



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION
CENTRE
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT

02 APRIL – 08 APRIL 2021

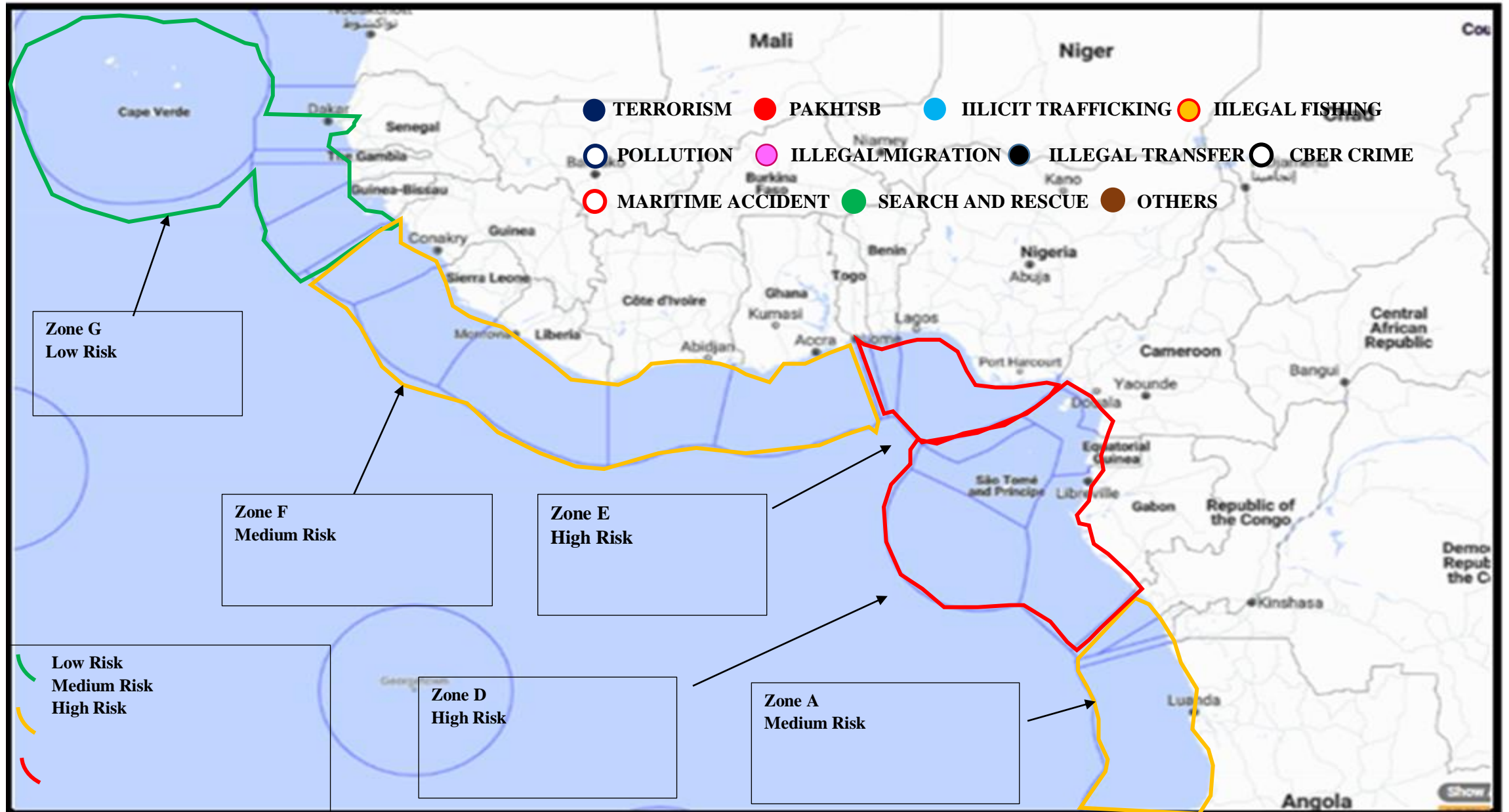
OVERVIEW

- The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F and the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) remained safe and secure.
- Maritime Zone F recorded one incident.
- Threat to marine resources – Fishes and dolphins washed-ashore in Ghana.
- 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)	Hijacking					
	Kidnapping					
	Armed Robbery				1	
	Firing Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding					
	Boarding					
	Theft					
	Suspicious Approach					
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



