



MMCC ZONE F WEEKLY REPORT

MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY

17 APR - 23 APRIL 2020

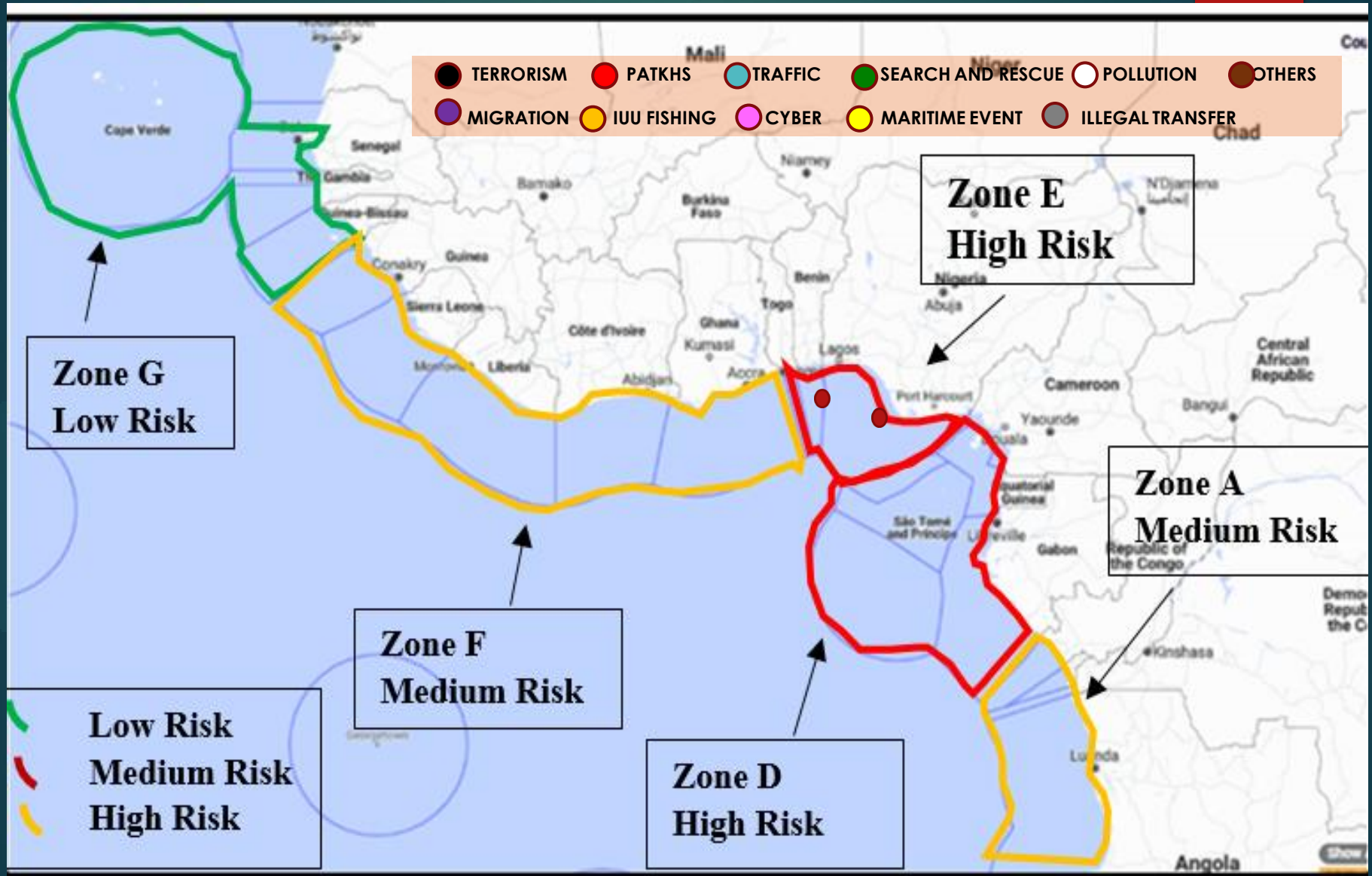
OVERVIEW

- The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F and the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) remained safe and secure during the week under review.
- Maritime Zone E recorded Kidnapping and Firing upon incidents.
- 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 | | | 1 | | |
| | ARMED ROBBERY | | | | | |
| | FIRING UPON | | | 1 | | |
| | ROBBERY/ATTEMPT ROBBERY | | | | | |
| | ATTEMPT BOARDING | | | | | |
| | BOARDING | | | | | |
| | THEFT | | | | | |
| | SUSPICIOUS APPROACH | | | | | |
| ILLICIT TRAFIC | HUMAN | | | | | |
| | DRUG | | | | | |
| | WEAPONS/AMUNITIONS | | | | | |
| | SMUGGLING | | | | | |
| I.U.U FISHING | INDUSTRIAL FISHING | | | | | |
| | CRAFT FISHING | | | | | |
| POLLUTION | | | | | | |
| ILLICIT MIGRATION | ORGANIZED MIGRATION | | | | | |
| | STOWAWAYS | | | | | |
| ILLEGAL TRANSFER | ILLEGAL BUNKERING | | | | | |
| | OIL ROBBERY | | | | | |
| CYBER CRIMINALITY | | | | | | |
| MARITIME EVENT | SHIPWRECK | | | | | |
| | COLLISION | | | | | |
| | SINKING | | | | | |
| | DAMAGE | | | | | |
| SEARCH AND RESCUE | MEN OVERBOARD | | | | | |
| | ASSISTANCE AND TOWING | | | | | |
| | SANITARY EVACUATION | | | | | |

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Kidnapping– Cotonou, Benin

