



ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION
CENTRE
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT



18 – 24 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 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.

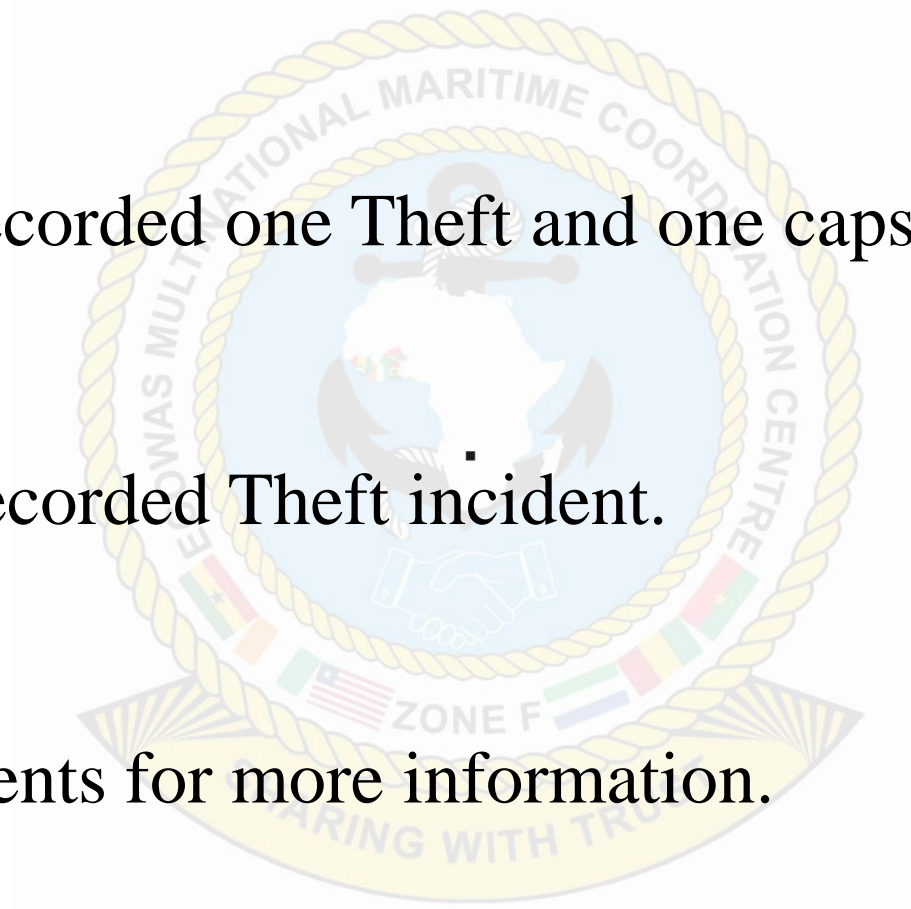
OVERVIEW

- 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 Theft and one capsized incident.

- Maritime Zone A recorded Theft incident.

- See details of incidents for more information.



