



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION
CENTRE
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT

21 AUGUST – 27 AUGUST 2020

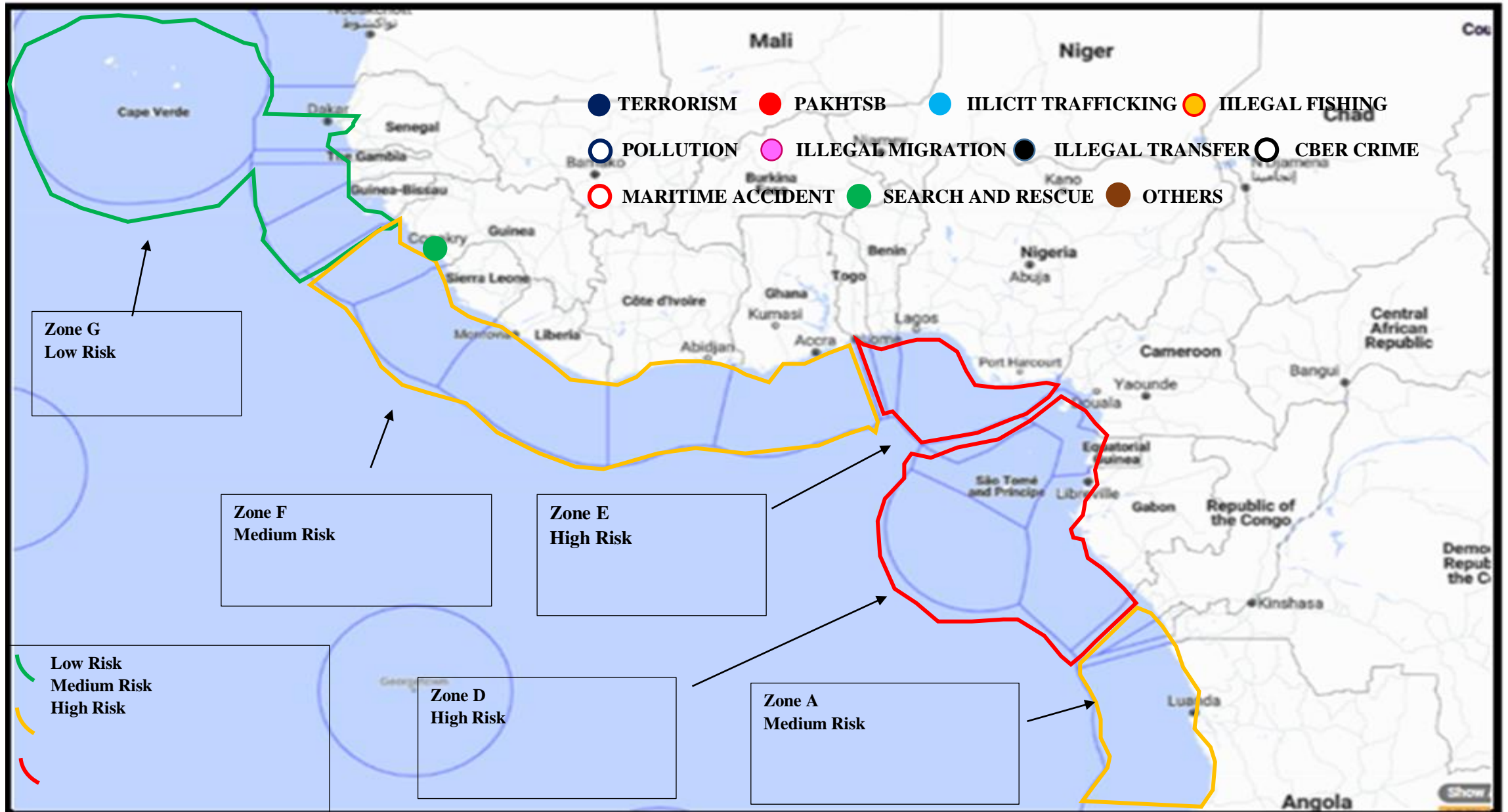
OVERVIEW

- 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.
- Update on 13 crew kidnapped from the Liberia flag tanker CURACAO TRADER.
- Maritime Zone F recorded an armed robbery and 2 Capsized Search And Rescue incident.
- Maritime Zone A recorded a Theft and Attempted 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/KIDNAPPING/HIJACKING/FIRING UPON/THEFT/SUSPICIOUS APPROACH/BOARDING (PAKHFTSB)	Suspicious Hijacking					
	Kidnapping					
	Armed Robbery				1	
	Firing Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Theft	1				
	Boarding					
	Theft	1				
ILLCIT TRAFIC	Suspicious Approach					
	Human					
	Drug					
	Weapons/Ammunitions					
I.U.U FISHING	Smuggling					
	Industrial Fishing					
POLLUTION	Craft Fishing					
ILLCIT MIGRATION	Organized Migration					
	Stowaways					
ILLEGAL TRANSFER	Illegal Bunkering					
	Oil Robbery					
CYBER CRIMINALITY						
MARITIME ACCIDENT	Shipwreck					
	Collision					
	Sinking					
	Damage					
SEARCH AND RESCUE	Men Overboard					
	Assistance And Towing					
	Sanitary Evacuation					
	Capsized				2	
OTHERS						

