



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION
CENTRE
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT

02 OCTOBER – 08 OCTOBER 2020

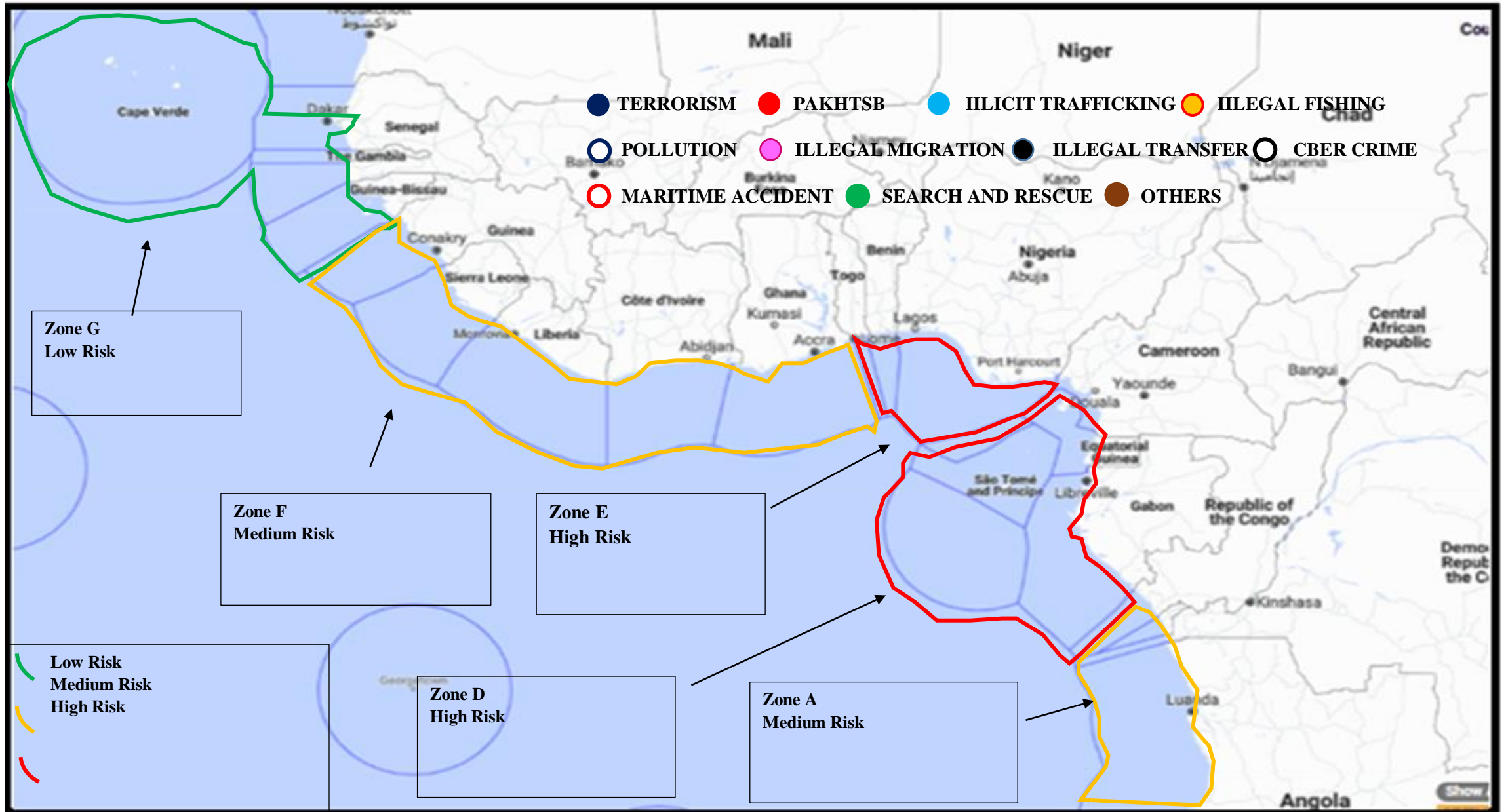
OVERVIEW

- 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.
- Update – Five foreign sailors kidnapped from cargo vessel RIO MITONG and Ro-Ro vessel DJIBLOHO rescue by troops Nigeria.
- Maritime Zone A recorded a Theft incident.
- Ex Grand African NEMO ongoing.
- 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	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					
OTHERS						

INCIDENT DISPOSITION



DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Update on five sailors kidnapped from cargo vessel RIO MITONG and Ro-Ro vessel DJIBLOHO

Recall on 09 May 2020 at 0100 UTC and 0200 UTC, the Comoros flag cargo vessel RIO MITONG and Equatorial Guinea flag Ro-Ro vessel DJIBLOHO were attacked and 5 sailors were kidnapped. Information available indicates the crew were rescued on 05 October 20 by Nigeria troops during OPERATION DELTA SAFE after five months.