on 18 April 2020 at about 2245 UTC the Portuguese flag container ship TOMMI RITCHER was attacked by unknown persons in position 06°17'N 002°32E at Cotonou Anchorage. A Portuguese Naval vessel in the vicinity spotted the pirate speed boat along the container vessel. The pirate speed boat on seeing the war vessel escaped. Reports indicates that 11 crew mustered in the citadel. It is believed the pirates took 8 crew as hostages.

DETAILS OF INCIDENT

ACTIONS TAKEN

On receiving the alert, the Beninese Naval Forces responded by dispatching the Beninese Naval Patrol Vessel ZOU which was on patrol to the scene. In addition to the patrol vessel ZOU the Beninese Navy dispatched another patrol boat conveying a detachment of Special Forces, to try to resolve the situation by carrying out a possible hostile boarding of the attacked vessel.

DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Updates

On 19 April 20 at about 1600 LT, Nigerian Navy dispatched a patrol boat NNS OSE, with a full detachment of the Nigerian Navy Special Boat Service (NNSBS) personnel to assist the Beninese to resolve the situation. The NNS OSE after attempts to render assistance on 19 April 2020 sailed to Cotonou Naval Base to replenish fuel and water following negotiations with the Benin authorities. NNS OSE returned to the scene of incident and began preparations to conduct boarding.

