



MMCC ZONE F WEEKLY REPORT

MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY

17JAN - 23 JANUARY 2020

OVERVIEW

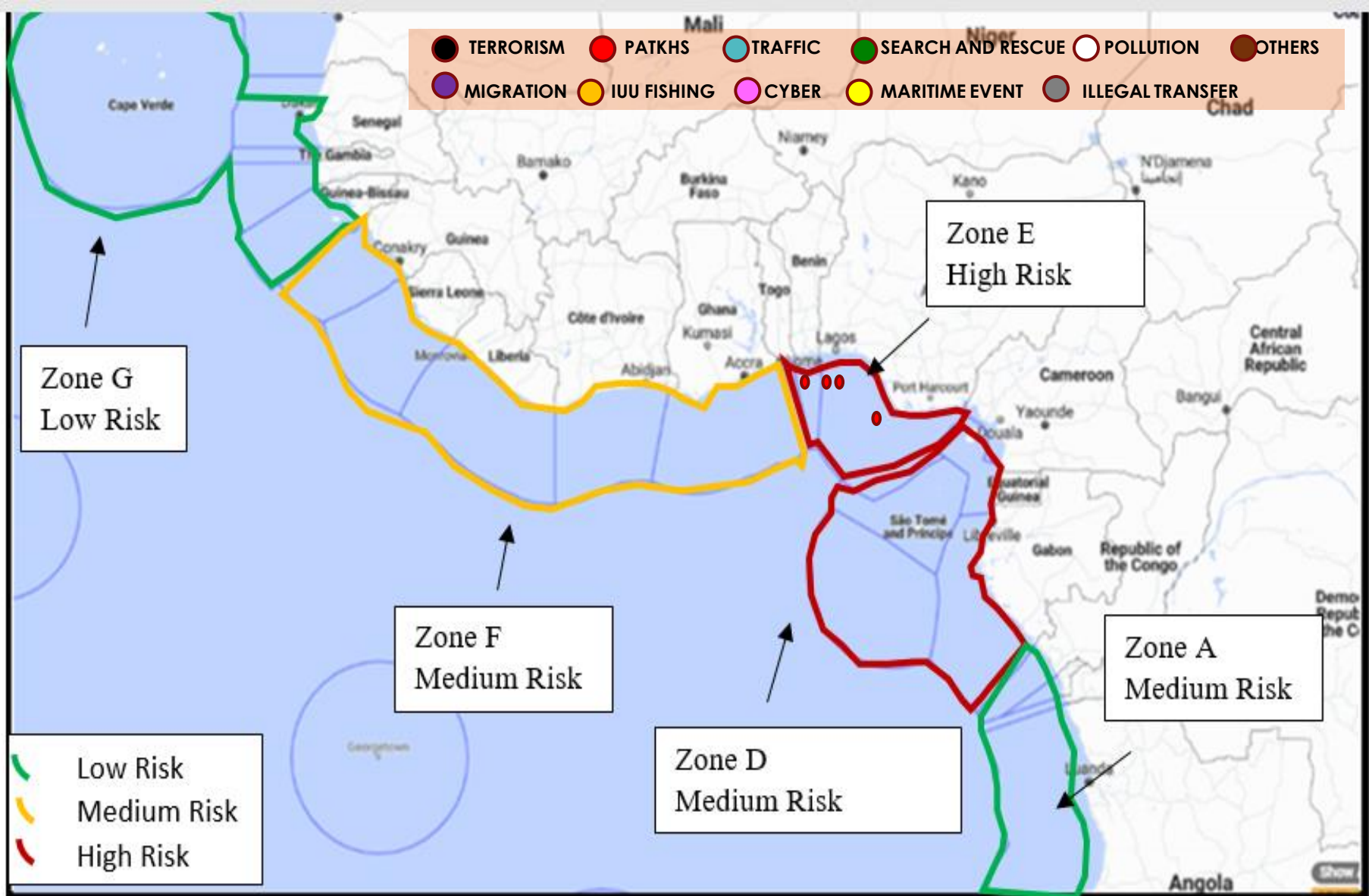
The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F remained safe and secure during the week under review. Maritime Zone E recorded 3 incidents including the firing upon a vessel and attempted boarding. The crew kidnapped from MT DUKE and HAPPY LADY have been released.

See Details of Incidents for more information.

