





ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION

CENTRE

(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT



28 JAN - 03 FEB 2022

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 INCIDENCES.

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 attempted boarding incident and one SAR incident.

• Maritime Zone A recorded one incident.

Maritime Zone D recorded one incident.

• See details of incidents for more information.

INCIDENTS RECORDED

Category	Type of Incidents	No of Incident in Zones				
		A	D	E	F	G
TERRORISM	Terrorism					
	Hijacking					
	Kidnapping					
PIRACY/ ARMED	Armed Robbery					
ROBBERY/KIDNAPPING/HIJACKING/FIRING	Fired Upon		1			
UPON/THEFT/SUSPICIOUS APPROACH/BOARDING	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding				1	
(PAKHFTSB)	Boarding	1				
	Theft					
	Suspicious Approach					
	Human					
ILLICIT TRAFIC	Drug					
	Weapons/Ammunitions					
	Smuggling					
I.U.U FISHING	Industrial Fishing					
	Craft Fishing					
POLLUTION						
ILLICIT MIGRATION	Organized Migration					
	Stowaways					
ILLEGAL TRANSFER	Illegal Bunkering					
	Oil Robbery					
CYBER CRIMINALITY						
	Shipwreck					
MARITIME ACCIDENT	Collision					
	Sinking				1	
	Damage					
	Men Overboard					
SEARCH AND RESCUE	Assistance And Towing					
	Sanitary Evacuation					
	Capsizing					
OTHERS						

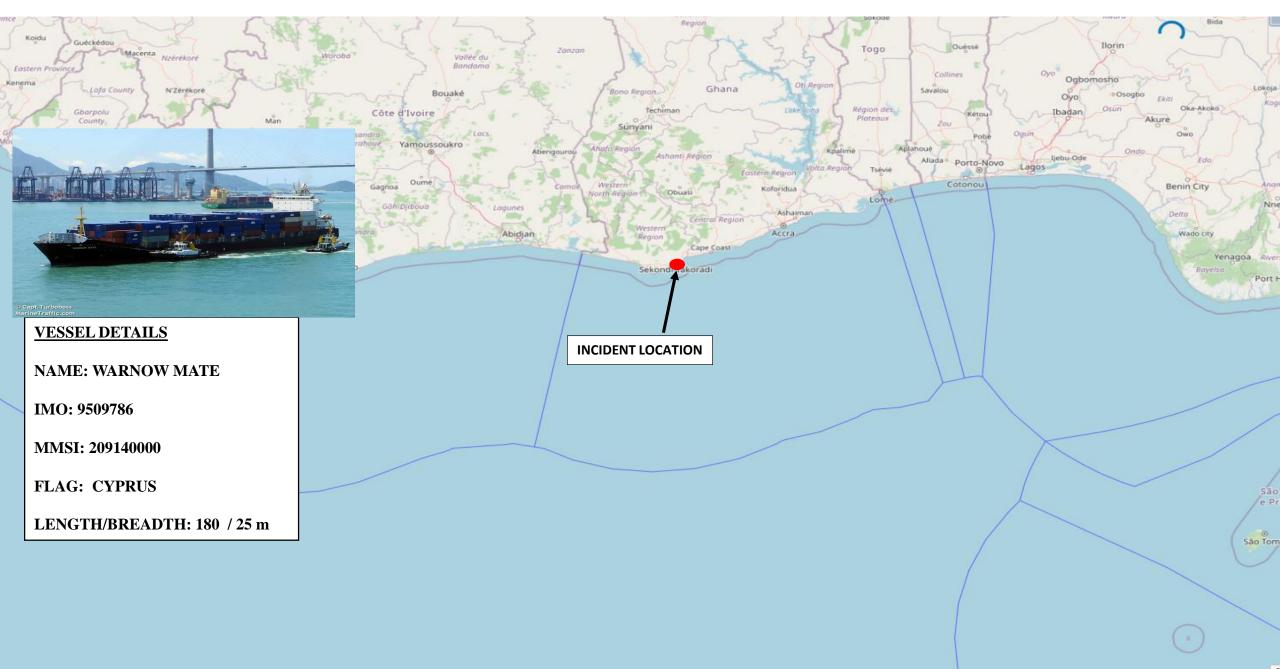
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

ATTEMPTED BOARDING - TAKORADI ANCHORAGE, GHANA

The Cyprus flag container vessel WARNOW MATE was attacked at Takoradi anchorage on 02 February 2022 at about 0116 UTC.

