



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION  
CENTRE  
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY  
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT

28 AUGUST – 03 SEPTEMBER 2020

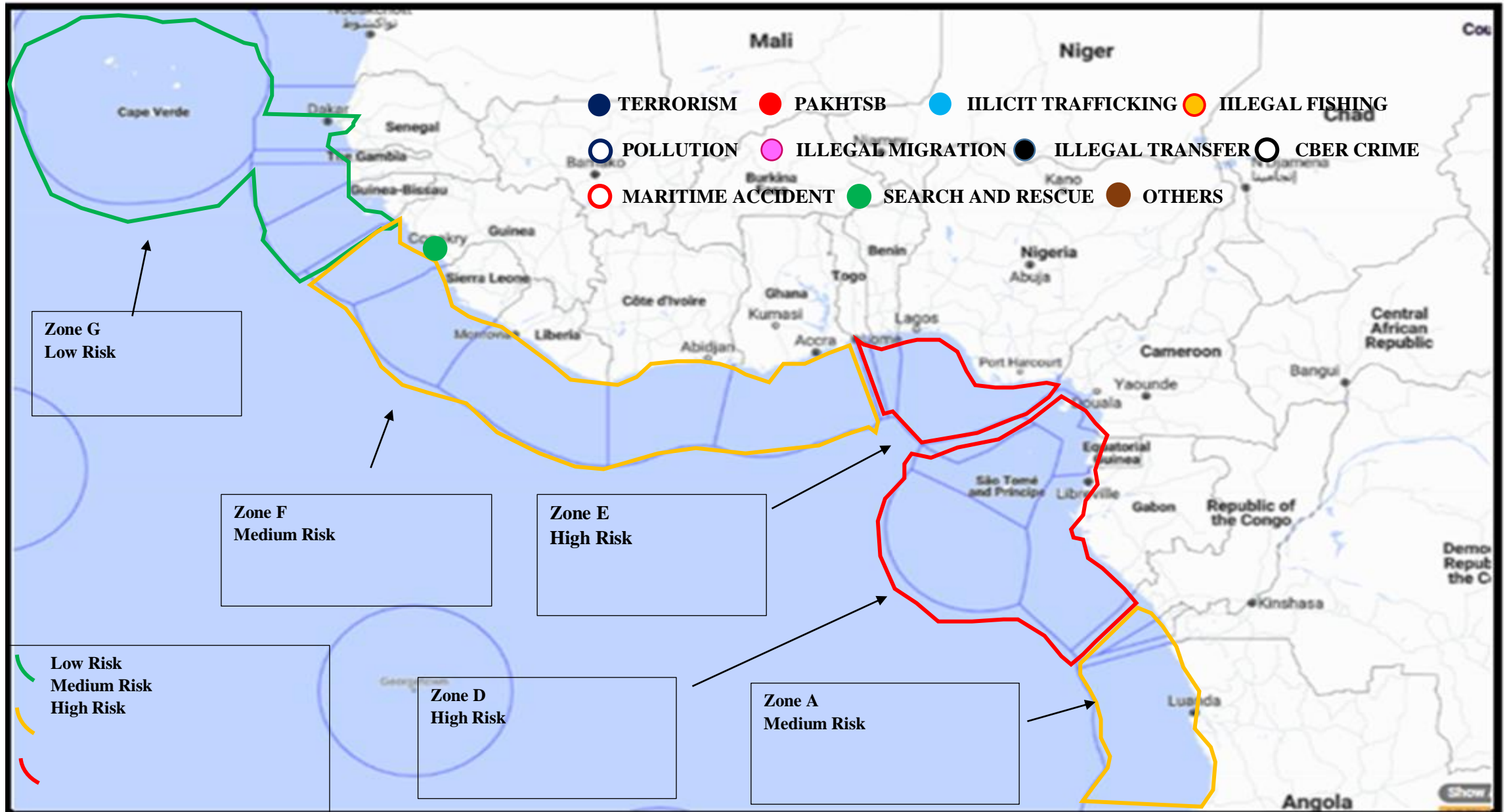
# OVERVIEW

- 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 Kidnapped, Theft and attempted incidents.
- 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>	Suspicious Hijacking					
	Kidnapping				1	
	Armed Robbery					
	Firing Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding				1	
	Boarding					
	Theft				1	
<b>ILLCIT TRAFIC</b>	Suspicious Approach					
	Human					
	Drug					
	Weapons/Ammunitions					
<b>I.U.U FISHING</b>	Smuggling					
	Industrial Fishing					
<b>POLLUTION</b>	Craft Fishing					
<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					
	Capsized					
<b>OTHERS</b>						

