

ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION  
CENTRE  
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY  
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT

09 JUL – 15 JUL 2021

# 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.

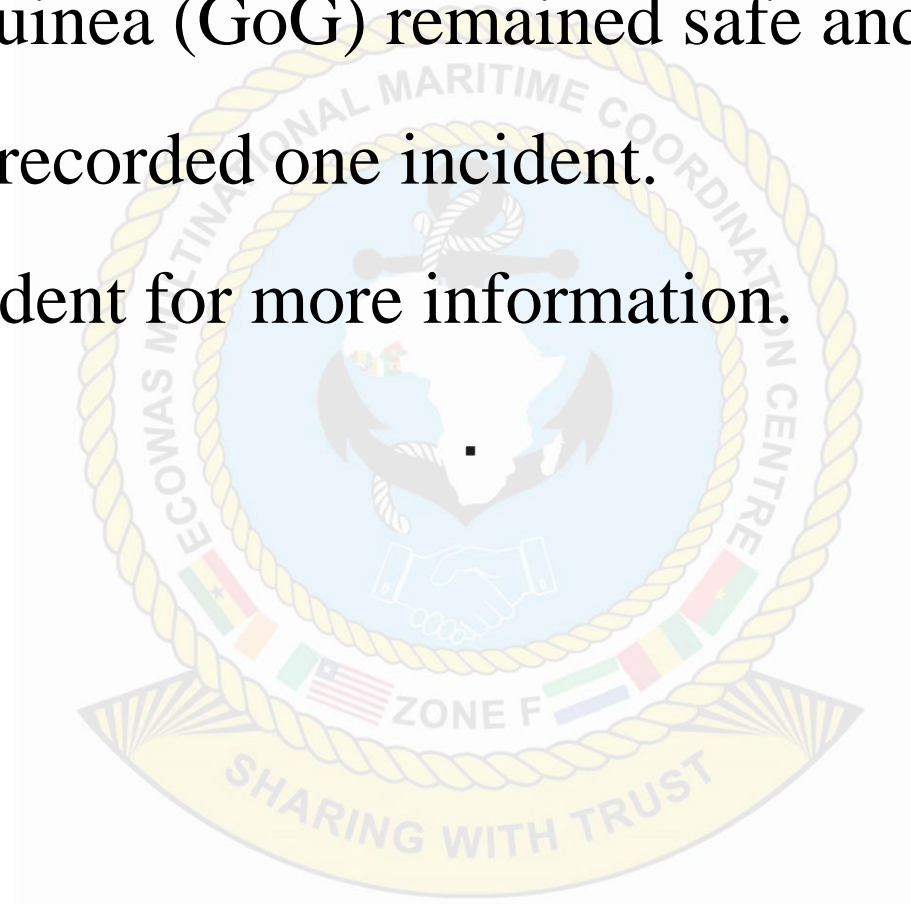
- **OTHER MARITIME INCIDENTS.**

**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.

# 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.
- See details of incident for more information.



# INCIDENTS RECORDED

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>	Hijacking					
	Kidnapping					
	Armed Robbery				1	
	Firing Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding					
	Boarding					
	Theft					
	Suspicious Approach					
<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>						

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **ARMED ROBBERY ONBOARD MV MACHITIS, GUINEA CONAKRY**

Information received indicates the Bahamas flag cargo vessel MV MACHITIS was attacked while at anchor at position 09°18N – 013°49W about 12NM SE of the Conakry port on the 08 July 21 at 0330UTC.

According to the report, 6 to 7 perpetrators in a skiff armed with guns and knives boarded the vessel. The perpetrators robbed the crew of their money, laptops, phones, and other personal belongings. No injury was however recorded.

### COMMENTS:

This is the second armed robbery incident at Conakry anchorage following a similar incident on MT COMMON FAITH on 2 April 2021 and the fifth within the ports and anchorages of maritime Zone F.

About 44% of all maritime incidents recorded so far in 2021 in the GoG have occurred within the ports, anchorages, internal waters and TTWs.

