



MMCC ZONE F WEEKLY REPORT

MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY

24 APRIL - 30 APRIL 2020

OVERVIEW

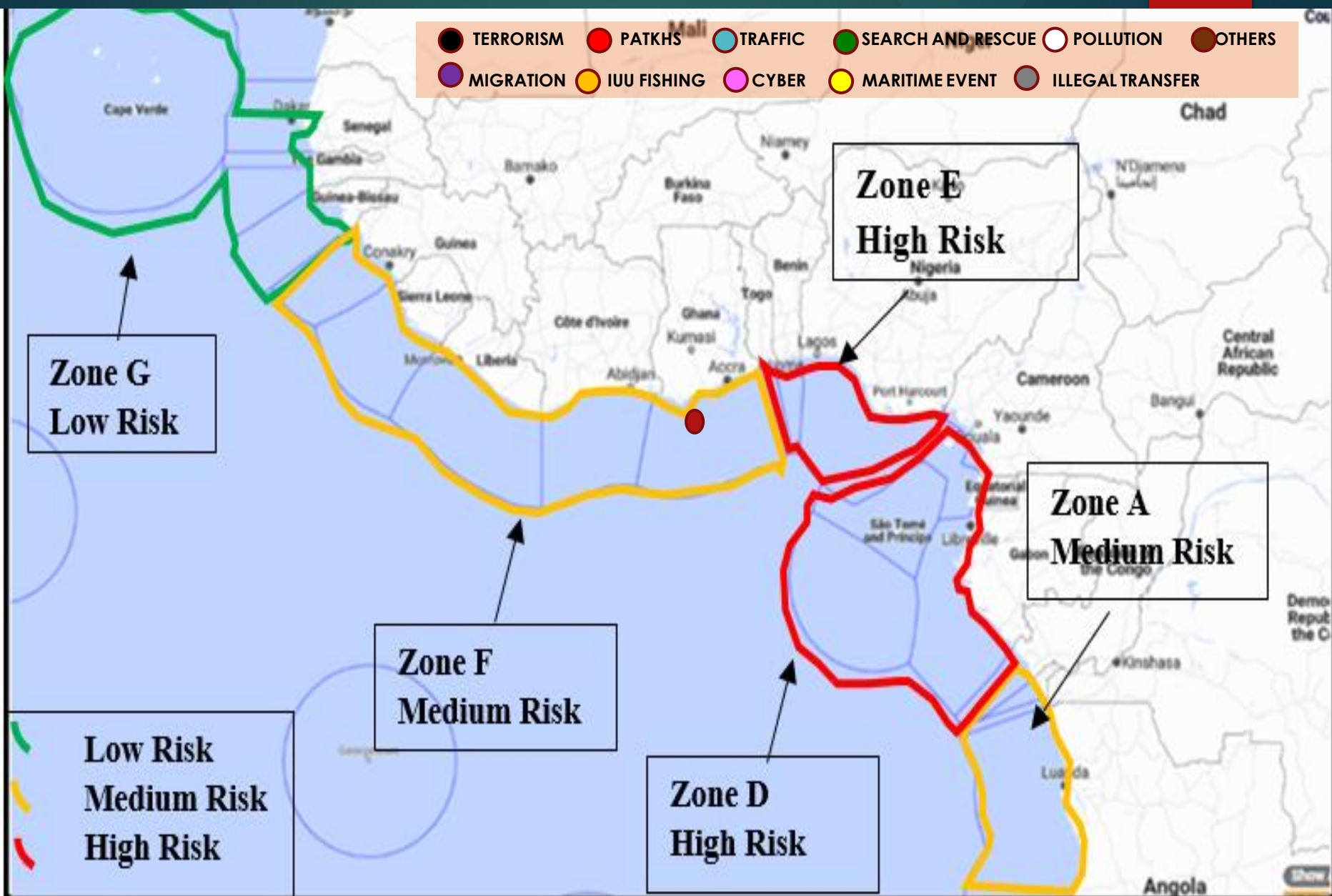
- The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F and the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) remained safe and secure during the week under review.
- Maritime Zone F recorded an alleged theft incident.
- See details of incidents for more information.