INCIDENTS RECORDED

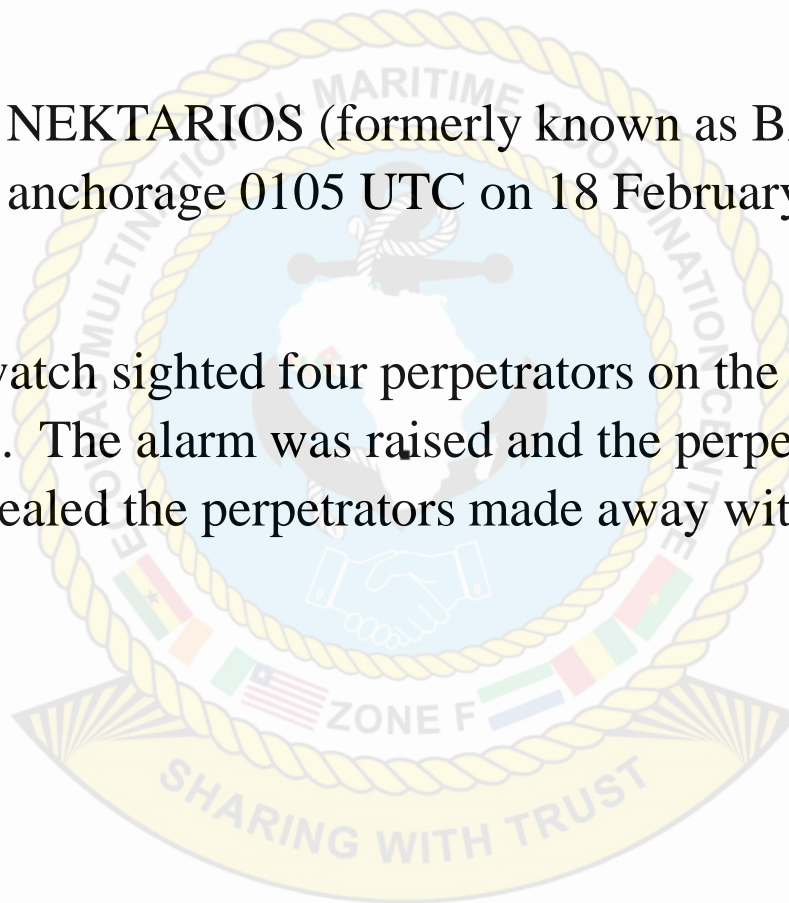
Category	Type of Incidents	No of Incident in Zones				
		A	D	E	F	G
TERRORISM	Terrorism					
PIRACY/ ARMED ROBBERY/KIDNAPPING/HIJACKING/FIRING UPON/THEFT/SUSPICIOUS APPROACH/BOARDING (PAKHFTSB)	Hijacking					
	Kidnapping					
	Armed Robbery					
	Fired Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding					
	Boarding					
	Theft	1			1	
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					
	Capsizing				1	
OTHERS						

DETAILS OF INCIDENT

THEFT – TAKORADI ANCHORAGE, GHANA

The Liberian flag bulk carrier AG. NEKTARIOS (formerly known as BALTIC LEOPARD) was reportedly boarded at the Takoradi anchorage 0105 UTC on 18 February 2022.

According to the report, the duty watch sighted four perpetrators on the deck and one at the hawse pipe of the vessel during routine rounds. The alarm was raised and the perpetrators jumped overboard and fled. Further checks conducted revealed the perpetrators made away with 16 buckets of paint. No casualty was recorded.



