



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION
CENTRE
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT

31 JULY – 06 AUGUST 2020

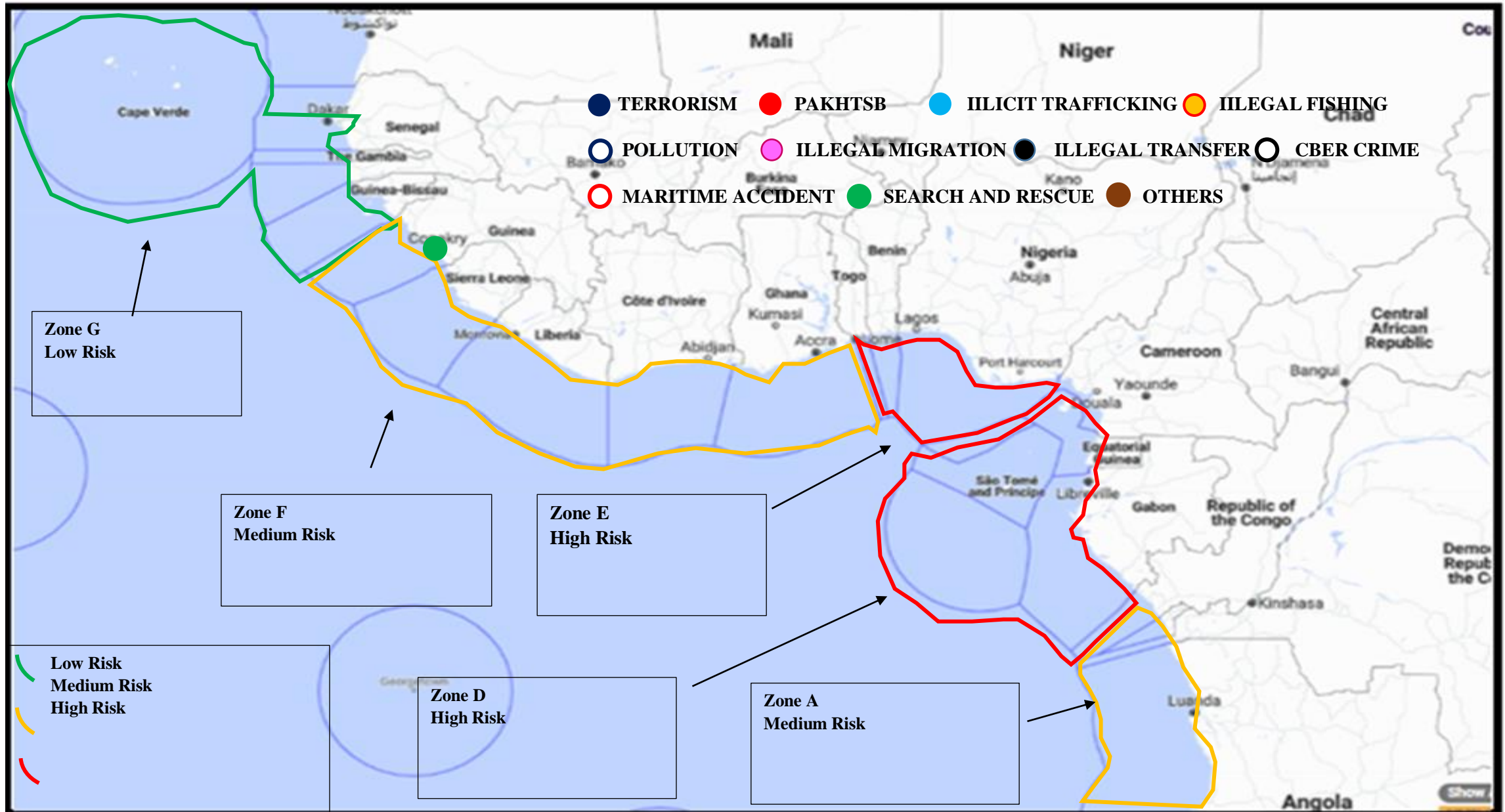
OVERVIEW

- The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F and the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) remained safe and secure during week under review.
- Maritime Zone F recorded a Drug and a sinking incident.
- Maritime Zone E recorded an Attempted Boarding and Armed Robbery incident.
