



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION
CENTRE
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT

25 SEPTEMBER – 01 OCTOBER 2020

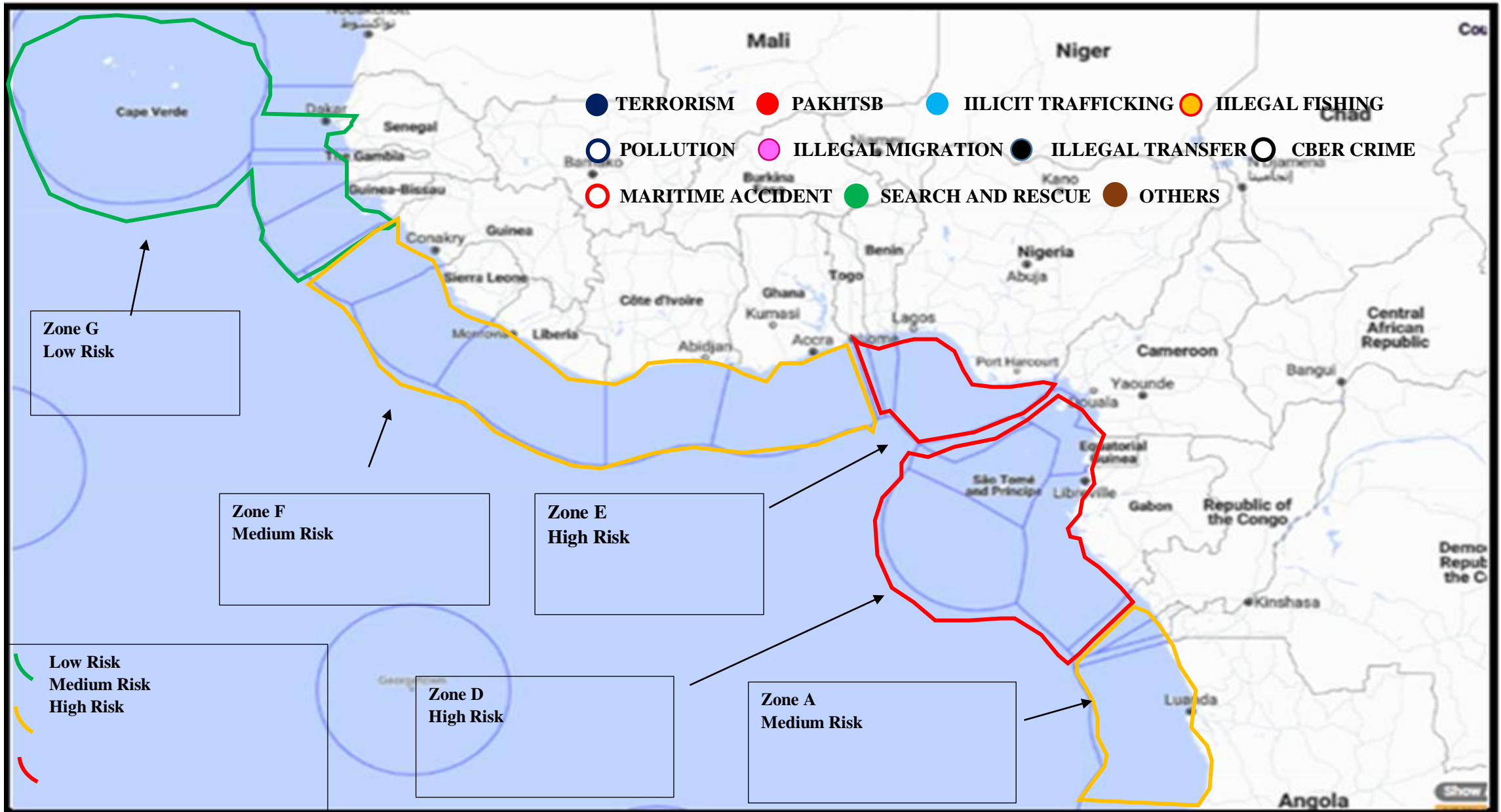
OVERVIEW

- 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 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
TERRORISM	Terrorism					
PIRACY/ ARMED ROBBERY/KIDNAPPING/HIJACKING/FIRING UPON/THEFT/SUSPICIOUS APPROACH/BOARDING (PAKHFTSB)	Suspicious Hijacking					
	Kidnapping					
	Armed Robbery					
	Firing Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding					
	Boarding					
	Theft					
	Suspicious Approach				2	
ILLCIT TRAFIC	Human					
	Drug					
	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					
	Damage					
SEARCH AND RESCUE	Men Overboard					
	Assistance And Towing					
	Sanitary Evacuation					
	Capsized					
OTHERS						