LOCATION OF INCIDENT



INCIDENT LOCATION

VESSEL DETAILS

NAME: AG. NEKTARIOS

IMO: 9387334

MMSI: 636020713

FLAG: LIBERIA

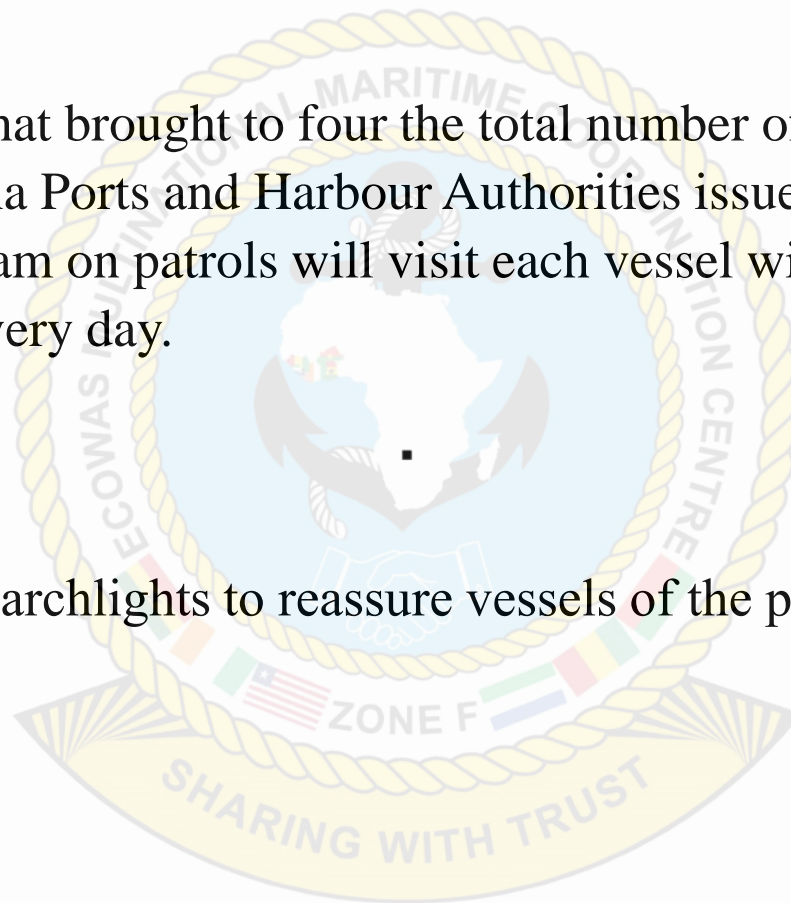
LENGTH/BREADTH: 190 / 32 m

NOTICE TO MARINERS

TAKORADI PORT AUTHORITIES NOTICE TO MARINERS

Following the last Theft incident that brought to four the total number of incidents recorded at the Takoradi port/anchorage, the Ghana Ports and Harbour Authorities issued a notice to informing all mariners that the port sea patrol team on patrols will visit each vessel within the dedicated anchorage area between 2200 – 0400 UTC every day.

The patrol team will be flashing searchlights to reassure vessels of the port authority's support in the event of any suspicious activity.