- Update on crew kidnapped from general cargo vessel KOTA BUDI.
- 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/KIDNAPPING/HIJACKING/FIRING UPON/THEFT/SUSPICIOUS APPROACH/BOARDING (PAKHFTSB)	Suspicious Hijacking					
	Kidnapping					
	Armed Robbery			1		
	Firing Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding			1		
	Boarding					
	Theft					
	Suspicious Approach					
ILLCIT TRAFIC	Human					
	Drug				1	
	Weapons/Ammunitions					
	Smuggling					
I.U.U FISHING	Industrial Fishing					
	Craft Fishing					
POLLUTION						
ILLCIT MIGRATION	Organized Migration					
	Stowaways					
ILLEGAL TRANSFER	Illegal Bunkering					
	Oil Robbery					
CYBER CRIMINALITY						
MARITIME ACCIDENT	Shipwreck					
	Collision					
	Sinking				1	
	Damage					
SEARCH AND RESCUE	Men Overboard					
	Assistance And Towing					
	Sanitary Evacuation					
OTHERS						

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

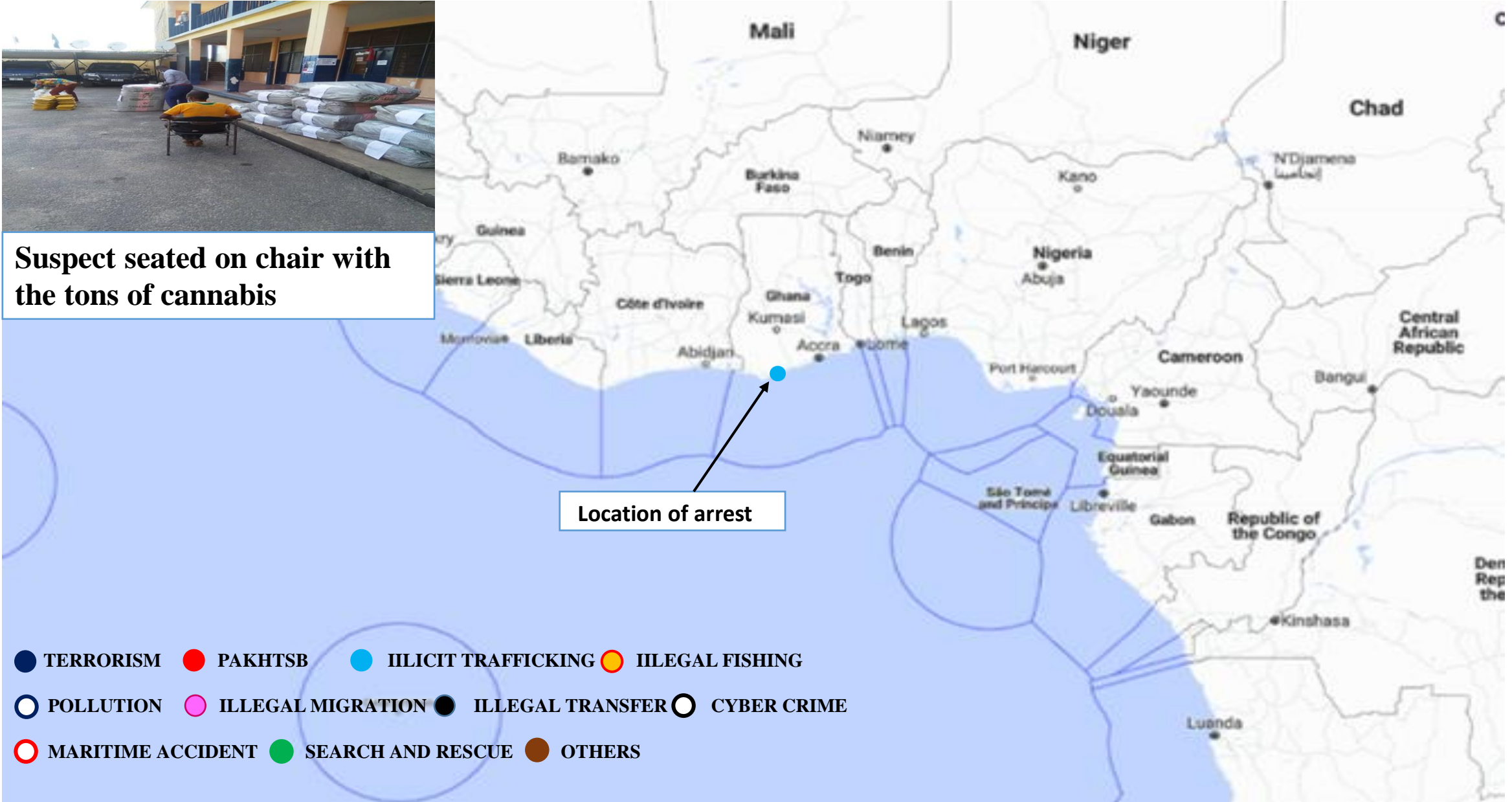
Seizure of a ton of herbal cannabis destined for Côte d'Ivoire. Ghana

