Why do they drop in 2011? Somali pirates hijacked over 40 ships from 2008 to 2010. Why do they drop since 2011? About trends of Somali piracy (2005-2011) I recommend this paper: http://revista.ieee.es/index.php/ieee/article/download/36/75	versed in piracy. This suggestion has been incorporated. This was included in discussing the rise and fall of Somali piracy. My analysis may differ from the reviewer's views. That is fine. There are other papers that offer different perspectives given their backgrounds. It is not possible to cover every perspective on all issues—except in book format.
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<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	The author could update figures with the last IMB 2013 annual report to include Q4, recently published.	The time period for al 2003-2012 tables have been augmented to include 2013 data. This data was not out when I first submitted my paper. The discussion uses the 2013 figures where it benefits the discussion. Thanks for the suggestion.
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea includes two kinds of piracy: armed robberies at sea due to insecurity in ports (Cameroon, Congo, Ghana...) and attacks by Nigerian pirates (not only in Nigeria but in Togo, Benin or Ivory Coast). What is the trend of both them? Rise or drop? What does the author think about it? The use of knives in several attacks in the Gulf of Guinea is related to armed robberies in ports. It should be explained. Nigerian pirates don't use knives but guns. Knives usage is typical of Asian attacks too. Why? It depends on the modus operandi and the goal of the attacks. Knives are enough to steal personal belongings, cash, stores... Guns are necessary to hijack a ship and steal the cargo.	Some of this is treated for Nigeria and for South East Asia. Good comment –I have include with credit to the reviewer. Imwas trying to get at the same thing by discussing the trends relative to the areas, but this comment is much more crisp.