INCIDENT RECORD

Category	Type of Incidents	No of Incident in Zones				
		A	D	E	F	G
TERRORISM	TERRORISM					
PIRACY/ ARMED ROBBERY	HIJACKING					
	KIDNAPPING					
	ARMED BOARDING			2		
	FIRING UPON			1		
	ROBBERY/ATTEMPT ROBBERY					
	ATTEMPT BOARDING			1		
	SUSPICIOUS APPROACH					
ILLICIT TRAFIC	HUMAN					
	DRUG					
	WEAPONS/AMUNITIONS					
	SMUGGLING					
I.U.U FISHING	INDUSTRIAL FISHING					
	CRAFT FISHING					
POLLUTION						
ILLICIT MIGRATION	ORGANIZED MIGRATION					
	STOWAWAYS					
ILLEGAL TRANSFERT	ILLEGAL BUNKERING					
	OIL ROBBERY					
CYBER CRIMINALITY						
MARITIME EVENT	SHIPWRECK					
	COLLISION					
	GROUNDING					
	DAMMAGE					
SEARCH AND RESCUE	SEARCH					
	ASSISTANCE AND TOWING					
	MEN OVERBOARD					
	SANITARY EVACUATION					

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Maritime Zone E

Attempted Boarding-Nigeria

A merchant vessel reported an attempted boarding in the Lagos secure anchorage, Nigeria. The incident occurred at 2100 UTC on 17 January 2020 at position 06°15'N 003°15'E while the vessel was at anchor. The crew observed a small canoe approaching the vessel from the anchor cable. One man was then observed attempting to board via the cable. The alarm was raised and the port authorities were notified. Upon hearing the alarm, the perpetrator abandoned his mission and returned to the canoe.

Boarding-Benin

A Marshall Islands flag cargo vessel ATLANTIC DISCOVERER was boarded at about 73NM South of Cotonou, BENIN while drifting. The incident occurred on 19 January 2020 at 2010 UTC. A skiff with 5-6 men were spotted alongside the starboard of the vessel with a long ladder on-board. 2 armed perpetrators were also spotted near the bridge. An alarm was raised and the captain took evasive action including switching off lights and shutting hatches. The vessel immediately proceeded to the Tema port since the captain did not see the 2 perpetrators jump off. The skiff however fled off.

Upon arrival at the Tema Port the vessel was rummaged by a special team. No pirate were found on board. The vessel then sort permission from the Tema Port Authorities and sailed to her next port of call Lagos.

DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Attempted Boarding - Nigeria

The MMCC Zone F received information from the MDAT indicating that about 5-6 men in a speed boat with a ladders attempted to board the tanker vessel OSTRIA about 60nm SSE of Lagos at position 05°30'N – 000°34'E. The incident occurred at about 2300 on 20 January 2020 while the vessel was underway.

Fired Upon – Nigeria

The Panama flag vessel MSC GRACE was attacked at about 20nm SW of Brass Nigeria. The incident occurred at position 04°04'N – 005°47'E at 0836 UTC on 21 January 2020 while the vessel was underway from Port Harcourt to Lagos when she was attacked by a single high speed craft with about 15 armed men on-board. The perpetrators fired at the vessel and the crew of the vessel went into a designated area leaving the bridge crew and an on-board armed team who returned fire while the vessel conducted evasive manoeuvres. The pirates aborted the attack and the vessel and crew are reported safe.

DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Update – MT DUKE

Recall that the Marshall Islands flag product tanker DUKE was attacked on 15 December 2019 at about 115 NM SSE of Lomé, Togo. The incident resulted in the kidnapping of 20 crew members. The crew were released after 35 days of captivity on 19 Jan 2020. One crew member however died due to Malaria. The remaining 19 crew members have undergone medical checks and are doing well.

Update – HAPPY LADY

Similarly, on 30 Dec 19, 8 crew members were kidnapped from the Greece flag tanker HAPPY LADY. All crew members were released on 22 Jan 20 after 23 days of captivity. All crew members are safe and sound.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The MMCC Zone F believes that the current poor visibility due to the harmatthan and associated calm sea state will continue to provide good conditions for pirates to exploit and attack vessels further offshore.

The Centre also believes that the perpetrators of both crimes are linked and are poised to attack any vulnerable vessel. Vessels sailing offshore are cautioned to remain vigilant at all times and report any suspicious skiff sighted.

