



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION  
CENTRE  
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY  
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT

29 MAY – 4 JUNE 2020

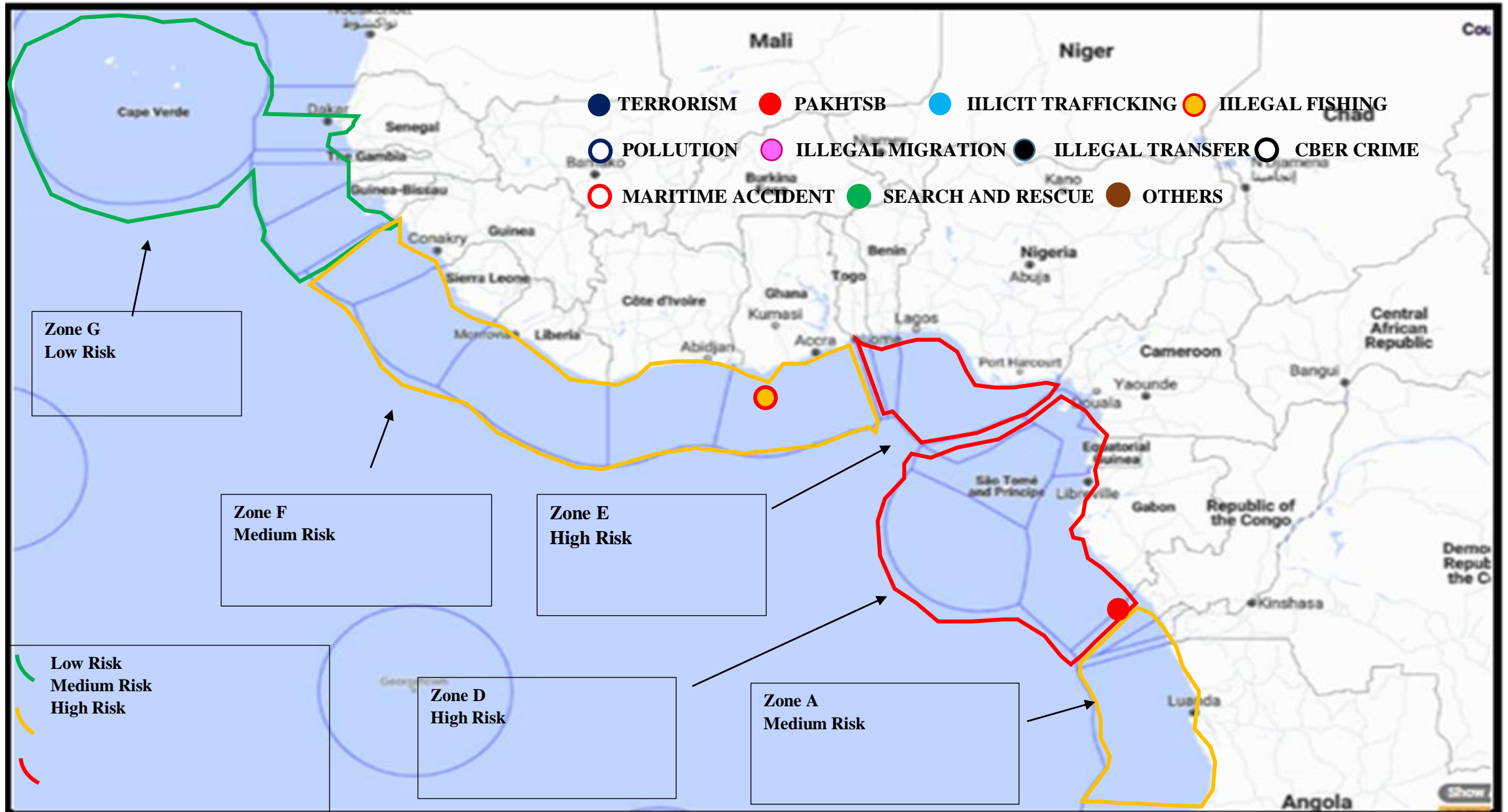
# OVERVIEW

- 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.
- Fishing vessel arrested for second time for netting juvenile fish and using prohibited undersized mesh in Ghanaian waters
- Maritime Zone A recorded a Suspicious Approach incident.
- 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/KIDNAPPING/HIJACKING/FIRING UPON/THEFT/SUSPICIOUS APPROACH/BOARDING (PAKHFTSB)</b>	Hijacking					
	Kidnapping					
	Armed Robbery					
	Firing Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding					
	Boarding					
	Theft					
	Suspicious Approach	1				
<b>ILLCIT TRAFIC</b>	Human					
	Drug					
	Weapons/Ammunitions					
	Smuggling					
<b>I.U.U FISHING</b>	Industrial Fishing				1	
	Craft Fishing					
<b>POLLUTION</b>						
<b>ILLCIT MIGRATION</b>	Organized Migration					
	Stowaways					
<b>ILLEGAL TRANSFER</b>	Illegal Bunkering					
	Oil Robbery					
<b>CYBER CRIMINALITY</b>						
<b>MARITIME ACCIDENT</b>	Shipwreck					
	Collision					
	Sinking					
	Damage					
<b>SEARCH AND RESCUE</b>	Men Overboard					
	Assistance And Towing					
	Sanitary Evacuation					
<b>OTHERS</b>						