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Suspicious Approach – Takoradi, Ghana

On 26 September 2020, at 1130 UTC, The Ghana flag fishing vessel AGNES 1 (IMO:7437202) was approach in position 03°36'N 000°28'W at about 110NM SSE of Takoradi , Ghana. A skiff with 8 – 10 perpetrators onboard was spotted by the fishing vessel.

The fishing vessel increased speed and conducted evasive manoeuvres and managed to avoid the suspicious craft. The authorities were informed and all crew members were reported safe. The vessel proceeded to its location.

The Ghana Navy embarked a team of observers on board the Ghana Air Force aircraft CASA 295 to conduct maritime patrols within the general area. Already patrol ship at sea was also tasked to the general area to assist locate the suspected pirate skiff. The patrol team however did not locate the skiff.

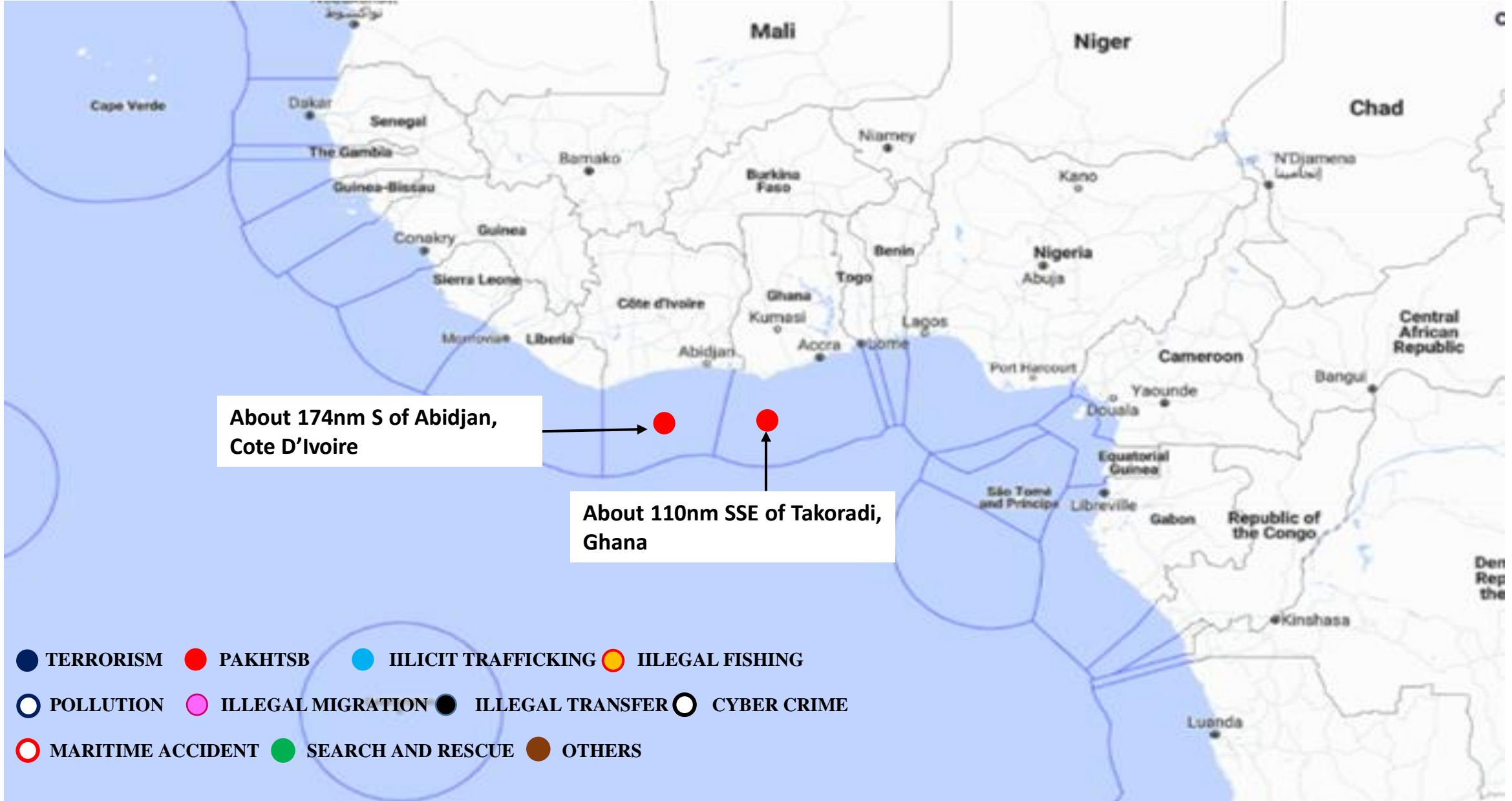
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Suspicious Approach – Abidjan, Cote D’Ivoire