Additionally, maritime law enforcement agencies should be ready to respond at very short notice to situation.

FORCAST FOR THE COMING WEEK AND ADVISORIES

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 and Armed Robberies are likely at anchorages and at sea.

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.

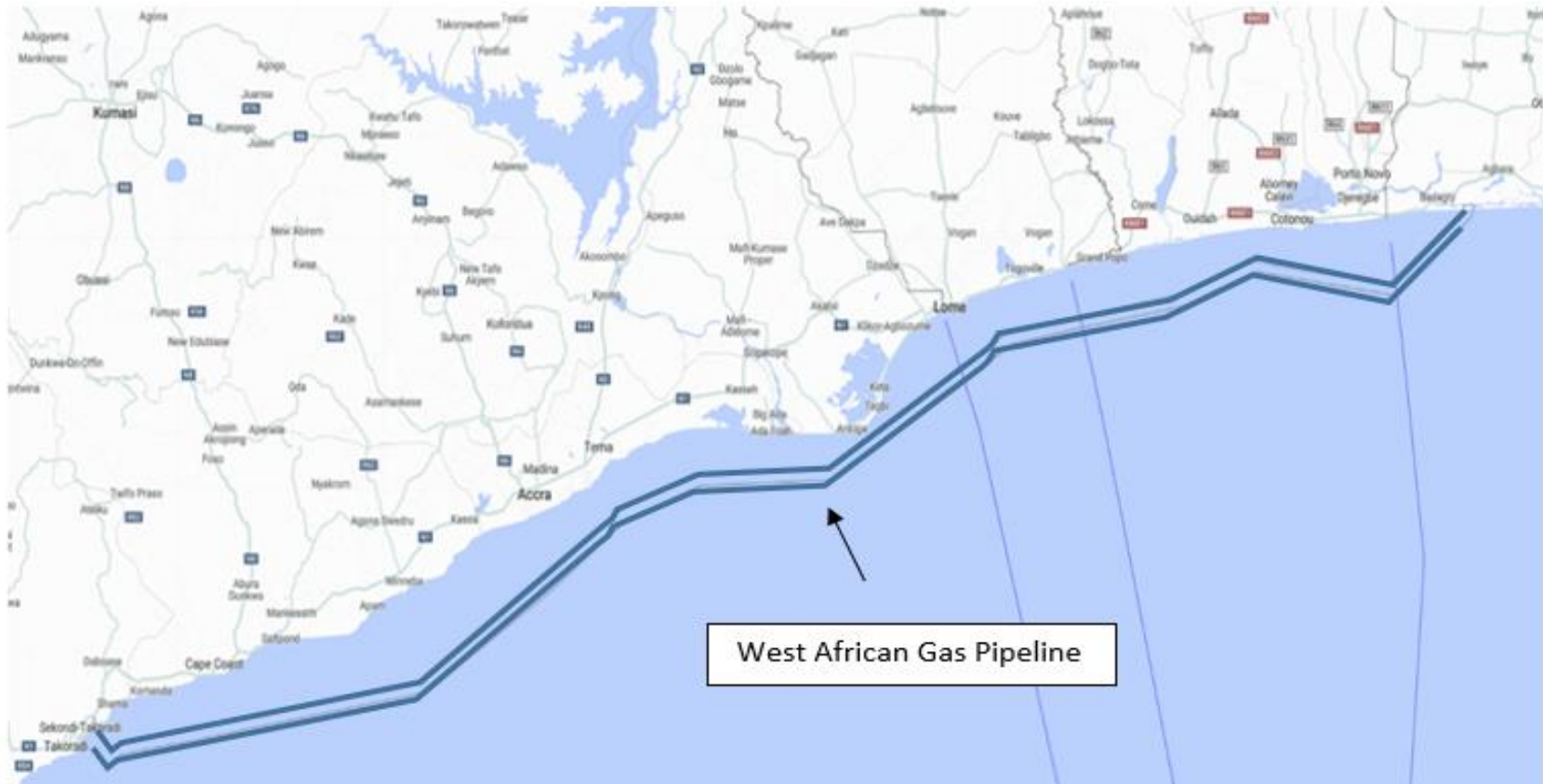
Vessels sailing in the proximity of the Jubilee Oil Fields are to remain at least 8 nm from the oil platforms to avoid being confronted /challenged by security escort vessel within the area. Mariners are cautioned to be on the alert at all times and report any suspicious activity to MMCC Zone F for immediate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