According to the report, the duty crew sighted a perpetrator attempting to board the vessel via the anchor line from a small vessel which had two other perpetrators onboard. The alarm was raised and the perpetrators fled away in the small boat. No casualty was recorded.

LOCATION OF INCIDENT



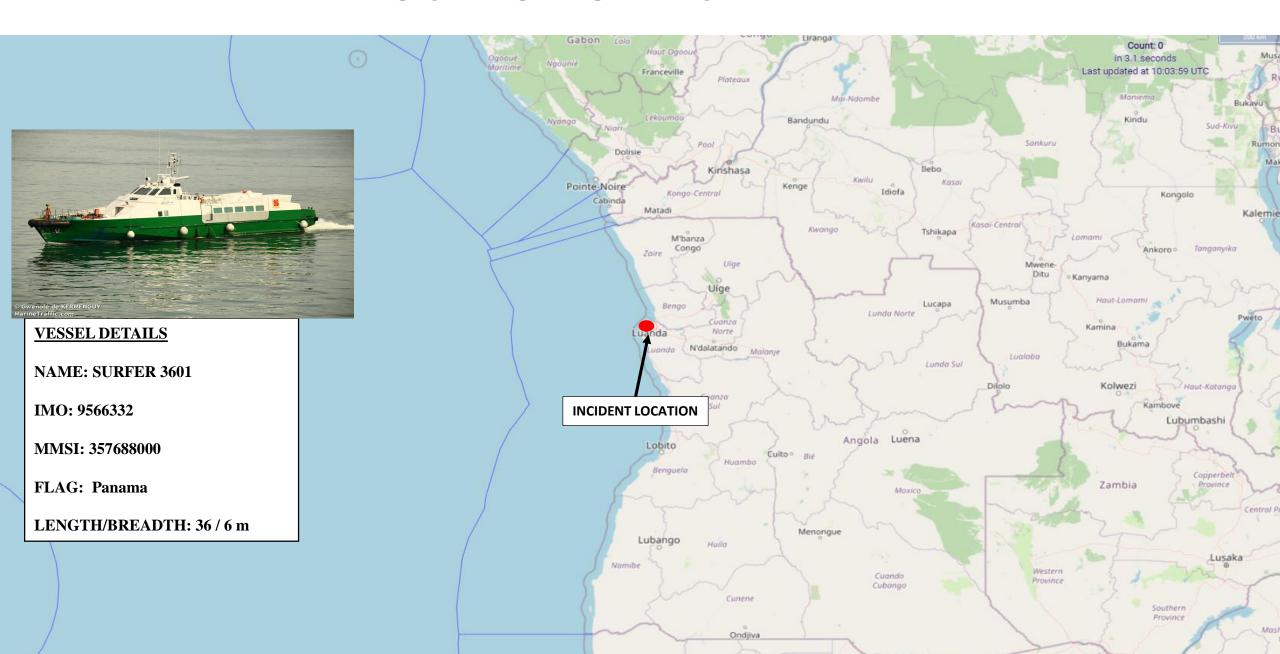
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

ATTEMPTED BOARDING - LUANDA PORT, ANGOLA

The Panama flag offshore supply vessel SURFER 3601 was boarded at Luanda port, Angola at 0110 UTC on 29 January 2022. According to the report, 3 men in a canoe approached the vessel and attempted to board the vessel. The duty crew sighted the perpetrators and raised the alarm. The perpetrators escaped as soon as the alarm was raised.

In another development, a sister vessel MV SURFER 3602 was boarded at the Luanda anchorage at 0025 UTC on 23 January 2022. According to the report, two perpetrators boarded the vessel and stole various equipment and escaped undetected.

