



# ECOWAS MMCC ZONE F WEEKLY REPORT ON MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY



ECOWAS MMCC ZONE F  
WEEKLY REPORT SRL 2/20  
3 – 9 Jan 2020

- ALTERNATE SOURCES OF INFORMATION**
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
  - Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI)
  - Inter-Regional Coordination Centre (ICC)
  - International Maritime Bureau (IMB)
  - International Maritime Organization
  - Marine Domain Awareness for Trade - Gulf of Guinea (MDAT – GoG)
  - Information Sharing Centre (ReCAAP ISC)
  - The Marine Executive (website)

**OVERVIEW**

The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F remained safe and secure during the week under review. The Three (3) crew members kidnapped from the AMBIKA have been saved by the Nigerian Navy. Maritime Zone E recorded a firing upon incident

See Details of Incidents for more information.

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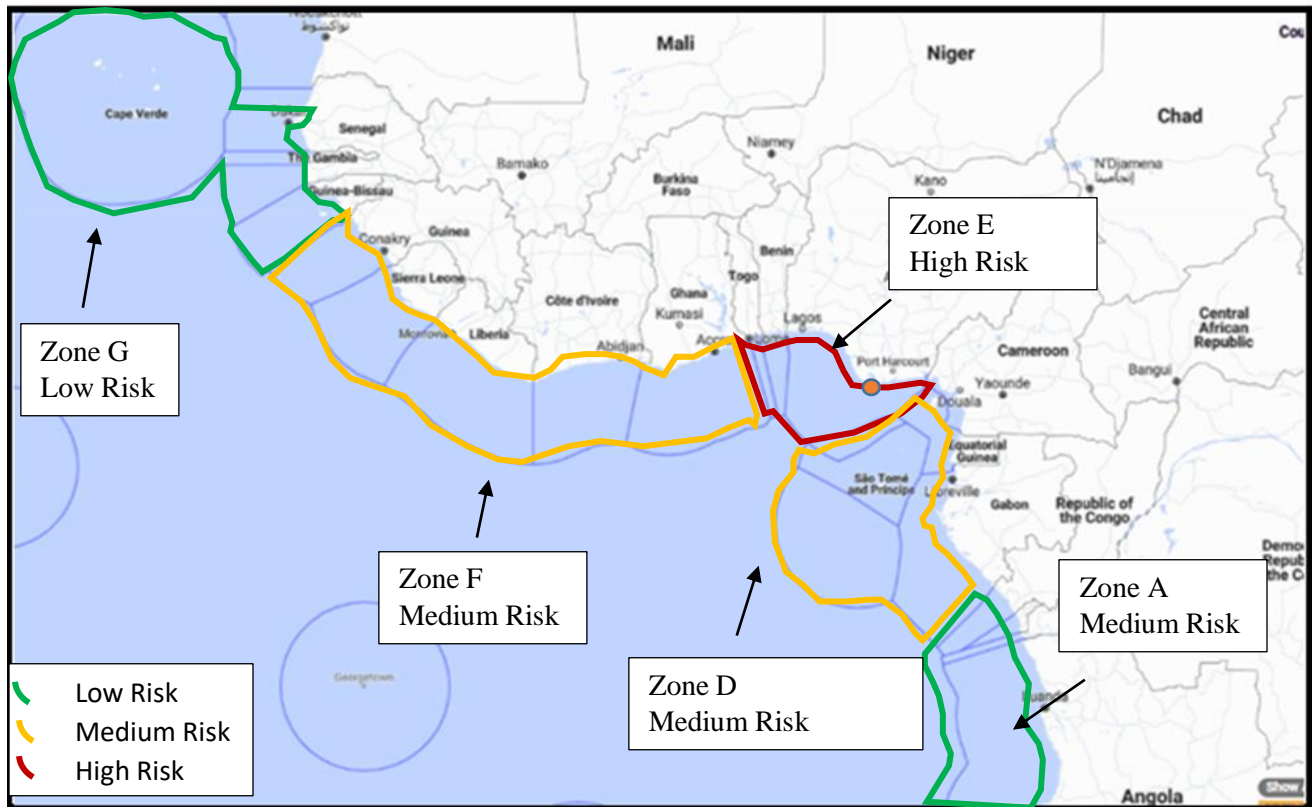
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**DISPOSITION OF MARITIME INCIDENT**



**Legend**

- Kidnapping
- Robbery
- Hijacking
- Boarding
- Theft
- Fired Upon
- Others

**SUMMARY OF WEEKLY MARITIME INCIDENTS ZONE F**

<b>PIRACY/ARMED ROBBERY RELATED</b>		<b>OTHER MARITIME CRIME</b>	
Piracy	- Nil	Illegal Fishing	- Nil
Armed Robbery	- Nil	STS (Illegal Bunkering)	- Nil
Kidnap	- Nil	Stowaway	- Nil
Hijacking	- Nil	Suspicious Approach	- Nil
Fired Upon	- Nil	Illegal Migration	- Nil
Theft	- Nil	Safety	- Nil
Boarding	- Nil		

**Details of Incident**

**Maritime Zone F**

No incident to report.