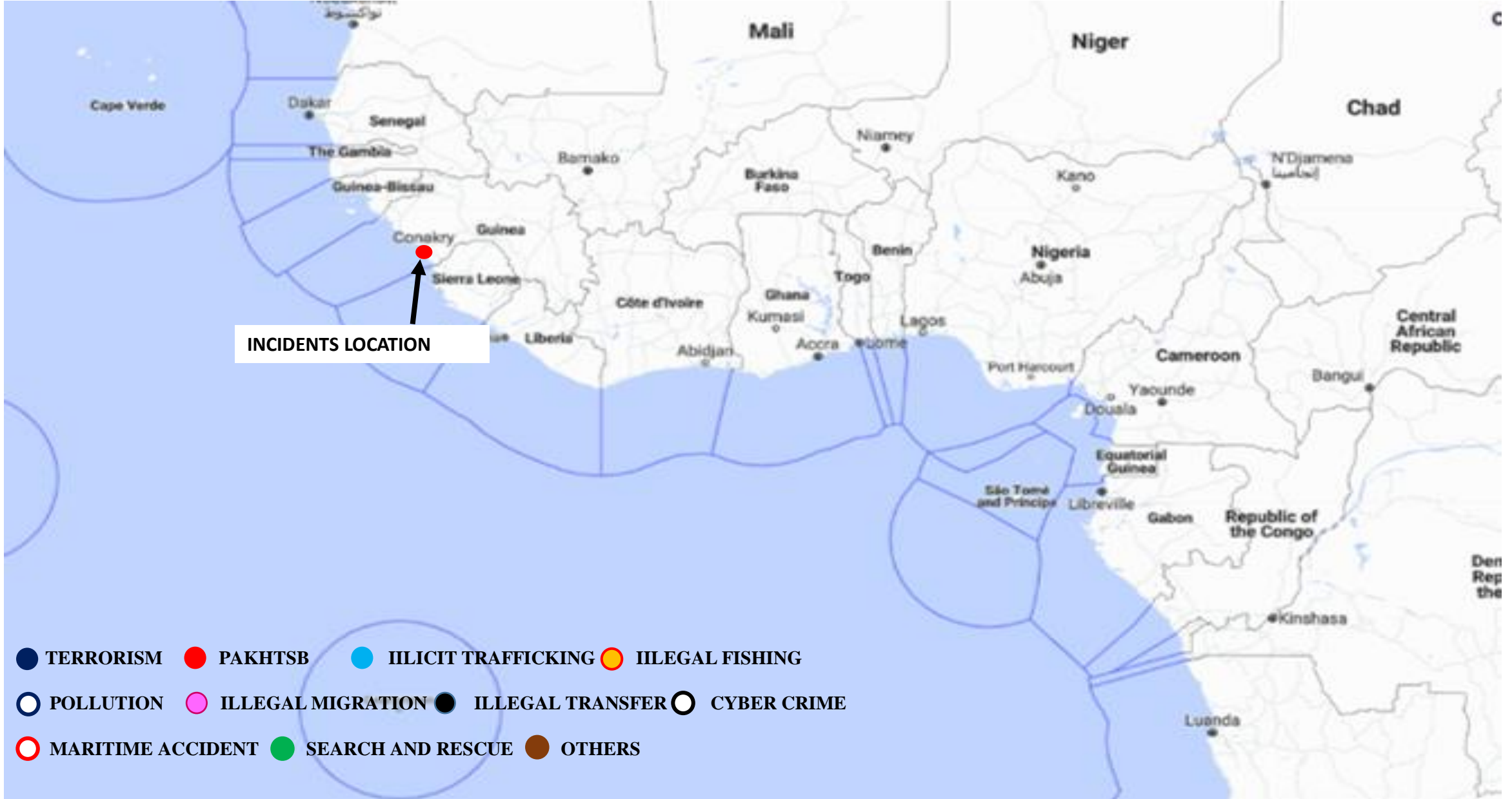
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

Armed robbery – Conakry anchorage, Guinea.