Coastal states port authorities and law enforcement agencies are encouraged to increase security and surveillance within the ports and anchorages to help deter or arrest the perpetrators.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION

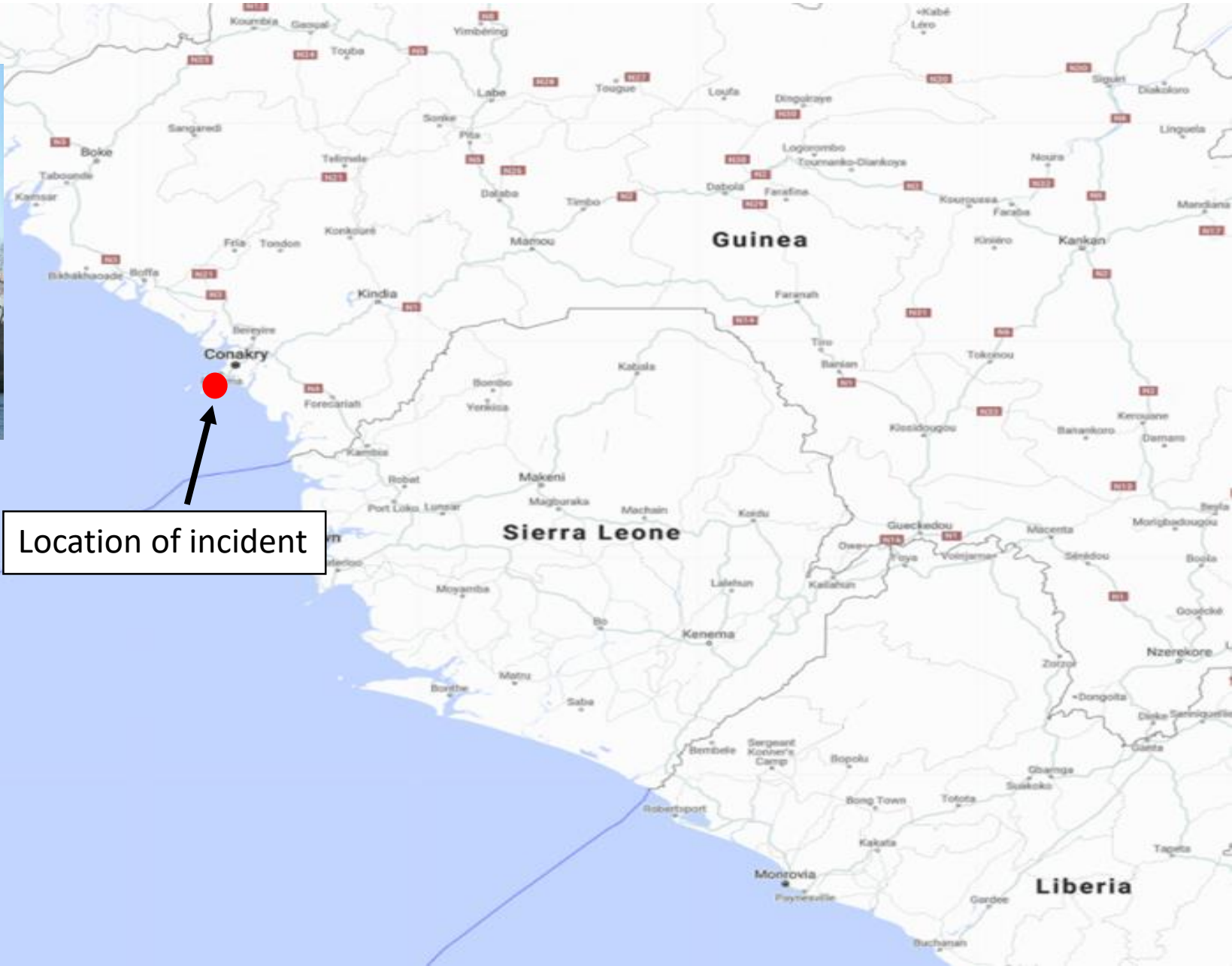


**VESSEL NAME:** MACHITIS

**FLAG:** BAHAMAS

**IMO:** 9151395

Location of incident