It was confirmed by the Nigeria Defence and Russian media.

DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Theft – The Republic of Congo

On 05 October 2020 at 0700 UTC, the Liberia flag container ship LYME BAY was boarded in position 04°44'S 011°46'E at Pointe Noire anchorage, Republic of Congo

An unknown number of perpetrators boarded the vessel whilst at the anchorage. It was discovered during security checks that the paint store has been broke into and 280 litres of paint stolen.

The port authorities were informed and the vessel and the crew are all safe.

OTHERS

Ex Grand African NEMO 2020

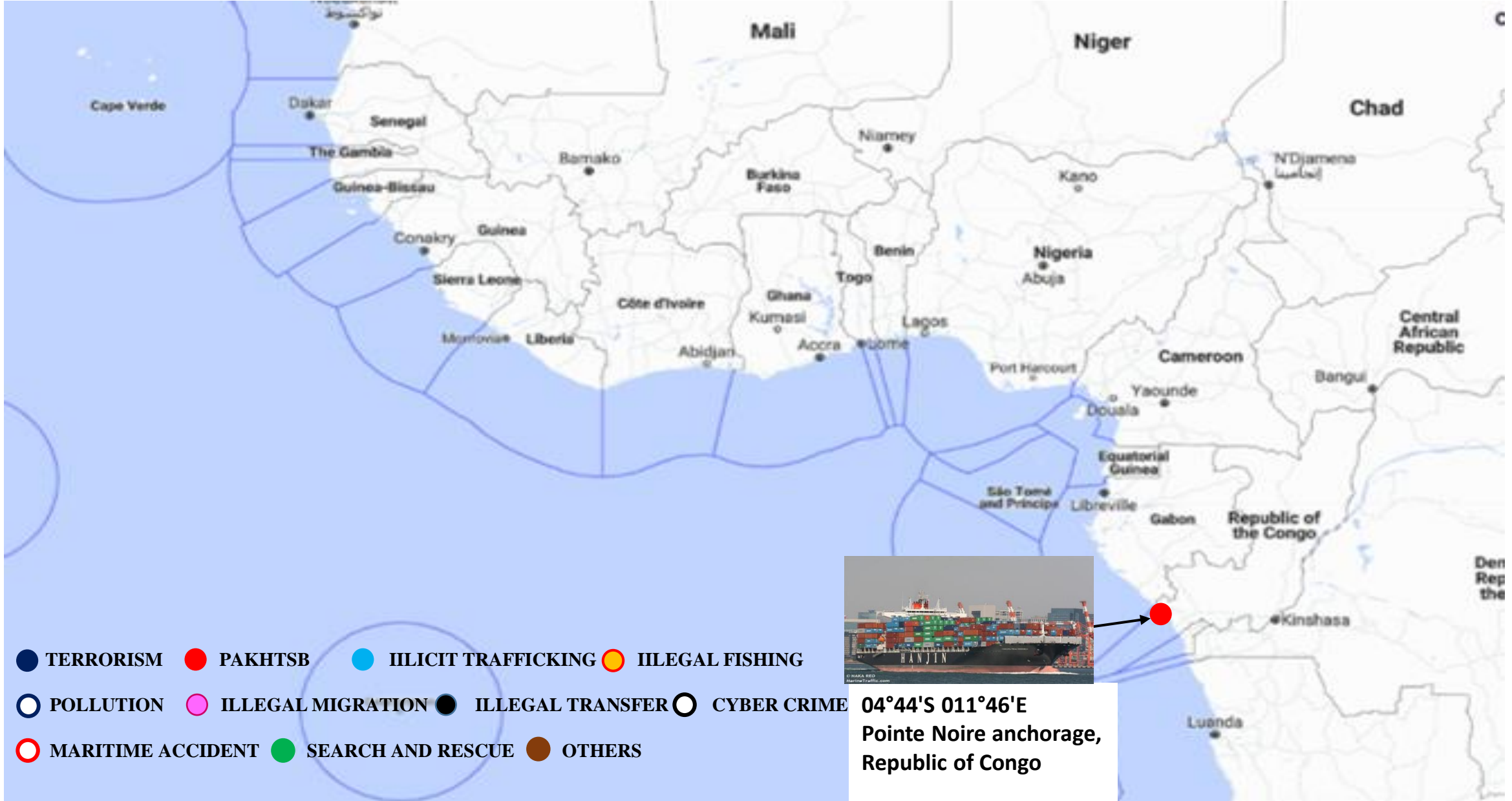
The LIVEX phase of Ex Grand NEMO commenced on Mon 5 Oct 20. Two countries in Zone F have so far conducted some exercises. Liberia has conducted IUU fishing, human trafficking and search and rescue scenarios. Guinea also conducted search and rescue scenario on Thursday 8 Oct 20.

