

Allmode Intelligence Section

Advisory: 039 (USA / Yemen)

Advisory Type: Regarding Port Security

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Information Source: U.S. Coast Guard

The Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (MTSA) has mandated that the United States Coast Guard evaluate the effectiveness of anti-terrorism measures in foreign ports and provides for the imposition of conditions of entry on vessels arriving to the United States from countries that do not maintain effective anti-terrorism measures (MTSA, 46 USC § 70108 - 70110).

The Coast Guard has determined that the Ash Shihr Terminal and Port of Hodeidah in Yemen are no longer maintaining effective anti-terrorism measures¹.

As a result, all vessels arriving into the United States that have visited these two ports, during their last five port calls, must take the following five actions as a condition of entry into U.S. ports:

1. Implement measures per the ship's security plan equivalent to Security Level 2;
2. Ensure that each access point to the ship is guarded and that the guards have total visibility of the exterior (both landside and waterside) of the vessel. Guards may be:
 - provided by the ship's crew, however, additional crewmembers should be placed on the ship if necessary to ensure that limits on maximum hours of work are not exceeded and/or minimum hours of rest are met, or
 - ***provided by outside security forces approved by the ship's master and Company Security Officer.***
3. Attempt to execute a Declaration of Security;
4. Log all security actions in the ship's security records; and
5. Report actions taken to the cognizant U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port prior to arrival in the U.S.

This comes into effect on the **8th April**. All vessels coming from these two ports will be boarded and examined by the Coast Guard. Failure to properly implement the actions listed above may result in delay or denial of entry into the United States.

Other countries are also present on the list of countries not using effective anti-terrorism measures.

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¹ US dept. of homeland security, US Coast Guard, "Port Security Advisory (1-15)", (25 Mar 2015)