- On 28 July 2020 at 2330 hours, the Saltpond District Police acting on a tip off went to ABANDZE, a fishing community in the Central Region of Ghana. According to the Police they spotted suspect Kojo Aikins at Abandze beach having loaded thirteen (13) big sacks of quantities of compressed brown slabs of narcotic drugs(cannabis) in a canoe about to be transported via sea to Cote D'IVOIRE. The Suspect has been arrested together with the exhibits. The police have launched investigations into the case.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



Suspect seated on chair with the tons of cannabis

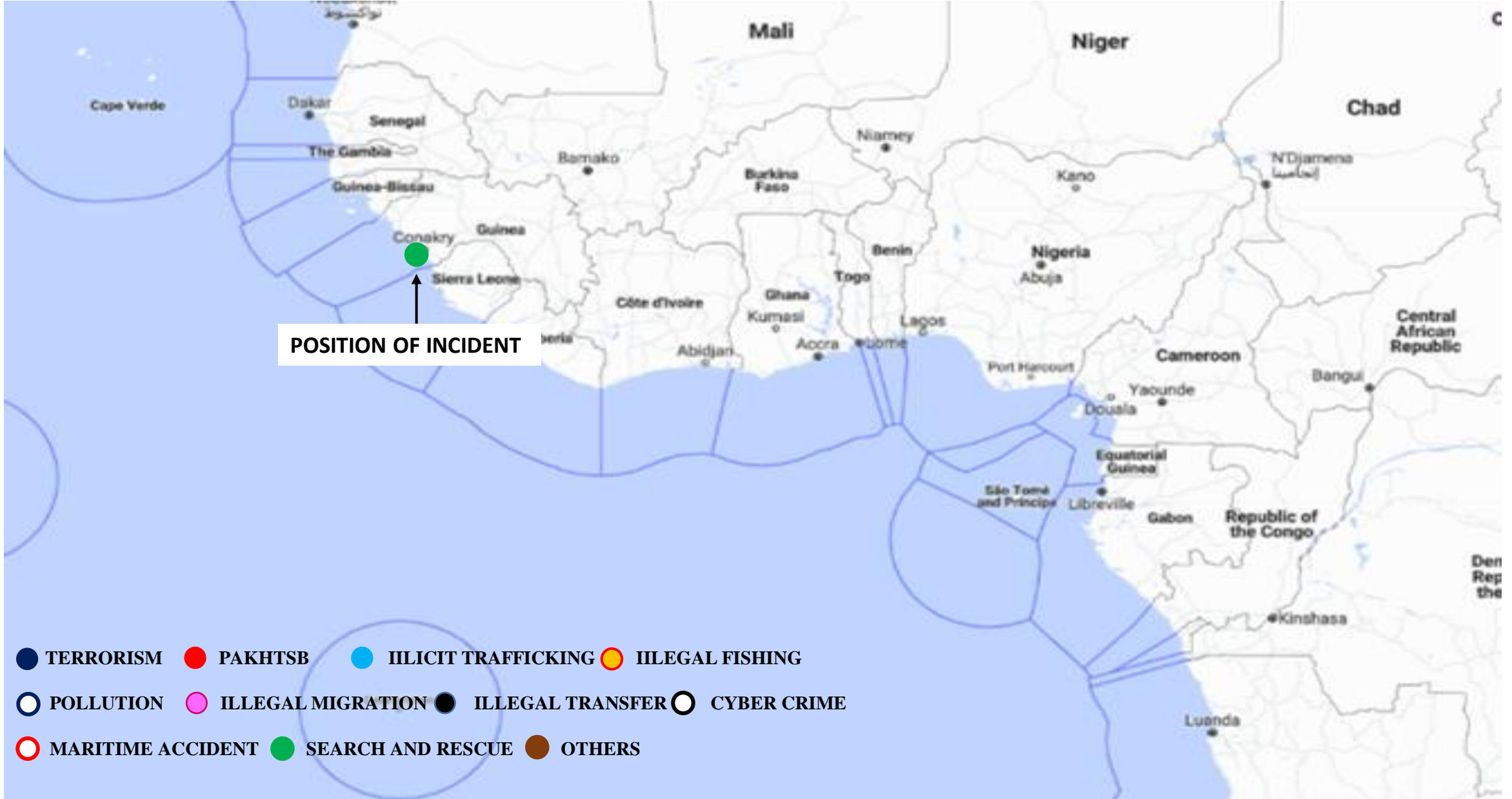


DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Sank fishing vessel– Conakry harbour, Guinea

- Information received from Conakry, guinea indicate fishing vessel RUI TAI FENG 801 sunk on 03 August 2020 at Conakry harbour following bad weather. The vessel allegedly sunk during the period due to strong wind and large waves at the harbour. Preliminary investigations indicate leakage of water into the vessel causing it to sink. The Guinean Maritime Authorities rescued all 13 crew onboard the vessel. Further investigations are under way to determine the details of the leakage.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Update - KIDNAPPING – KOTA BUDI Cotonou, Benin.

