



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION  
CENTRE  
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY  
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT



22 – 28 OCT 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.

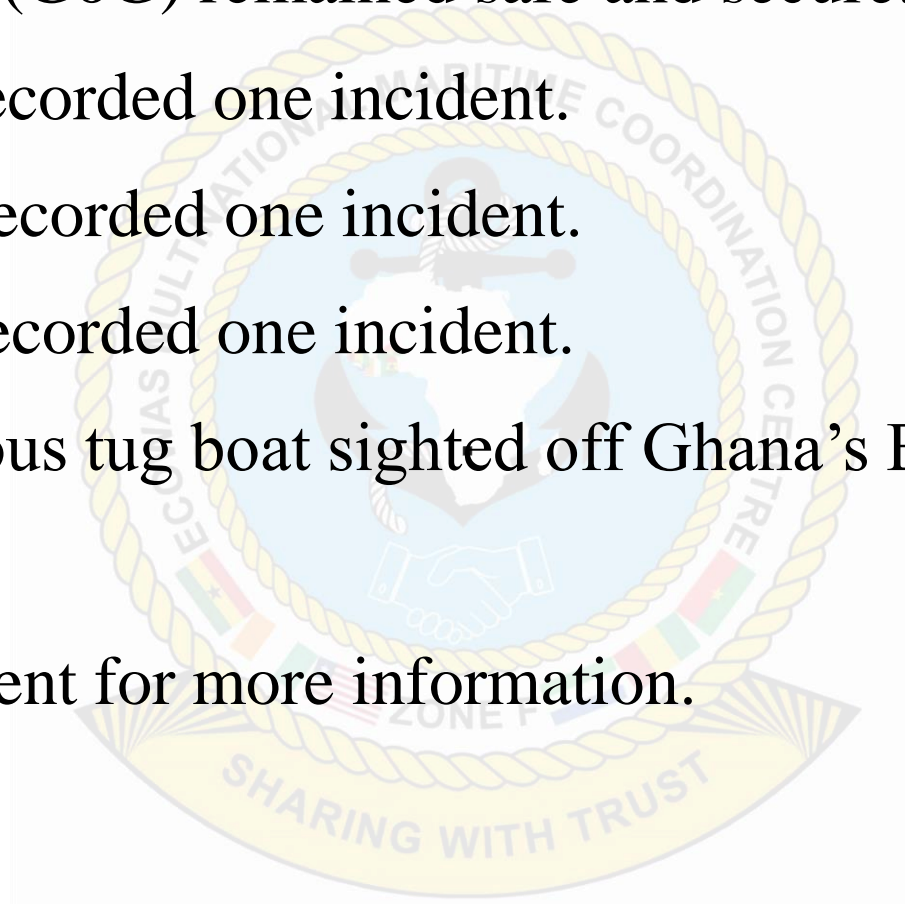
- **OTHER MARITIME INCIDENTS.**

**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.
- Maritime Zone D recorded one incident.
- Maritime Zone E recorded one incident.
- Update on Suspicious tug boat sighted off Ghana's EEZ.
- 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		1			
	Armed Robbery				1	
	Firing Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding					
	Boarding			1		
	Theft					
	Suspicious Approach					
<b>ILLICIT TRAFIC</b>	Human					
	Drug					
	Weapons/Ammunitions					
	Smuggling					
<b>I.U.U FISHING</b>	Industrial Fishing					
	Craft Fishing					
<b>POLLUTION</b>						
<b>ILLICIT 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 - CONAKRY, GUINEA.**

The Panama flag tanker vessel WHITE IVY was attacked at position 09°22'51"N 013°41'27"W about 8nm South of Conakry Port, Guinea at 0208 UTC on 25 October 2021.

According to the report, the vessel was attacked by 7 perpetrators armed with guns and knives. The Guinean Authorities responded to the distress message by dispatching a patrol boat and other law enforcement agencies to the scene. The navy and the maritime police team boarded the vessel to conduct search. No perpetrators were however found onboard. The perpetrators successfully made away with 12 computers, 9 mobile phones and some cash. No casualties were recorded in the attacked.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



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MarineTraffic.com

## VESSEL DETAILS

**NAME: WHITE IVY**

**IMO: 9370393**

**MMSI: 370126000**

**FLAG: PANAMA**

**LENGTH/BREADTH: 137 / 23 m**



Location of incident

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## **BOARDING - PORT HARCOURT, NIGERIA**

The Panama flagged tanker vessel MV MSC LUCIA was boarded about 181NM Southwest of Port Harcourt, Nigeria at about 0815 UTC on 25 October 21.

According to the report, the ship crew successfully withdrawn into the citadel. The Russian destroyer VICE ADMIRAL KULAKOV responded to the incident and secured the vessel. According to the report, the destroyer VICE ADMIRAL KULAKOV, after receiving a distress signal from MSC LUCIA launched her KUMOV KA-27PS helicopter carrying a boarding party of Russian marines.