LOCATION OF INCIDENT



Livingstone

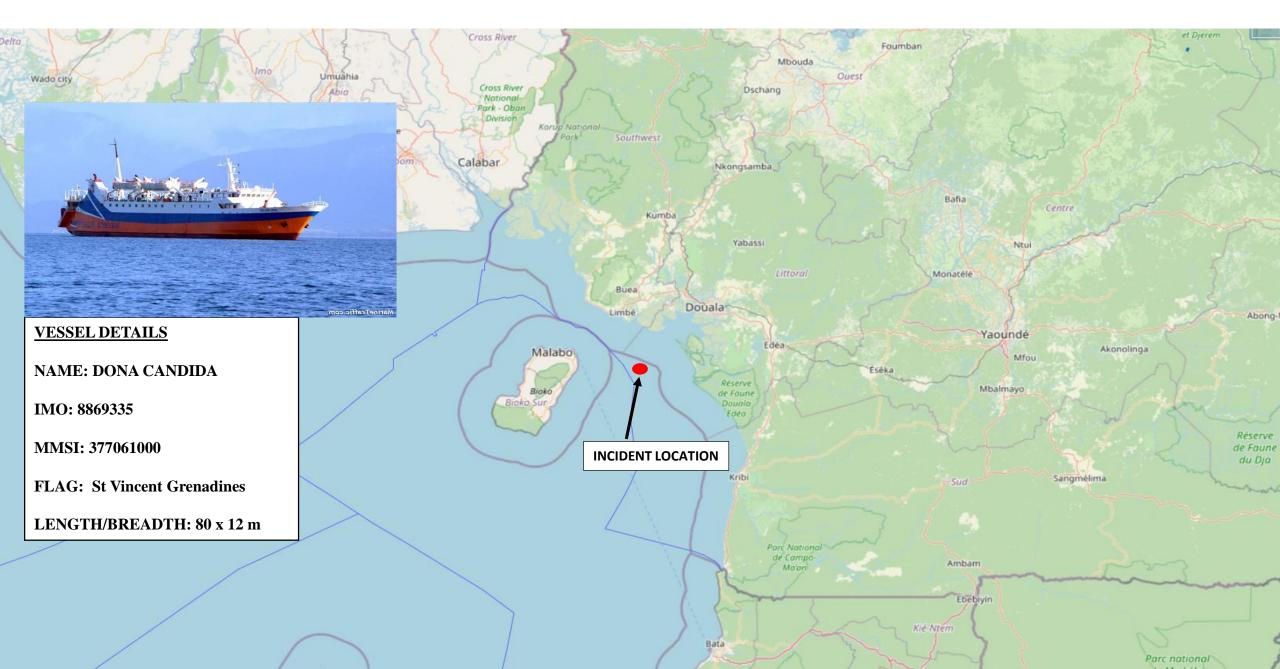
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

FIRED UPON - MALABO, EQUATORIAL GUINEA

The St. Vincent Grenadines Ro-Ro vessel DONA CANDIDA was attacked whilst transiting from Bata to Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in the early hours of 29 January 2022.

According to the report, an unknown number of armed men in a speedboat approached and fired the vessel. The armed guards onboard the vessel returned fire compelling the perpetrators to abandon their approach. No casualties were recorded.

LOCATION OF INCIDENT



OTHER MARITIME ACTIVITIES – ZONE F

EVENT	DESCRIPTION	ACTIONS TAKEN	
IUU FISHING	NTR	NTR	
MARITIME POLLUTION	NTR	NTR	
ILLEGAL BUNKERING	NTR	NTR	
SEARCH AND RESCUE/SINKING	reportedly sank on 31 January 2022.	The Guinean authorities rescued the crew. An aircraft and a patrol boat have been dispatched to the vicinity to site to assess the pollution damage to the marine environment.	
MARITIME ACCIDENT	NTR	NTR	
WEAPON/DRUG TRAFFICKING	NTR	NTR	

MARITIME RISK ANALYSIS – ZONE F

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

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

- > Checked communication with member states and other relevant agencies/stakeholders.
- > Disseminated information on maritime incidents with member states and other stakeholders.
- The Centre coordinated intelligence sharing with various maritime actors in Zone F and maintained routine surveillance of its maritime space.

