



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION  
CENTRE  
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY  
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT

27 NOVEMBER – 03 DECEMBER 2020

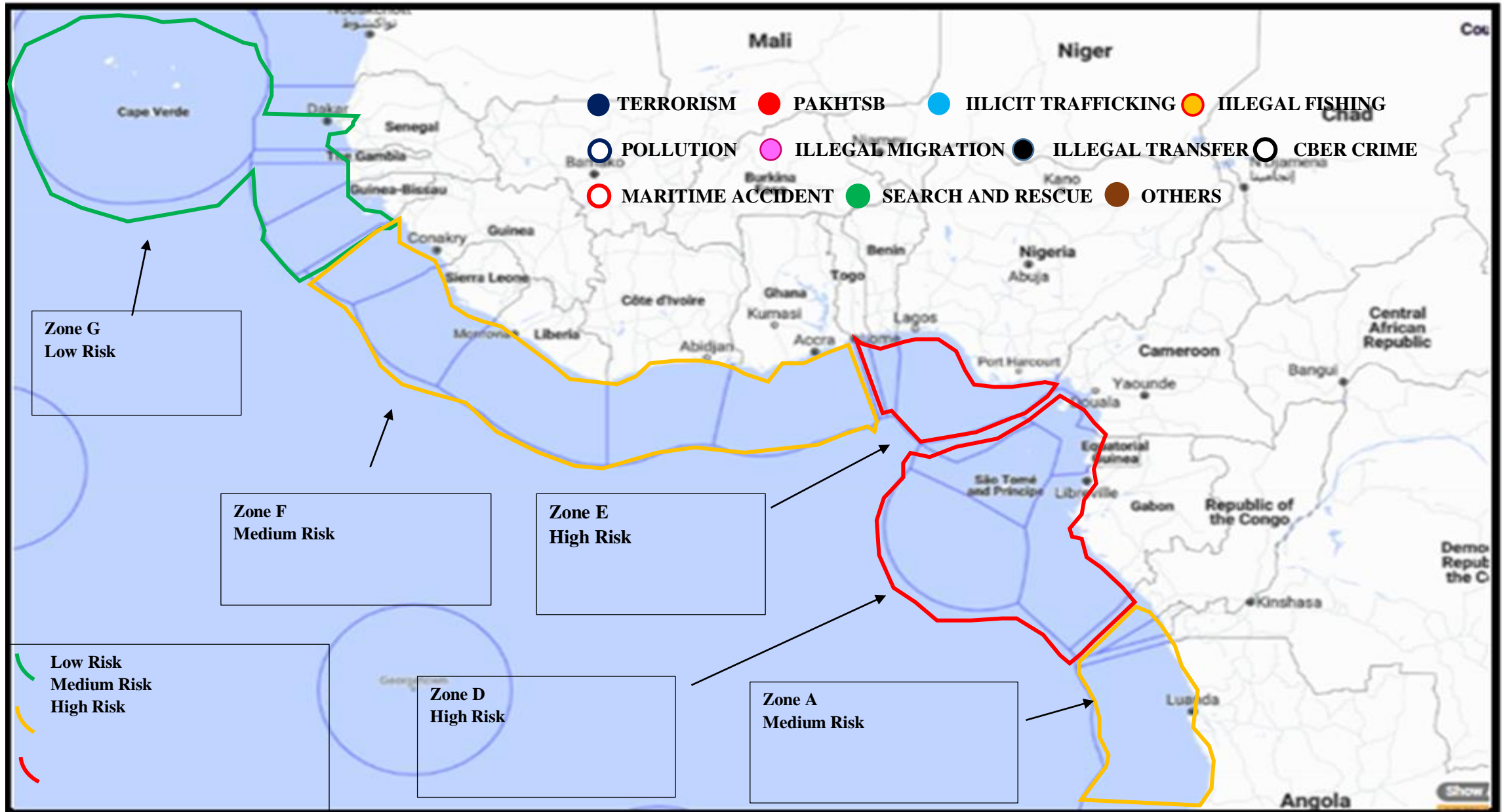
# OVERVIEW

- The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F and the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) was relatively unsafe for shipping during during week under review. Three incidents were recorded in Maritime Zone F and a total of 8 incidents in the GoG.
- Maritime Zone F recorded a boarding, armed robbery and a Kidnapped incidents.
- Maritime Zone E recorded a kidnapping and two suspicious approach incidents.
- Maritime Zone D recorded fired upon incident.
- Maritime Zone A recorded theft incident.
- 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				1	
	Firing Upon		1			
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding					
	Boarding				1	
	Theft	1				
	Suspicious Approach			1		
<b>ILLCIT TRAFIC</b>	Human					
	Drug					
	Weapons/Ammunitions					
	Smuggling					
<b>I.U.U FISHING</b>	Industrial Fishing					
	Craft Fishing					
<b>POLLUTION</b>						
<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