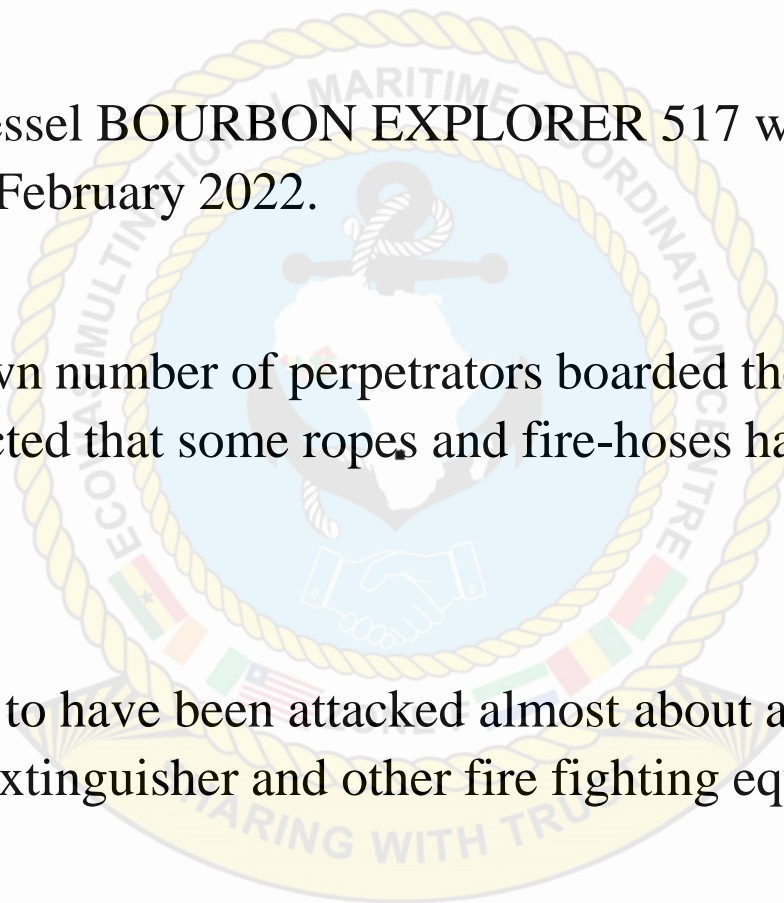
DETAILS OF INCIDENT

THEFT – LUANDA ANCHORAGE, ANGOLA

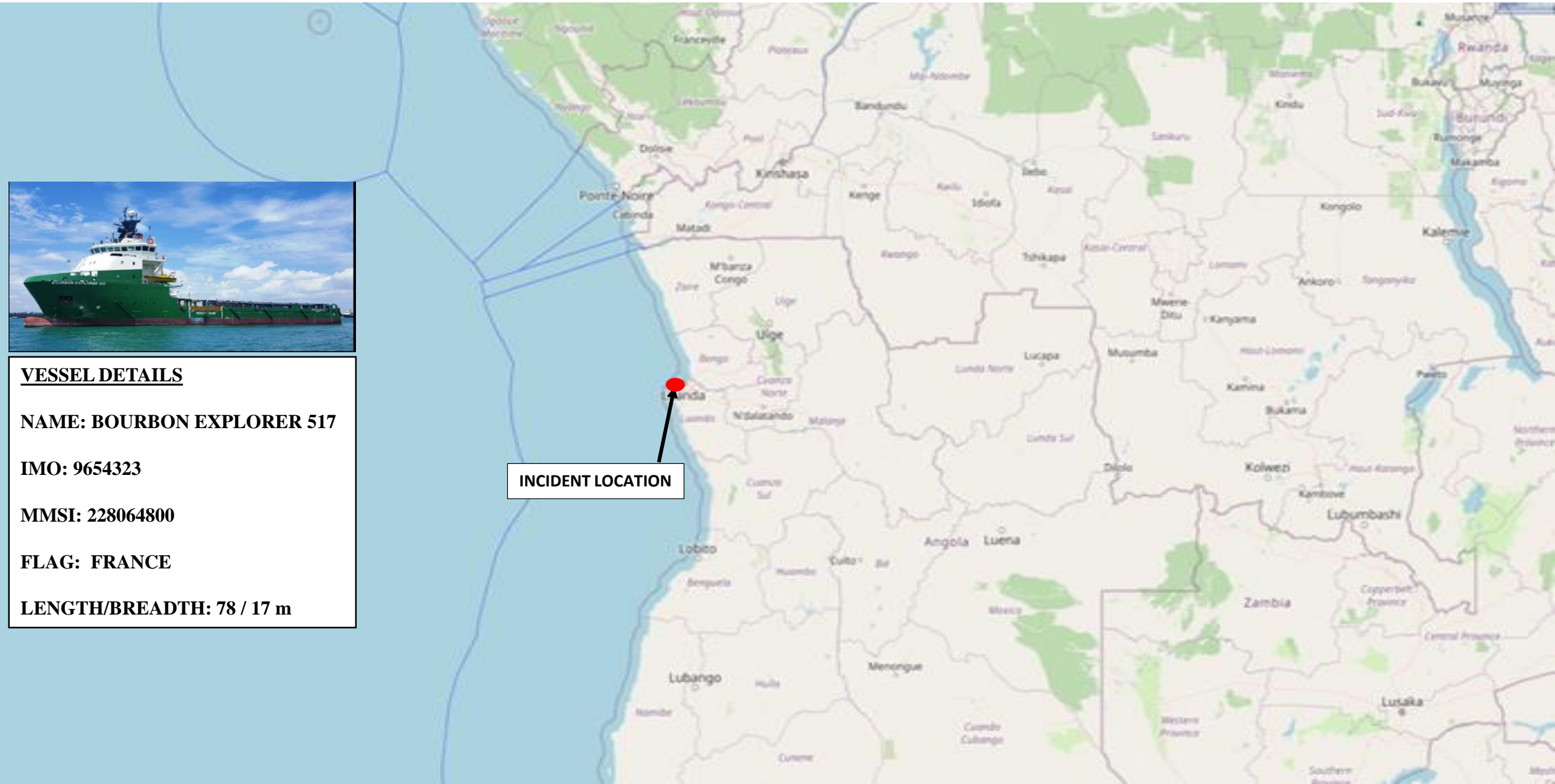
The French flag offshore supply vessel BOURBON EXPLORER 517 was boarded at Luanda anchorage, Angola at an unknown time on 23 February 2022.

According to the report, an unknown number of perpetrators boarded the vessel undetected. During routine rounds, the duty crew detected that some ropes and fire-hoses had been stolen.

NB: The same vessel was reported to have been attacked almost about a year ago on 26 February 2021 during which a mooring line, fire extinguisher and other fire fighting equipment were reportedly stolen.