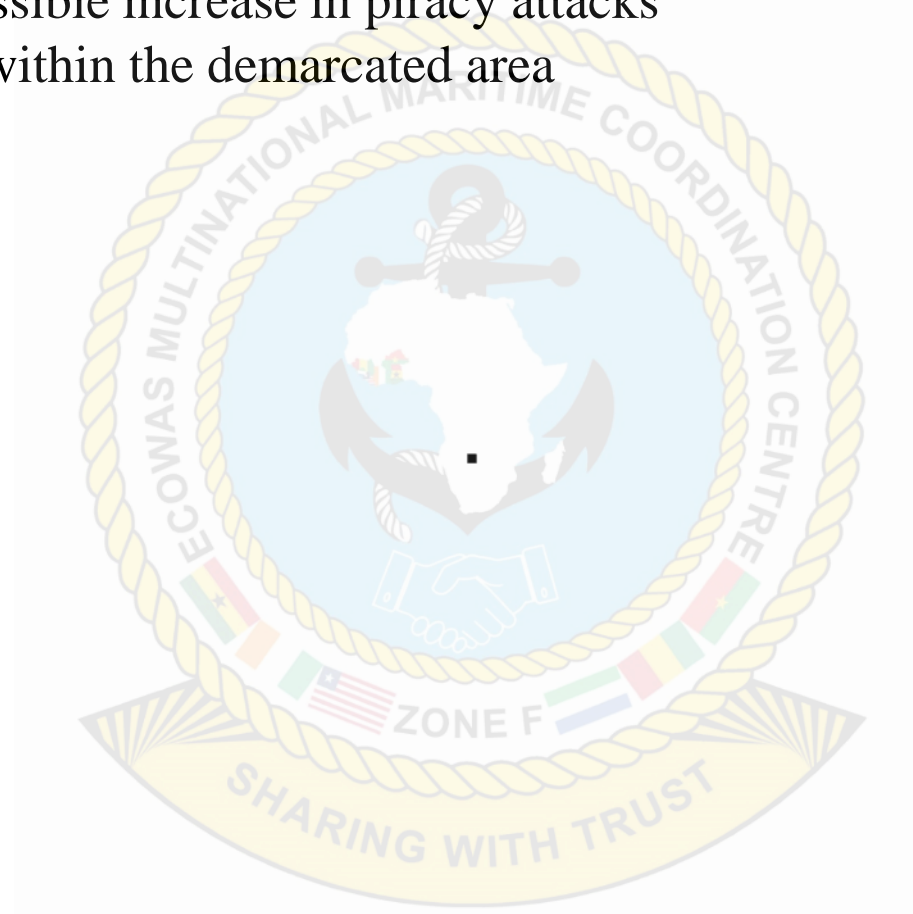
# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## INCREASED THREAT TO SHIPPING WITHIN ZONE D MARITIME DOMAIN

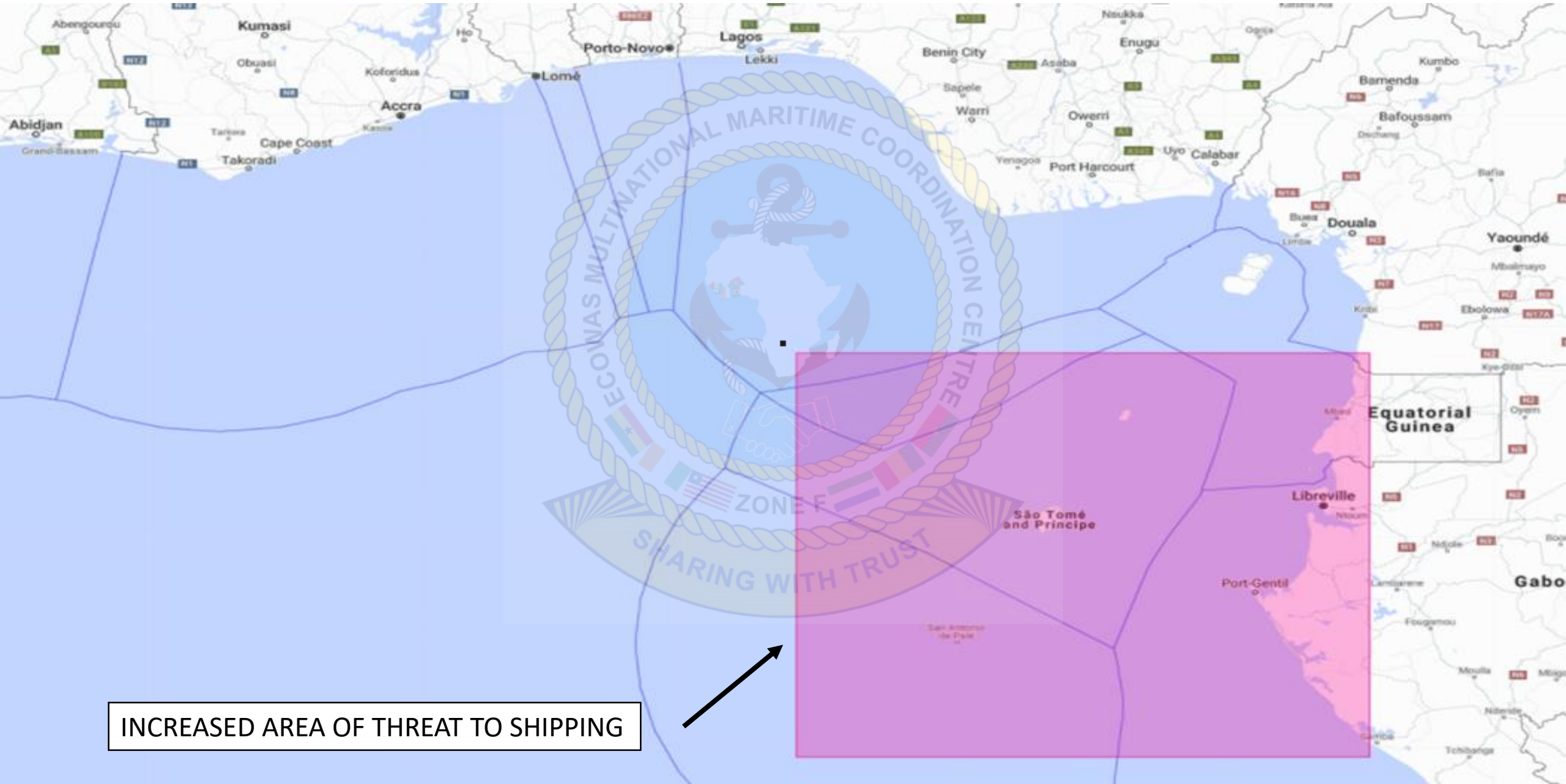
Information received indicates a possible increase in piracy attacks against vessels in the coming days within the demarcated area