The pirates upon sighting the approaching aircraft, got into their skiff and fled the scene heading towards the coast at full speed. The boarding team boarded and searched the vessel, but no pirate was found onboard.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



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MarineTraffic.com

## VESSEL DETAILS

NAME: MV MSC LUCIA

IMO: 9370393

MMSI: 372045000

FLAG: PANAMA

LENGTH/BREADTH: 190 / 29 m



Location of incident

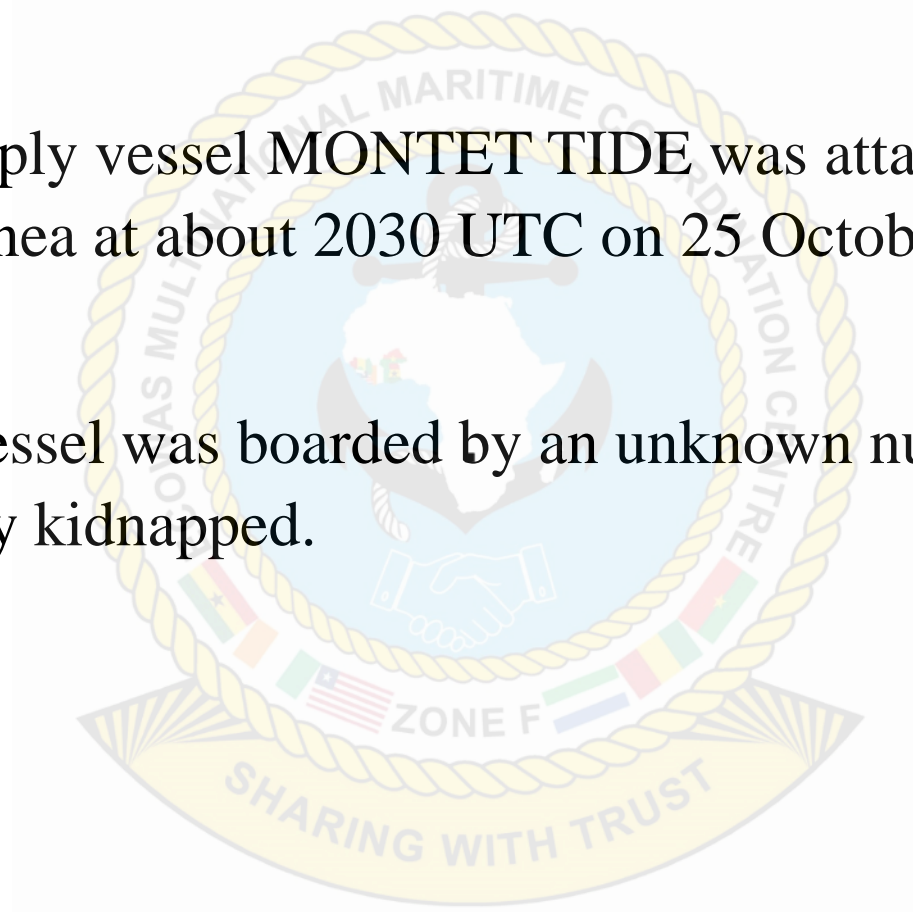


# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## KIDNAPPING - BIOKO ISLANDS, EQUATORIAL GUINEA

The Vanuatu flag offshore supply vessel MONTET TIDE was attacked about 48nm SSW of Bioko Islands, Equatorial Guinea at about 2030 UTC on 25 October 2021.

According to the report, the vessel was boarded by an unknown number of perpetrators. Three crew members were reportedly kidnapped.



# INCIDENT DISPOSITION



## VESSEL DETAILS

**NAME: MONTET TIDE**

**IMO: 9533610**

**MMSI: 577045000**

**FLAG: VANUATU**

**LENGTH/BREADTH: 87 / 19 m**

Location of incident

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## SUSPICIOUS TUG BOAT

Recall a 24m long suspicious tug boat was sighted about 240nm south of Tema, Ghana.

The Italian Naval vessel ITS MARCEGLIA's helicopter during its flight operations sighted the suspicious tug boat at position 01°30'18" N 001°22'31" E about 269nm south of Lome, Togo.

During interrogation, the following information was gathered by the ITS MARCEGLIA;

- a. Name: MV PLATA
- b. IMO: 7711189
- c. Flag: Nigeria.
- d. Crew Nationality: 10 Nigerian crew members.
- e. Last port of Call/ date: Lome on 24 October 2021.
- f. Next port of Call/ date: Lome on 28 October 2021.
- g. Operations – To conduct ship to ship transfers of transportation material, no further details provided.

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

The vessel reported she has been drifting within the general area because she has electrical and engine problems and also the reason why she was not transmitting on AIS. The crew indicated that the vessel was drifting neat Lomé Port on 19 October 2021 (a day before the initial warning), before mooring on the 24 October 2021.