LOCATION OF INCIDENT



VESSEL DETAILS

NAME: BOURBON EXPLORER 517

IMO: 9654323

MMSI: 228064800

FLAG: FRANCE

LENGTH/BREADTH: 78 / 17 m

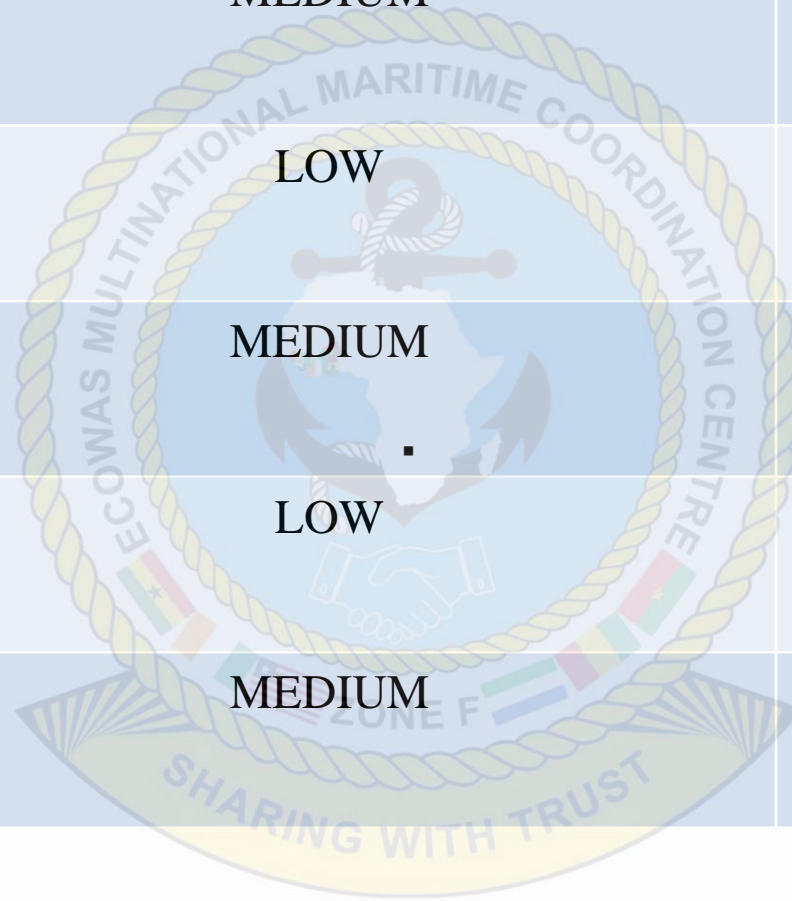
INCIDENT LOCATION

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	<p>A local canoe carrying 30 people reportedly capsized and sank at the Benty landing site on Saturday 19 February 2022.</p> <p>Rescue team successfully rescued 23 people while 6 people comprising 5 children and a woman were found dead. One person is yet to be found..</p>	<p>The head of the landing site and the pilot of the canoe have been arrested for further investigations by the National Gendarmerie.</p>
MARITIME ACCIDENT	NTR	NTR
DRUG TRAFFICKING	NTR	NTR