Coordinates:

- A. 022335N 0095021E
- B. 022502N 0035745E
- C. 025702S 0040011E
- D. 025514S 0100212E



# GENERAL AREA OF POSSIBLE PIRATE ATTACK



INCREASED AREA OF THREAT TO SHIPPING



# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## COMMENTS

The general area is over 113,760 square nautical miles covering mainly Sao Tome and Principe, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon maritime domain. The general area has so far recorded over 8 incidents including the kidnapping of 15 crew onboard DAVIDE B on 11 March 2021 beyond the EEZ south of Cotonou, Benin. Recall a warning was issued that a deep offshore pirate action group from the Niger Delta Area, Nigeria set sail to sea on 27 June 2021 to attack vessels. The threat of pirate attacks against shipping within the area is evaluated to be high. With the release of all kidnapped crew by pirates except five, the pirate action groups will be determined to attack vessels to kidnap new crew members.

All mariners and vessels transiting the demarcated area are advised to be extra vigilant and if possible make arrangements for escort services. Vessels making arrangements for escort services are advised to ensure proper coordination with coastal authorities to prevent gaps in arrival times which pirates usually exploit to attack vessels. Coastal law enforcement agencies as well as international partners (foreign naval vessels operating in GoG) are encouraged to increase surveillance and patrols within the GoG to deter pirate attacks or enable quick response in case of pirates attack.

All vessels transiting the GoG are advised to be extra vigilant, maintain sharp lookout especially at night, observe anti-piracy measures contained in the BMP 5 and report any suspicious activities to the necessary authorities.

