



MMCC ZONE F WEEKLY REPORT

MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY

15 MAY - 21 MAY 2020

OVERVIEW

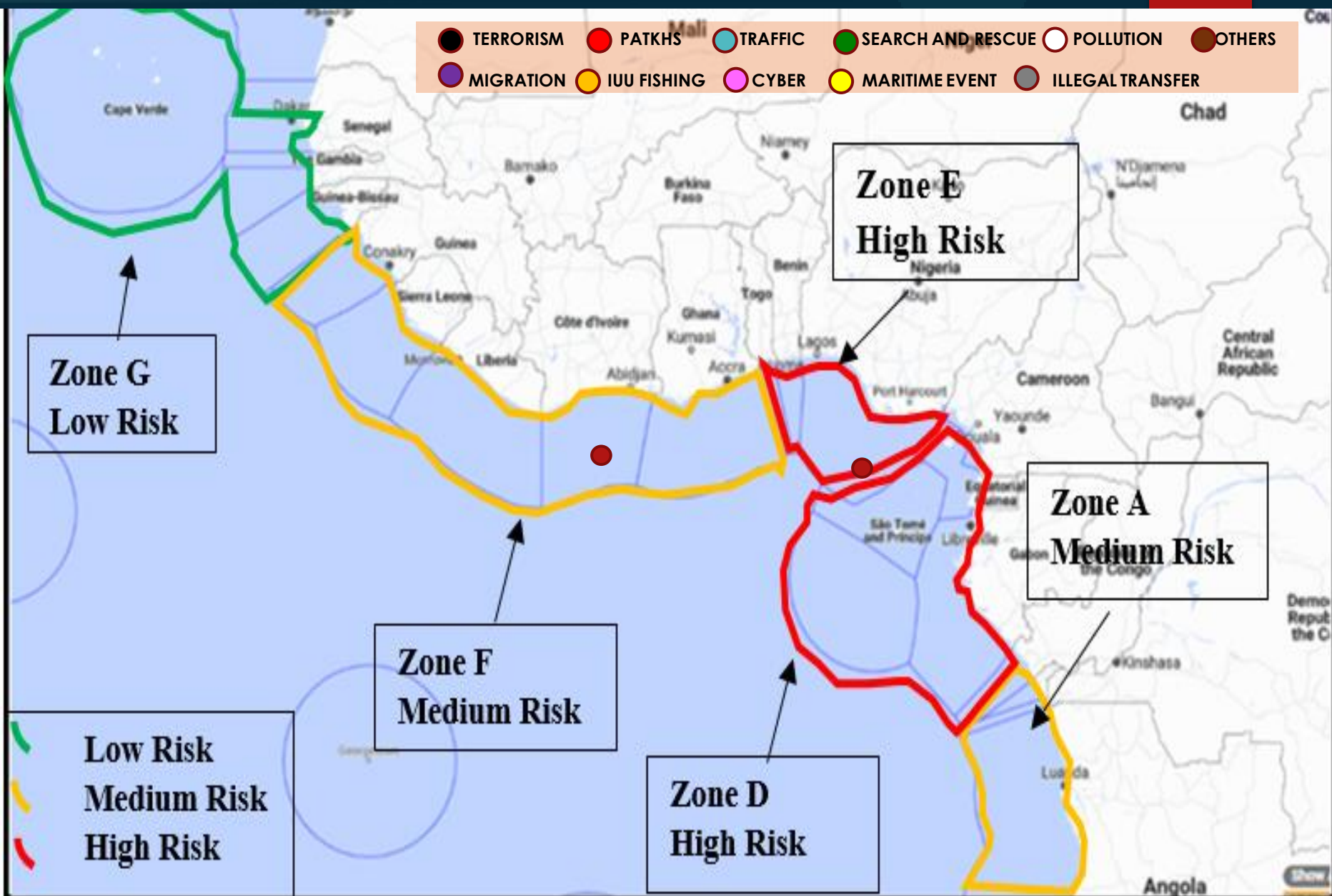
- The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F and the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) remained safe and secure during the week under review.
- The Chinese flag fishing trawler HAI LU FENG 11 was hijacked on Ivorian waters on 15 May 2020.
- Maritime Zone E recorded theft and kidnap incidents.
- Eight (8) crew kidnapped from TOMMI RITSCHER 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				1	
	KIDNAPPING			1		
	ARMED ROBBERY					
	FIRING UPON					
	ROBBERY/ATTEMPT ROBBERY					
	ATTEMPT BOARDING					
	BOARDING					
	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					