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION

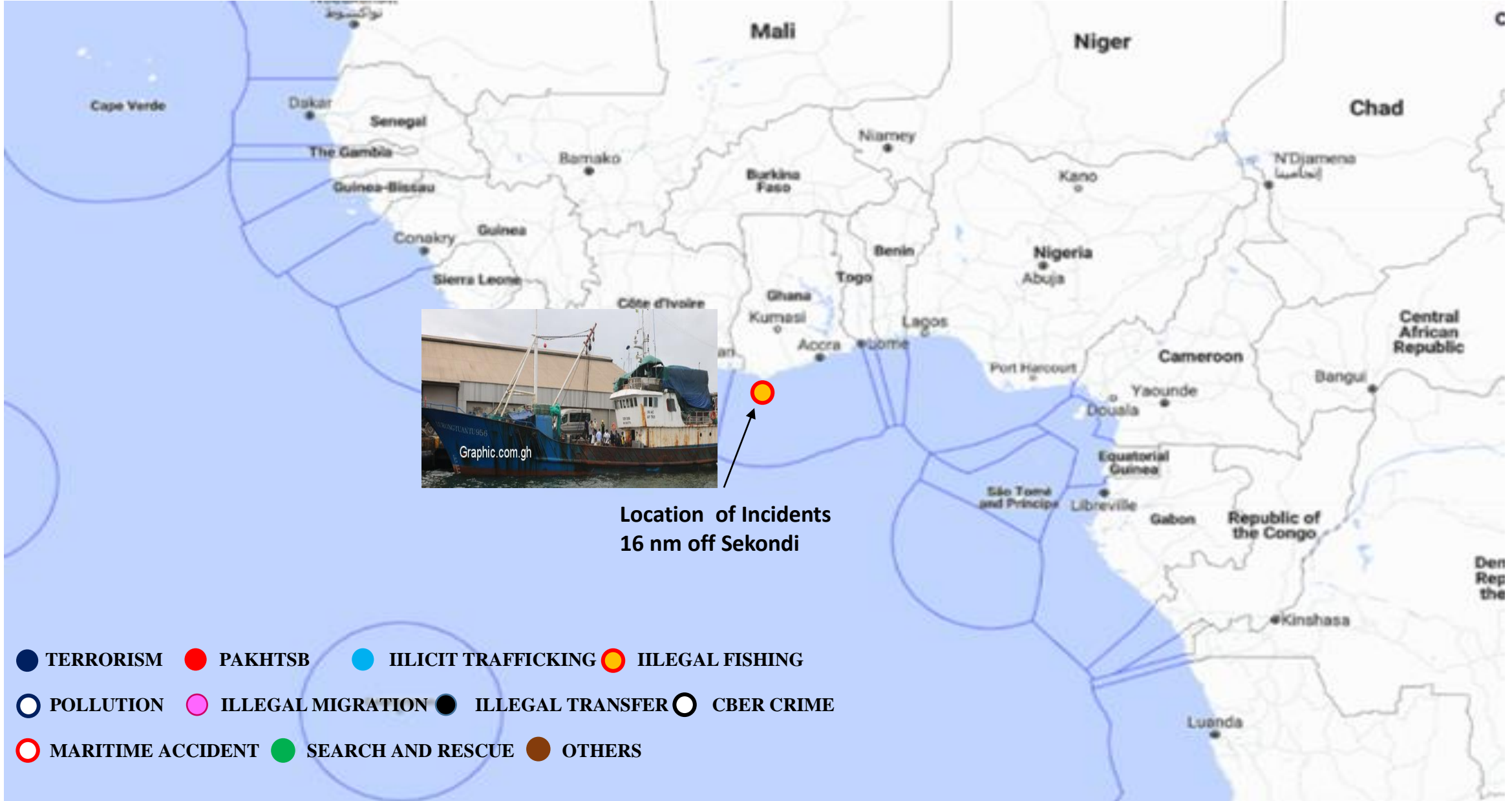


# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Illegal Fishing Vessel – Ghana**

- The Marine Police in Takoradi on Saturday 30 May 2020 arrested a Ghanaian flagged vessel fishing vessel LU RONG YUAN YU 95 for the second time for netting juvenile fish and using prohibited undersized mesh.
- The vessel was arrested at about 16 nautical norths in Sekondi and brought into the Takoradi Port.
- The Director of the Marine Police indicated that the same vessel was arrested last year, taken to court and slapped with a one million dollar fine.
- The vessel opted for out of court arbitration and failed to pay the fine while the executives never attended court except their lawyers.
- The Marine Police have indicated that this time the vessel will be taken to court for the appropriate sanctions.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION