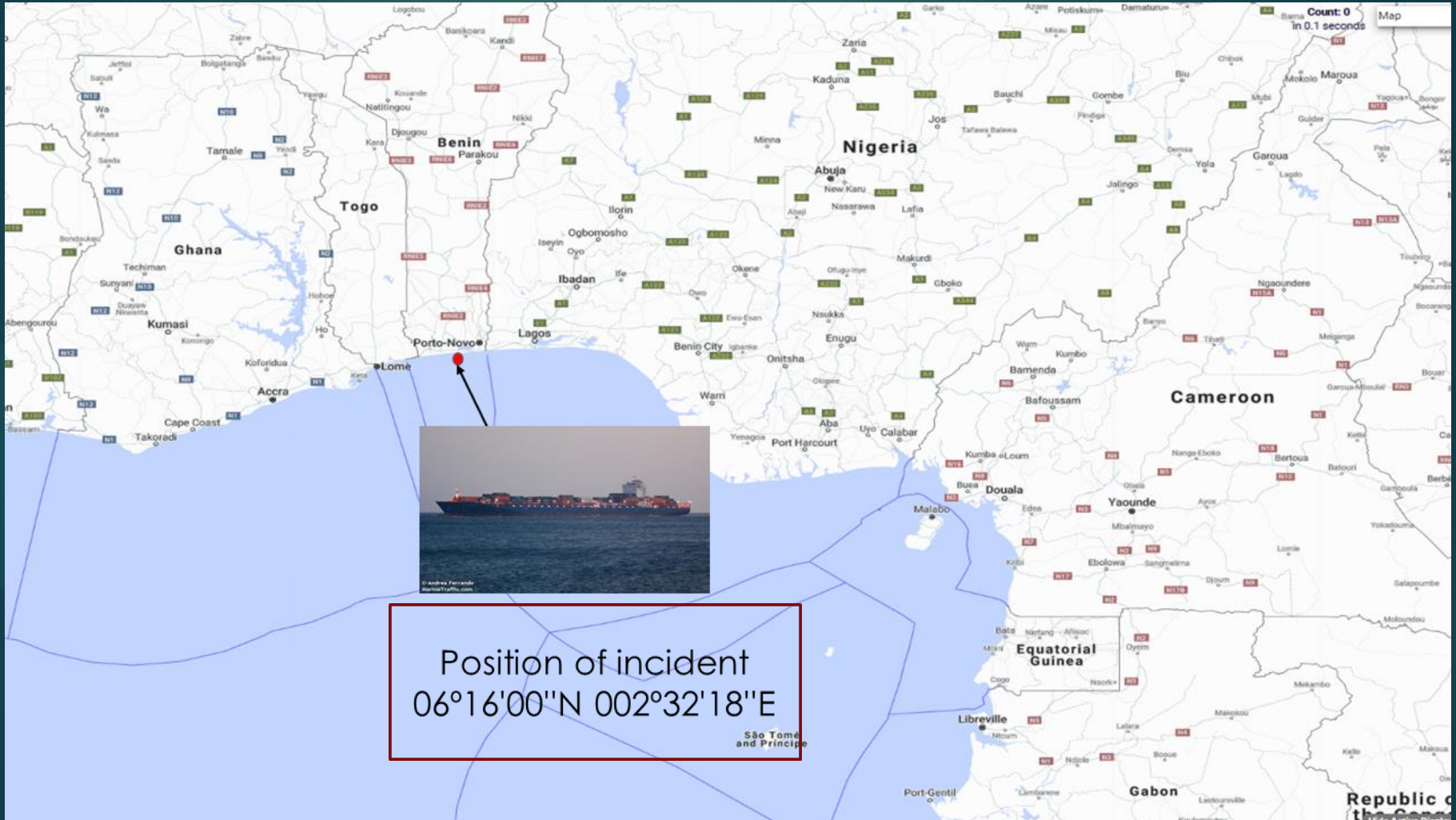
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Updates

The boarding team from the Nigerian Navy boarded the TOMMI RITTSCHER unopposed, conducted a thorough search and rescued the 11 crew members hiding in the citadel. The whereabouts of the other 8 crew and the attackers is still unknown. On 22 April 2020, it was confirmed the 8 crew have been kidnapped.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