Other countries including Nigeria, Togo, Benin, Senegal have also conducted various scenarios such as anti-piracy, pollution and drug trafficking.

Pictures Illustrating Human Trafficking scenario in Liberia



INCIDENT DISPOSITION



GENERAL COMMENTS

- 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.

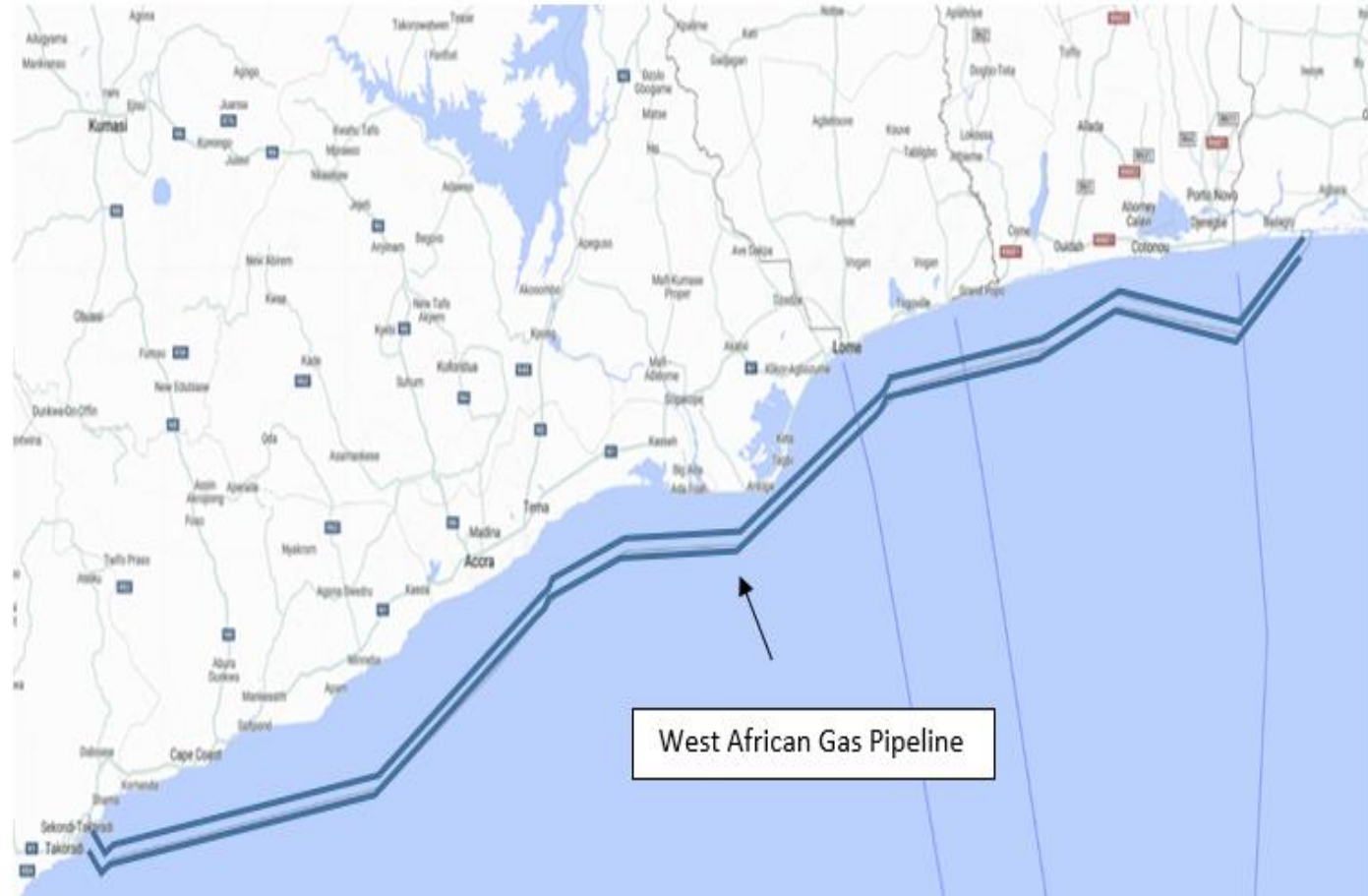
NOTICES

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

- Nigeria – Five month after kidnapping, troops rescue five foreign sailors Off Malabo Equatorial Guinea.
- Source. <http://www.shippingposition.com.ng>

METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

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

Thursday 10/8

Morning

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

Winds: SW 12 to 17 knots.