On 02 April 2021 at 0230 UTC, the Greece flag bulk carrier COMMON FAITH was attacked at Conakry anchorage, Guinea.

According to the report, four perpetrators armed with knives and a gun boarded the vessel that arrived at the anchorage from Oran in Algeria on 27 March 2021 and stole cash as well as some of the crew's personal belongings. No crew member were reported injured.

INCIDENT DISPOSITION

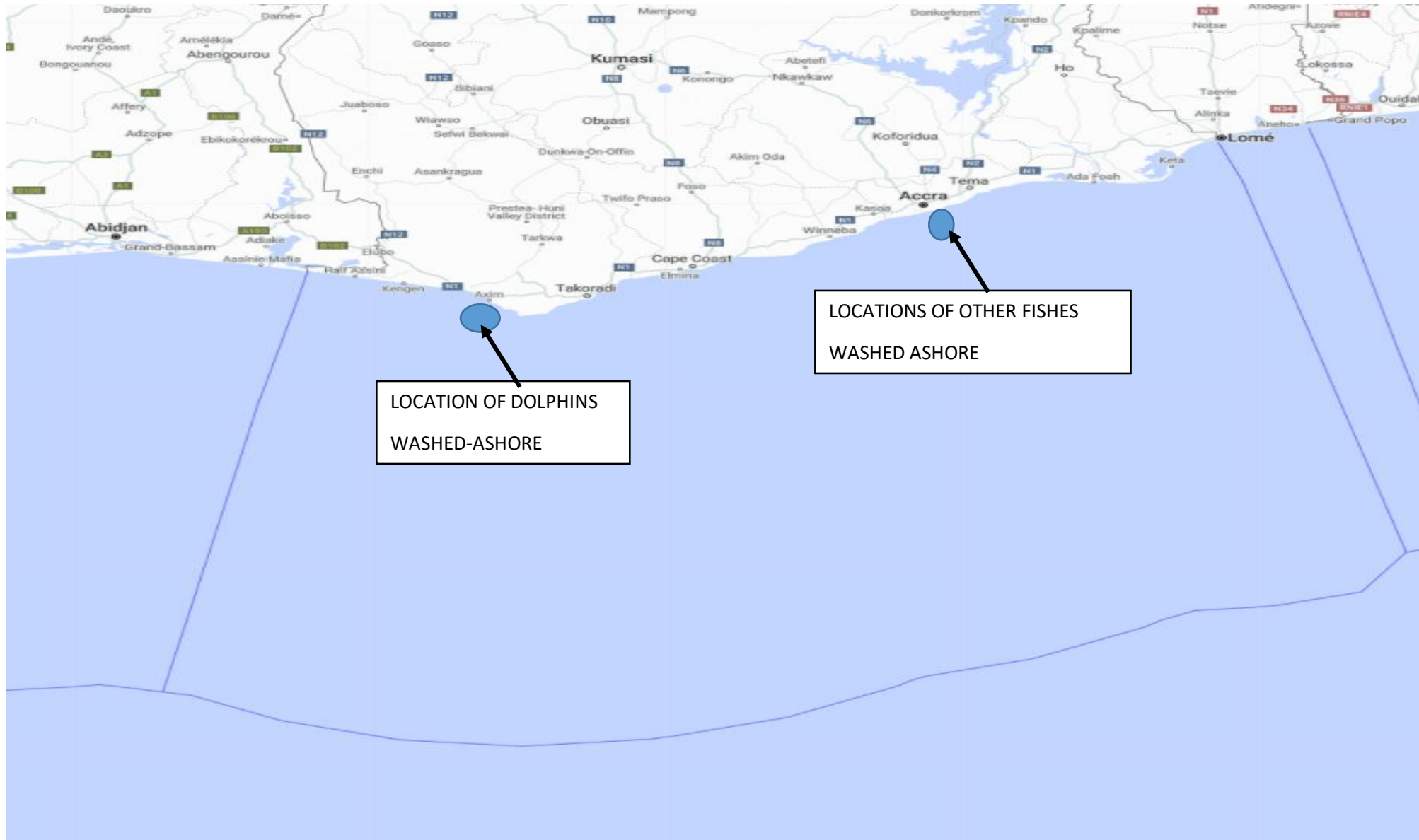


- TERRORISM
- PAKHTSB
- ILLICIT TRAFFICKING
- IILEGAL FISHING
- POLLUTION
- ILLEGAL MIGRATION
- ILLEGAL TRANSFER
- CYBER CRIME
- MARITIME ACCIDENT
- SEARCH AND RESCUE
- OTHERS

THREAT TO MARINE RESOURCES IN GHANA

1. On 3 April 2021, an incident involving swathes of dead fishes spread across the shores of the Osu Castle beach area was reported by the Fisheries Commission of Ghana. Experts from the Commission dispatched to the area noticed that they were dead small pelagic and demersal fishes at the shore.
2. Initial observation of the fishes showed no wound /lesions on their bodies. The colour of the sea and temperature were also observed to be normal. However, by mid-morning, the colour of the fish appeared to be changing with sticky glue-like substance inside when cut open.
3. Similarly, over 80 – 100 dolphins were reportedly washed ashore off the coast of Axim in the western part of Ghana on 4 April 2021 at about 1500 hours. According to reports, unknown number of the dolphins have found their way into the homes of the locals.
4. The cause of the fish mortalities remains unknown. The Food and Drugs Authority, the Ghana Police and other relevant National authorities have taken samples of the fishes from both locations for further investigations. Sea water samples have also been collected to be analysed for their physical, chemical and other biological parameters.
5. Samples of the fishes are believed to have been sold to fishmongers and sellers and have already entered the market. The general public including neighbouring countries such as Cote d'Ivoire and Togo are cautioned to be guided by the freshness of the eyes and redness of the gills of the fishes they intend to purchase in the markets. The washed-ashore fish generally show signs of popped out and unclear eyes, dull colouration of gills, bloating around the abdominal areas and/or possible oozing of foul scented fluids.