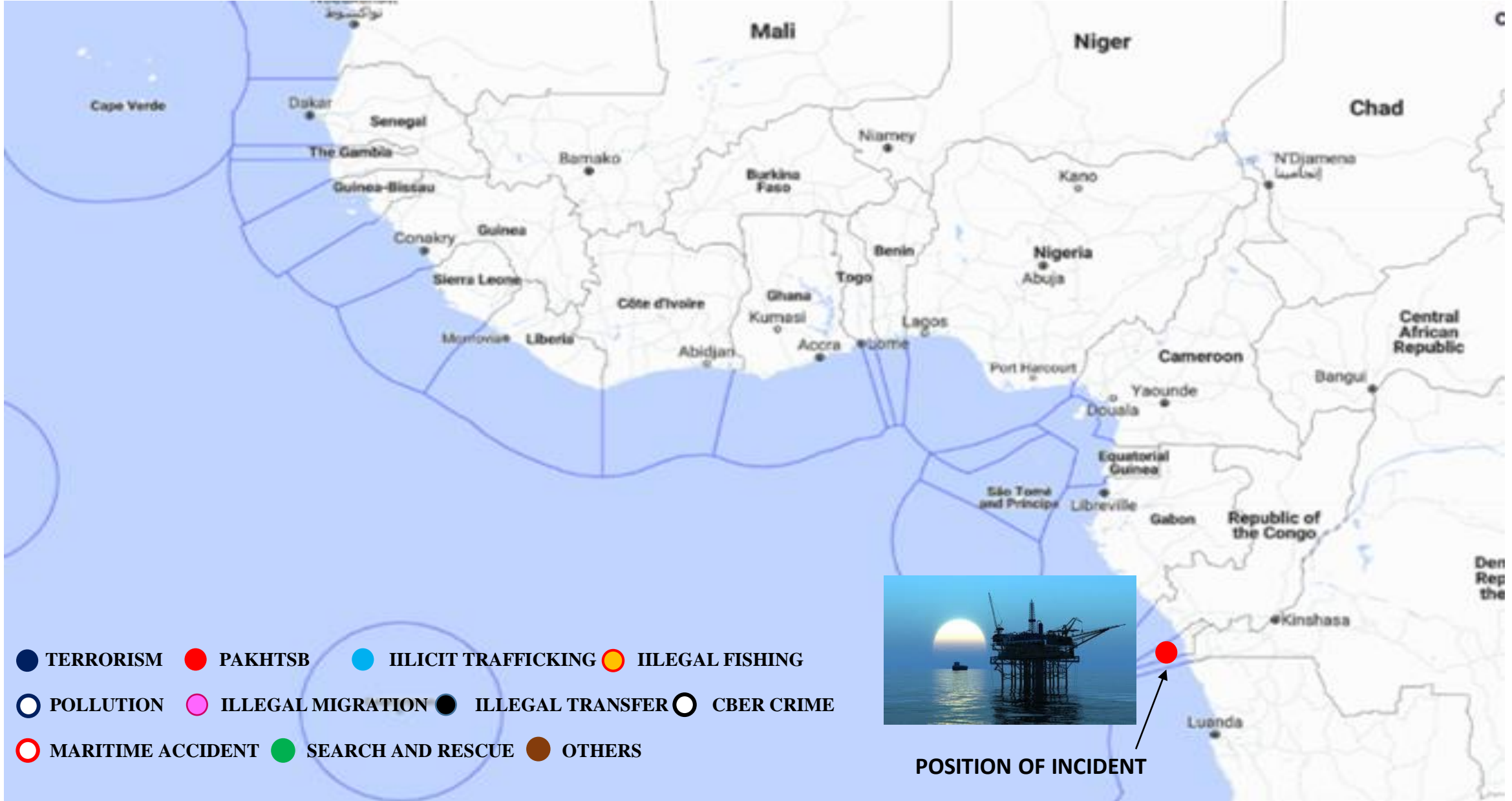


# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Suspicious Approach – Congo**

- An unidentified offshore platform reported an approach by a speedboat with armed men 27 NM off the Republic of Congo, near the maritime border with Gabon, at 2250 UTC on 29 May 2020. Crew members on the platform reportedly observed a large red and green speedboat with 10 armed people on board. The crew then retreated into the engine room and reported the incident. The authorities responded. A security team arrived at the scene but the reported speedboat had left. Nothing was stolen and it is assessed that no boarding took place.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION





# GENERAL COMMENTS

- The quick response of the security team in providing assistance to the platform is refreshing.
- Though the perpetrators were unsuccessful piracy, armed robbery, hijacking, kidnapping, theft, suspicious approach and boarding continue to linger.
- Security agencies are encouraged to always remain prepared to render assistance to vessels at sea.
- Vessels are also encouraged to report any suspicious movements for quick response.

# FORCAST FOR THE COMING WEEK AND ADVISORIES

## FORECAST

- 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.