## **Boarding – Takoradi, Ghana**

On 27 November 2020 at 0140 UTC, the Italian flag bulk carrier RESILIENCE (IMO: 9511454) vessel managed by RB-RD ARMATORI SRL of Torre del Greco, Italy, was boarded in position 04°53'N 001°41'W at Takoradi anchorage, Ghana

The duty crew on security rounds noticed two perpetrators on board. The alarm was raised and the perpetrators fled empty handed. The vessel and the crew were reported to be safe.

## **Kidnapping – Keta, Ghana**

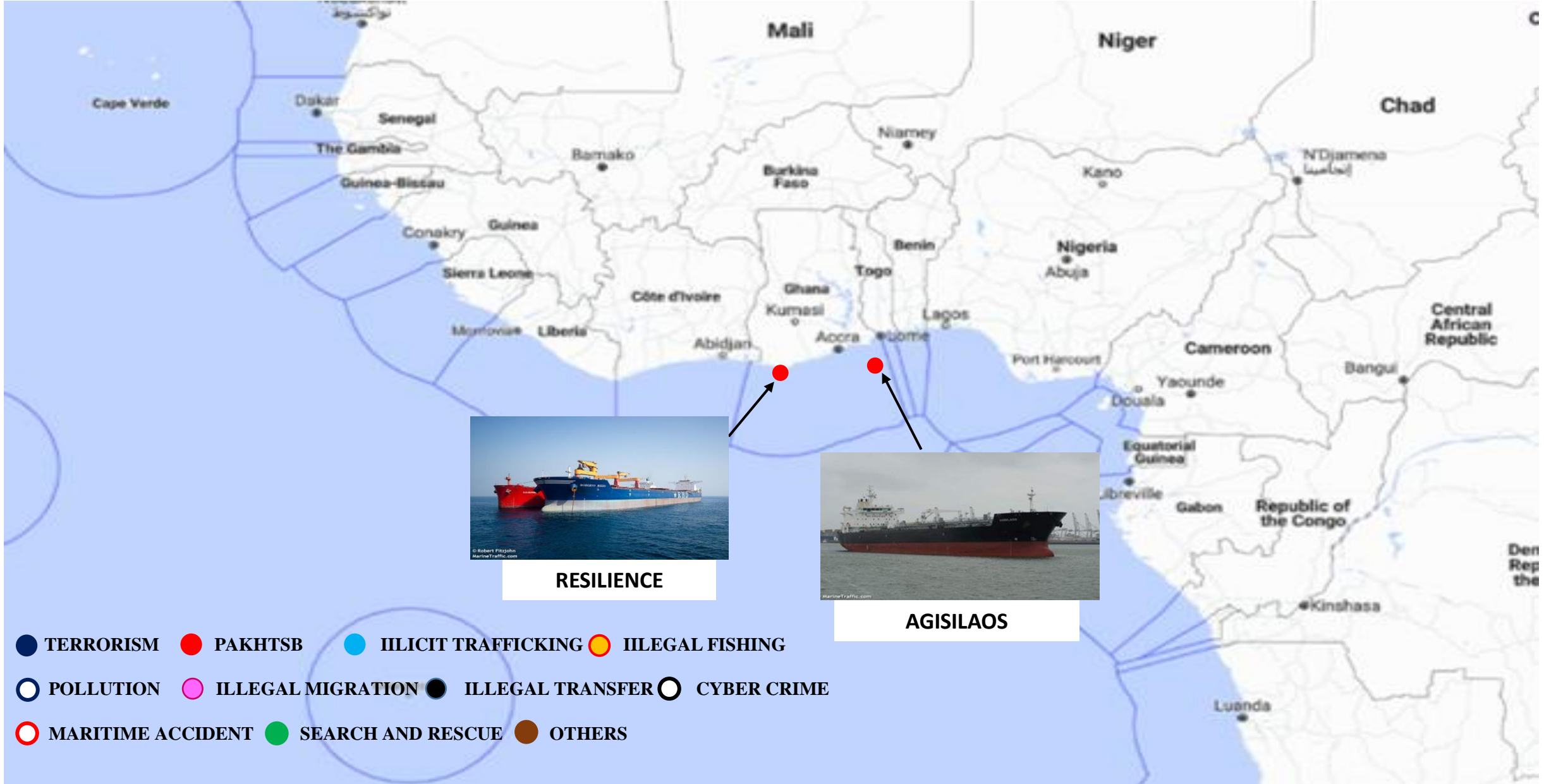
On 30 November 2020 at about 0241 UTC, the Marshall Islands flag product tanker AGISILAOS (IMO: 9315745) managed by Capital Ship Management - Athens, Greece was boarded by two armed perpetrators in position 04°54'03"N 001°10'07"E approximately 60NM South of Keta, Ghana at 2130 UTC on 29 November 2020.