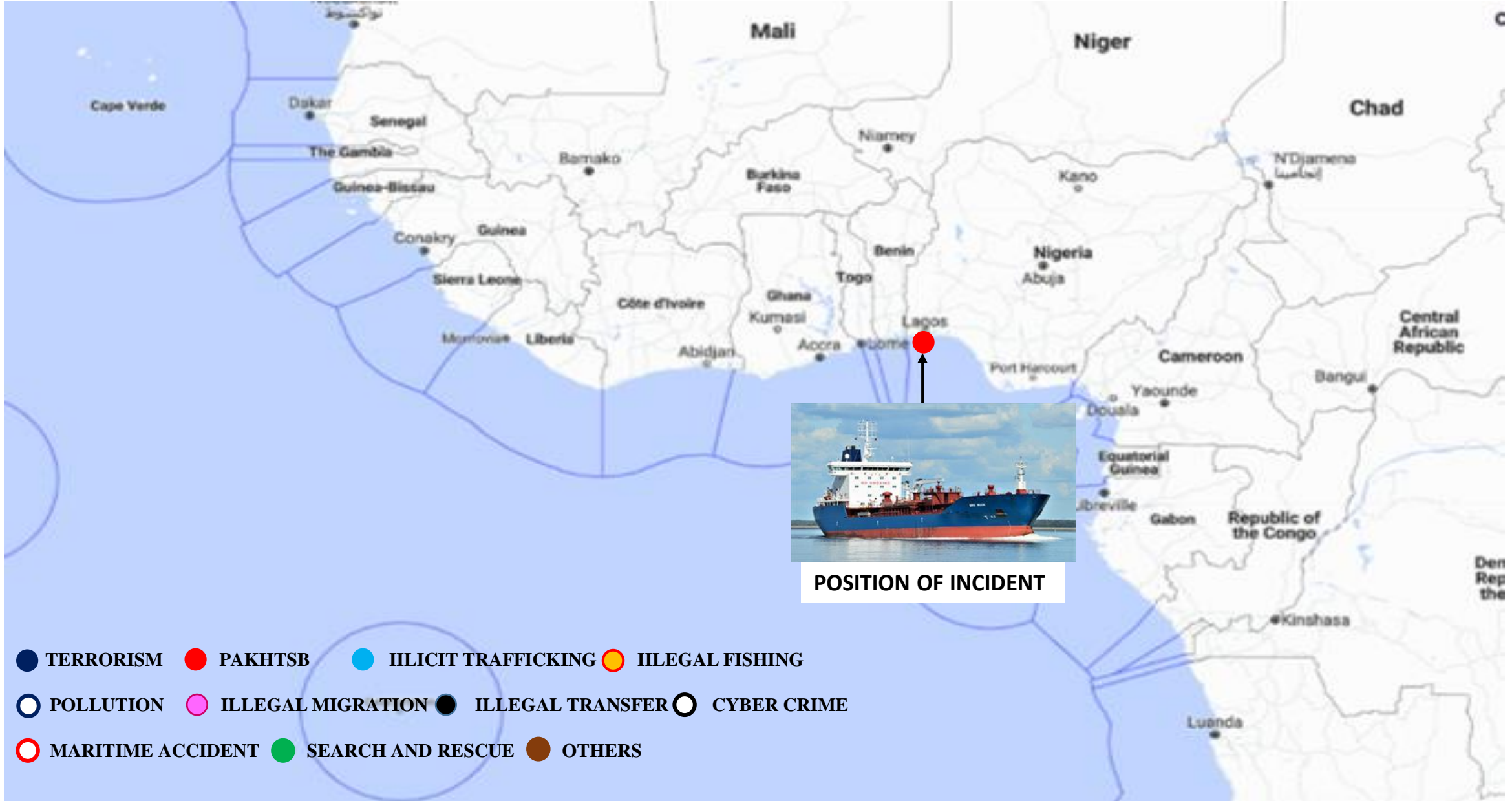
- Recall On 02 July 2020 at 2220 UTC , a Singapore flag general cargo vessel KOTA BUDI whose 5 Chinese crew members abducted were released on either 31 July or on the 01 August 2020 .
- The crew are in good health and safe.

DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Attempted boarding – Apapa New Oil Jetty Nigeria

- on 01 August 2020 at 0200 UTC in position 06°27'N 003°22'E, The Danish flag product tanker BRO NUUK while at berth in Apapa New Oil Jetty, five perpetrators attempted to board the vessel from the seaward side by folding back the barbed wire. The AB on watch detected the perpetrators and raised an alarm. Nigerian navy personnel who were on duty arrived at the scene. The perpetrators fled in a single small boat. The vessel and the crew are all safe.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

