



# MMCC ZONE F WEEKLY REPORT

## MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY

14 FEB - 20 FEBRUARY 2020

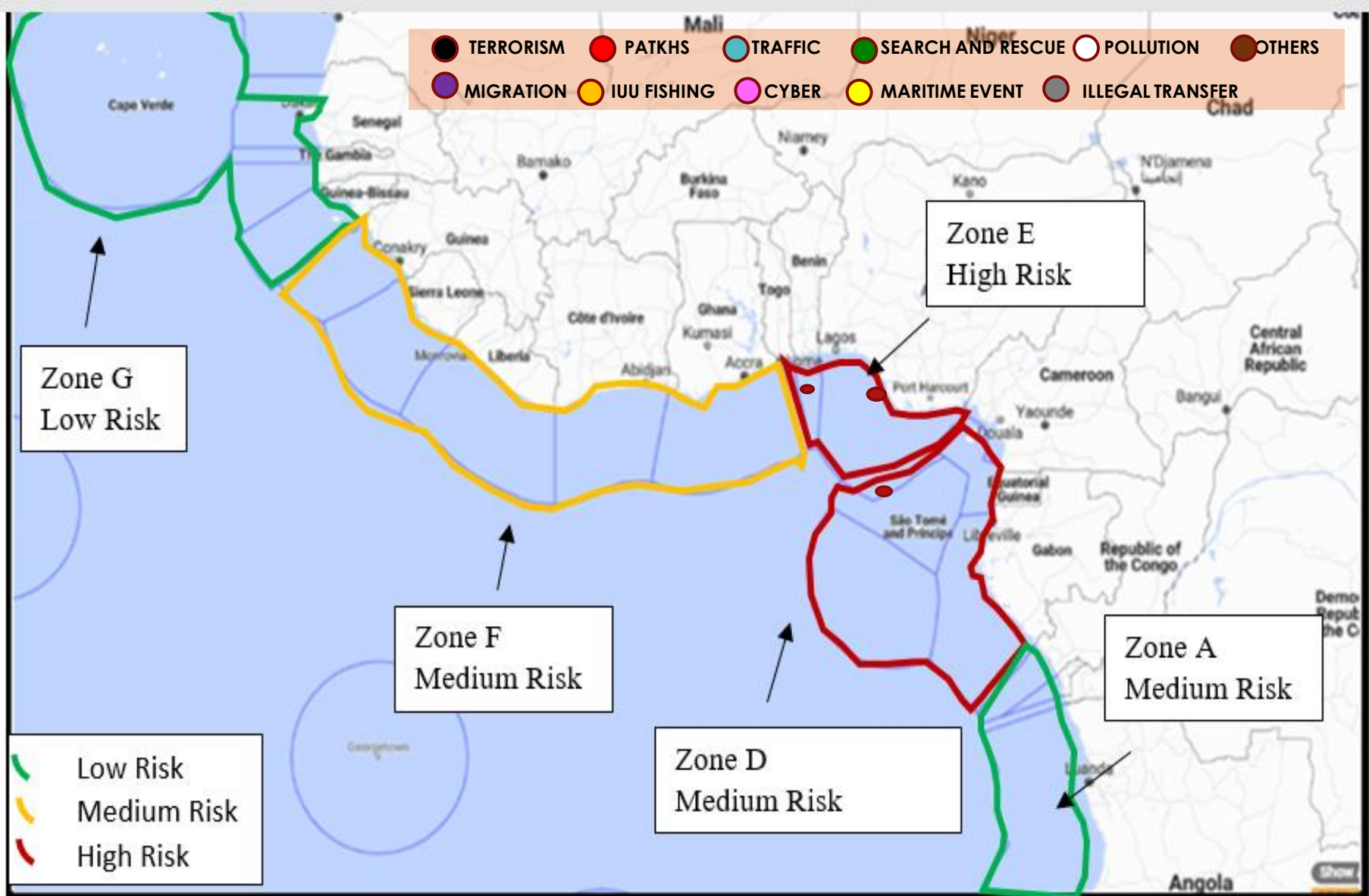
# OVERVIEW

- 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.
- 9 crew were kidnapped from ALPINE PENELOPE on 20 February 2020.
- See Details of Incidents for more information.