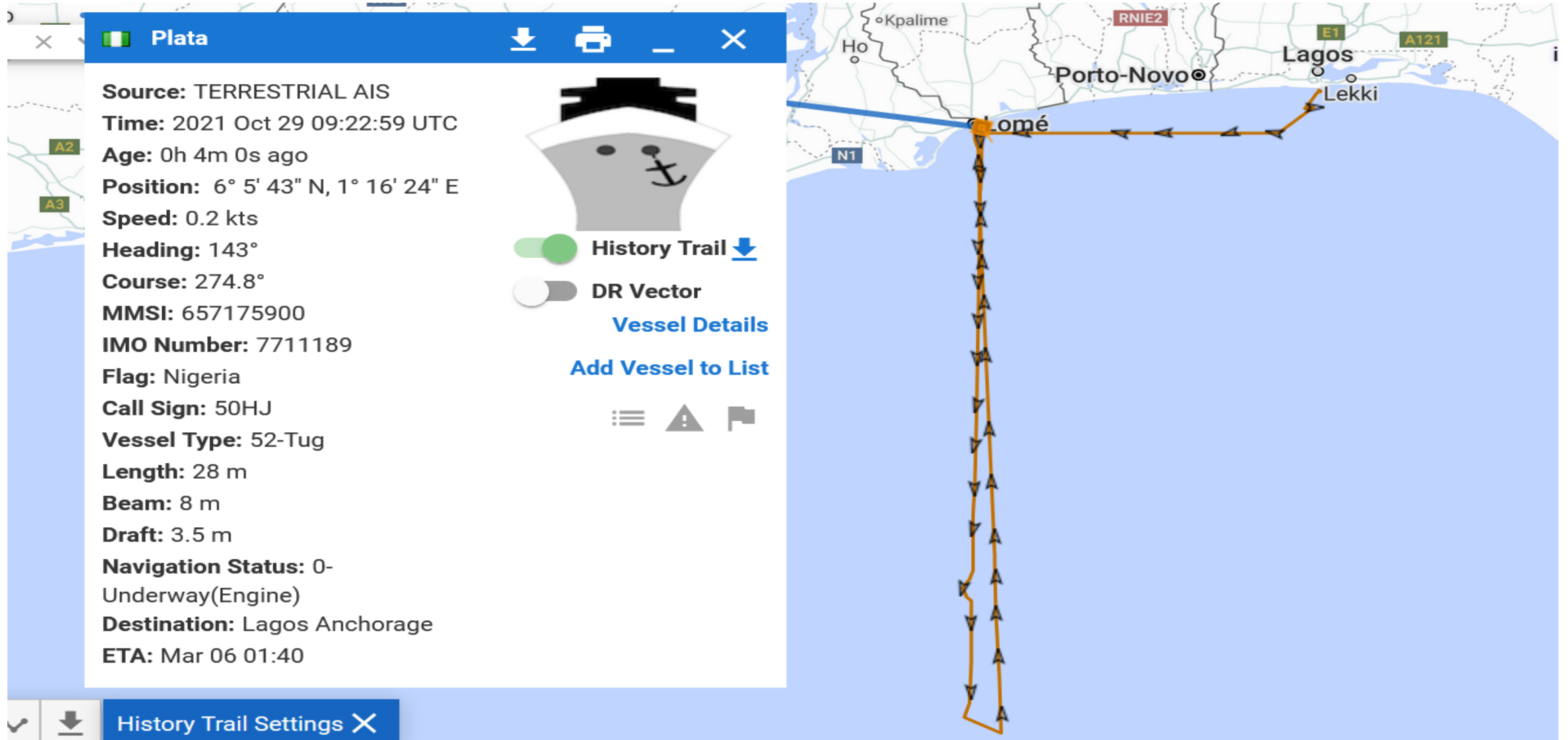
According to the report, initial checks with authorities in Lome however indicates that the vessel's last departure from Lome Port was 4 August 2021 and not 24 October as reported by the vessel.

The following observations were also made by the helicopter crew.

- a. The vessel was not flying any flag.
- b. A number of mental tanks were seen on the upper deck.
- c. The vessel started transmitting on AIS immediately communication was established with her.
- d. The crew were generally cooperative during the interrogation.

The vessel is currently at Lomé anchorage.

# MOVEMENT OF MV PLATA



# AERIAL PICTURES MV PLATA



# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## INCREASED THREAT TO SHIPPING WITHIN THE CENTRAL AFRICA MARITIME DOMAIN.

The demarcated area below with following coordinates remains a high risk area to shipping with increased threat.