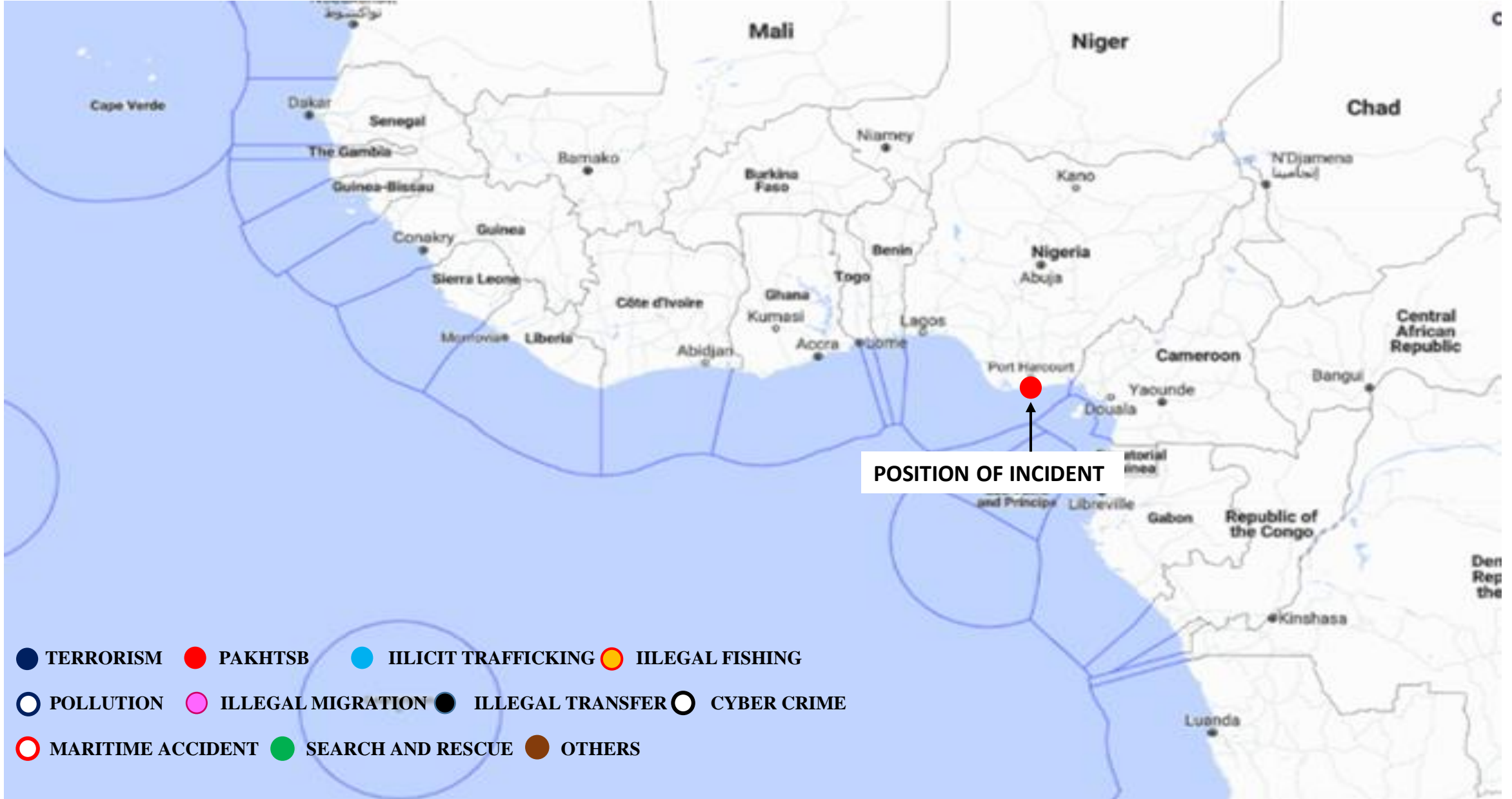


DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Armed Robbery - Rivers state, Nigeria

- On 04 August 2020 at 0800 UTC, a local passenger vessel was boarded while en route between Kula and Port Harcourt in Position 04°26'N 006°50'E at the Rivers state, Nigeria.
- An unknown number of armed men in a speedboat fired several shots at the vessel forcing it to stop. The perpetrators boarded and stole valuable items from the passengers and one passenger got wounded by a gunshot during the incident. The Nigerian authorities were informed and investigation is ongoing. The vessel and the remaining passengers are all safe.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



GENERAL COMMENTS

- This is the second incident involving a fishing vessel getting sunk in Guinean territorial waters. Although all the incidence could be attributed to weather conditions, it appears there maybe issues concerning the sea worthiness of the two vessels. We wish to draw the attention of the various regulatory agencies responsible for fishing vessels safety to intensify inspection and enforcement of safety protocols to help prevent such incidences and their associated environmental impacts.
- 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.