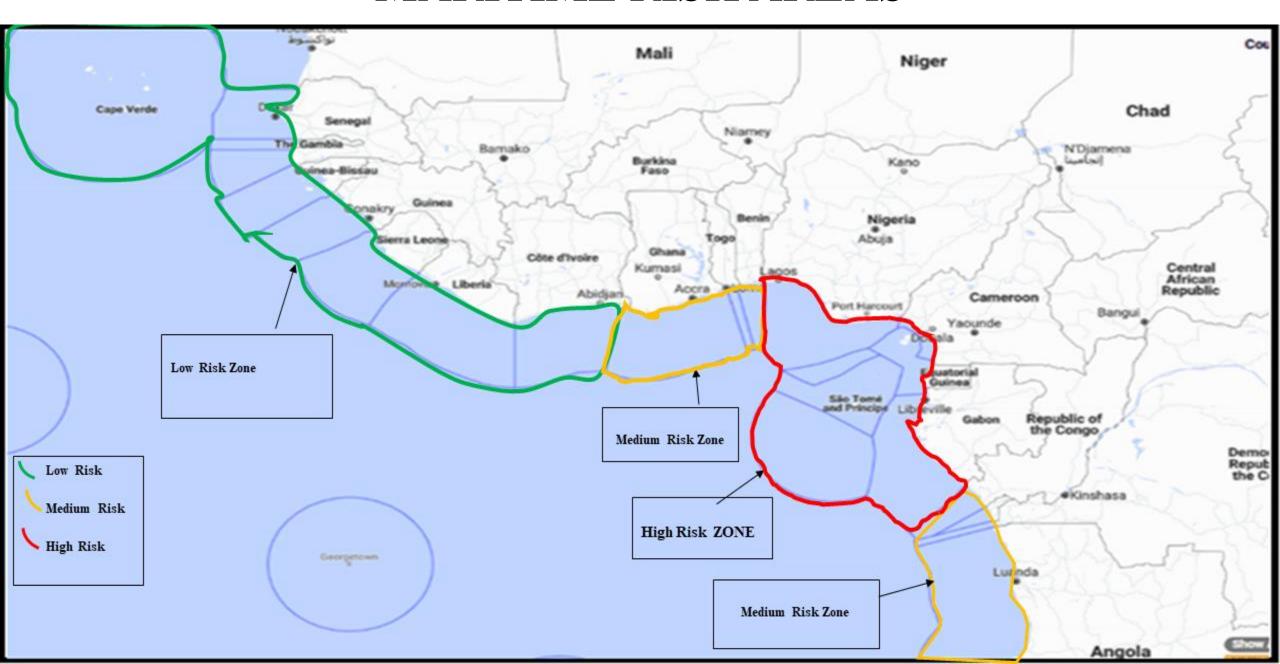
GENERAL COMMENTS/ADVISORIES

- ➤ The week under review recorded 3 maritime security and one SAR incidents.
- ➤ The GoG has so far recorded about incidents in 2022 as compared to 12 incidents in 2021 within same period.
- > The threat of pirate attacks against ships remain high in GoG especially from Cote d'Ivoire to Gabon.
- All vessels transiting or operating in the GoG are advised to be extra vigilant, maintain sharp lookout especially at night and report any suspicious activities to the necessary authorities.
- Coastal law enforcement agencies and foreign navies operating in the region are encouraged to maintain increased surveillance and patrols within the region to deter and arrest pirate action groups.

FORCAST FOR THE 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



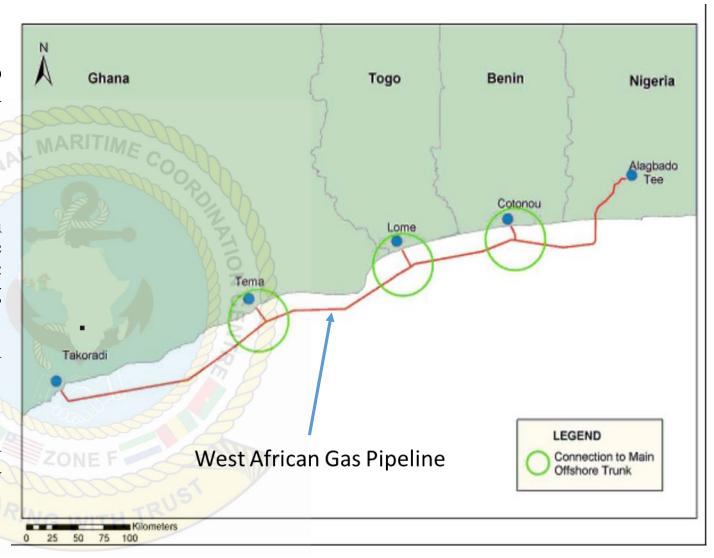
NOTICES

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.



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