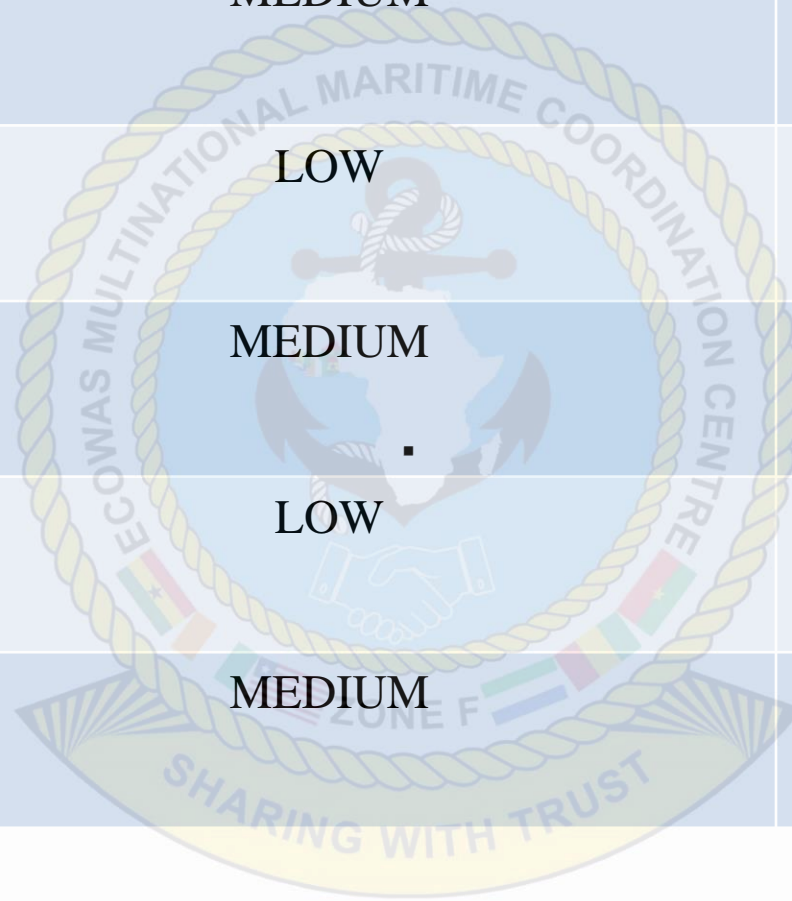
# OTHER MARITIME ACTIVITIES – ZONE F

EVENT	DESCRIPTION	ACTIONS TAKEN
IUU FISHING	NTR	NTR
MARITIME POLLUTION	NTR	NTR
ILLEGAL BUNKERING	NTR	NTR
SEARCH AND RESCUE	NTR	NTR
MARITIME ACCIDENT	NTR	NTR
WEAPON/DRUG TRAFFICKING	NTR	NTR



# MARITIME RISK ANALYSIS – ZONE F

COUNTRY	PORTS/ANCHORAGE	EEZ
GHANA	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
COTE D'IVOIRE	LOW	LOW
LIBERIA	MEDIUM	LOW
SIERRA LEONE	LOW	LOW
GUINEA	MEDIUM	LOW