The pirates immediately shut down the vessel communication system, damaged several cabins, stole laptops and money from the master. Four crew members comprising 2 Filipinos, one Russian and one Romanian were also kidnapped.

The vessel proceeded to Lomé anchorage for further investigations.



# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



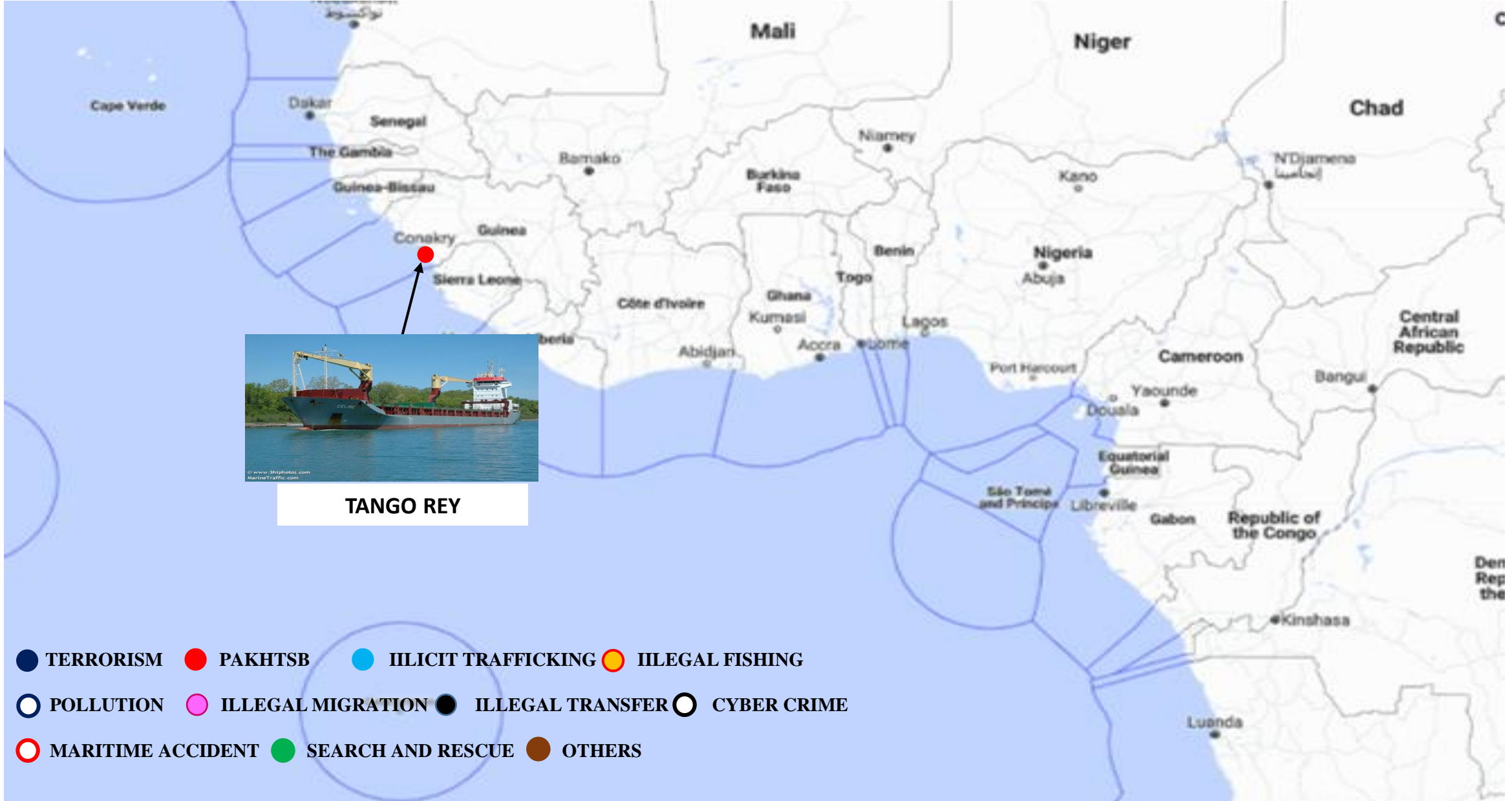
# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Armed Robbery – Conakry anchorage, Guinea**