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Update – Kidnapping on CURACAO TRADER – Off Nigeria

Recall on 17th July 2020 at about 0756UTC, The Liberia Flag product tanker CURACAO TRADER (IMO: 9340908) whose 13 crew were kidnapped in 02° 57'N 002° 21'E about 201NM off Nigeria have been released on 18 August 2020.

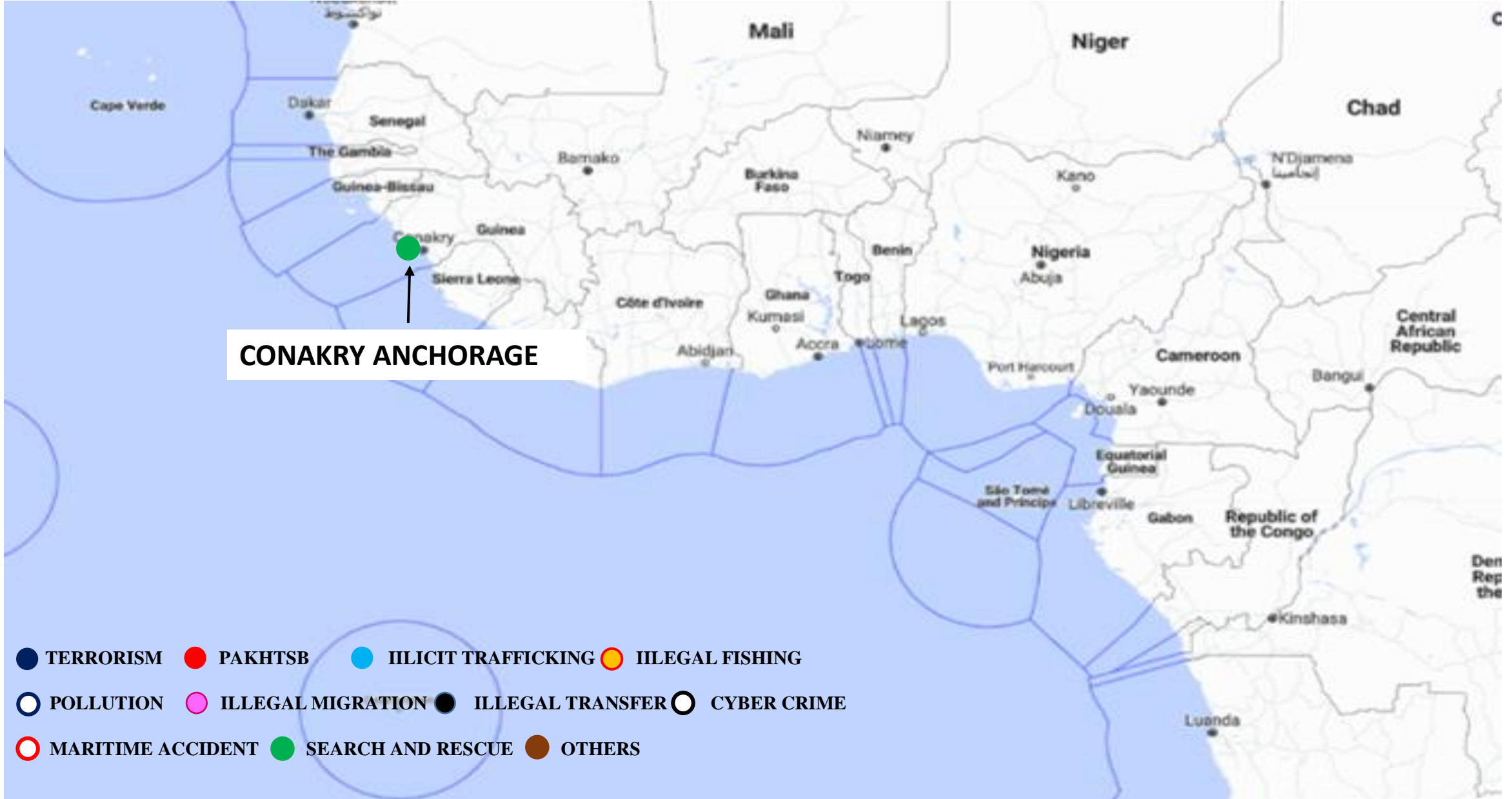
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Capsizing - Transport Boat - Kamsar, Guinea

On 21 August 2020, at 0800 UTC, a transport boat en route from Katcherk Islands about 1.8NM to Kamsar carrying 23 passengers capsized.