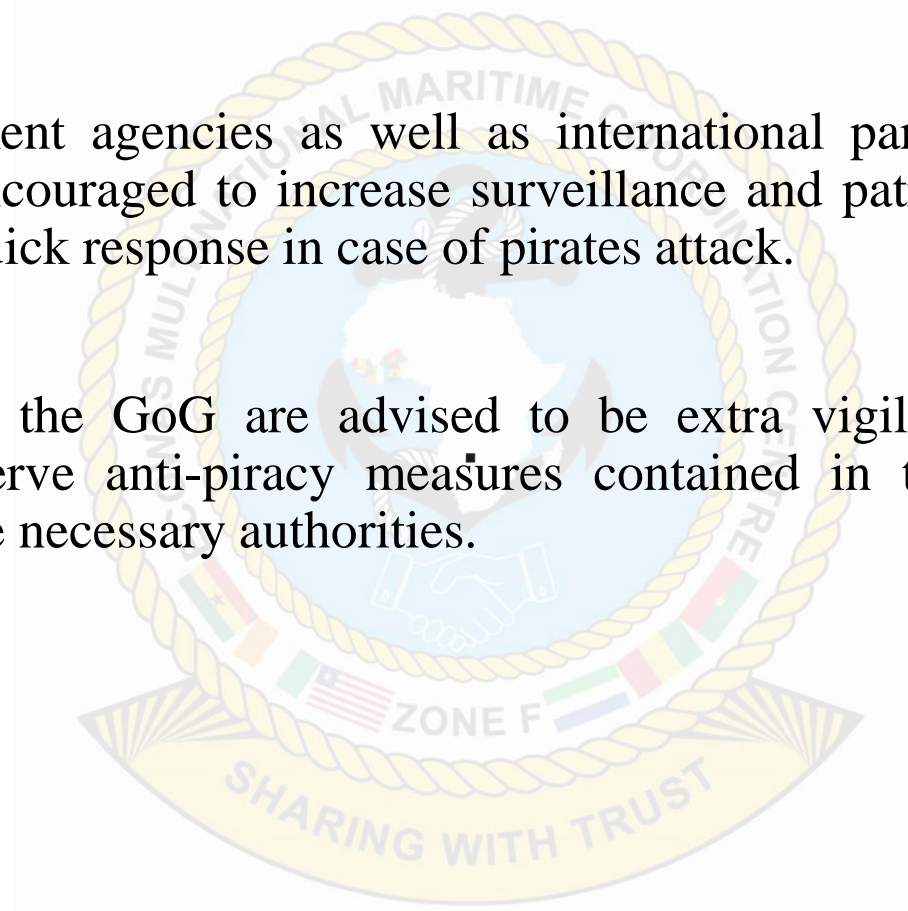


# GENERAL COMMENTS/ADVISORIES

- The week has been relatively calm with no incidents recorded. The last incident offshore was attempted
- boarding against CP TIANJIN about 207nm south of Cotonou, Benin on 6 June 2021 at 1700 UTC (25days ago).
- However, the threat of piracy attacks against ships remains high within the GoG given that a deep offshore pirate action group set sail to sea on 27 June 2021 preparing to attack vessels transiting the Region.
- Vessels making arrangements for escort services are advised to ensure proper coordination with coastal authorities to prevent gaps in arrival times which pirates usually exploit to attack vessels.
- The release of the five crew in good health and condition is a welcome news. The crew were in pirate custody for 40 days. This follows the observed trend where kidnapped crew are released between 30 – 40 days duration.

# GENERAL COMMENTS/ADVISORIES

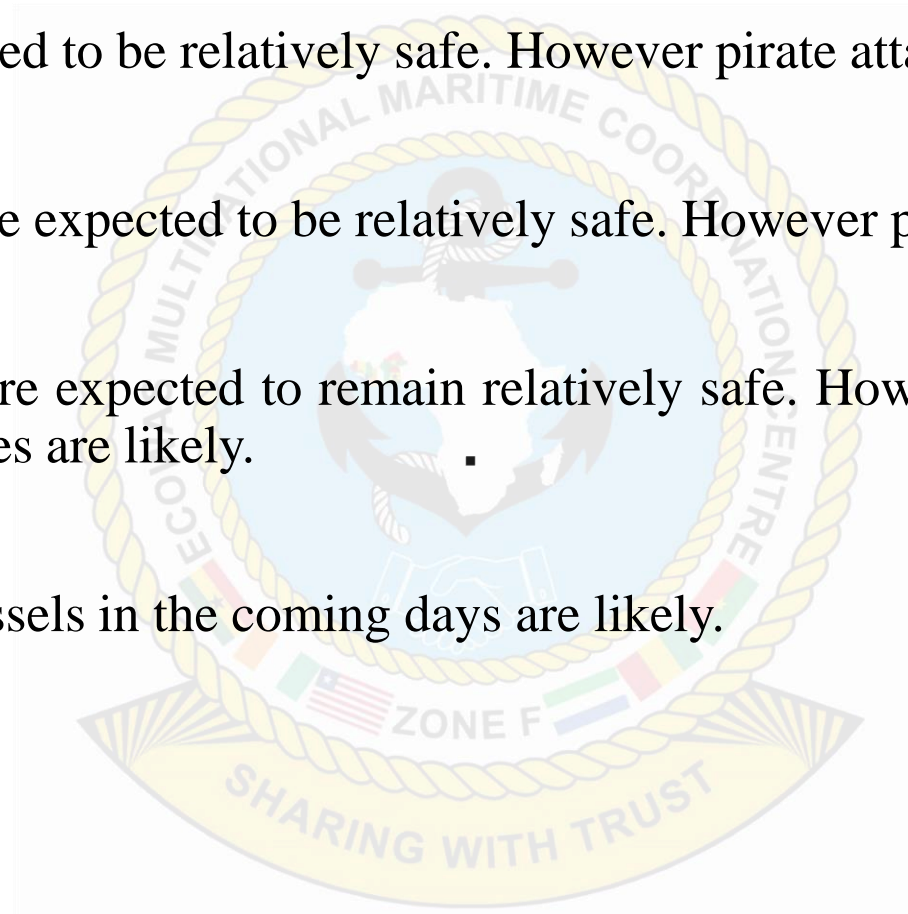
- □ However, with the release of the five crew and leaving only five in pirate's custody, the pirate action groups are likely to carry out more operations in the coming days to kidnap new crew for ransom as indicated in pirate action group that set sail to sea to attack vessels.
- □ Coastal law enforcement agencies as well as international partners (foreign naval vessels operating in GoG) are encouraged to increase surveillance and patrols within the GoG to deter pirate attacks or enable quick response in case of pirates attack.
- □ All vessels transiting the GoG are advised to be extra vigilant, maintain sharp lookout especially at night, observe anti-piracy measures contained in the BMP 5 and report any suspicious activities to the necessary authorities.