# INCIDENT RECORD

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

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Boarding - Sao Tomé and Príncipe**

- The Marshall Islands flag container vessel MAERSK TEMA was boarded around 80 NM NNW of Sao Tomé at 0812 UTC on 14 February 2020. The incident took place at position 01°33'N 005°18'E. Two skiffs were seen in the vicinity of the incident. No injury was reported.
- The Nigerian Navy and SVS TEACH were contacted to render assistance.
- The Nigerian Navy and the SVS TEACH team comprising of 01 Liaison Officer (Ambrey) and 07 Seven crew / 07 armed marines conducted a separate search on the MAERSK TEMA.
- No pirates were found onboard, however some communication equipment have damaged and crew belongings stolen
- The MAERSK TEMA was escorted to the Lagos anchorage for further investigation.

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Attack - Nigeria**

- An oil barge was attacked by armed men in the Ekeremor Local Government Area, Lutegbene waterways, Bayelsa state during the evening hours of 16 February 2020. The incident took place near 05°00'N 005°45'E.
- Several armed men in one speedboat attacked the oil barge during a transit from Port Harcourt to Warri.
- 4 soldiers escorting the barge and 2 civilians were killed during the encounter. Others in the attacked vessel managed to escape by diving into the water and swimming to safety, although some suffered gunshot wounds.
- Multiple local sources have indicated that in the aftermath of the attack, angry soldiers started burning some houses in the area when residents failed to identify the attackers.

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Attack - Lagos - Nigeria**

- The Liberia flag crude oil tanker ALPINE PENELOPE was attacked about 70 NM SW of Cotonou, Benin at 0110 UTC on 20 February 2020.
- The incident took place at 05°08'31"N 002°06'14.4"E.
- The vessel was en route from Amsterdam towards Lagos, when the officer on watch observed two armed men on board.
- The crew sent out a distress signal, all communications ceased afterwards and AIS was switched off. The next position was reported at 11:40 LT around 23 nautical miles south-east of the previous position.

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Attack - Lagos - Nigeria**

- Information received from the CSO of the vessel indicates that 9 crew out of 23 were kidnapped.
- Most of the seafarers kidnapped were officers and petty officers.
- The vessels current manning as they approach Lagos only consist of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Officer, 4<sup>th</sup> Engineer, Bosun, (3) ABs, (2) OS (2) Oilers (2) Caterer Trainees and the Deck cadet
- The Benin Navy dispatched the patrol vessel COUFFO to provide assistance to the tanker and to conduct further investigations.



# GENERAL COMMENTS

- The attacks and boarding recorded during the week is a clear indication of the persistence of criminals to meet their target at all cost. Navies are expected to be on the alert and be prepared to render assistance at all times to vessels in distress.