RISK DISPOSITION

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



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Hijacking - HAI LU FENG 11

On 15 May 2020 the Chinese flag fishing trawler HAI LU FENG 11 (MMSI:627194000) was hijacked. The vessel which conducts fishing in Ivorian waters was spotted approximately 134NM S of Cotonou, Benin at 0600 UTC. On 16 May 2020, the vessel was spotted at about 134NM South of Lagos, Nigerian. The Nigeria Navy were informed and Nigerian Navy boat NGURU deployed to intercept the fishing vessel. The HAILUFENG 11 was intercepted at about 140nm South of Lagos fairway buoy. After attempts to get the vessel to comply failed, HAILUFENG 11 was boarded and the boarding team took control of the vessel. Ten (10) pirates were apprehended and eighteen (18) crew consisting of 8 Chinese, 3 Ivoirians and 7 Ghanaians were rescued. The HAILUFENG 11 was escorted to Lagos Harbour with the Nigerian Navy Special Boat Service Team onboard. The crew were all in good health, no casualty and no injury was sustained.

Following the successful rescue of the hijacked vessel, the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) have indicated the perpetrators will be prosecuted under the new piracy law.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

Hijacking - HAI LU FENG 11



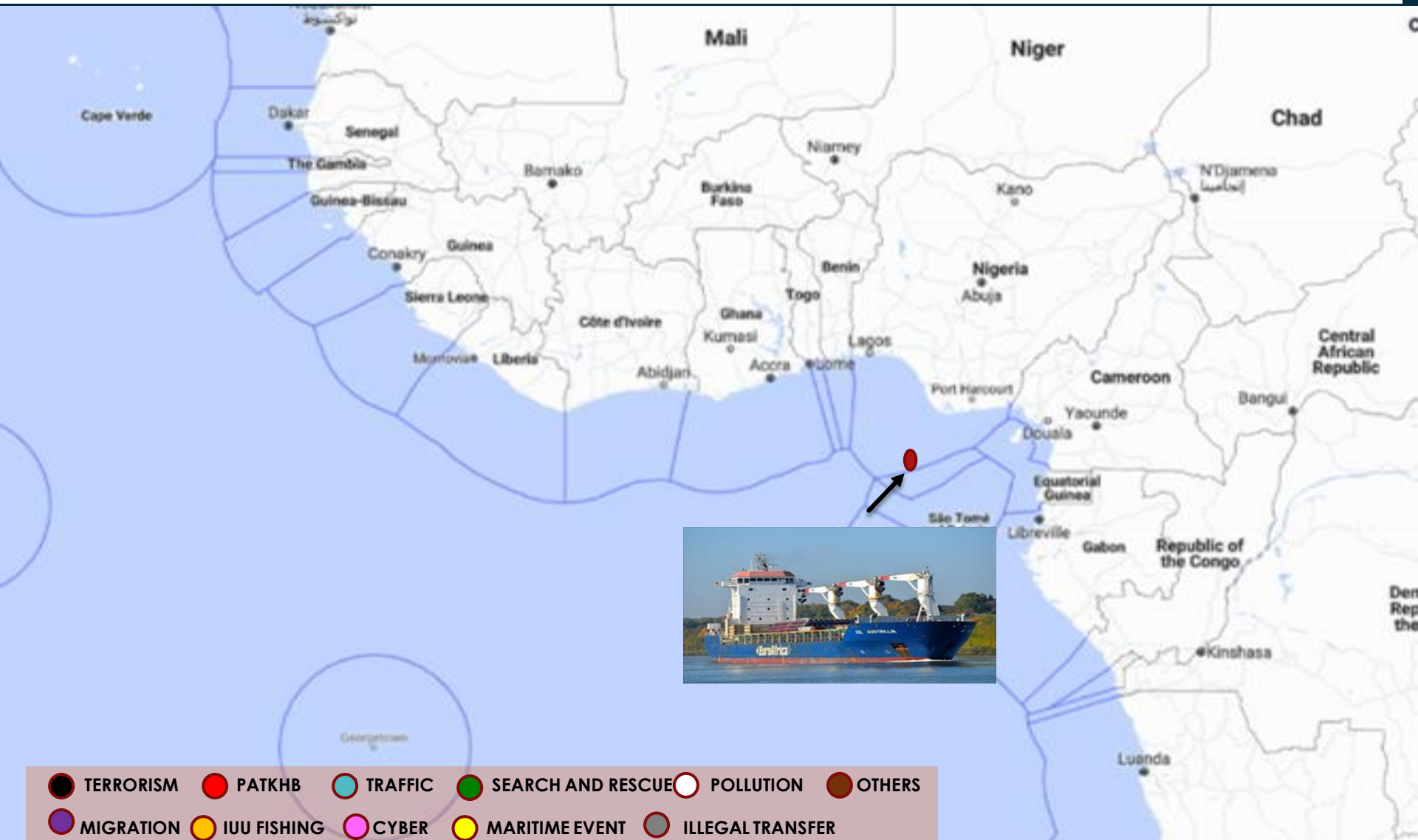
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Theft – ESL AUSTRALIA