## Other Areas

<b>PIRACY/ARMED ROBBERY RELATED</b>			<b>OTHER MARITIME CRIME</b>		
Piracy	-	Nil	Illegal Fishing	-	Nil
Armed Robbery	-	Nil	STS (Illegal Bunkering)	-	Nil
Kidnap	-	Nil	Stowaway	-	Nil
Hijacking	-	Nil	Suspicious Approach	-	Nil
Fired Upon	-	1	Illegal Migration	-	Nil
Theft	-	Nil	Safety	-	Nil
Boarding	-	Nil	Health of Crew	-	Nil

### Details of Incident

#### Maritime Zone A

No incident to report

#### Maritime Zone D

No incident to report

#### Maritime Zone E

Recall that the Nigeria flag hopper dredger AMBIKA was attacked on Ramos River, around Nigeria's Delta at 2200 UTC on 02 January 2020 resulting in the killing of 4 military personnel and kidnap three (3) crew members including (2 Russians and 1 Indian).

Update – AMBIKA

On 7 January 2020, The 3 crew (2 Russian and 1 Indian) were saved in an operation by the Nigeria Navy team in the south western coastal state of Ondo, Nigeria. Several pirates were killed and one was arrested.

#### **Nigeria – Fired Upon**

On 04 January 2019 at 1600 UTC, A Joint Task Force (JTF) houseboat was attacked in Nigeria. The incident took place on the Opofo River. The JTF houseboat came under attack by an unknown number of armed perpetrators. The Nigerian Navy personnel responded and one of the perpetrators was killed during the incident.

#### Maritime Zone G

No incident to report

## **FORCAST FOR THE COMING WEEK**

General Maritime Security Situation in the Maritime Zone F - Expected to remain quiet and incident free however the possibility of Petty Theft and Armed Robberies within Ports and anchorages in maritime Zone F remains likely

Maritime Zone E and D are expected to be relatively safe. Kidnappings, Firing Upon, Armed Robberies and theft onboard ships at anchorages and sea are likely.

Maritime Zone A and G are expected to remain incident free.

## **ADVISORIES**

Merchant vessels sailing about 50 nm from the coast are likely to encounter artisanal and trawling fishing by night vessels.

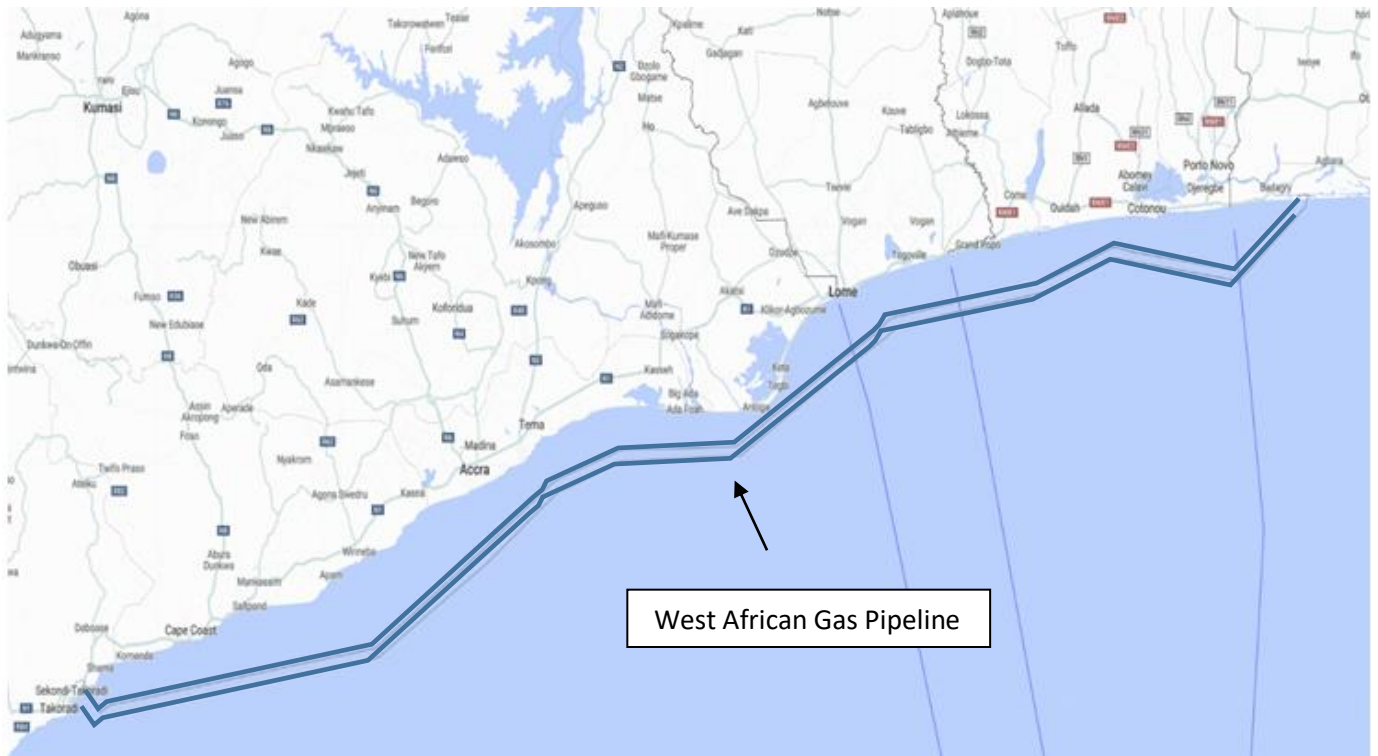
Vessels sailing in the proximity of the Jubilee Oil Fields are to remain at least 8 nm from the oil platforms to avoid being confronted /challenged by security escort vessel within the area. Mariners are cautioned to be on the alert at all times and report any suspicious activity to MMCC Zone F for immediate assistance.