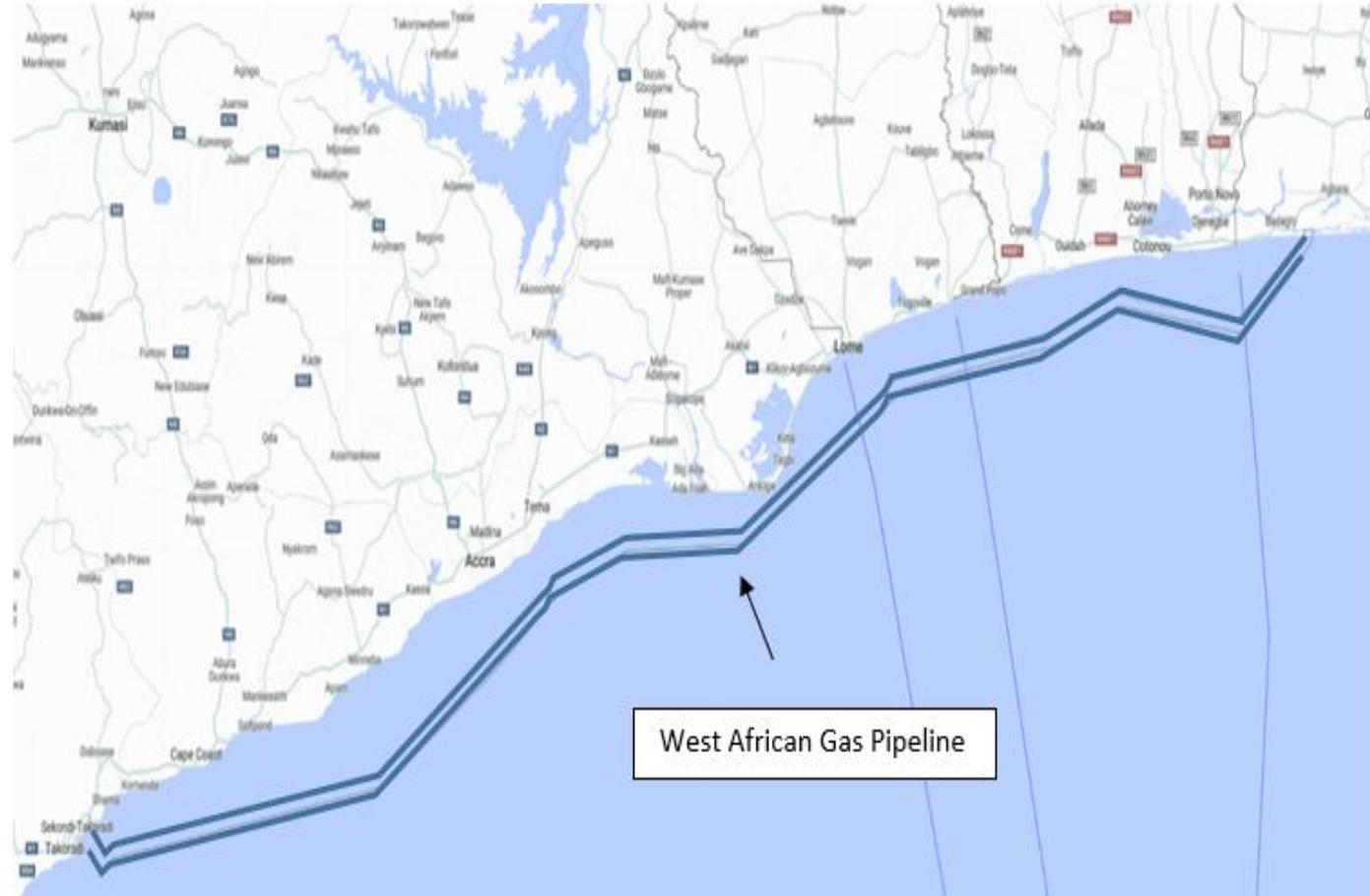
# NOTICES

## 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

- Friends of nation - fishers live hoods collapsing due to lack of political will -GHANA .
  - Source.[www.businessghana.com](http://www.businessghana.com)

# METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

## Thursday 5/28

### Morning ►

Breezy S winds with moderate choppy seas. Small short period waves.

Winds: S 11 to 15 knots.

Seas: S 5 feet at 7 seconds.

### Afternoon ►

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

Winds: SSW 12 to 16 knots.

Seas: S 5 feet at 7 seconds.

## Friday 5/29

### Morning ►

Breezy S winds with moderate choppy seas. Moderate very short period waves.

Winds: S 14 to 19 knots.