On 01 October 2020, at about 1230hrs UTC, The Liberian flag fishing vessel LIBERTY GRACE (IMO: 9517276) was approached at position 2° 23' 3" N, 4° 36' 54" W about 174nm south of Abidjan, Cote D’Ivoire by a blue skiff with about 3 to 4 persons onboard.

The officer on watch observed a speedboat on the horizon speeding towards the vessel. The speedboat approached the vessel to about 3nm. The Captain was alerted and the vessel increased speed widening the gap between them. The vessel and crew are reported safe as the speedboat has aborted its pursuit.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



GENERAL COMMENTS

- There have been three incidents of suspicious approach by an alleged pirate skiff between last week and this week, 2 in Ghana waters and the third incident in Cote D'Ivoire few nautical miles to Ghana's maritime boundary. We therefore wish to advise all stakeholders including ships at sea to be extra vigilant as the Ghana Navy continues to search for the skiff from the approaches which occurred.
- The threat level is therefore considered high for all vessels operating within 100 miles from the coast within Ghanaian waters and further West of Ghana.
- All vessels are advised to remain vigilant , maintain sharp anti-piracy lookouts including at anchorages and report any suspicious movements to the necessary authorities.
- All securities agencies are requested to be on maximum alert, increase vigilance and surveillance both at sea and in the port.

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.