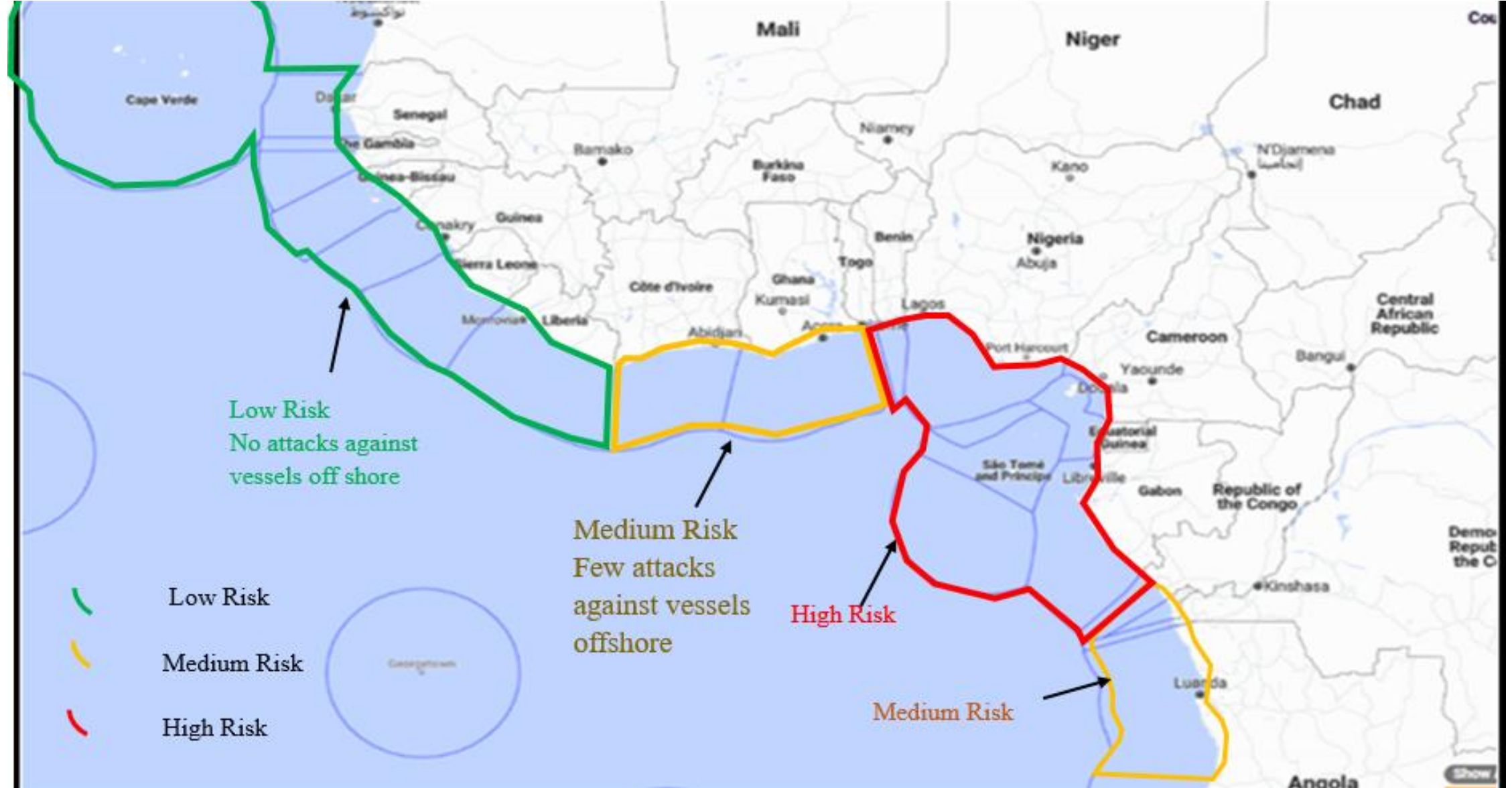
# FORECAST FOR THE COMING WEEK

## FORECAST

- Maritime Zone F is expected to be relatively safe. However pirate attacks is likely.
- Maritime Zone E and D are expected to be relatively safe. However pirate attacks is more likely.
- Maritime Zone A and G are expected to remain relatively safe. However petty theft and robberies within ports and anchorages are likely.
- Attacks against fishing vessels in the coming days are likely.