On 30 November 2020 Guinea MOC reported that the Vanuatu flag general cargo vessel TANGO REY (IMO: 9214185) managed by Enzian Ship Management - Zurich, Switzerland was boarded by 6 perpetrators armed with guns and knives in position 09°21'46"N, 013°42'20"W at Conakry anchorage at 0324 UTC on 30 November 2020.

The perpetrators robbed the ship and crew of their belongings such as money, cell phones and computers.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION





# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

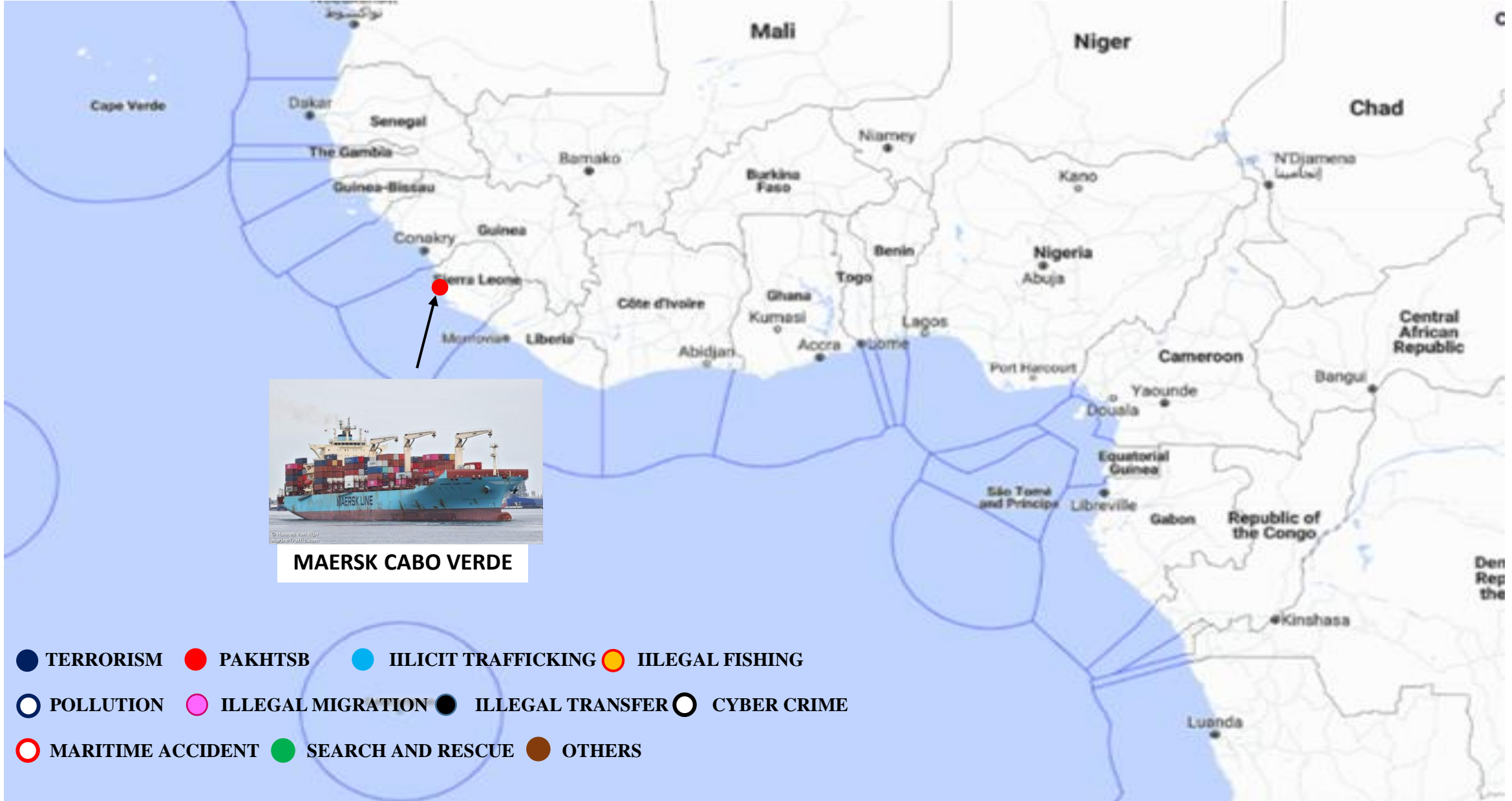
## **Boarding – Freetown, Sierra Leone**