INCIDENT RECORD

Category	Type of Incidents	No of Incident in Zones				
		A	D	E	F	G
TERRORISM	TERRORISM					
PIRACY/ ARMED ROBBERY	HIJACKING					
	KIDNAPPING					
	ARMED ROBBERY					
	FIRING UPON					
	ROBBERY/ATTEMPT ROBBERY					
	ATTEMPT BOARDING					
	BOARDING					
	ALLEGED THEFT				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 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

- TERRORISM
- PATKHS
- TRAFFIC
- SEARCH AND RESCUE
- POLLUTION
- OTHERS
- MIGRATION
- IUU FISHING
- CYBER
- MARITIME EVENT
- ILLEGAL TRANSFER



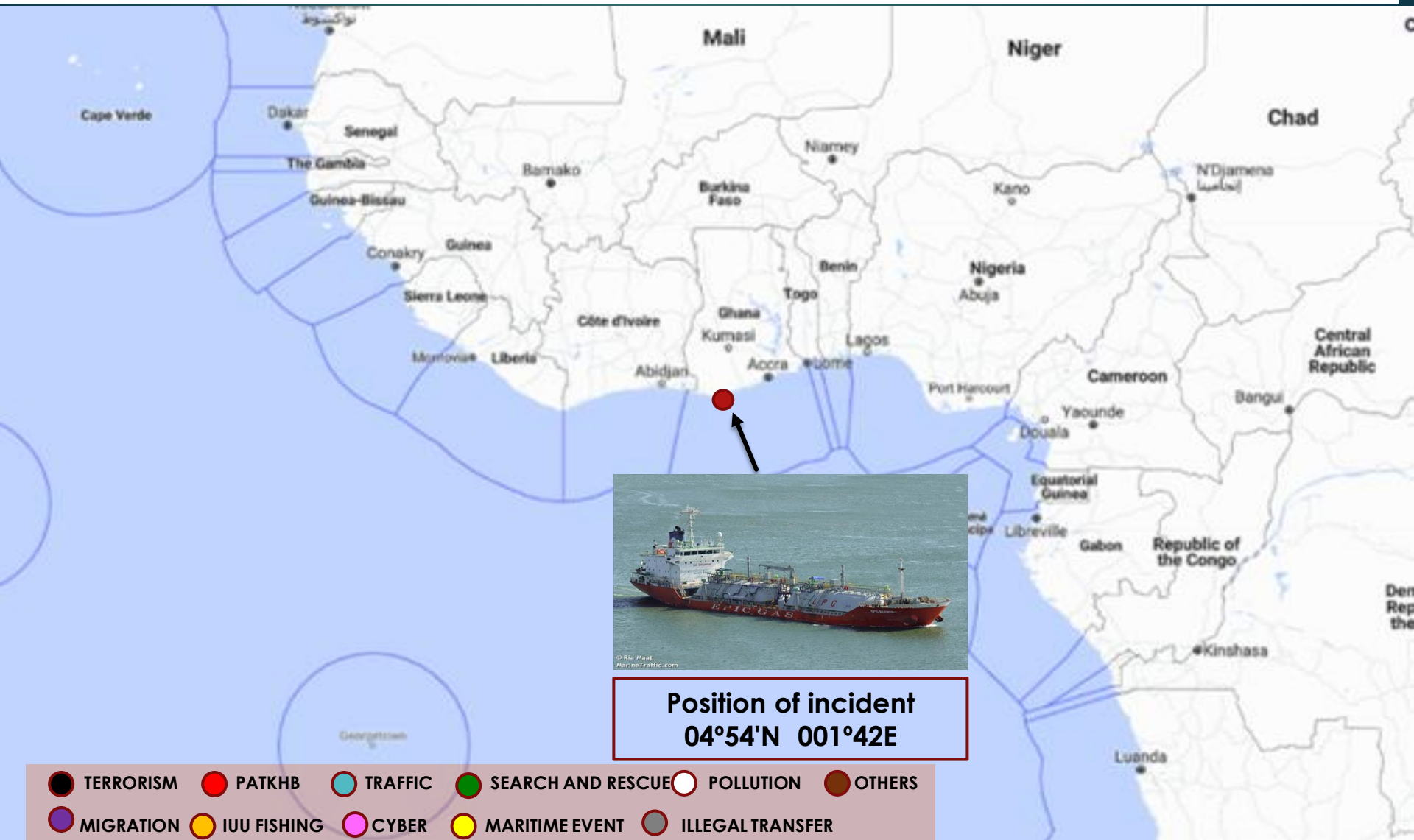
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Alleged Theft – Takoradi Anchorage

The Malta flag LPG tanker EPIC BERMUDA reported an alleged boarding at Takoradi anchorage, Ghana. The incident took place at position 04°54'N 001°42'W at 0015 UTC on 30 April 2020. Six (6) perpetrators in a small canoe approached the vessel while it was anchored and attempted to board. The Officer on Watch sighted the perpetrators and raised an alarm which led to the canoe breaking off from the vessel. It is alleged that ship stores were stolen. The situation is currently being investigated by authorities to ascertain the facts. The MMCC Zone F shall provide facts and updates on the situation in due course.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

Theft – Takoradi,



GENERAL COMMENTS

The alleged theft incidents in the Takoradi anchorage is an indication that perpetrators are determined and willing to exploit security gaps to perpetuate crime. The month of April has seen 2 theft incidents at the Takoradi anchorage. It is recommended that port authorities and law enforcement agencies develop strategies to police anchorages to ensure safety and security at sea.