INCIDENT DISPOSITIONS



GENERAL COMMENTS

- Port Authorities and security agencies are encouraged to increase patrols within anchorage areas to deter perpetrators and maintain security.
- All vessels operating within the general area are advised to remain vigilant and keep sharp anti-piracy lookout as the pirates have resumed operations towards the Western frontier of the Gulf of Guinea.
- The FDA and other relevant authorities are encouraged to as a matter of urgency put in appropriate measures to recover as much as possible the quantities of fish that have found their way into the markets to prevent any possible harm to consumers.
- Authorities are encouraged to conduct prompt and timely investigations into these fish mortalities to help ascertain the possible cause and how to prevent any future occurrence.
- Coastal States in Maritime Zones E and F are requested to be vigilant, monitor their coastlines and report any similar incidents of fish washed-ashore along their coast.

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 and vigilant duty watch especially from 2200 – 0400 hours.

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

- MSC Spends \$100 Million on Security Upgrades After Cocaine Mega-Bust.
- <https://www.maritime-executive.com>

METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

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

Thursday 4/8

Morning ►

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

Winds: S 10 to 14 knots.

Seas: S 3 feet at 11 seconds.

Afternoon ►

Light SSW winds with a slight chop. Small mid period waves.

Winds: SSW 8 to 12 knots.

Seas: SSW 3 feet at 11 seconds.

Friday 4/9

Morning ►

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

Winds: S 13 to 18 knots.

Seas: S 3 feet at 10 seconds.

Afternoon ►

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

Winds: S 11 to 15 knots.

Seas: S 4 feet at 12 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
RMRCC 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 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 / zonefmoc@gmail.com

Website: www.mmcczonef.com

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

Satellite Phone: +870778617068

Radio: HF 8657 KHZ

Radio: VHF CH 16