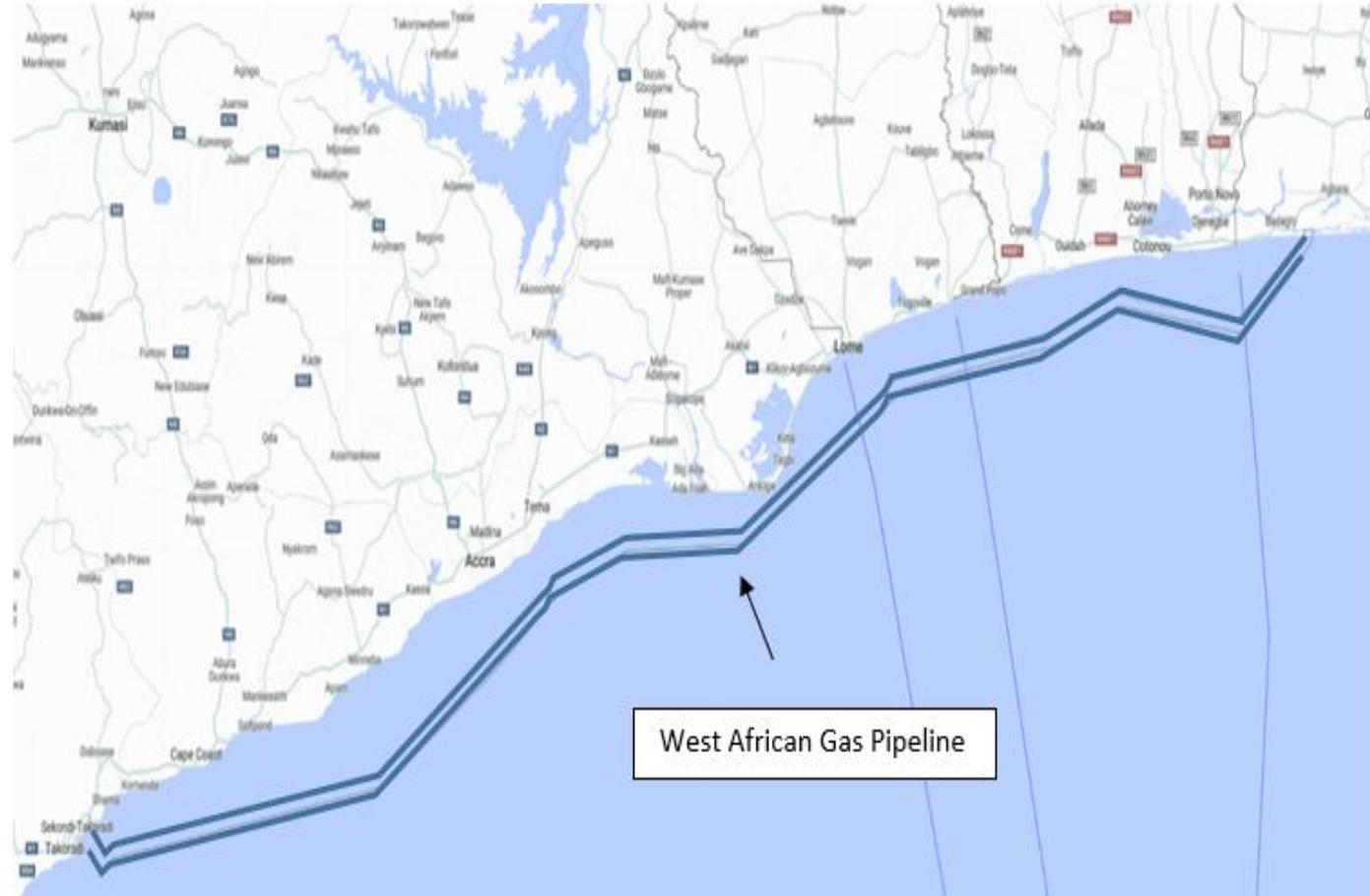
NOTICES

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

- NIGERIA – Nigerian army raid a militant camp in Bayelsa.
- Source. <https://thenationonlineng.net>

METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

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

Thursday 8/6

Morning

Breezy SW winds with moderate choppy seas. Small long period waves.

Winds: SW 12 to 16 knots.

Seas: SSW 4 feet at 15 seconds.

Afternoon

Breezy SW winds with moderate choppy seas. Small long period waves.

Winds: SW 11 to 15 knots.

Seas: SSW 4 feet at 15 seconds.

Friday 8/7

Morning

Light SW winds with a slight chop. Small mid period waves.

Winds: SW 9 to 13 knots.

Seas: SSW 5 feet at 14 seconds.

Afternoon

Light SW winds with a slight chop. Small mid period waves.

Winds: SW 6 to 9 knots.

Seas: SSW 5 feet at 14 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.



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