The navy and local fishermen coordinated their efforts and recovered 22 people. 13 were alive and taken to hospital for treatment while 9 were dead and 1 missing. The capsizing of the boat was caused by bad weather with strong wind and big waves.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

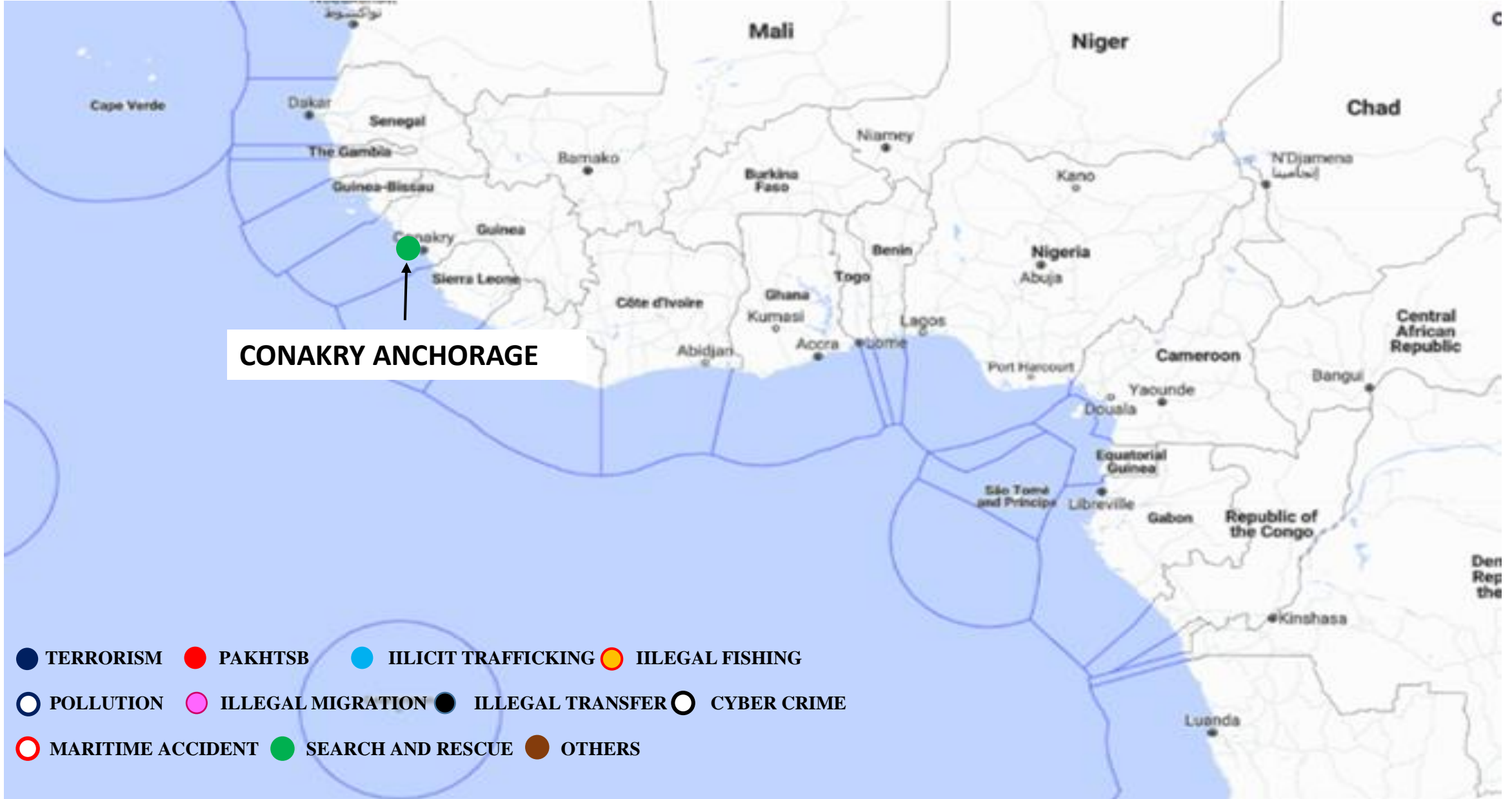


DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Capsizing - Fishing Boat - Conakry Anchorage, Guinea