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

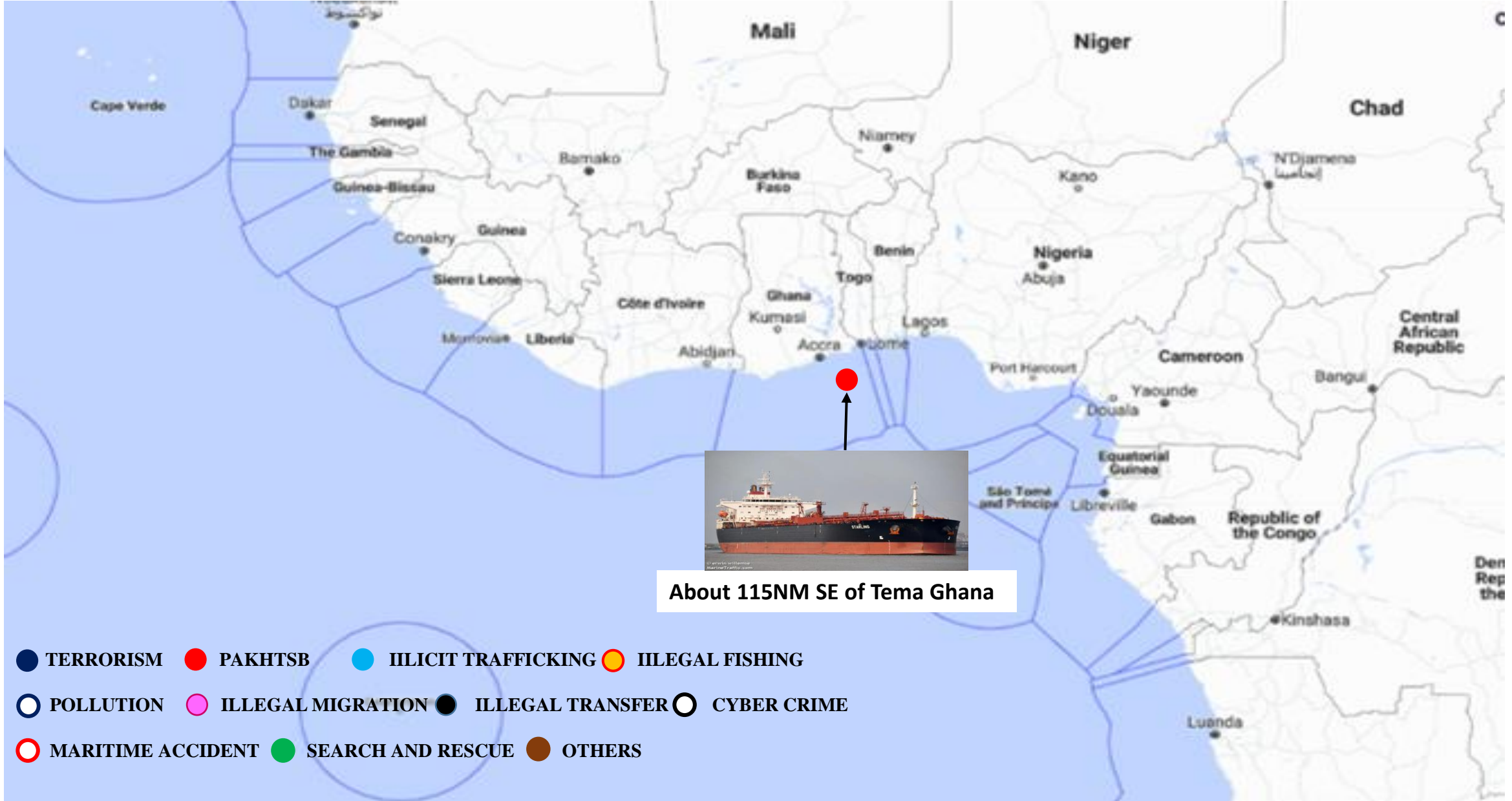
## **Attempted Boarding - Ghana**

On 28 August 2020 at 0420 UTC The Marshall Islands flag PIKE oil tanker was attacked in position 04°02'7"N 001°04'4"E about 115NM SE of Tema, Ghana. A small boat of about 12-14 meters long, invisible by radar, was sighted near ship starboard quarter making the same course and speed as the vessel. There were 6-8 perpetrators with a long metallic ladder onboard. The perpetrators attempted to board the vessel from starboard side.

Crew were alerted, deck lights, fire pump, sound signals and SSAS were activated. The vessel undertook evasive maneuvers and increased speed. After a few minutes, the perpetrators aborted the attempt and flew away. All crew were reported to be safe and the vessel proceeded to her destination.



# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



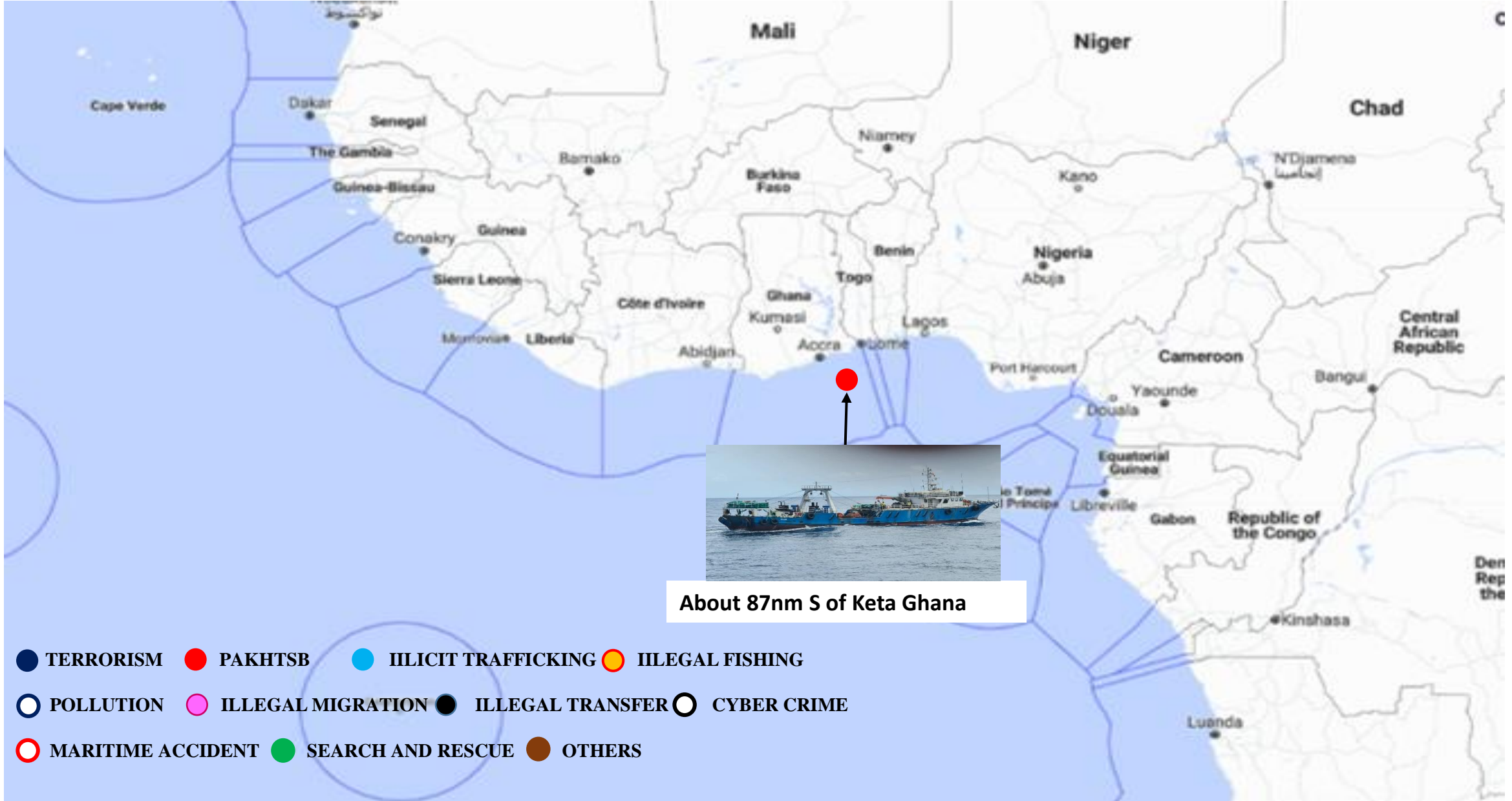
About 115NM SE of Tema Ghana

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Kidnapping – Keta, Ghana**

On 28 August 2020 at 0735 UTC, the Ghanaian flag Tuna vessel AP 703 was attacked in position 04°34'15"N 001°31'07"E about 87NM South of Keta Ghana. Nine armed perpetrators with seven armed with different rifles in a speed boat approached the fishing vessel and warning shots were fired at the vessel to slow down. The pirates boarded, took control of the vessel and sailed it into Togo waters where it was rummaged. The pirates kidnapped two Korean crew members, took away 50 litres of fuel, a 25hp outboard motor and some personal belongings of the crew including monies, phones, clothes and bag. Ghana and Togo Navies sailed ships to search the general area of the incident. The Nigerian and Benin Navies also conducted patrols to interdict the pirates and rescue the crew. The Ghana Navy Ship later escorted the vessel to Tema harbour on 29 August 2020 at 0745 UTC for further investigations. The vessel and the remaining crew are all safe.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



About 87nm S of Keta Ghana

- TERRORISM
- PAKHTSB
- IILICIT TRAFFICKING
- IILEGAL FISHING
- POLLUTION
- ILLEGAL MIGRATION
- ILLEGAL TRANSFER
- CYBER CRIME
- MARITIME ACCIDENT
- SEARCH AND RESCUE
- OTHERS



# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

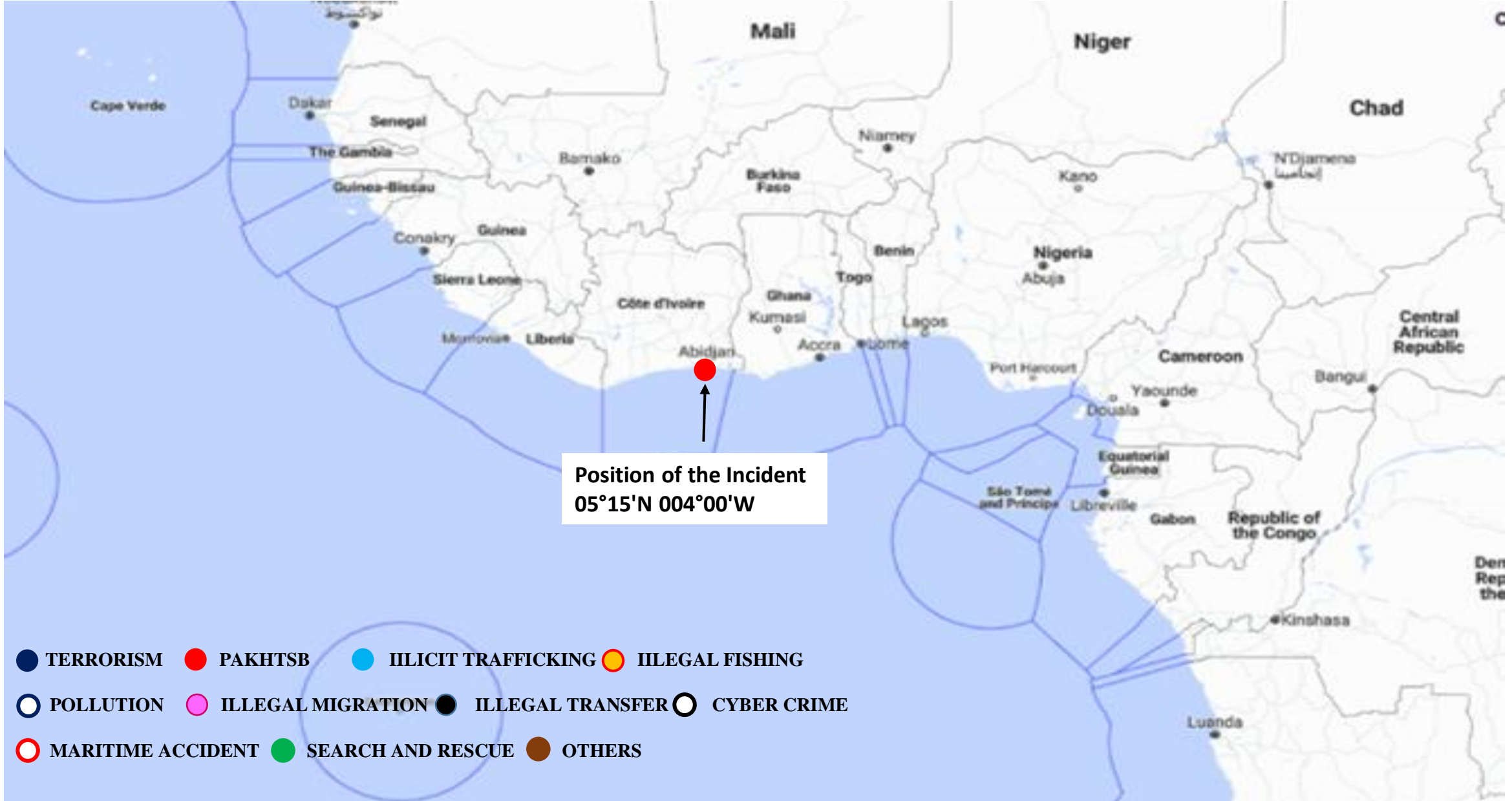
## **Theft- Abidjan anchorage, Côte d'Ivoire**

Information received from Local source indicates that on 29 August 2020, an unidentified tug boat was boarded in position 05°15'N 004°00'W at the Abidjan anchorage, Côte d'Ivoire.

An unknown number of perpetrators boarded the vessel unseen and stole an outboard engine and several other items and escaped undetected. The authorities were informed and investigation is ongoing.

The vessel and the crew are all safe.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



# GENERAL COMMENTS

- Fishing vessels are increasingly coming under pirate attacks due to their low freeboard and slow speed when engaged in fishing.
- We wish to advise Captains/owners of fishing vessels to adopt anti-piracy SOPs, remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities promptly to security agencies.
- Vessels are also encouraged to report any suspicious movements for quick response.
- The security agencies are encouraged to remain alert to render assistance to vessels at sea and anchorages.

# FORCAST FOR THE COMING WEEK AND ADVISORIES

## FORECAST

- General Maritime Security Situation in the Maritime Zone F is expected to remain relatively safe. 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.