Seas: S 4 feet at 10 seconds.

Afternoon

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

Winds: SW 11 to 16 knots.

Seas: S 4 feet at 10 seconds.

Friday 10/9

Morning

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

Winds: SW 13 to 18 knots.

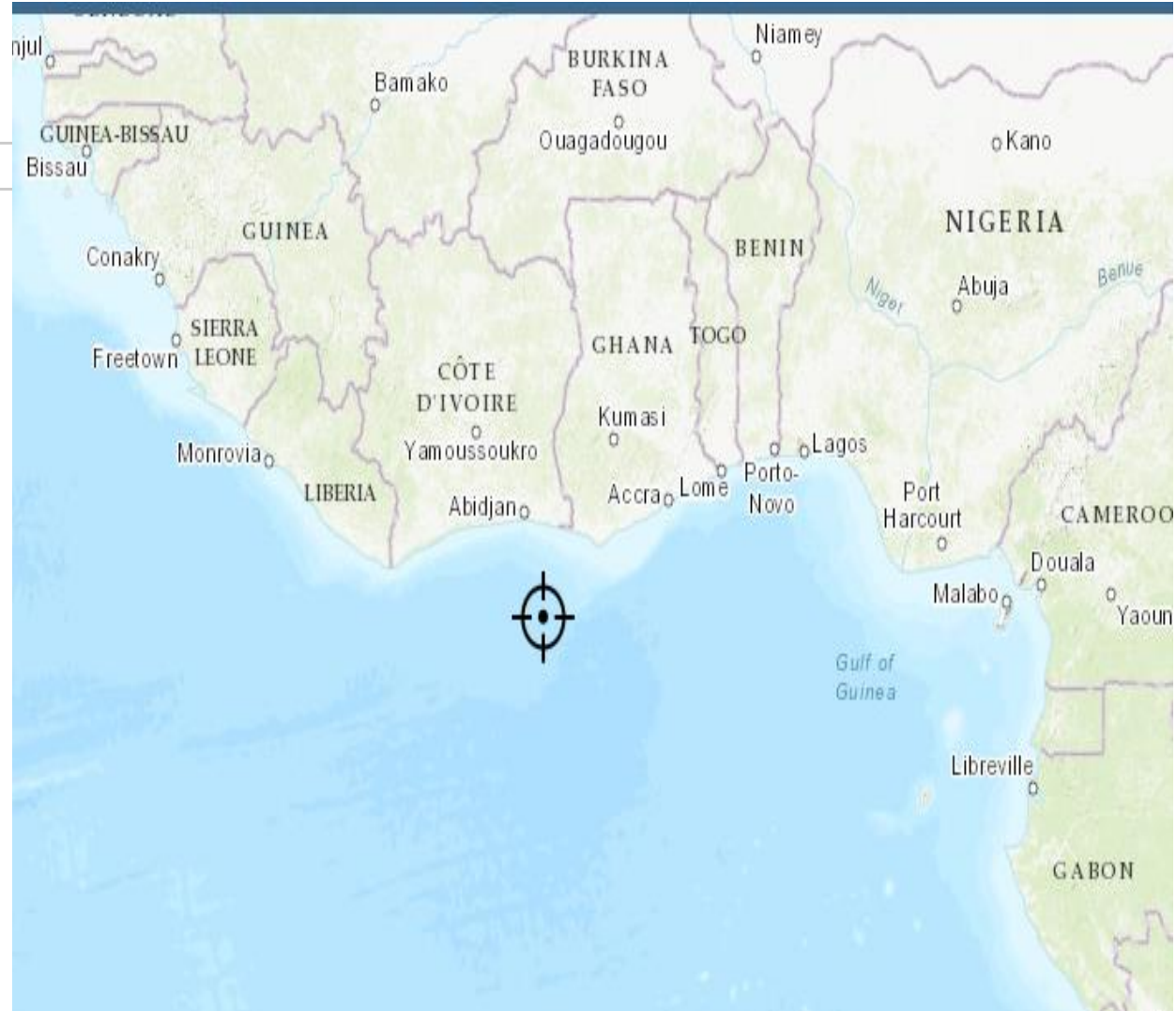
Seas: SW 5 feet at 10 seconds.

Afternoon

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

Winds: SW 10 to 14 knots.

Seas: SW 5 feet at 15 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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