“Guidance to shipowner & ship operator, ship master & crew on preventing & suppressing acts of piracy & armed robbery against ships”, issued by IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ. 1334 requires ship master should report all actual or attempted attacks or threats thereof, to:

(i) nearest ICS or regional piracy focal point where applicable (e.g. ReCAAP Focal Point in the Asian region)
(ii) flag State

Contact details of respective MRCC (https://sarccontacts.info/) & ReCAAP Focal Points (https://www.recaap.org/focal-points) are depicted on map (on right).

Regional Guide 2 to counter piracy & armed robbery against ships in Asia issued by ReCAAP ISC (https://www.recaap.org), suggests shipowner, operator, master & crew to adopt appropriate measures to avoid, deter or delay attacks & unauthorised boarding.

In the event of unauthorised boarding:
(i) Do not engage in confrontation with perpetrators.
(ii) Remain calm. Stay positive.
(iii) Follow perpetrator’s orders. Crew’s movements should be calm, slow & very deliberate.
(iv) Do not resist when perpetrators reach the bridge. Compliance with perpetrators essential once ship has been taken.
(v) Crew should keep their hands visible at all times.
(vi) Do not attempt to take photographs.
(vii) Bridge/engine room if to be evacuated, main engine should be stopped and all way taken off the ship if possible (and if navigational safe to do so).
(viii) Keep all CCTV & VDR devices running.

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