Hijacking – Cotonou Anchorage, Benin



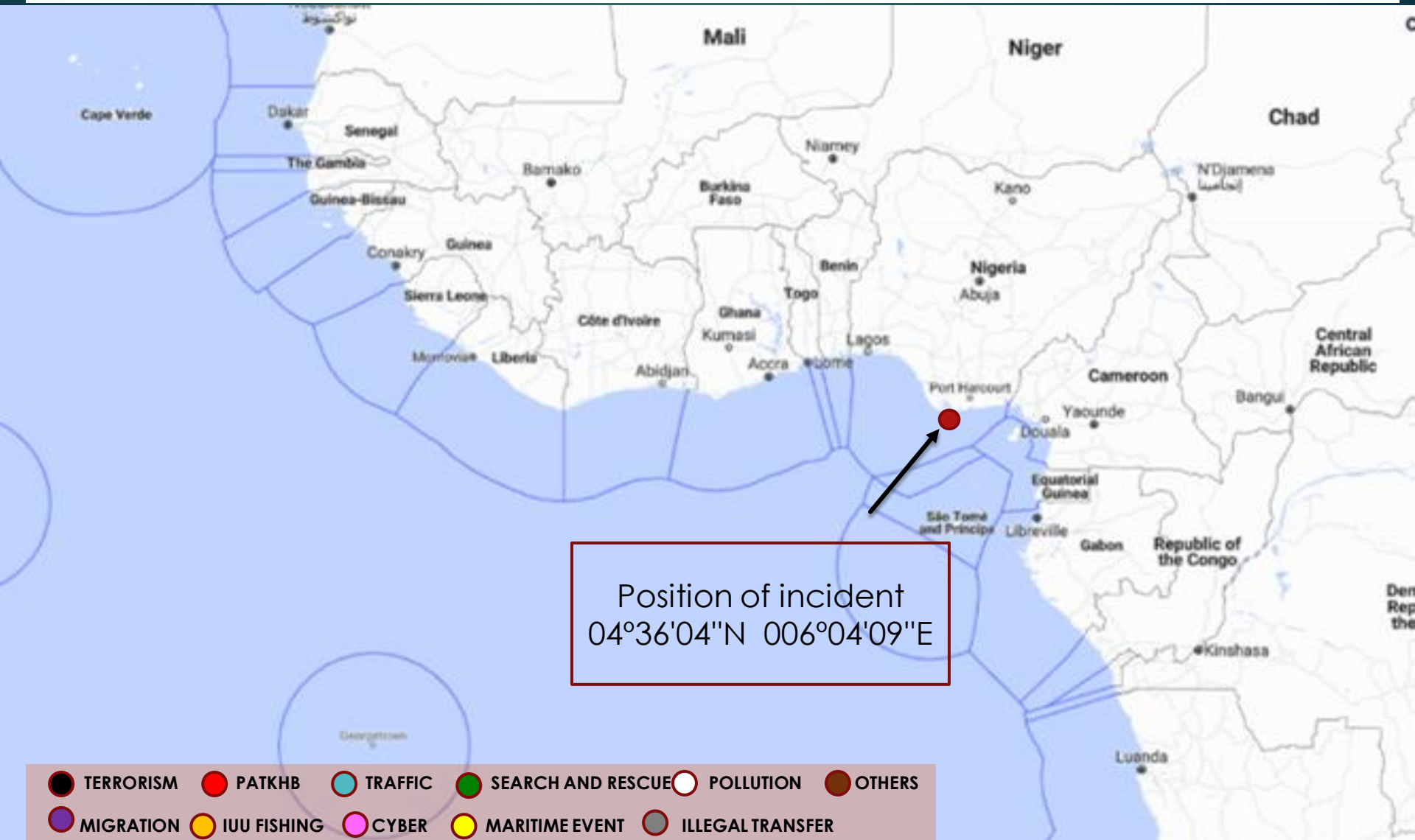
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Fired Upon – Brass, Nigeria

On 18 April 2020, at 0900 UTC, A passenger boat was attacked whilst underway from Brass to Yenagoa, Nigeria. The incident took place at position 04°36'04"N 006°04'09"E. The perpetrators fired shots and injured one passenger on the boat. The injured passenger and one other passenger jumped into the river. The perpetrators subsequently managed to kidnap the two passengers who jumped into the river. The Nigerian law enforcement agencies sent a vessel to rescue the kidnapped crew. The perpetrators upon seeing the patrol vessel the perpetrators abandoned the kidnapped passengers and fled to a nearby swamp. The crew and passengers are however safe.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

Fired Upon – Brass, Nigeria



GENERAL COMMENTS

The two attacks against the vessel is an indication that criminals are prepared to engage in fire exchange and cease the least opportunity to escape when they come under pressure. Towards this end vessels at anchorages are encouraged to always remain vigilant and report any acts of suspicion to local Port authorities to enable quick response. It is also important that maritime law enforcement authorities re-strategize to deal with crime at sea.

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.