Information available on Seavision indicates that the Hong Kong flag container vessel MAERSK CABO VERDE was boarded at berth in Freetown, Sierra Leone at 0415 UTC on 01 December 2020.

The duty crew onboard the vessel noticed a small craft alongside. One perpetrator was sighted onboard while another was also trying to board. The alarm was raised and the perpetrators fled in their small craft. Investigation conducted by the vessel revealed that, the rope used by the perpetrators to board the vessel was from the vessel. Some kind of collaboration between local port personnel and the perpetrators is therefore suspected.

The authorities were informed and investigation is being conducted.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



**MAERSK CABO VERDE**

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

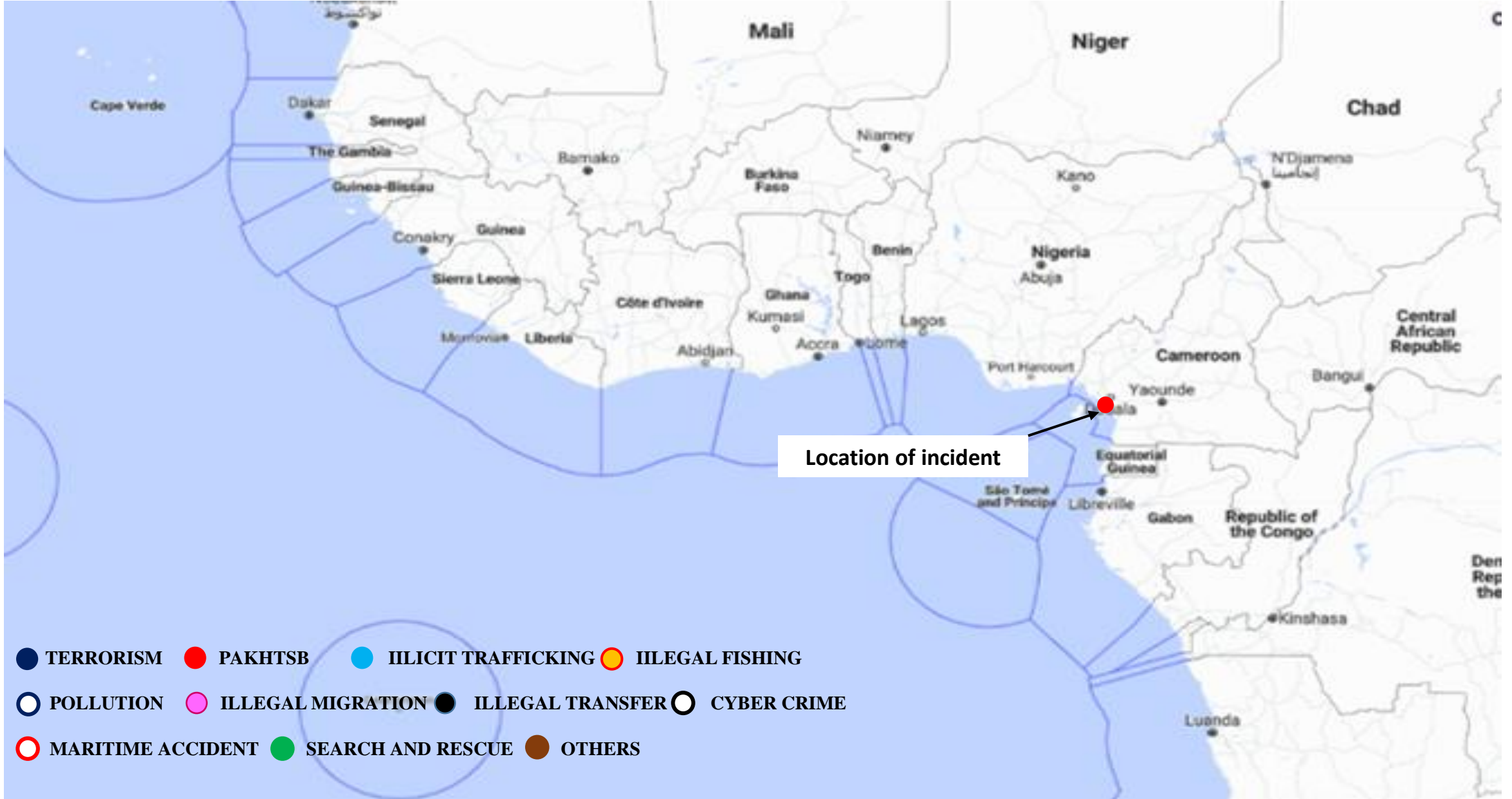
## **Fired Upon – Cape Bimbia, Cameroon**