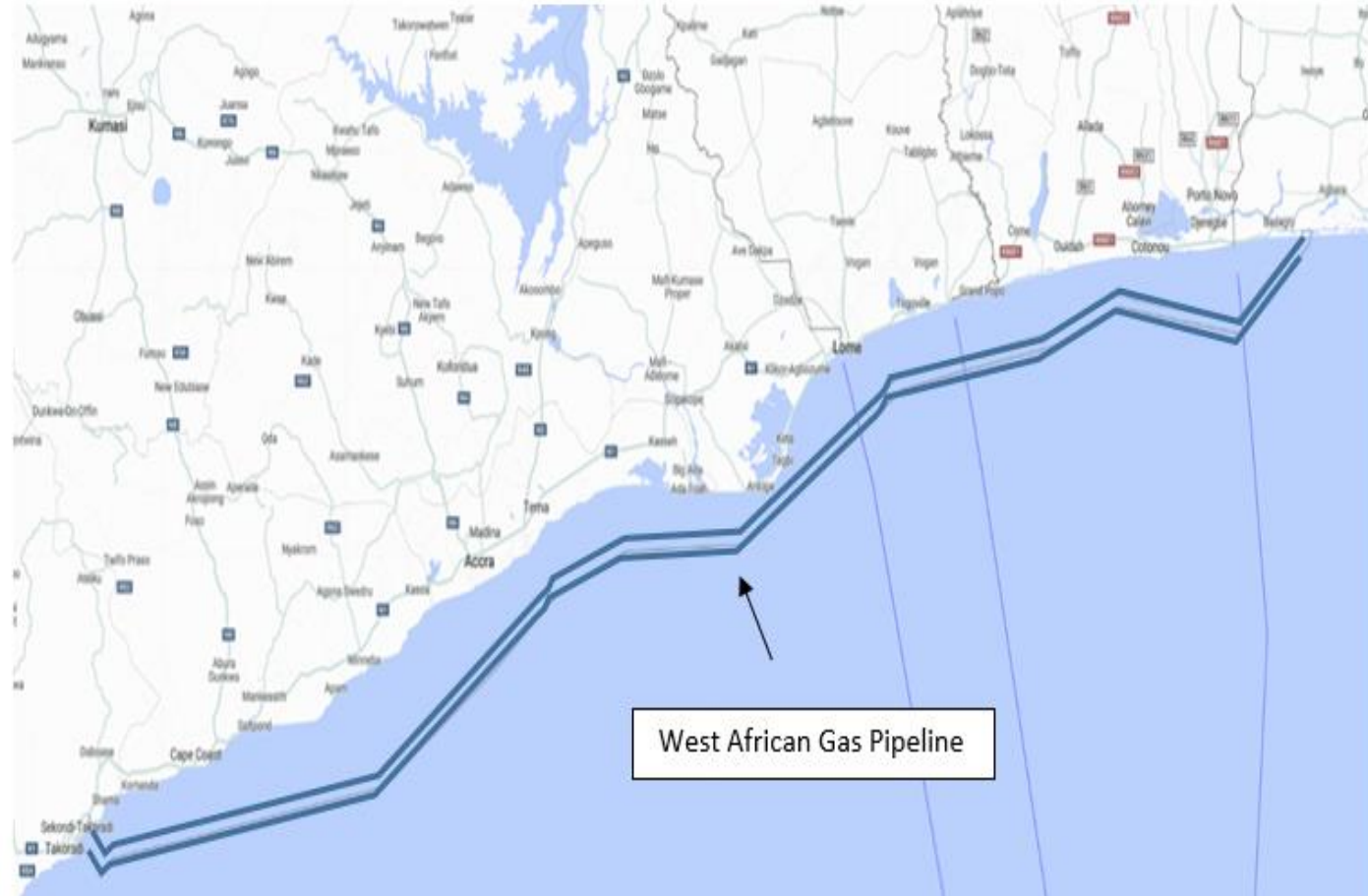
# NOTICES

## 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

- Fire on VLCC Tanker New Diamond Brought Under Control and Tow Attached
- Source. <https://www.maritime-executive.com>

# METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

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

### Thursday 9/3

#### Morning ▶

Breezy SSW winds with moderate choppy seas. Moderate mid period waves.

**Winds:** SSW 10 to 14 knots.

**Seas:** S 6 feet at 12 seconds.

#### Afternoon ▶

Breezy SSW winds with moderate choppy seas. Moderate mid period waves.