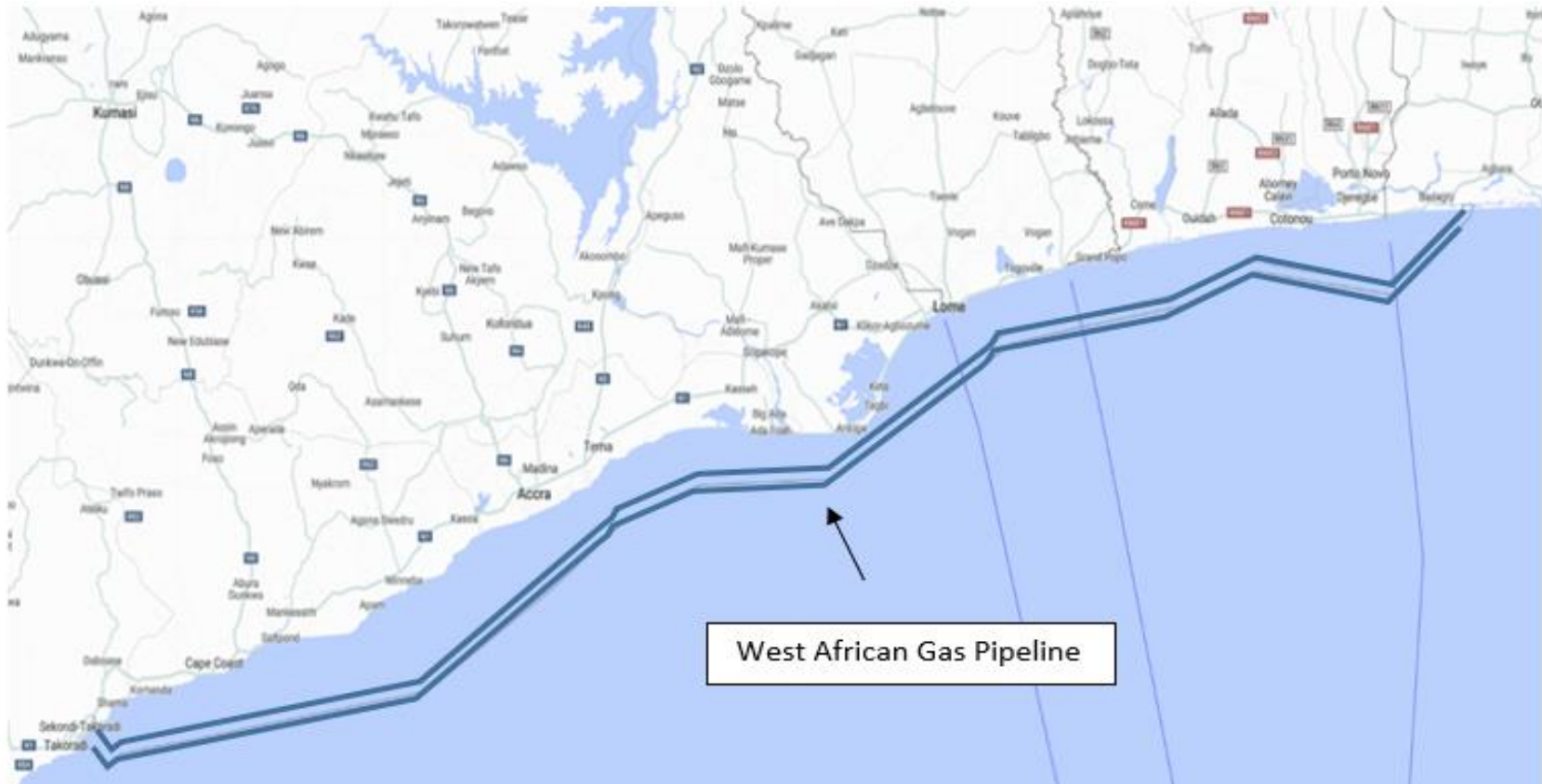
Mariners are cautioned to be on the alert at all times and report any suspicious activity to MMCC Zone F for immediate assistance.

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

- Trump Instructs Navy To Shoot Down Iranian Gunships If They Harass U.S Ships.

Source: <https://www.theepochtimes.com>

- Nsc Keeping The Ports Running Despite Covid 19 -Nigeria .

- Source: <https://www.vanguardngr.com>

ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION CENTRE (MMCC ZONE F)