On 25 August 2020 at 0640 UTC, an alert message was received from a Panama flag cargo vessel GALA TRIO at the Conakry anchorage area informing COM Conakry about a recovered man overboard who needs medical assistance. The COM immediately alerted the patroller of the day who in turn deployed a speedboat to the ship's position. On the way, the speedboat picked up a second person with minor injuries. At 0710 UTC the speedboat arrived at the position of GALA TRIO, recovered the injured and headed for the port of Conakry where medical staff and maritime gendarmerie were already waiting. Investigation conducted indicates that there were three Guinean fishermen onboard a fishing boat when it capsized due to bad weather and strong waves. The third man is reported dead as confirmed by the 2 survivors.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Armed Robbery – Freetown, Sierra Leone

At 0030 UTC, 21 August 2020, a Chinese flag Fishing Vessel SHENGHAI-2(412201825) of SABCO Fishing Company was attacked and boarded by seven (7) armed men with machetes and shotgun whilst at anchorage at position 08°25'N, 013°07'W about 8 NM Off Freetown Port.

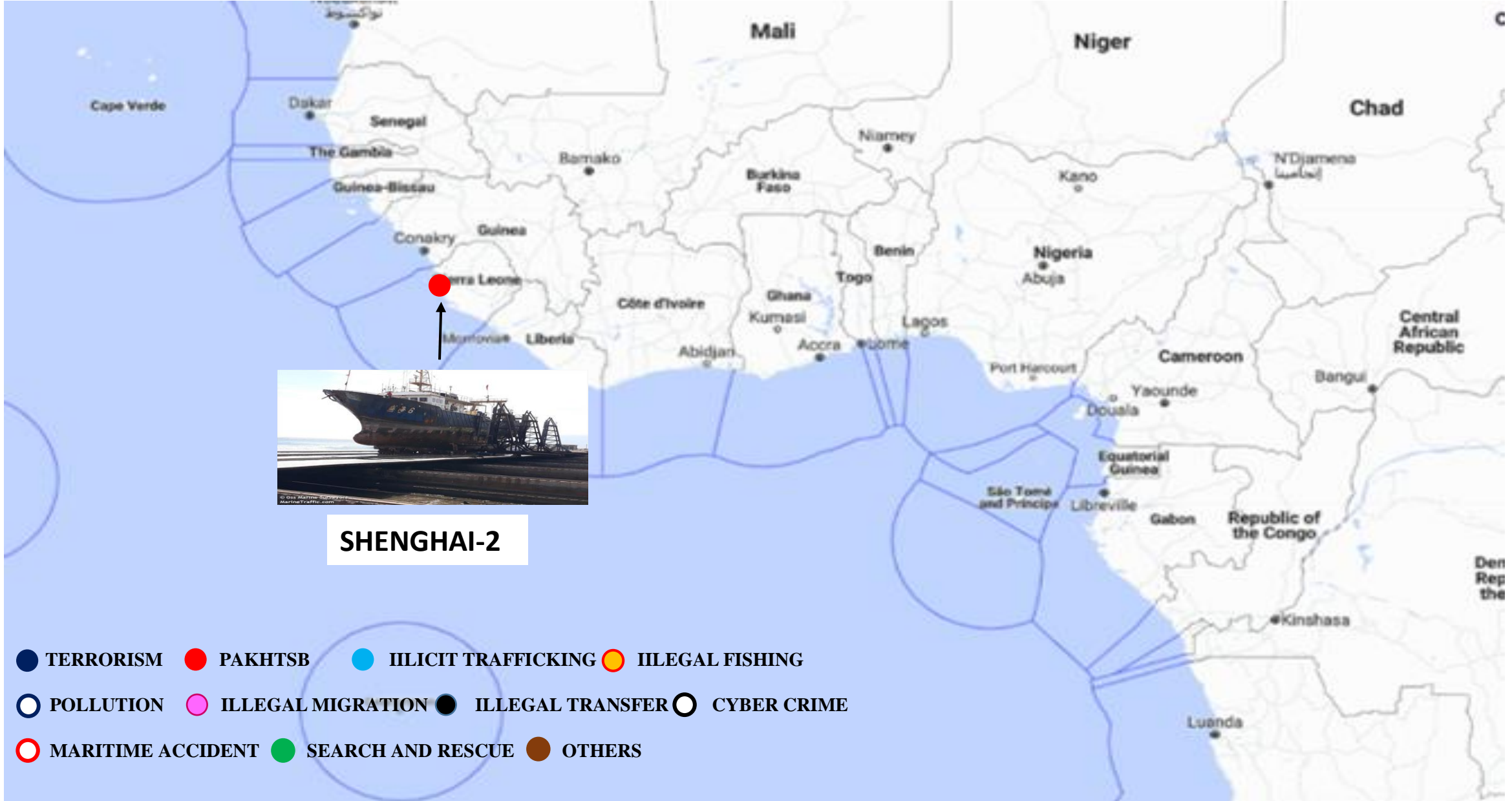
The perpetrators boarded the fishing vessel and the crew onboard tried to resist the perpetrators due to that the captain of the vessel was shot on his leg while four (4) crew members were beaten and injured with machete.