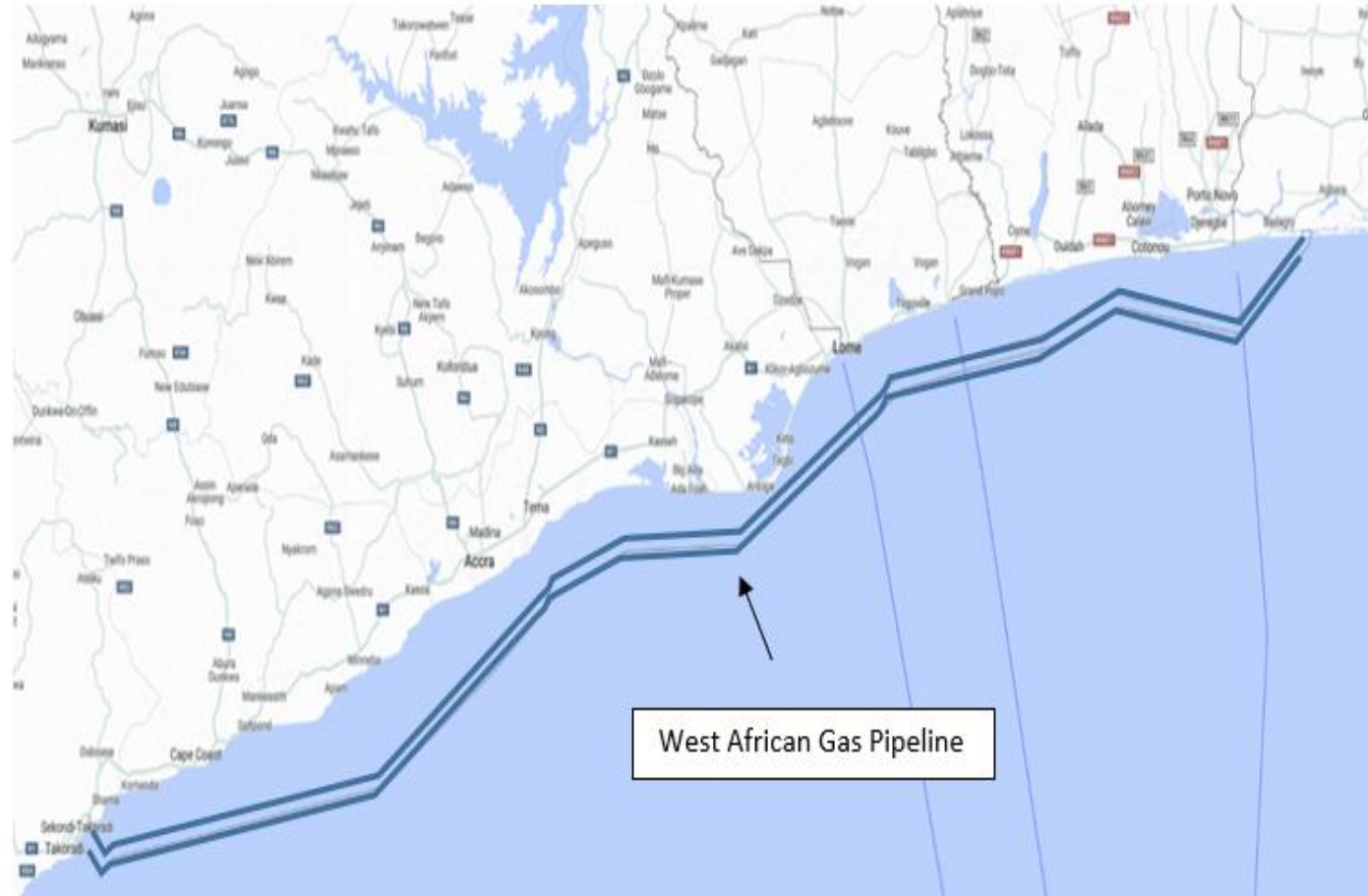
NOTICES

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

- Boxship Crewmember Charged in Connection With Stabbing Death.
- Source. <https://www.maritime-executive.com>

METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

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

Thursday 10/1

Morning

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

Winds: SW 11 to 15 knots.

Seas: S 5 feet at 10 seconds.

Afternoon

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

Winds: SW 11 to 15 knots.

Seas: S 4 feet at 9 seconds.

Friday 10/2

Morning

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

Winds: SW 9 to 12 knots.