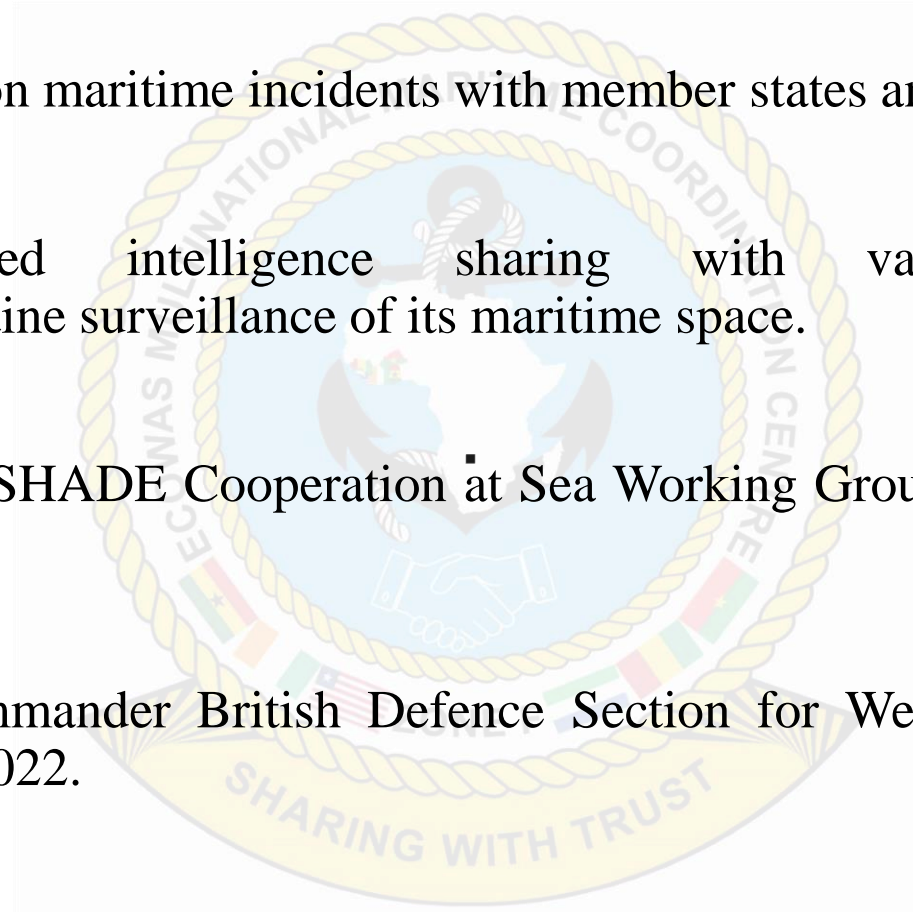
MARITIME RISK ANALYSIS – ZONE F

COUNTRY	PORTS/ANCHORAGES	EEZ
GHANA	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
COTE D'IVOIRE	LOW	LOW
LIBERIA	MEDIUM	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.
- Participated in GoG MCF-SHADE Cooperation at Sea Working Group zoom meeting on 23 February 2022.
- Hosted and brief the Commander British Defence Section for West Africa Air Commodore Paul Woawick on 24 February 2022.