The perpetrators took their money, computers, hundreds of cartons of frozen fish. It was confirmed by Fisheries Observer Mr Idrissa Rogers.

The Sierra Leone Navy dispatched a Search and rescue Team but the robbers had left before they arrived at the scene.

However, JOC informed authorities about the incident and an investigation is ongoing by the Sierra Leone Marine Police.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

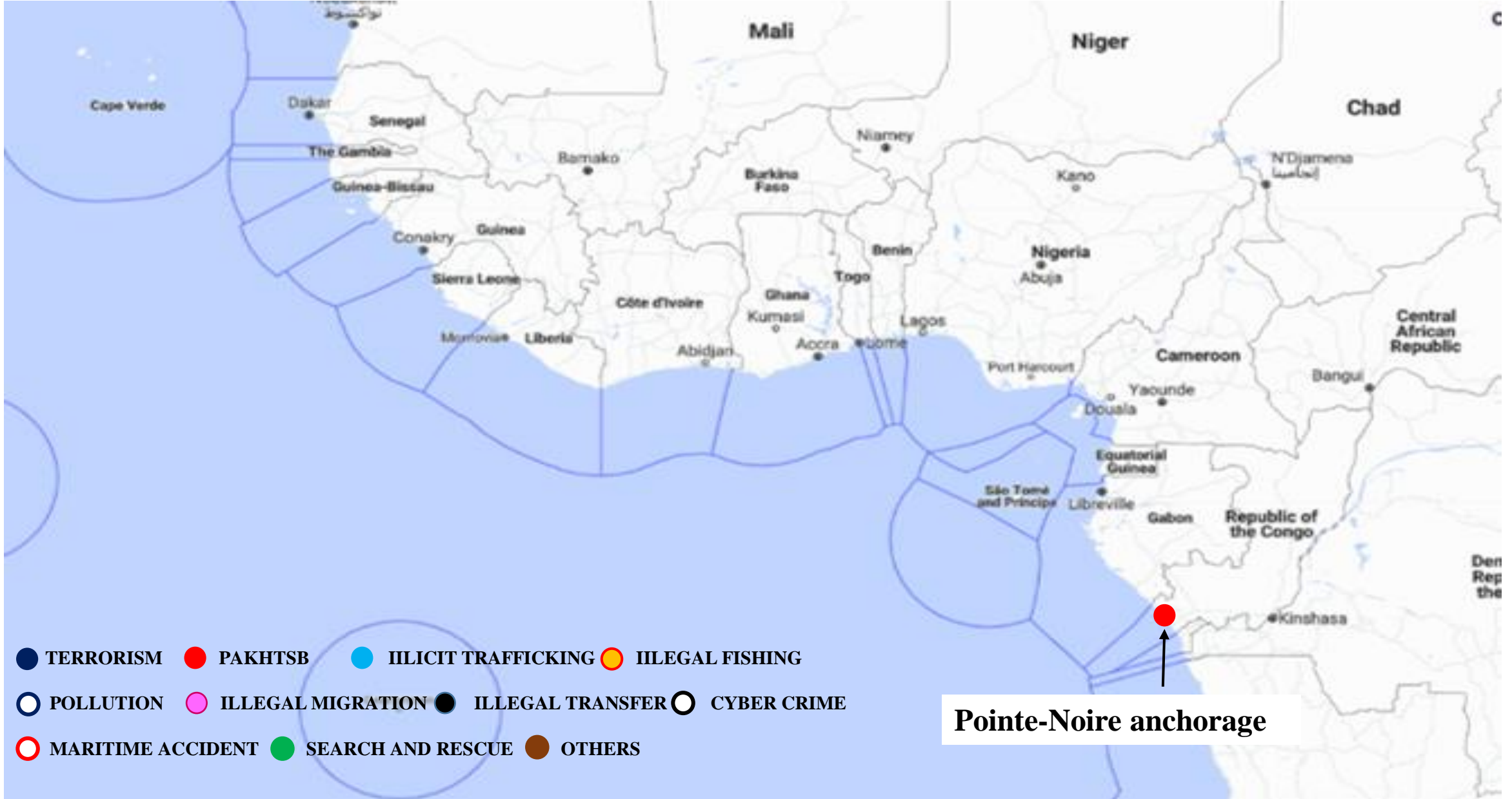
Attempted Theft – Pointe-Noire anchorage, Republic of Congo

on 21 August 2020 at 2200 UTC, an Unidentified container ship was boarded at the Pointe-Noire anchorage, Republic of Congo. The exact position of the incident is unknown.