It is also important that perpetrators are arrested and properly dealt with to deter prospecting criminals from committing crime.

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.

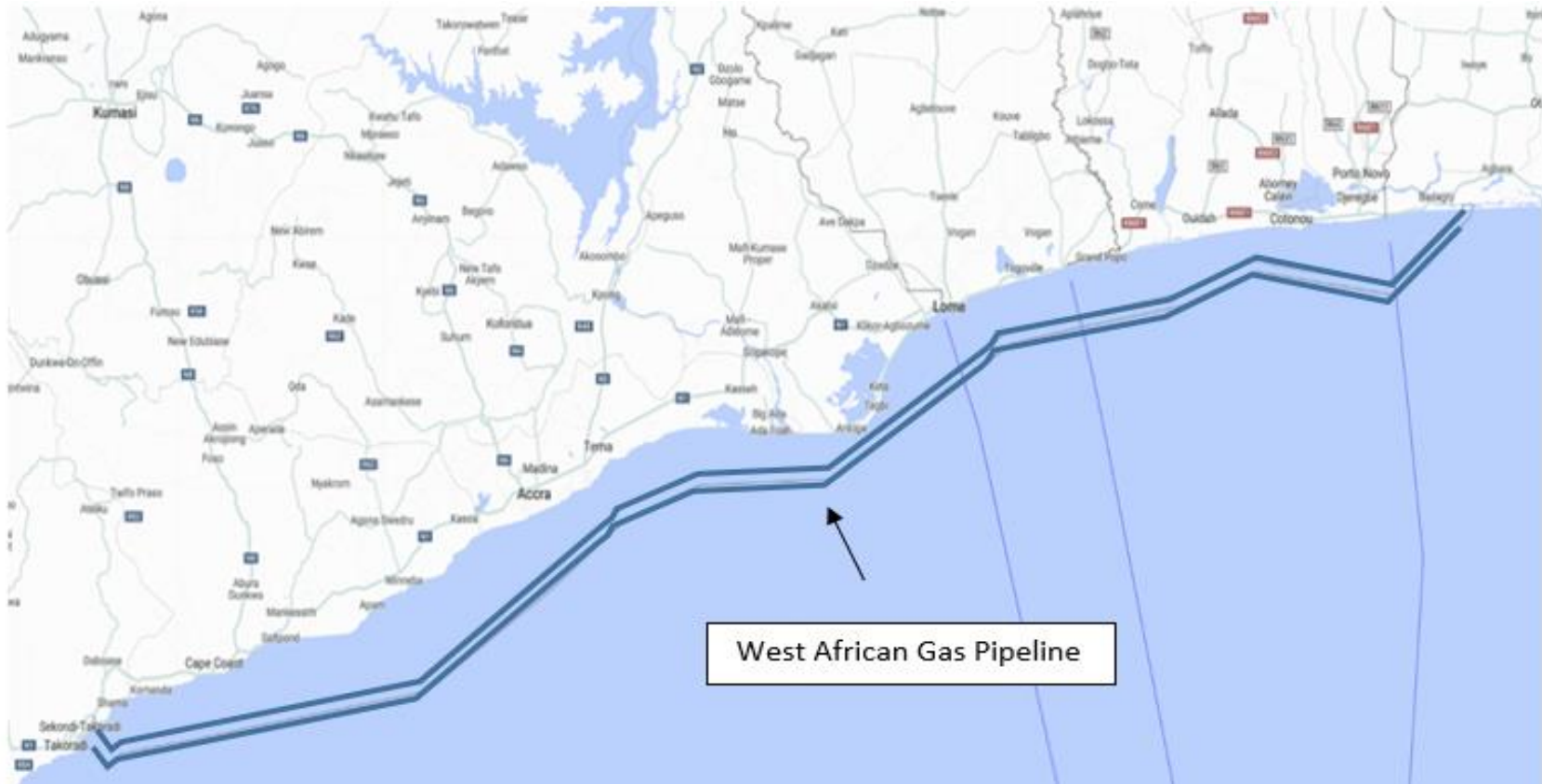
Mariners are cautioned to be on the alert at all times and report any suspicious activity to MMCC Zone F for immediate assistance.