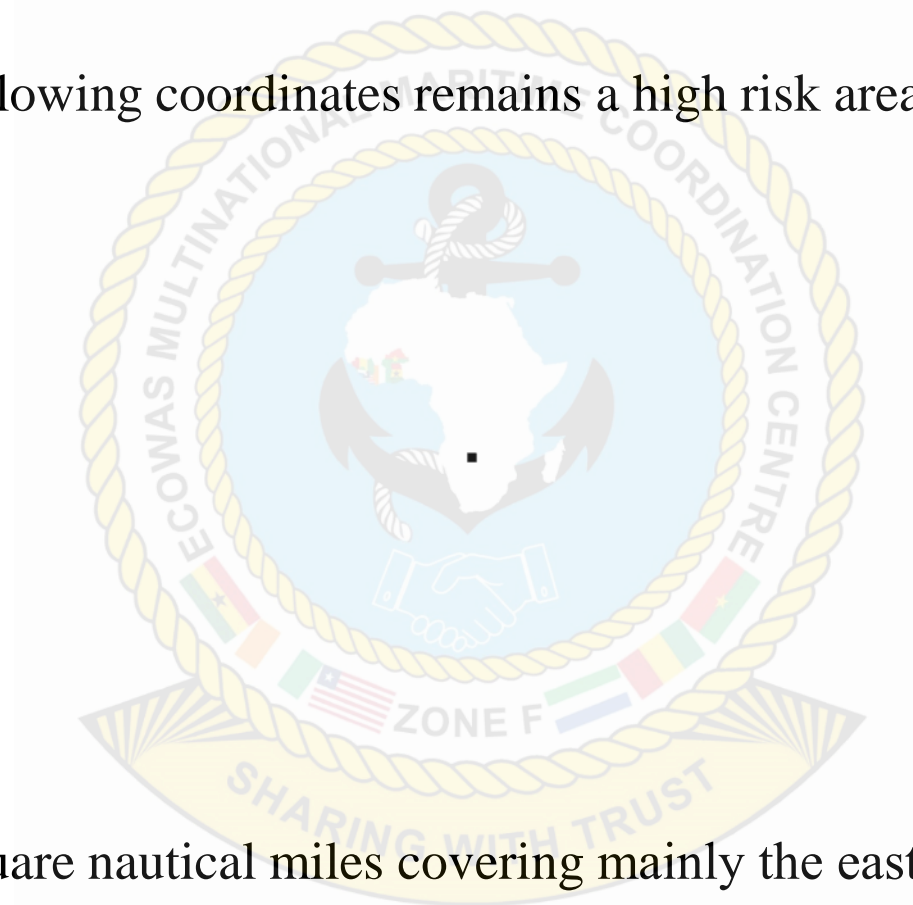
Coordinates:

A. 05°00'N – 005°00'E

B. 05°00'N – 007°30'E

C. 02°30'N – 007°30'E

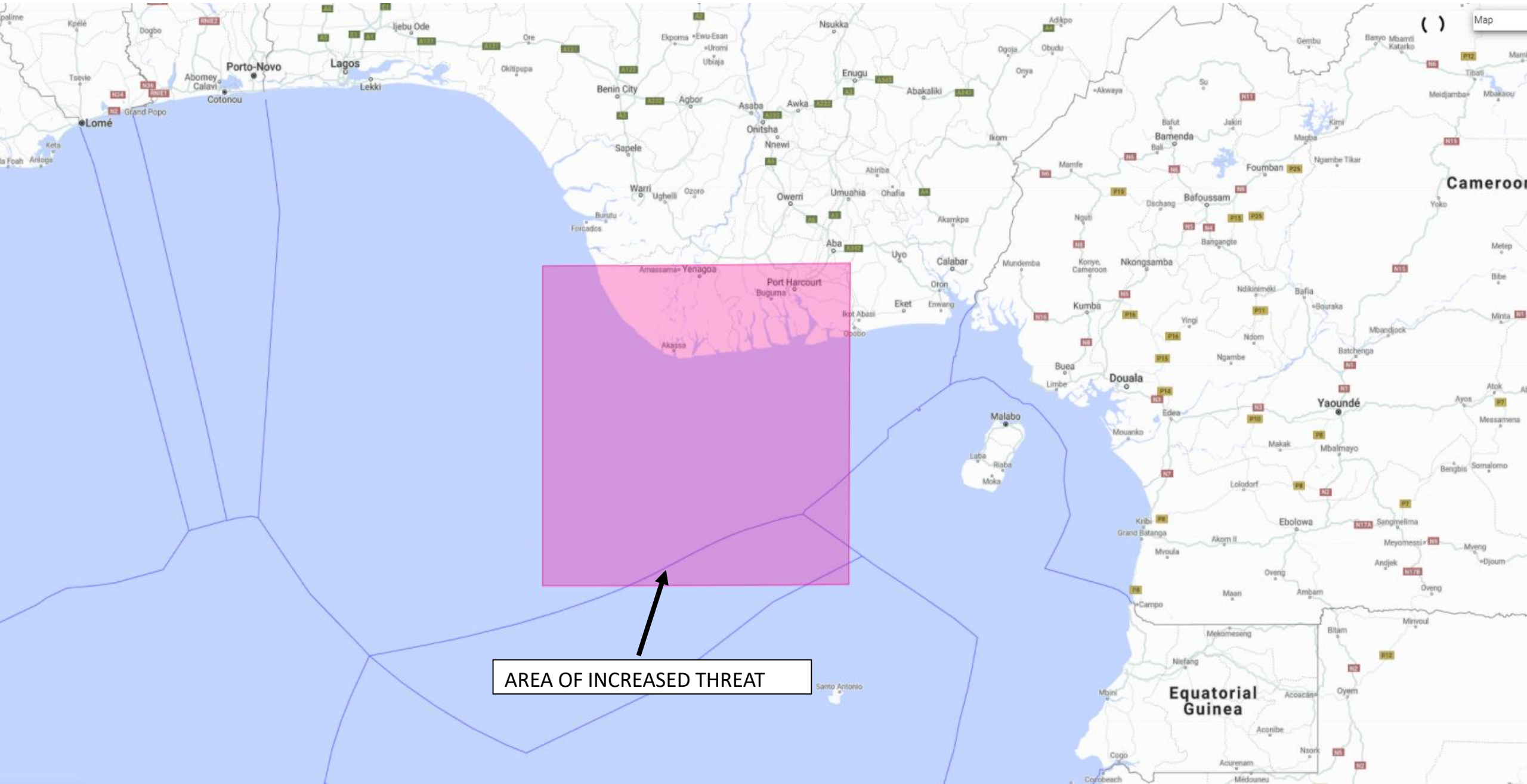
D. 02°30'N – 005°00'E



The general area is about 22,952 square nautical miles covering mainly the eastern waters of Nigerian's EEZ and the Joint Development Zone.

Vessels transiting the general area are advised to be extra vigilant especially during dark hours and report any suspicious activities promptly.