The Duty crew on the anchored ship observed a perpetrator onboard the vessel trying to pull out a mooring rope.

An alarm was raised and perpetrator escaped. The crew then observed a small boat with two perpetrators onboard moving towards the coast. The crew conducted Security checks and discovered that the hawse pipe cover had been opened but nothing was stolen. The Authorities were informed.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



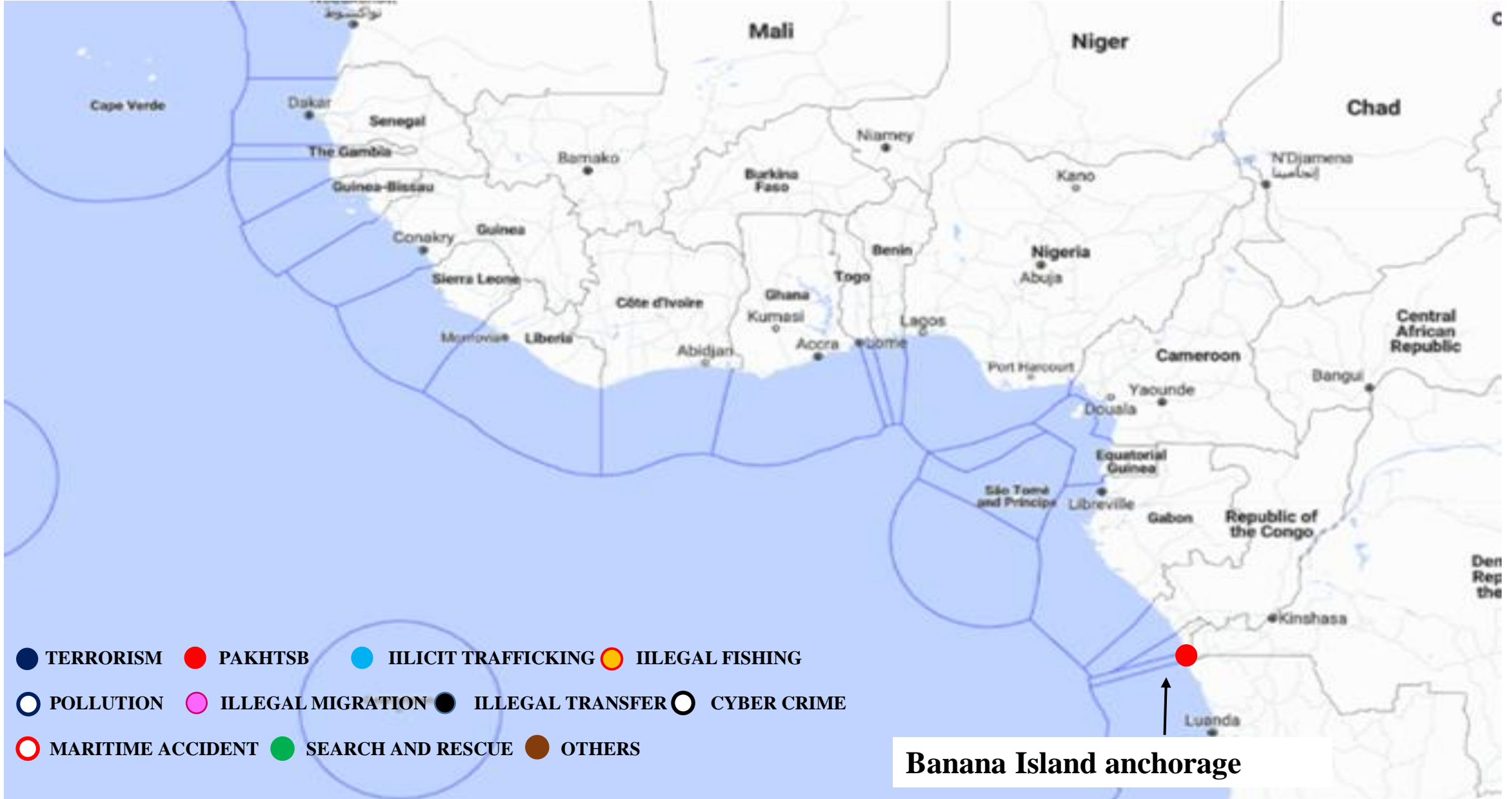
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Theft – Banana Island anchorage, DR Congo

on 23 August 2020 at 0000 UTC, an unidentified vessel was boarded at the Banana Island anchorage, DR Congo in position 06°01'24"S 012°20'24"E.