On 30 November 2020 at 0050 UTC, the Cameroon flag fishing vessel KELLY DANIEL was attacked in position 03°51'03"N 009°14'05"E about 5NM off Cape Bimbia, Cameroon.

A speedboat with an unknown number of armed men attacked the vessel. There was exchange of gun fire between the Cameroon military security team on board the vessel and the perpetrators. One security personnel and some of the perpetrators were wounded. The perpetrators aborted the attack.

The authorities were informed and the wounded security personnel was recovered to the hospital for treatment.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Kidnapping – Okrika, Nigeria**

On 30 Nov 2020 at 1000 UTC, a passenger boat was attacked whilst transiting from Port Harcourt to Bonny in position 04°43'10"N 007°01'30"E, Okrika, Nigeria.

An unknown number of perpetrators in a speedboat boarded the vessel, robbed the passengers' valuable items, hijacked the passenger boat and later kidnapped two passengers. One passenger was also killed in the attack.

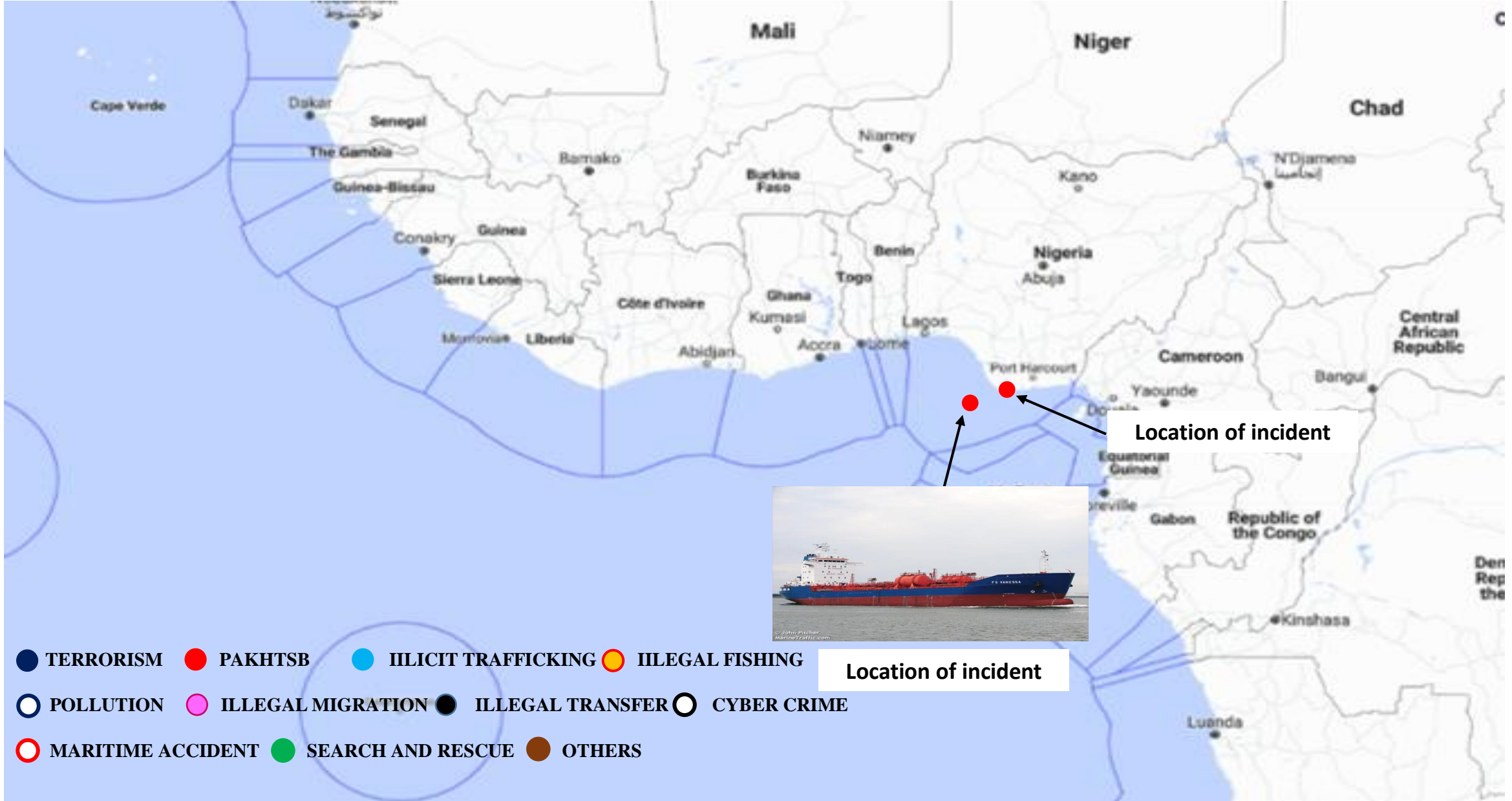
## **Suspicious Approach – Brass, Nigeria**