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.

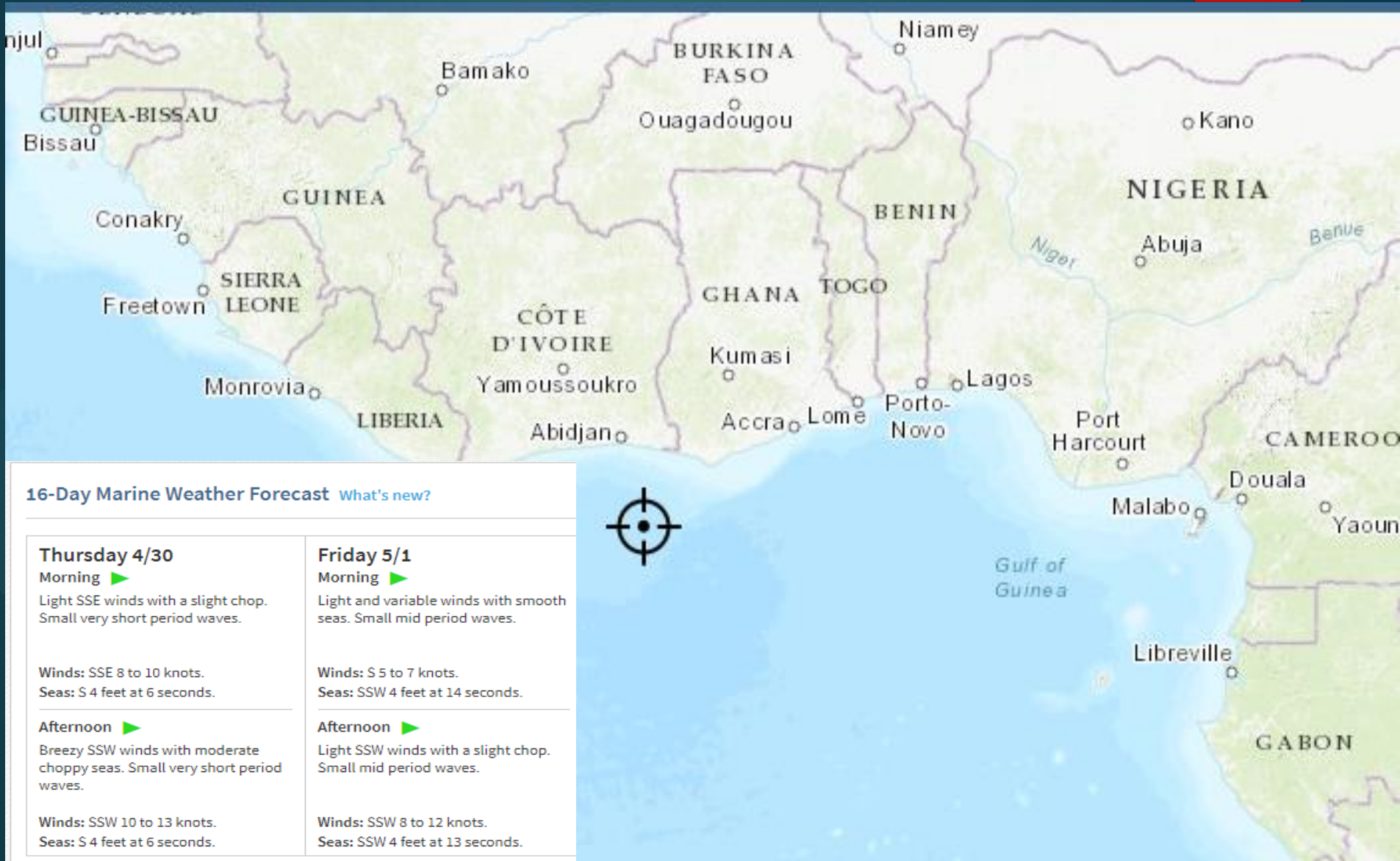
West African Gas Pipeline. The West African Gas pipeline extends from Takoradi in Ghana to Nigeria. The pipeline since its installation has experienced periodic breakages due to fishing and anchoring activities on the pipeline. The position of the pipeline is shown on maritime charts. All vessels transiting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



MARITIME INFORMATION OF INTEREST

- Gulf of Guinea crews more valuable to pirates than unsold oil.
Source: <https://www.theafricareport.com>
- Italian Navy deploys frigate to GoG while French Navy suspends patrol.
Source: <https://www.navalnews.com>

METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST



Source: buoyweather.com

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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.