

**Outline of the draft Anti-Piracy Measures Law  
(Law on Punishment of and Measures against Acts of Piracy)**

**1. Purpose**

Mindful of the vital importance of safe maritime navigation to the economic society and lives of the people of Japan and the purpose of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the draft Anti-Piracy Measures Law (hereinafter referred to as “the Law”) criminalises acts of piracy and provides necessary legal grounds for appropriate and effective response to acts of piracy, and the Law thereby aims to maintain public safety and order at sea.

**2. Definition of acts of piracy**

The Law defines the following acts committed for private ends on the high seas or territorial sea as well as internal waters of Japan by the crew or the passengers of a ship (except for warships and other government ships) as “acts of piracy”:

- (a) seizing another ship in navigation or taking control of the operation of another ship by rendering persons irresistible by assault, intimidation or any other means;
- (b) robbing property on board another ship in navigation or obtaining or causing others to obtain an unlawful profit by rendering persons irresistible by assault, intimidation or any other means;
- (c) kidnapping a person on board another ship in navigation for the purpose of taking the person hostage to demand a third person to deliver any property or to take any other unobligated action or to waive that person’s right;
- (d) demanding a third person to deliver any property or to take any other unobligated action or to waive that person’s right by taking a person, on board a robbed ship or a ship whose control is taken or kidnapped on board another ship in navigation, hostage;
- (e) breaking into or damaging another ship in navigation for the purpose of committing the acts of piracy as referred to in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) above;

- (f) operating a ship and approaching in close proximity of, beleaguering or obstructing the passage of another ship for the purpose of committing the acts of piracy as referred to in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) above;**
- (g) preparing weapons and operating a ship for the purpose of**