**Winds:** SSW 13 to 18 knots.

**Seas:** S 6 feet at 11 seconds.

### Friday 9/4

#### Morning ▶

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

**Winds:** SSW 13 to 17 knots.

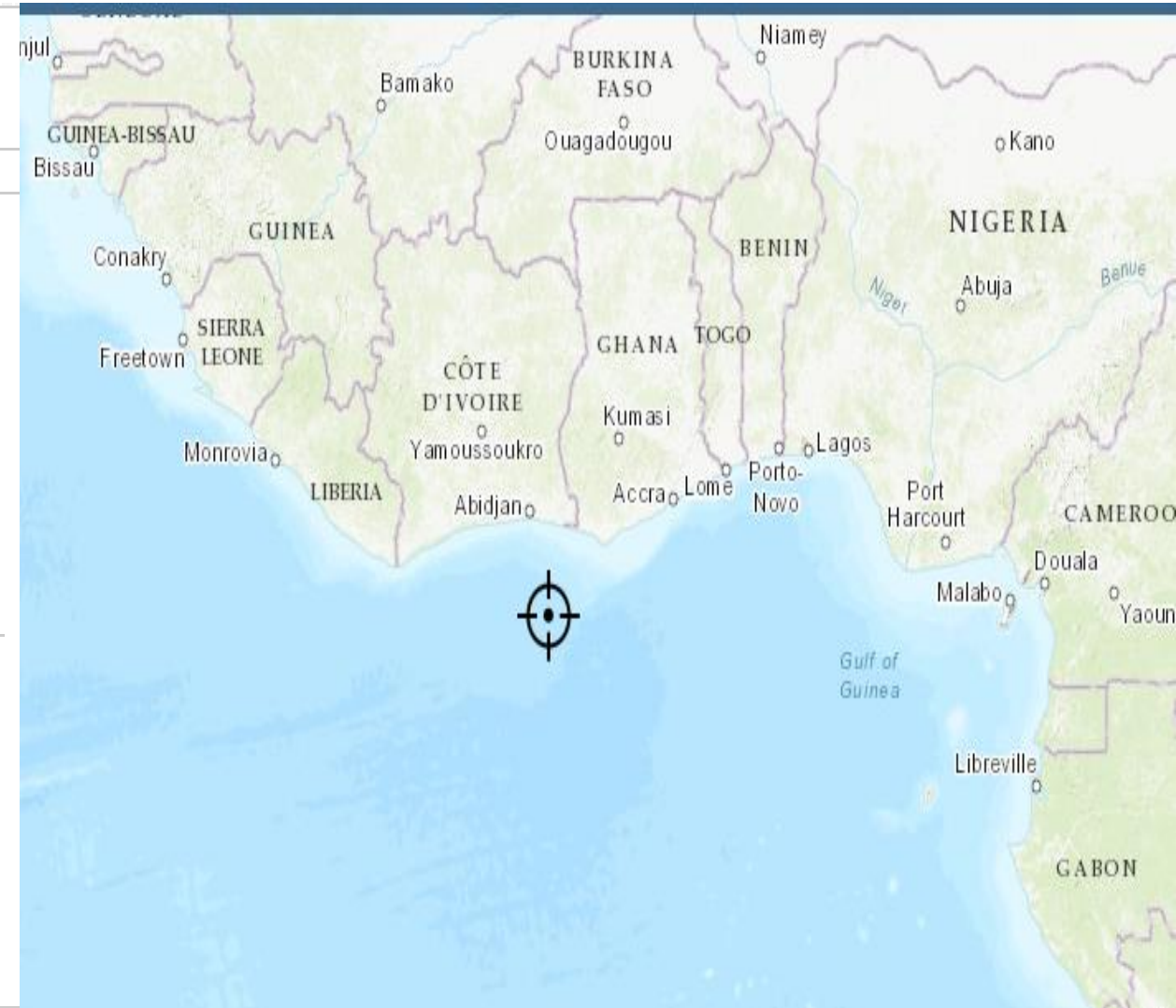
**Seas:** SSW 6 feet at 6 seconds.

#### Afternoon ▶

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

**Winds:** SW 16 to 22 knots.

**Seas:** SSW 6 feet at 6 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.



# **CONTACT DETAILS MMCC ZONE F**

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