# MARITIME RISK AREAS



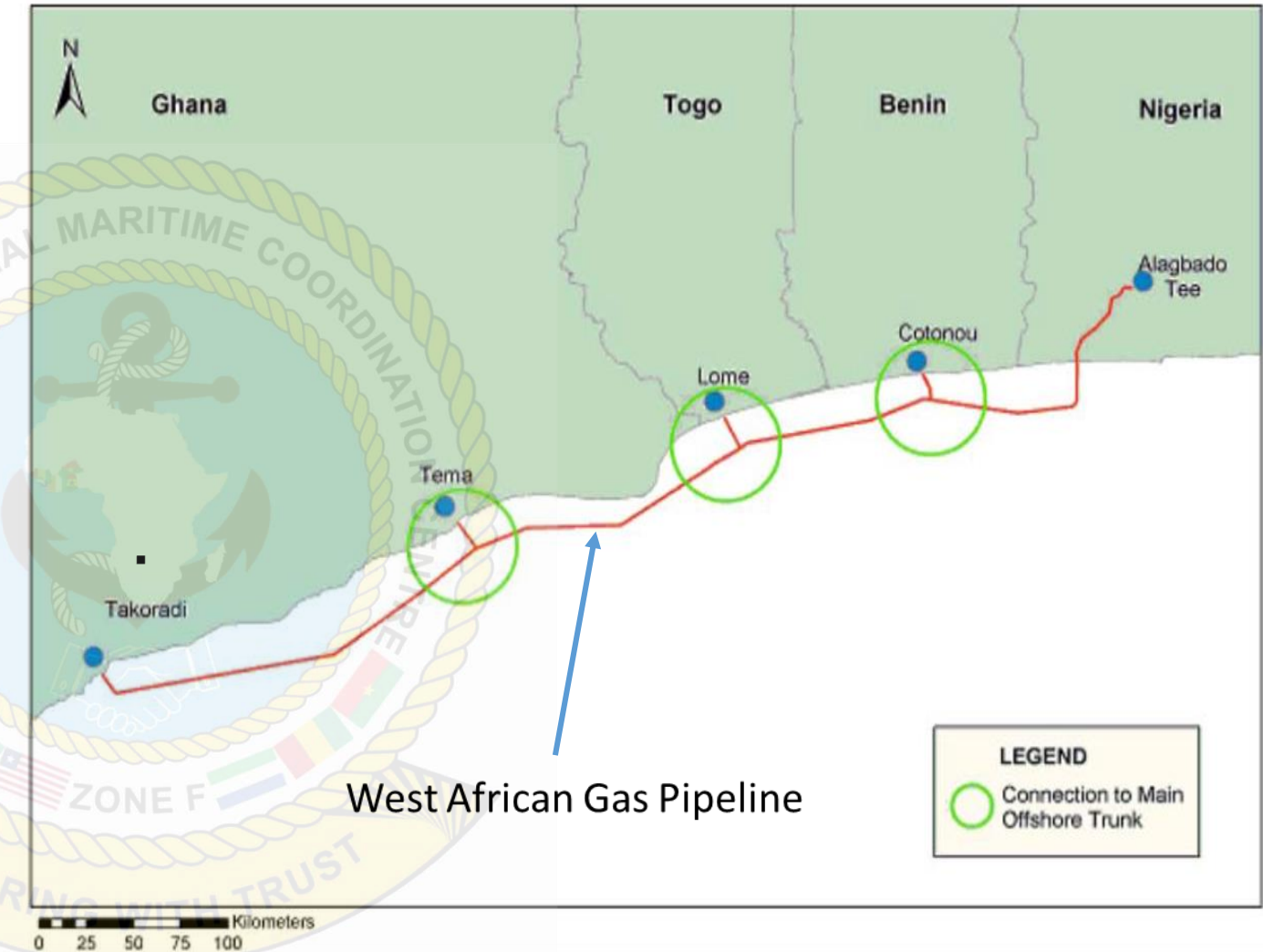
# NOTICES

## 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

## FIGHT AGAINST MARITIME CRIME

- President Muhammadu Buhari says Nigeria loses about 26.3 billion dollars annually to various forms of criminality particularly piracy and sea robbery.

Source: <https://shippingposition.com.ng/nigeria-loses-26-3bn-annually-to-piracy-sea-robbery-others-buhari/>



# CONTACT DETAILS OF 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)**

**HOTLINE: +233547976523**

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

**Satellite Phone: +870778617068**

**Radio: HF 8657 KHZ**

**Radio: VHF CH 16**



# 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