- The Cyprus flag general cargo ship ESL AUSTRALIA (IMO: 9365661) which was en route from Takoradi to Douala was boarded at about 137NM SW of Brass, Nigeria at about 1600 UTC on 20 May 2020. The incident took place at position 02°15'N 005°09'E. All crew were mustered in the citadel during the incident. The Nigerian Navy were informed and the Nigeria Navy patrol boat DONNY was sent to the location to render assistance. The Nigerian Navy arrived at the scene, and discovered the perpetrators had left the vessel taking the ships' stores. The vessel and crew are all safe.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

Theft – ESL AUSTRALIA



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Theft – PREYOR 1

On 20 May 2020 around 1640 LT the tanker PREYOR 1 conveying Automotive Gas Oil (AGO) from Lagos State to Calabar was attacked by pirates offshore Opobo River. The pirates boarded the vessel and kidnapped three crew (Captain, Chief Engineer and Cook/ Nigerian). The report indicates that tanker sailed to Uta-Ewa in Ikot Abasi LGA of Akwa Ibom by local pilot for safety. The Nigerian authority has been informed, the NNS JUBILEE has been deployed to support the vessel.

DETAILS OF INCIDENT



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Update – TOMMI RITSCHER

- Recall on 18 April 2020 at about 2245 UTC the Portuguese flag container ship TOMMI RITCHER(IMO:9656137) was boarded at Cotonou Anchorage and 8 crew were kidnapped by unknown perpetrators.
- Updates on the incident indicates the 8 crew consisting of (Russian, Bulgarian, Ukrainian and Filipino) who were in captivity for 33 days have been released. The crew went on medical checks and they are all safe and health.

GENERAL COMMENTS

The attack on board the vessel is an indication that criminals will cease every opportunity to perpetuate crime. The actions by the Nigeria Navy in the fight against piracy in their waters is encouraging.

It is therefore important that maritime law enforcement authorities and shipping companies continue to develop strategies to deal with crime at sea.

Vessels calling at ports or transiting are also encouraged to improve ship borne security measures and report any suspicious activities to local Port authorities to enable quick response.

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

- Nigeria to prosecute pirates under new anti piracy law NIMASA.
Source: <https://www.sunnewsonline.com>

- Iran says will respond to any trouble to its oil tankers.
Source: <https://www.tehrantimes.com>

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METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

Niamey

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

Thursday 5/21

Morning ▶

Breezy SW winds with moderate choppy seas. Small very short period waves.

Winds: SW 13 to 18 knots.
Seas: SSW 3 feet at 6 seconds.

Afternoon ▶

Light SSE winds with a slight chop. Small very short period waves.

Winds: SSE 9 to 13 knots.
Seas: S 3 feet at 6 seconds.

Friday 5/22

Morning ▶

Light SW winds with a slight chop. Small very short period waves.

Winds: SW 9 to 13 knots.
Seas: SSW 3 feet at 4 seconds.

Afternoon ▶

Breezy SSW winds with moderate choppy seas. Small very short period waves.

Winds: SSW 14 to 19 knots.
Seas: SSW 3 feet at 4 seconds.

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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.