Ships at anchorages and ports are to maintain sufficient duty watch especially from 2200 hours – 0400 hours and ships at anchorages to be extra vigilant.

## NOTICES

Oil Fields. All vessels transiting close to the oilfields are to observe the promulgated maritime safety and security zones around the oil fields.

West African Gas Pipeline. The West African Gas pipeline extends from Takoradi in Ghana to Nigeria. The pipeline since its installation has experienced periodic breakages due to fishing and anchoring activities on the pipeline. The position of the pipeline is shown on maritime charts. All vessels transiting the coastal areas between Ghana and Nigeria are to avoid anchoring and fishing within the pipeline protective zone.



OPERATIONS OFFICER MMCC ZONE F

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

- **PIRACY**

(A) Any illegal acts of Violence or Detention, or any act of Depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed: (i) on the High Seas, against another Ship or Aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft. (ii) against a ship, aircraft, persons or property in a place outside the jurisdiction of any State.

(B) Any act of voluntary participation in the operation of a ship or of an aircraft with knowledge of facts making it a pirate ship or aircraft.

(C) Any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in subparagraph (a) or (b).

- **ARMED ROBBERY AT SEA**

Any unlawful act of Violence or Detention, or any act of Depredation or Threat other than an act of Piracy, directed against a Ship or against Persons or Property onboard such Ships, within a States jurisdiction over such offences.

- **HIJACK**

Vessels taken by attacker, no longer under the control of the master.

- **FIRED UPON/ATTACK**

Use of weapon by assailants at vessel or boarding with intent to take control of the vessel.

- **BOARDING**

Unauthorized boarding of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without taken control of the vessel.

- **ROBBERY**

Theft realize in territorial waters with threat or violence to crew.

- **THEFT**

Theft realize in territorial waters with no violence.

- **ILLEGAL UNREPORTED UNREGULATED FISHING.**

Illegal fishing conducted by national or foreign vessels in contravention of laws and regulations. Fishing conducted by vessels flying the flag of States that are parties to a regional fisheries management organization but operate in contravention of the conservation and management measures. Fishing in violation of national laws or international obligations. Fishing activities which have not been reported, or have been misreported. Fishing in the area of application of a regional fisheries management organization that are conducted by vessels without nationality. Fishing in areas or for fish stocks in relation to which there are no applicable conservation or management measures.

- **MARITIME MIGRATION.**

**STOWAWAY:** A person who hides on a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle 2. Someone who hides on a ship or aircraft to travel without having to pay.

- **ILLICIT TRADE.**

**ILLEGAL BUNKERING:** Bunkering is a term used to describe the process of filling a ship with oil (or coal). Illegal oil bunkering is a euphemism for theft.

- **OTHER MARITIME INCIDENTS.**

**SUSPICIOUS APPROACH:** All other unexplained activity in close proximity of an unknown vessel.

**SIGHTING AND IRREGULAR ACTIVITY:** All suspicious information with no proof of intent to board the vessel.