# 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.

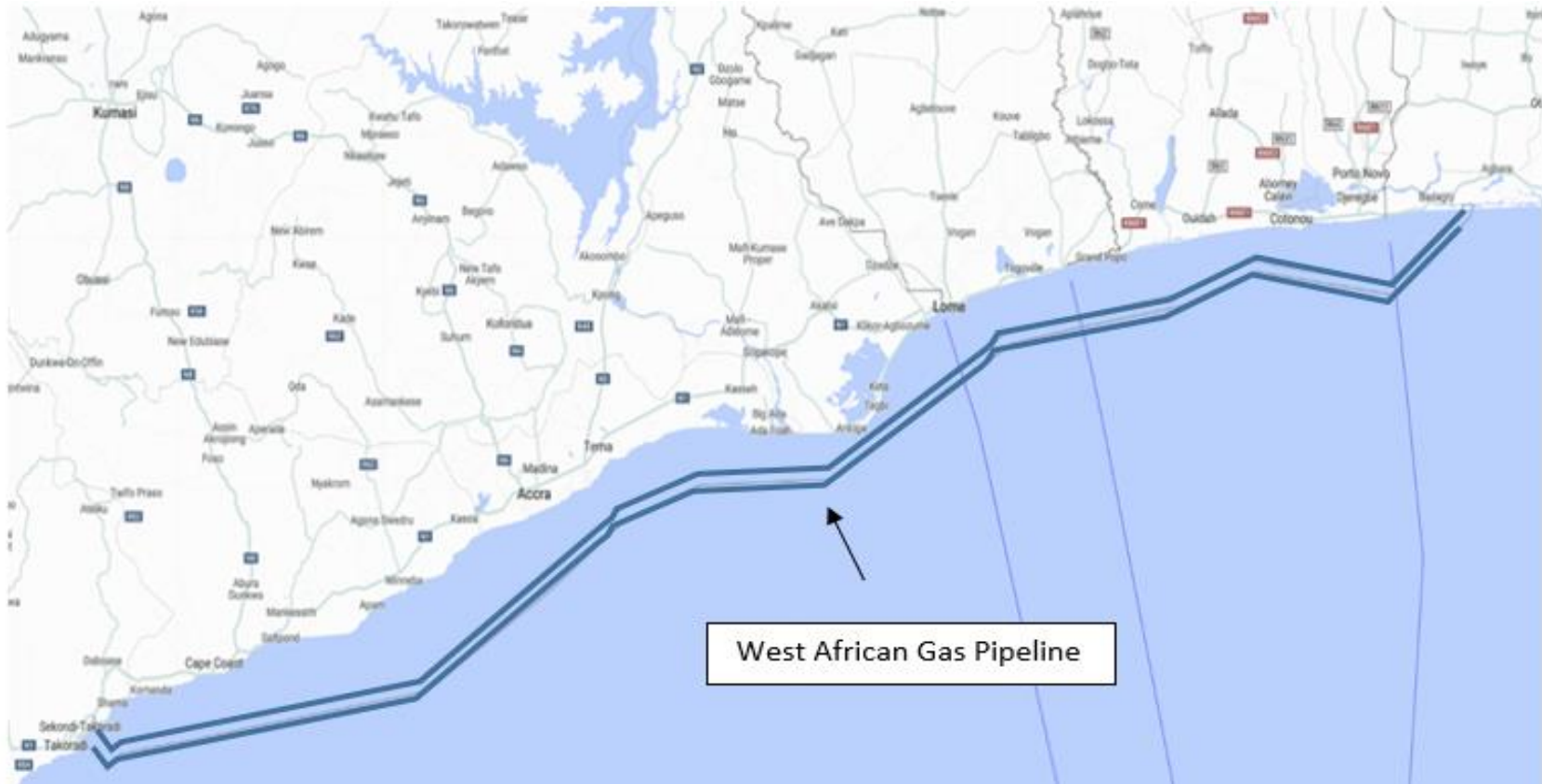
Mariners are cautioned to be on the alert at all times and report any suspicious activity to MMCC Zone F for immediate assistance.

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

- The director general of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA), indicates that the threats of piracy, armed robbery at sea and other maritime crimes have been an issue of global concern.

[nigeriamaritime360.com](http://nigeriamaritime360.com)

- Gulf of Guinea: MICA Center helps defeat pirate attack

[meretmarine.com](http://meretmarine.com)

ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION CENTRE (MMCC ZONE F)

Christianborg Castle, Osu Accra, Ghana

[zonefmmcc@gmail.com](mailto:zonefmmcc@gmail.com) / [zonefmoc@gmail.com](mailto:zonefmoc@gmail.com)

[www.mmcczonef.com](http://www.mmcczonef.com)