On 02 December 2020 at 1303 UTC, the Liberia flag product tanker LEVANTO managed by Unibros Shipping Corp Piraeus, Greece was suspiciously approached in position 03°11'36"N 005°01'24"E, approximately 85nm Southwest of Brass, Nigeria.

An unknown number of perpetrators in two speedboats approached the vessel to a distance of about 0.7nm while en route from Port Harcourt to Lagos. Military armed guards on board fired warning shots and the crafts aborted their pursuit.



# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



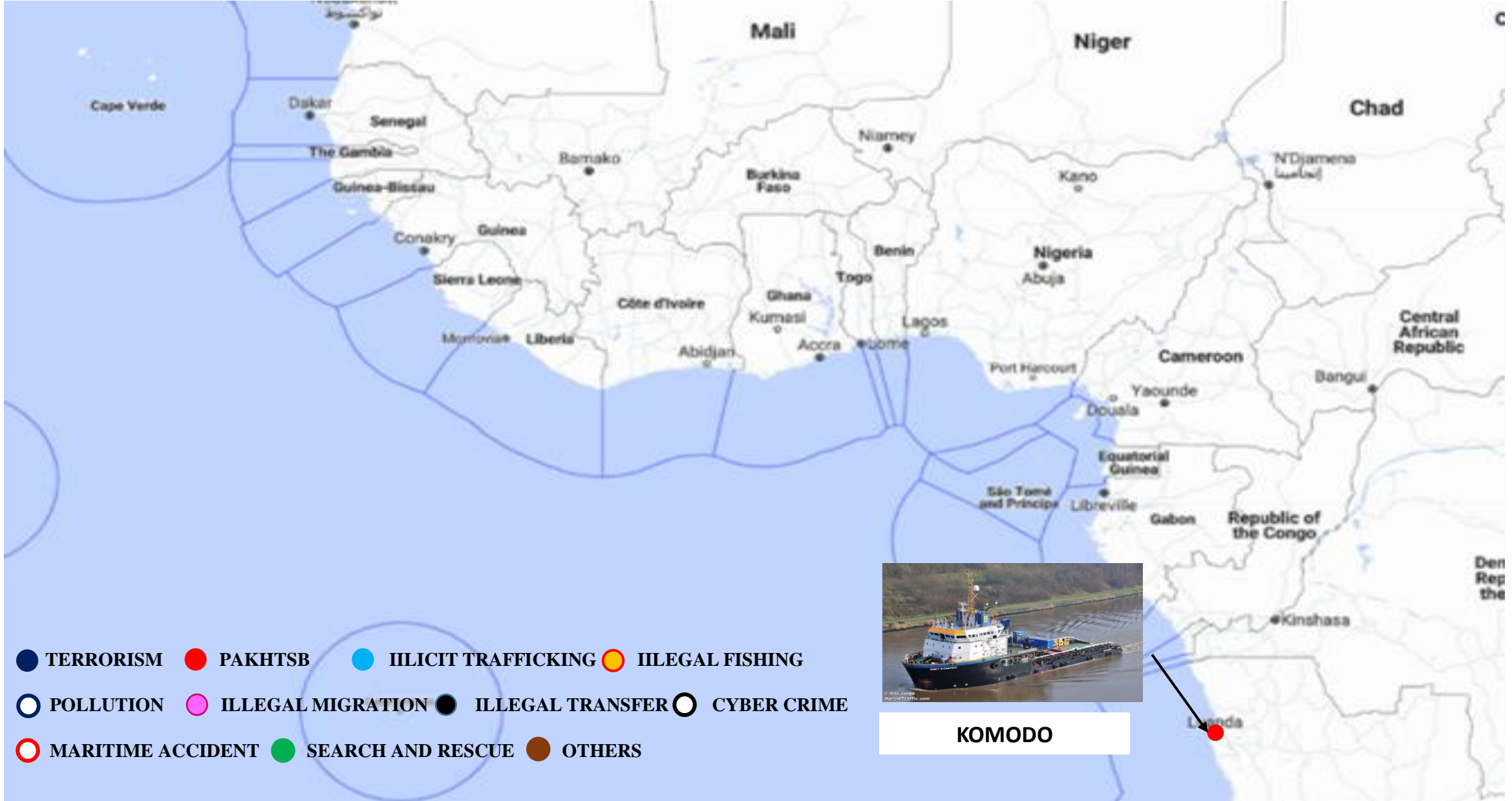
# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **Theft – Luanda anchorage Angola**

