

## Action against Gulf of Guinea piracy gains support in Asia

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Denmark-based independent shipowners' association BIMCO has noted that support for the eradication of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea was gaining strength in Asia and world-wide. It noted that organizations including Japan's NYK Line and Asian Shipowners' Association were among the latest to join the call for action.

BIMCO said that signatures for the Gulf of Guinea Declaration on Suppression of Piracy were approaching 450, with almost 60 organizations based in Asia have joined since its launch in May 2021.

Sabrina Chao, President of BIMCO, said that "we are grateful for every declaration signature. Each signature represents much more than support on a piece of paper, it represents one more step in the right direction. Each time a company, authority and organisation decide to sign the declaration, it takes our industry one step closer to a point where seafarers do not have to fear for their lives when entering the Gulf of Guinea. It is about solidarity and about doing the right thing."

Asian Shipowners' Association secretary-general Yuichi Sonoda said that "the Asian Shipowners' Association supports the Declaration to proclaim the unity and determination of the shipping community to suppress piracy in the Gulf of Guinea".