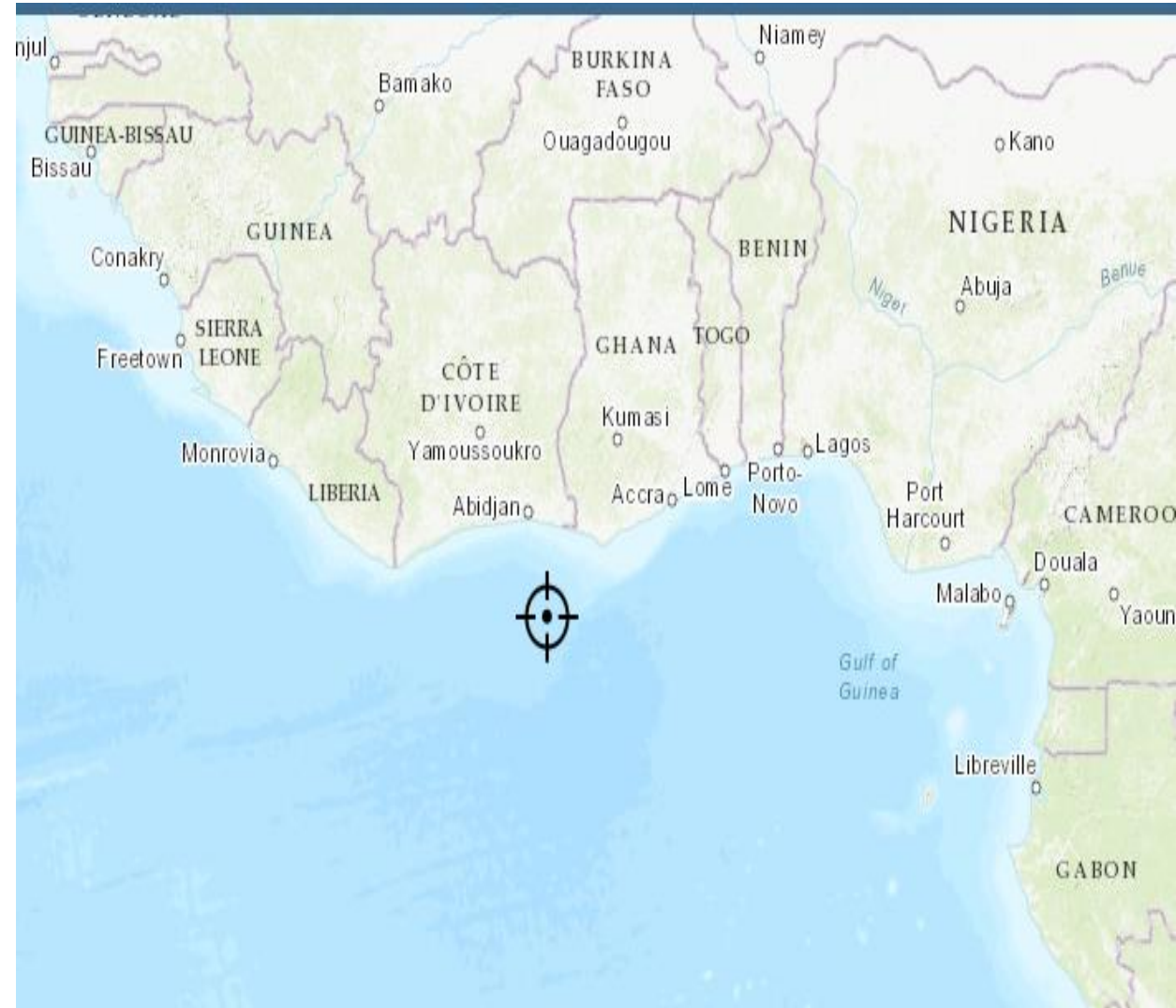
Seas: S 5 feet at 6 seconds.

### Afternoon ►

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

Winds: SSW 7 to 9 knots.

Seas: S 5 feet at 6 seconds.



# CONTACT DETAILS NATIONAL AND ZONAL CENTERS

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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.



# **CONTACT DETAILS MMCC ZONE F**

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