Two perpetrators were observed on the forecastle of the vessel. The alarm was raised and the crew mustered. A search was conducted and was observed that a mooring rope had been cut and stolen. The vessel and the crew are safe. The Authorities were informed and investigation is ongoing.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



GENERAL COMMENTS

- This is the fourth incident involving vessels sinking or capsizing in Guinean territorial waters in about a month. The entire incidence have been attributed to bad weather conditions. We wish to draw the attention of the various regulatory agencies to educate vessels owners on the dangers of going out to sea in foul weather conditions.
- The security Agencies are encouraged to strategize and remain prepared to render assistance to vessels at sea and anchorages.
- 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.

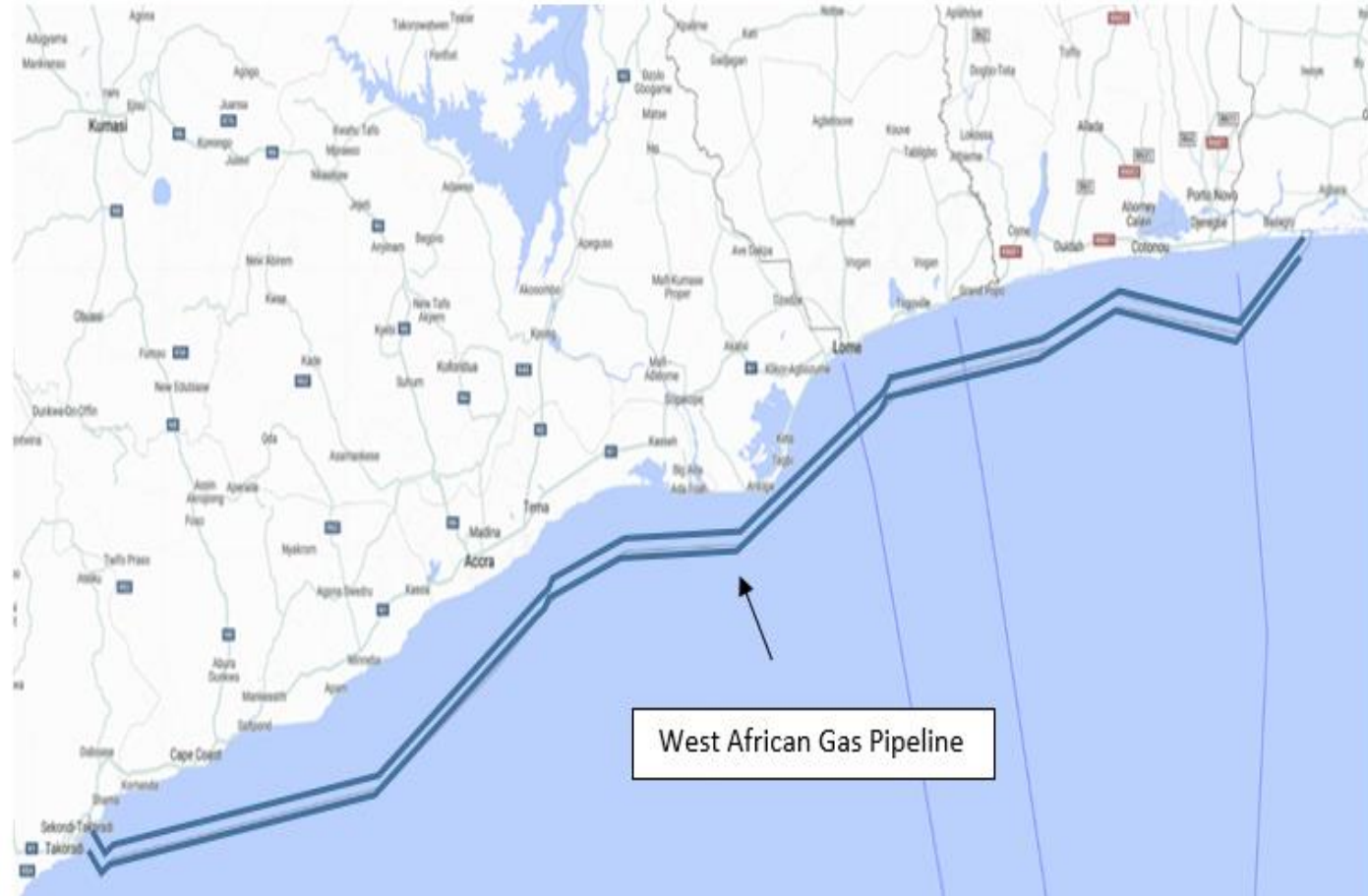
NOTICES

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

- Grounding of MV WAKASHIO – Captain and chief engineer charged by Mauritian Authorities for endangering safe navigation under the piracy and maritime violence act.
- Source. <https://gcaptain.com>

METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

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

Thursday 8/27

Morning ▶

Light W winds with a slight chop. Very small mid period waves.