# INCIDENT DISPOSITION

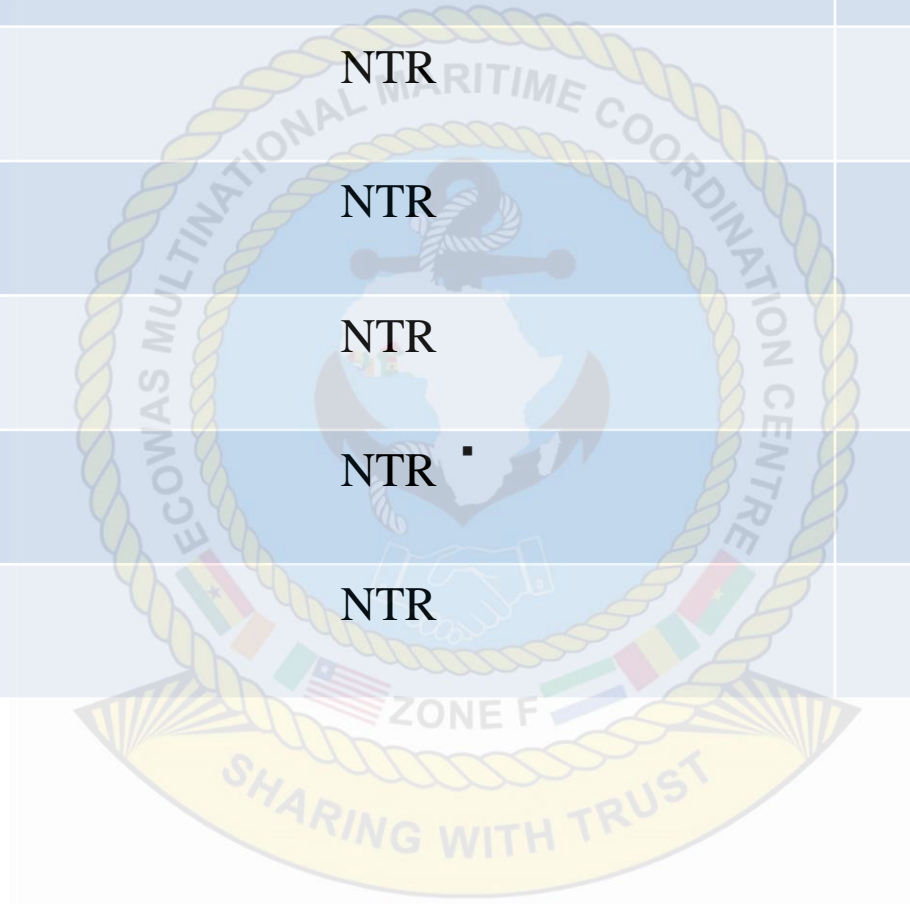


AREA OF INCREASED THREAT



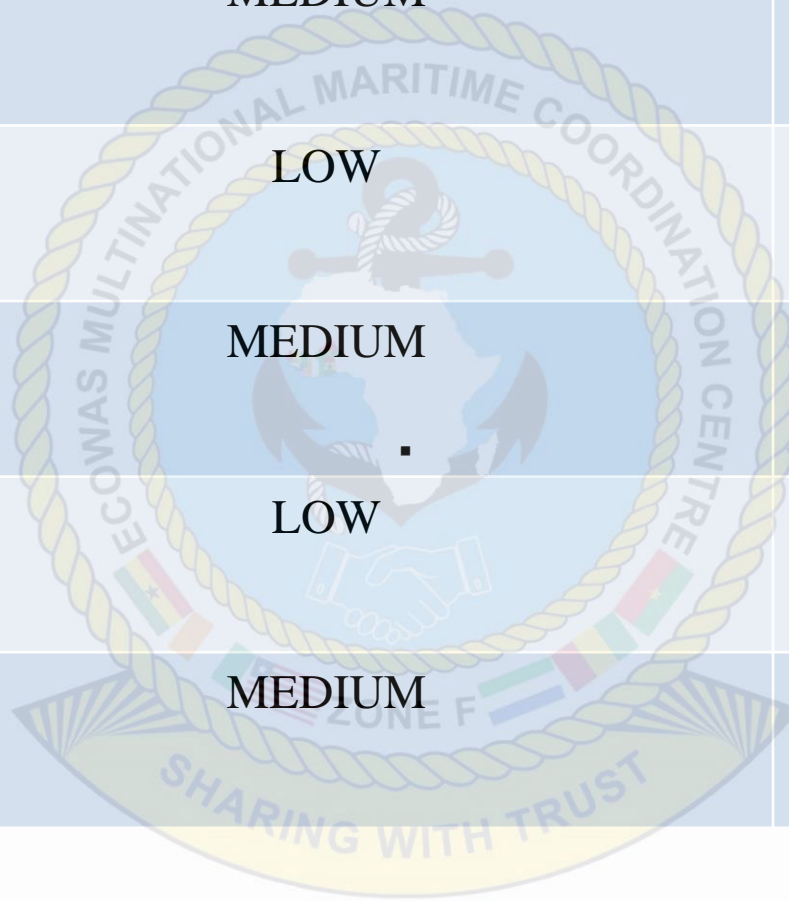
# OTHER MARITIME ACTIVITIES – ZONE F

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



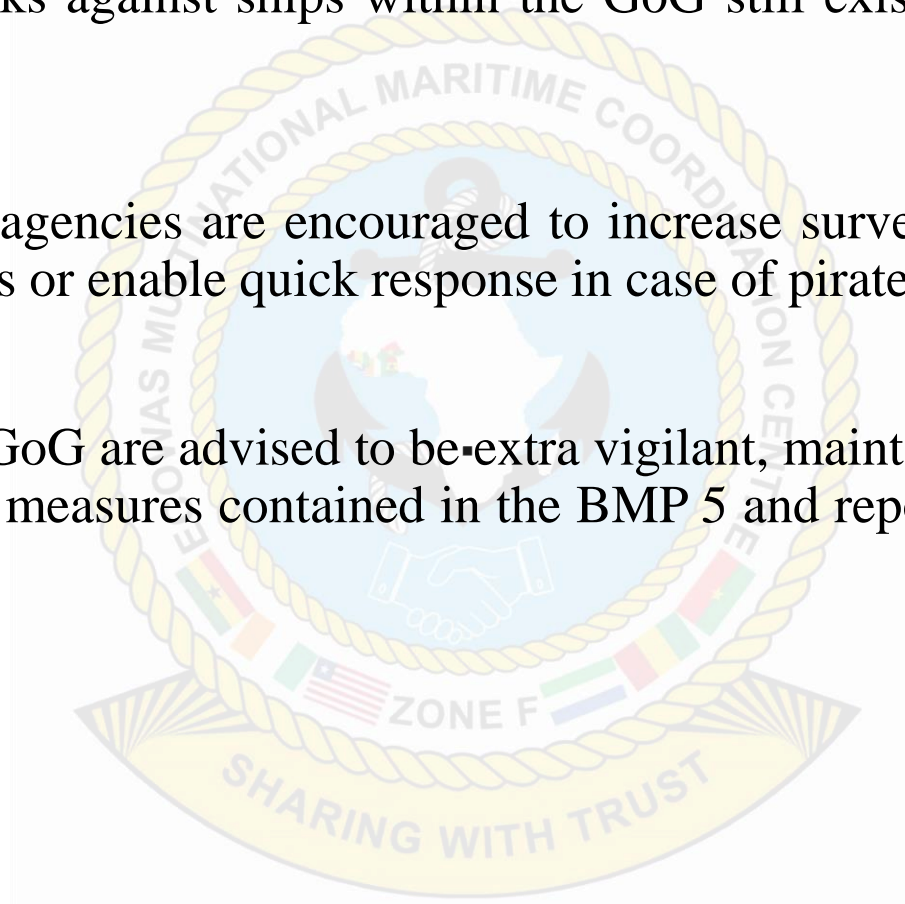
# MARITIME RISK ANALYSIS – ZONE F

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