Christianborg Castle, Osu Accra, Ghana

zonefmmcc@gmail.com / zonefmoc@gmail.com

www.mmcczonef.com

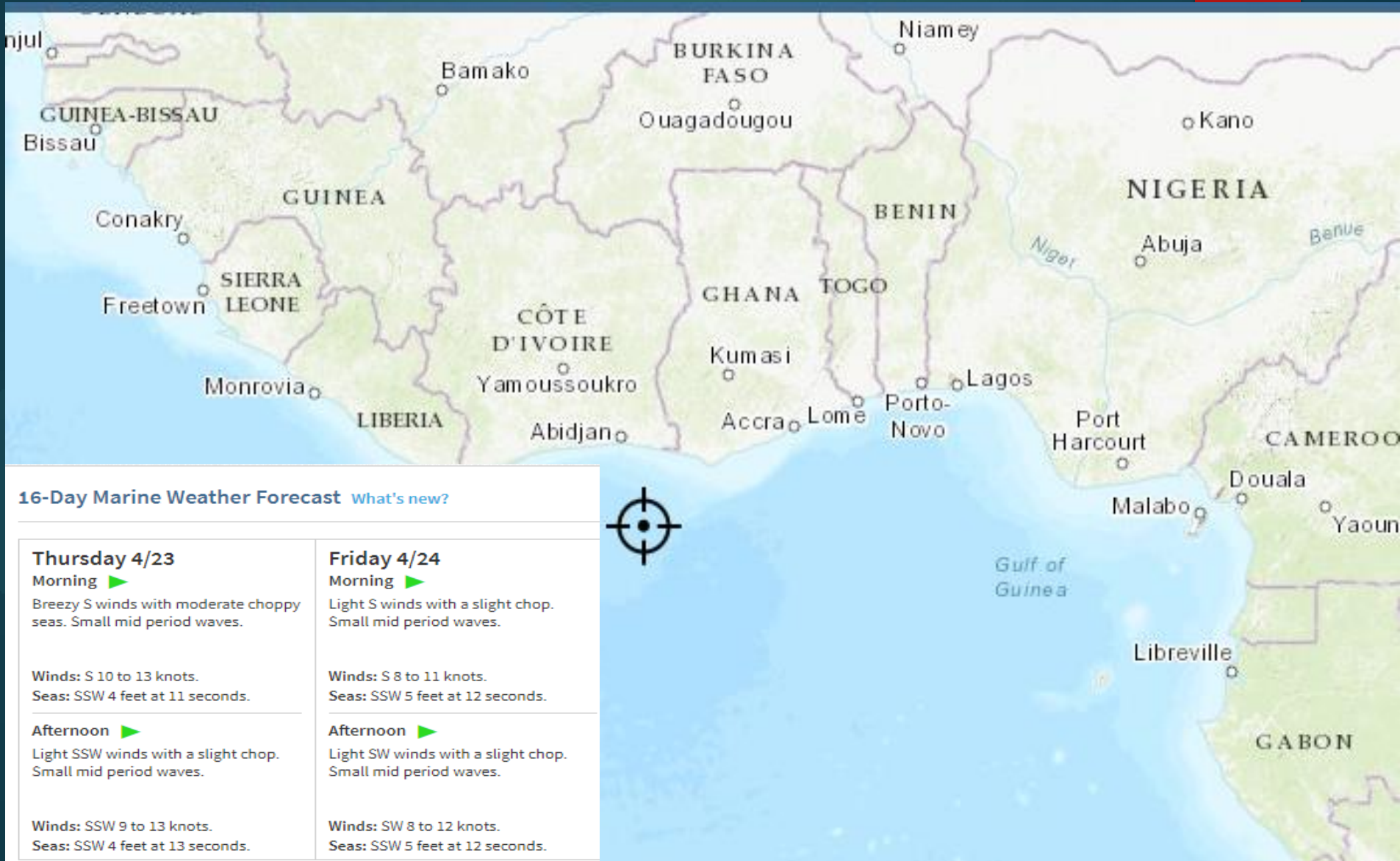
+233246476924 / +2330302736817 / +2330302736804 / +2330302736806

HF 6300 KHZ

VHF CH 16

Satellite Phone +870778617068

METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST



16-Day Marine Weather Forecast [What's new?](#)

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Thursday 4/23 Morning ► Breezy S winds with moderate choppy seas. Small mid period waves.</p> <hr/> <p>Winds: S 10 to 13 knots. Seas: SSW 4 feet at 11 seconds.</p> | <p>Friday 4/24 Morning ► Light S winds with a slight chop. Small mid period waves.</p> <hr/> <p>Winds: S 8 to 11 knots. Seas: SSW 5 feet at 12 seconds.</p> |
| <p>Afternoon ► Light SSW winds with a slight chop. Small mid period waves.</p> <hr/> <p>Winds: SSW 9 to 13 knots. Seas: SSW 4 feet at 13 seconds.</p> | <p>Afternoon ► Light SW winds with a slight chop. Small mid period waves.</p> <hr/> <p>Winds: SW 8 to 12 knots. Seas: SSW 5 feet at 12 seconds.</p> |

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 547976523 | 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.