Winds: W 9 to 12 knots.

Seas: SSW 3 feet at 10 seconds.

Afternoon ▶

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

Winds: WSW 13 to 18 knots.

Seas: S 3 feet at 8 seconds.

Friday 8/28

Morning ▶

Moderate to strong SW winds with choppy seas. Small very short period waves.

Winds: SW 15 to 20 knots.

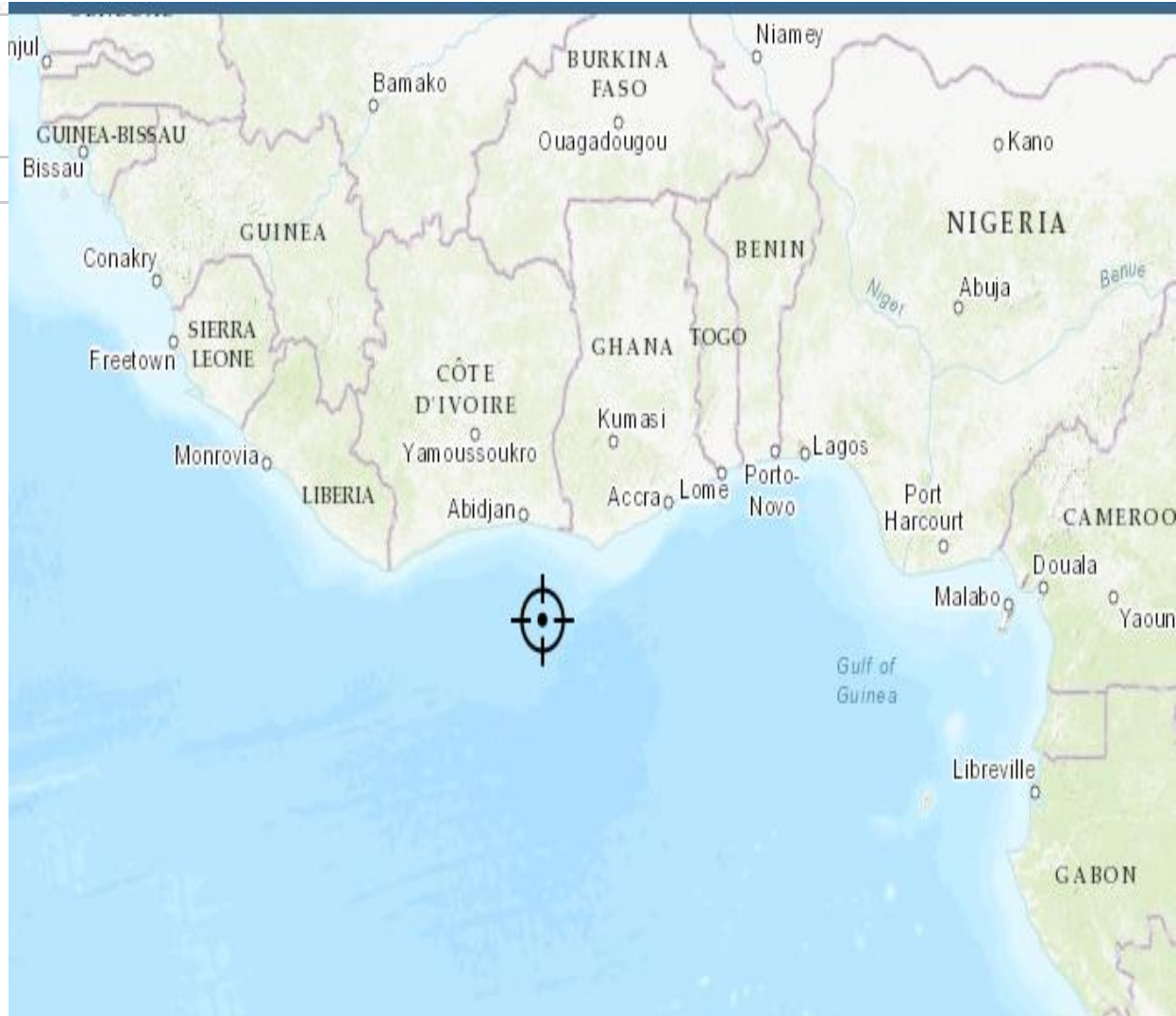
Seas: SSW 4 feet at 5 seconds.

Afternoon ▶

Moderate to strong SW winds with choppy seas. Small very short period waves.

Winds: SW 16 to 22 knots.

Seas: S 5 feet at 5 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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