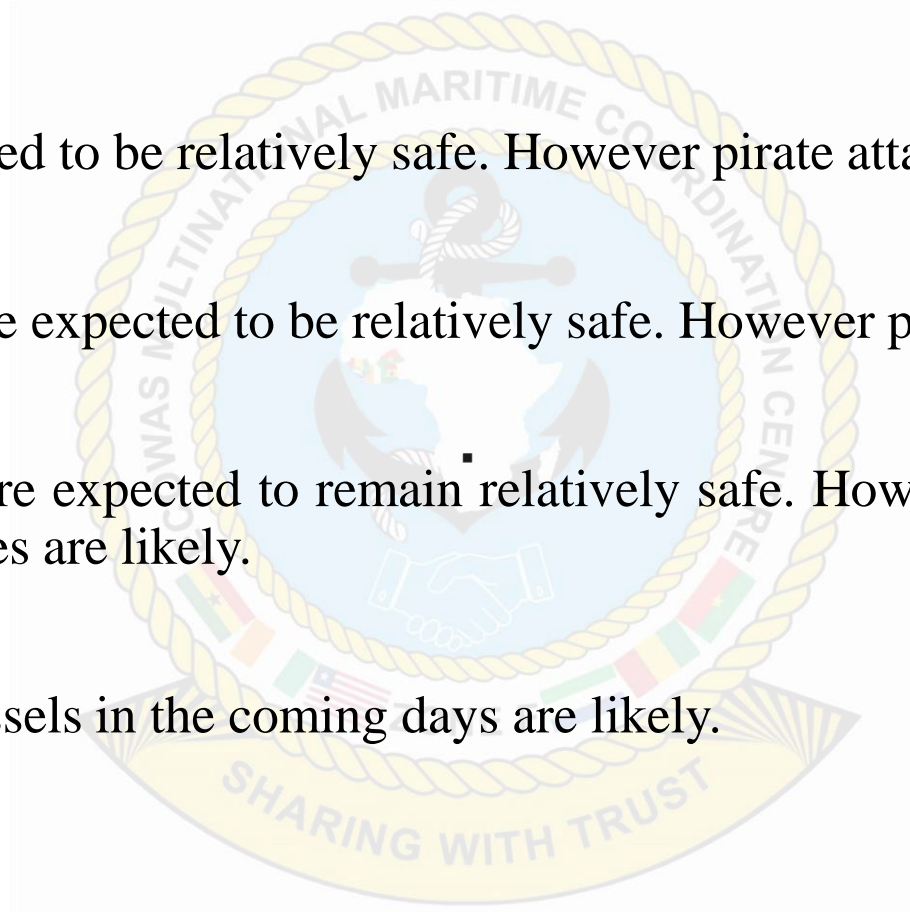
- The week under review was very busy with three major incidents.
- The threat of piracy attacks against ships within the GoG still exists especially from the eastern waters of Ghana to Benin.
- Coastal law enforcement agencies are encouraged to increase surveillance and patrols within the GoG to deter 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.