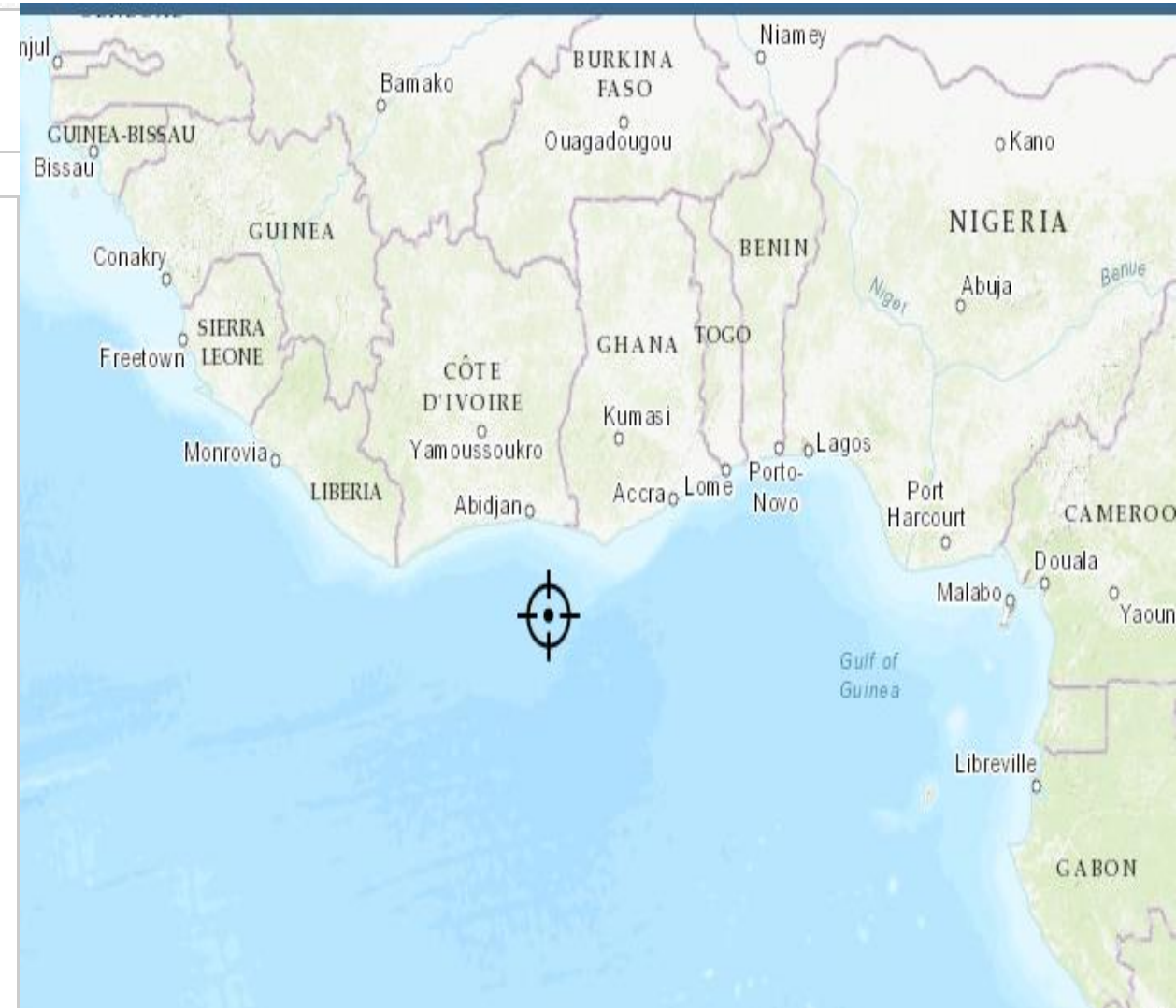
Seas: S 4 feet at 9 seconds.

Afternoon

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

Winds: SW 8 to 11 knots.

Seas: S 4 feet at 9 seconds.



CONTACT DETAILS NATIONAL AND ZONAL CENTERS

ZONE E	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
MMCC COTONOU	+ 229 61040475	Zonee.mmcc@gmail.com
MOC LAGOS	+ 234 07056893142	wncrmac01@gmail.com
RMCC LAGOS	+ 234 7000700010	Rmrcc.nigeria@yahoo.fr
MOC COTONOU	+ 229 21317543	forces.navales@yahoo.com
MOC LOME	+ 228 22237083	base.marine@yahoo.com
ZONE F	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
MMCC ZONE F (ACCRA)	+ 233 547976523	zonefmmcc@gmail.com
MOC (TEMA)/NHQ MOC	+233299101118/+233299010951	encmoc@gmail.com / GNHQMOC@gmail.com
MOC (TAKORADI)	+233299101066	wncmoc@gmail.com
MOC ABIDJAN	+ 225 23454326	MOC.abidjanCI@gmail.com
MOC ABIDJAN	+225 21000643	abidjan.mrcc@gmail.com / alertes@mrcc-abidjan.net
MOC SANPEDRO	+233 302777991	moc.marinesp.ci@gmail.com
MOC MONROVIA	+ 231 776129865	mahawajuana@gmail.com
MOC FREETOWN	+ 232 78194359	jocopsintel@gmail.com
MOC CONAKRY	+224621222297	compremargui@gmail.com
ZONE G	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
MMCC CAPE VERDE	+ 238 9851567	CCCosmar@gmail.com
MOC DAKAR	+ 221 338265001	marinenat@orange.sn
MOC BANJUL	+ 220 7708818	gamnavy@rocketmail.com

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 INCIDENTENCES.**

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

**ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION CENTRE (MMCC ZONE F)
Christianborg Castle, Osu Accra, Ghana**

Email: zonefmmcc@gmail.com / zonefmoc@gmail.com

Website: www.mmcczonef.com

Telephone: +233246476924 / +2330302736817 / +2330302736804 / +2330302736806

Satellite Phone: +870778617068

Radio: HF 6300 KHZ

Radio: VHF CH 16