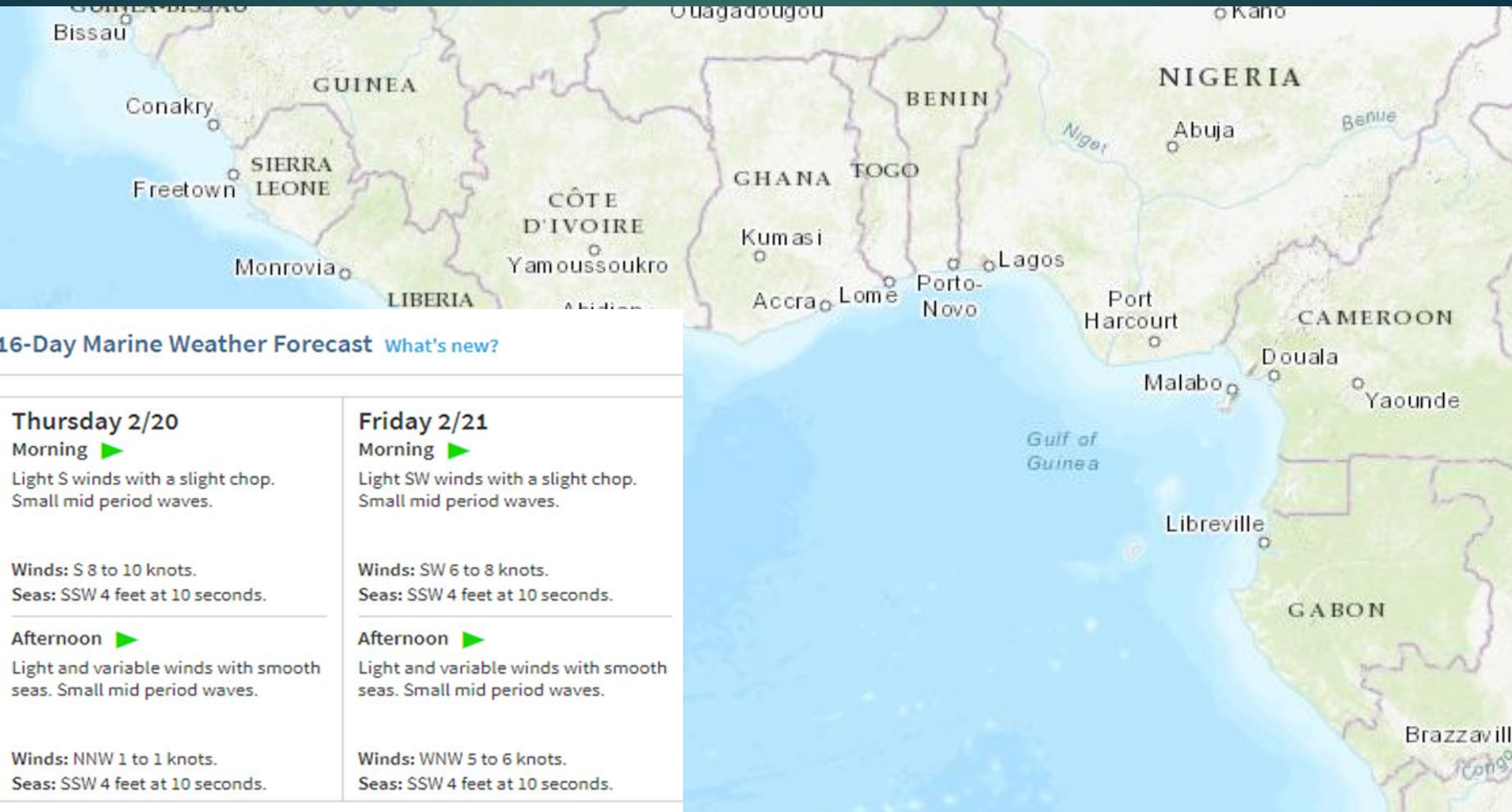
+233246476924 / +2330302736817 / +2330302736804 / +2330302736806

HF 6300 KHZ

VHF CH 16

Satellite Phone +870778617068

# METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST



# CONTACT DETAILS NATIONAL AND ZONAL CENTERS

ZONE E	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
MMCC COTONOU	+ 229 61040475	Zonee.mmcc@gmail.com
MOC LAGOS	+ 234 07056893142	wncrmac01@gmail.com
RMCC LAGOS	+ 234 7000700010	Rmrcc.nigeria@yahoo.fr
MOC COTONOU	+ 229 21317543	forces.navales@yahoo.com
MOC LOME	+ 228 22237083	base.marine@yahoo.com
ZONE F	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
MMCC ZONE F (ACCRA)	+ 233 54796523	zonefmmcc@gmail.com
MOC (TEMA)/NHQ MOC	+233299101118/+233299010951	encmoc@gmail.com / GNHQMOC@gmail.com
MOC (TAKORADI)	+233299101066	wncmoc@gmail.com
MOC ABIDJAN	+ 225 23454326	MOC.abidjanCI@gmail.com
MOC ABIDJAN	+225 21000643	abidjan.mrcc@gmail.com / alertes@mrcc-abidjan.net
MOC SANPEDRO	+233 302777991	moc.marinesp.ci@gmail.com
MOC MONROVIA	+ 231 776129865	mahawajuana@gmail.com
MOC FREETOWN	+ 232 78194359	jocopsintel@gmail.com
MOC CONAKRY	+224621222297	compremargui@gmail.com
ZONE G	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
MMCC CAPE VERDE	+ 238 9851567	CCCosmar@gmail.com
MOC DAKAR	+ 221 338265001	marinenat@orange.sn
MOC BANJUL	+ 220 7708818	gamnavy@rocketmail.com

# 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.