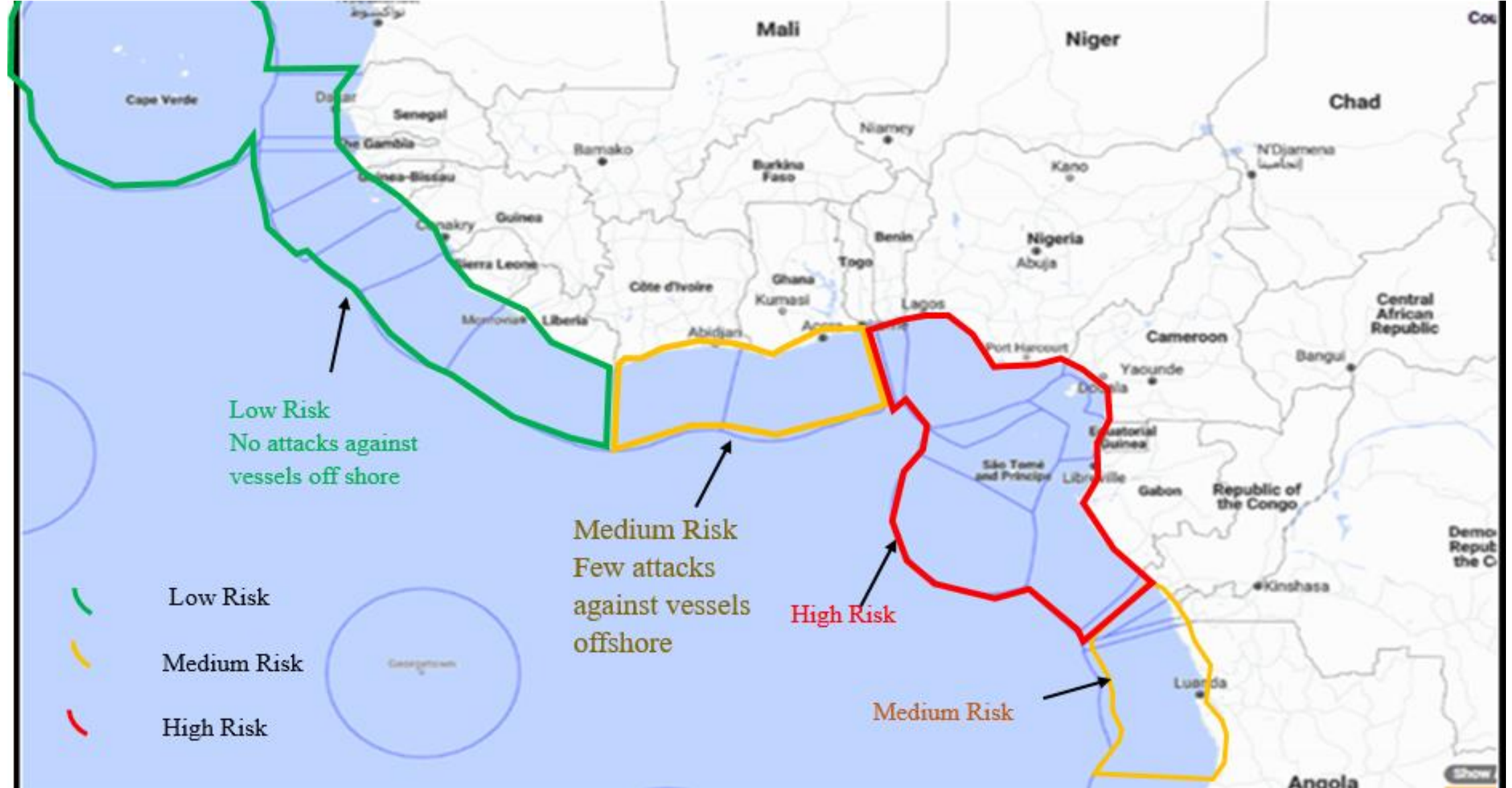
# FORECAST FOR THE COMING WEEK

## FORECAST FOR COMING WEEK

- 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



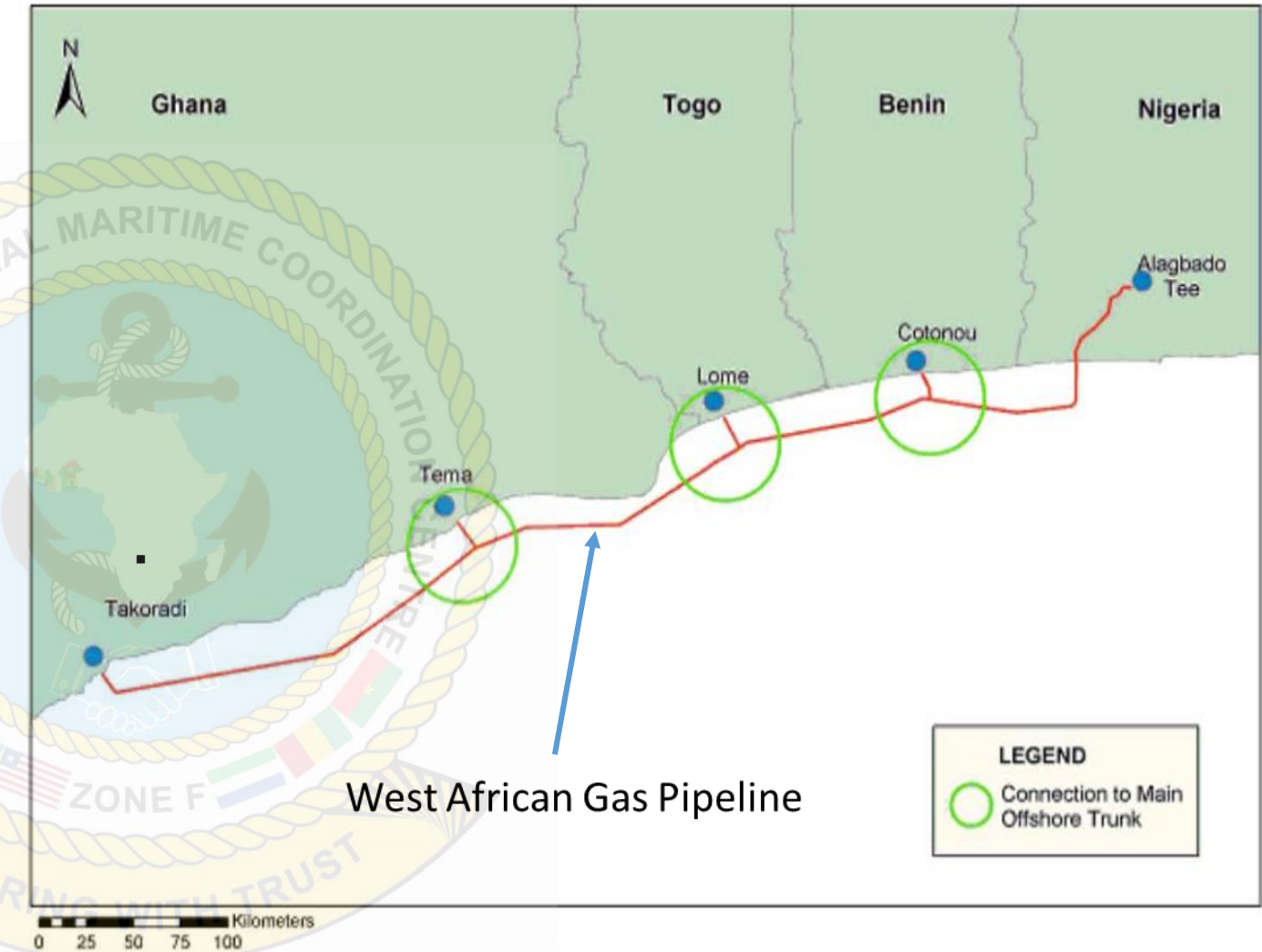
# NOTICES

## 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.



# CONTACT DETAILS OF MMCC ZONE F

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**Radio: HF 8657 KHZ**

**Radio: VHF CH 16**



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