On 29 November 2020 at 0040 UTC, the Malta flag supply vessel KOMODO managed by Boskalis Offshore Fleet Management, Netherlands was boarded in position 08°45'95"S 013°16'33"E at the Luanda anchorage, Angola.

A review of CCTV recordings revealed that two perpetrators had gained access to the vessel at the stern and removed the equipment. The crew later discovered that the ship's diving equipment had been stolen.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



# GENERAL COMMENTS

- The month of November 2020 witnessed an unprecedented increase in pirate attacks and crew kidnapping. A total of 18 incidents were recorded within the month resulting in the kidnapping of 38 crew members. This mass kidnapping is expected to continue till the end of 2020 with a possible spill over into the first quarter of 2021.
- A total of 8 African nationals were kidnapped from two separate incidents at the high seas. This is a departure from the normal as foreigners are mostly the target.
- The frequency and persistent nature of attacks over the past weeks indicates that, the risk of pirate attacks in maritime Zone E has reached critical level while that of other maritime Zones continue to rise as the pirate action groups are still at sea looking for targets to attack.
- All vessels transiting between maritime Zones D, E and F are advised to remain extremely vigilant, maintain a sharp anti-piracy lookout and report any suspicious activities or skiff/boat movements to the necessary authorities promptly
- Coastal states are encouraged to intensify patrols and increase presence at sea including the use of MPAs to help interdict the perpetrators and provide security for shipping.

# 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

- 1,900 Containers Lost or Damaged on ONE Box ship.
- Source. <https://www.maritime-executive.com>

# METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

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

### Thursday 12/3

#### Morning ►

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

Winds: SW 11 to 15 knots.

Seas: S 4 feet at 9 seconds.

#### Afternoon ►

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

Winds: SW 10 to 14 knots.

Seas: S 4 feet at 9 seconds.

### Friday 12/4

#### Morning ►

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

Winds: SSW 11 to 16 knots.

Seas: S 3 feet at 9 seconds.

#### Afternoon ►

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

Winds: SW 7 to 9 knots.

Seas: S 3 feet at 9 seconds.



# CONTACT DETAILS NATIONAL AND ZONAL CENTERS

<b>ZONE E</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
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
<b>ZONE F</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
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
<b>ZONE G</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
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 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**

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

**Email: [zonefmmcc@gmail.com](mailto:zonefmmcc@gmail.com) / [zonefmoc@gmail.com](mailto:zonefmoc@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.mmcczonef.com](http://www.mmcczonef.com)**

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

**Satellite Phone: +870778617068**

**Radio: HF 8657 KHZ**

**Radio: VHF CH 16**