MARITIME INFORMATION OF INTEREST

- Illegal bunkering: Navy handover 6 suspects, barge to EFCC in Bayelsa
Shippingposition.com
- 8 kidnapped crew of Greek tanker released after 3-week captivity
Fleetmoon.com

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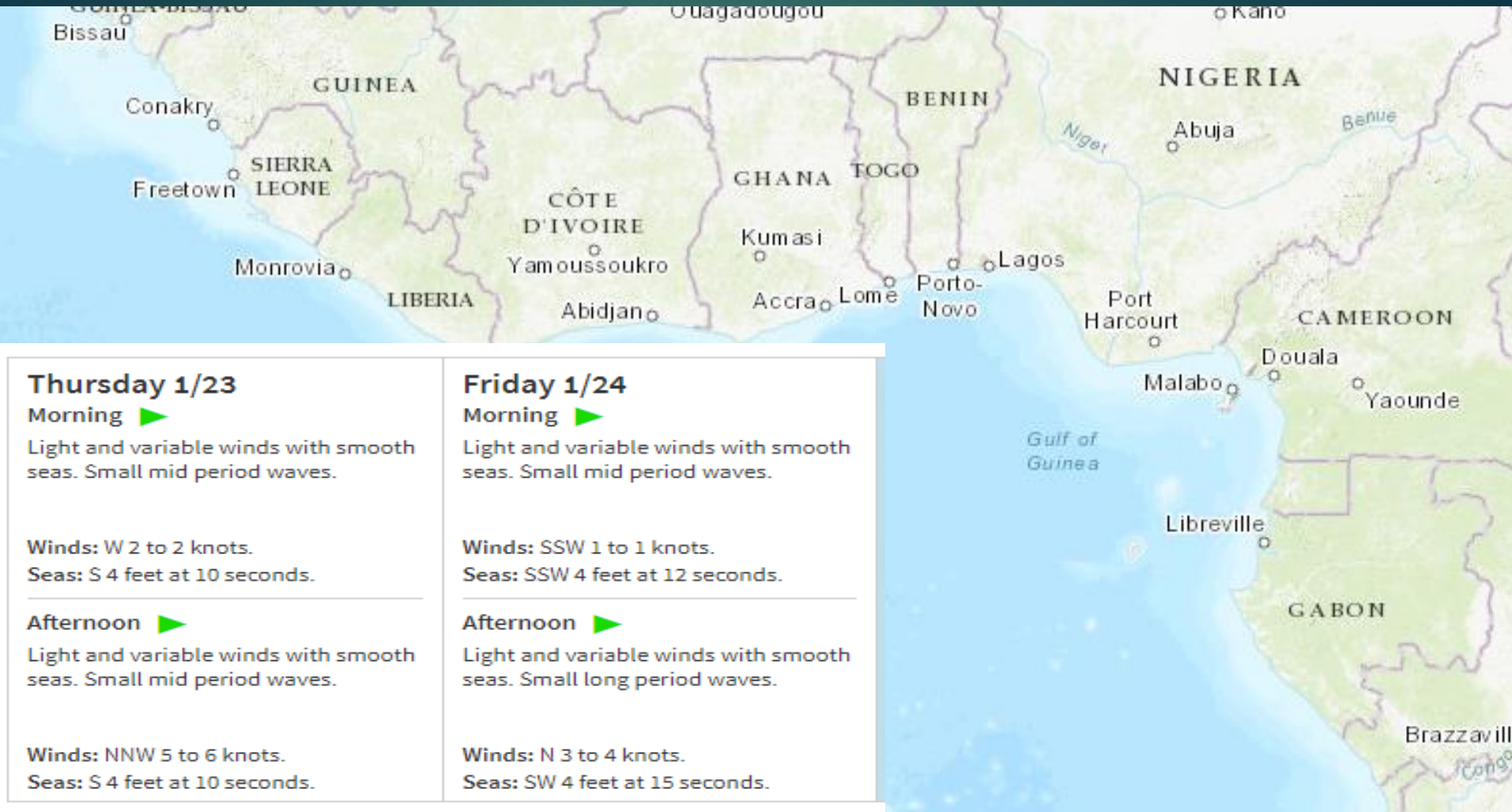
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METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST



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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.