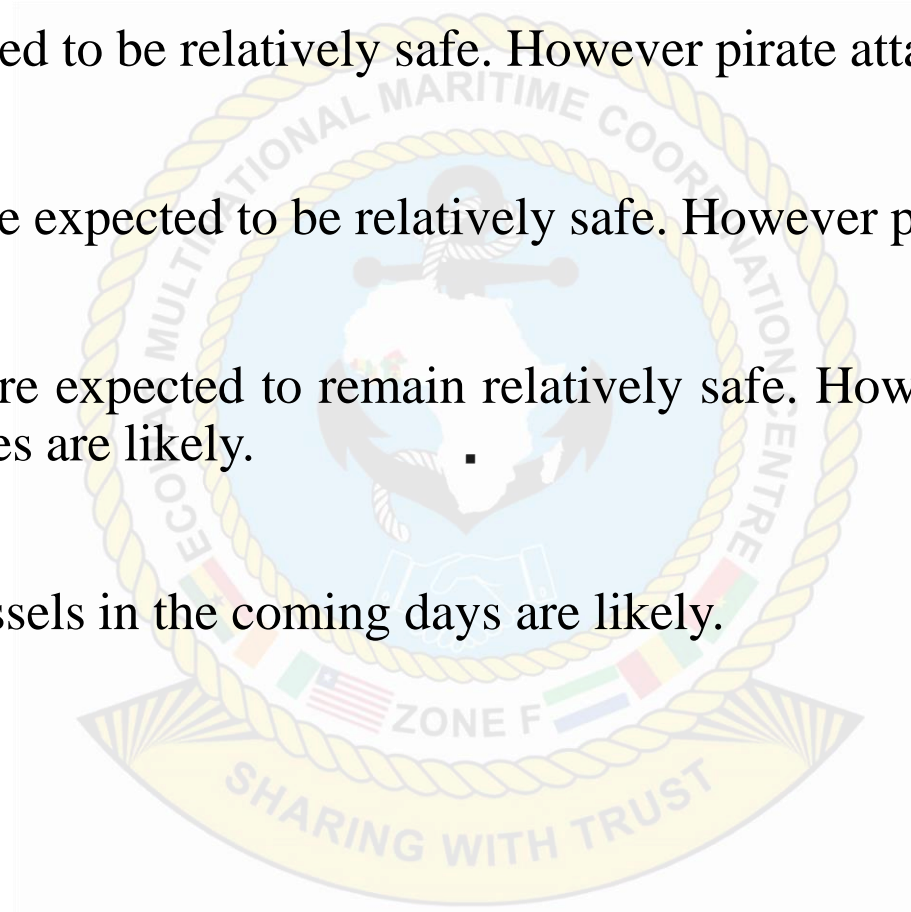


GENERAL COMMENTS/ADVISORIES

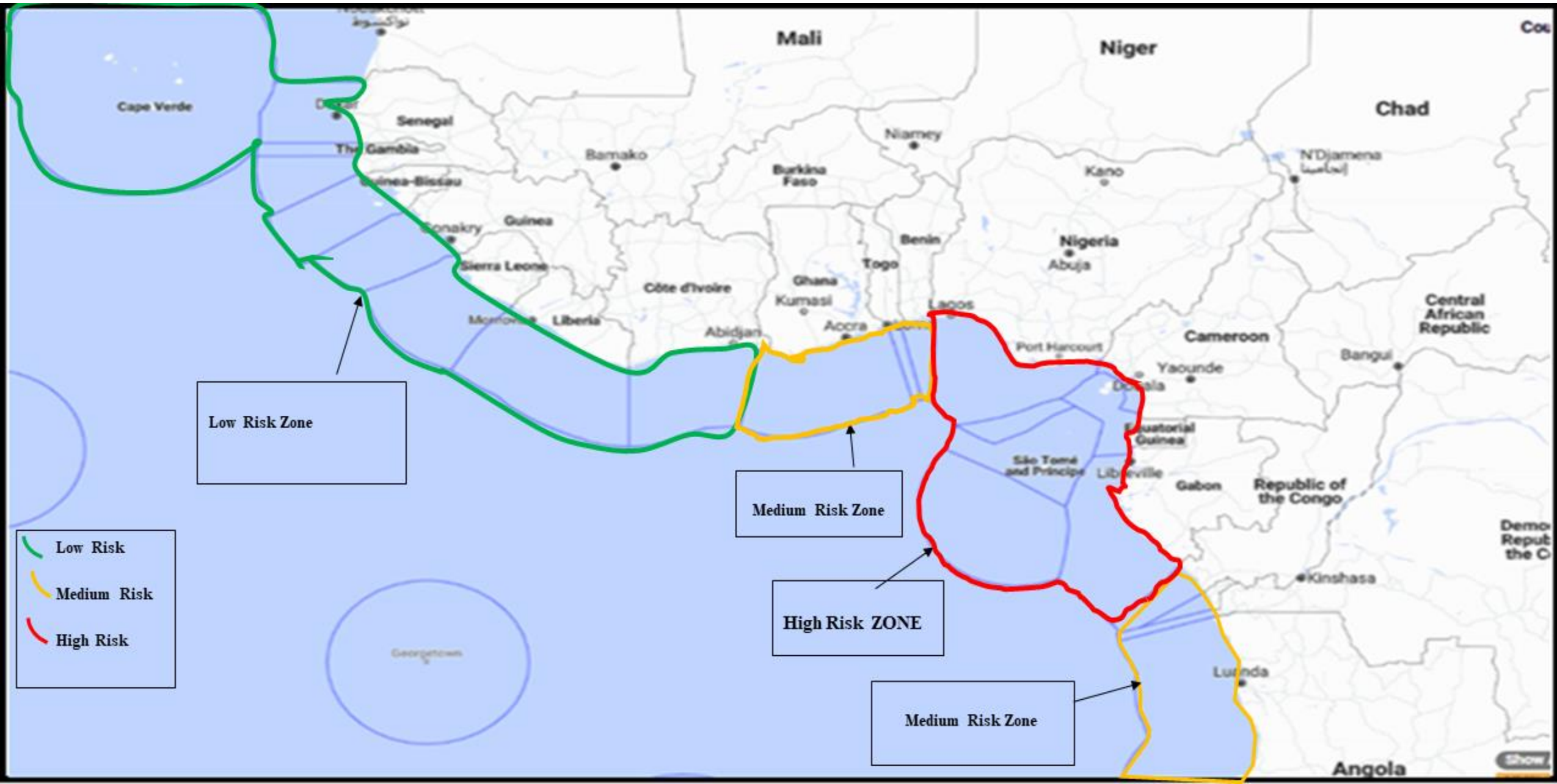
- The week under review remained calm and normal. However, two Theft incidents were recorded at Takoradi and Luanda anchorages.
- The GoG has so far recorded 14 incidents with only 2 incidents occurring offshore as compared to 18 incidents recorded within same period in 2021 with 12 incidents including 2 kidnapping occurring offshore.
- The number of piracy incidents are expected to continue to decline further during the rest of the year. However, PAGs are still potent offshore the GoG especially from Cote d'Ivoire to Gabon. Maritimes are therefore warned not to be complacent.
- 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



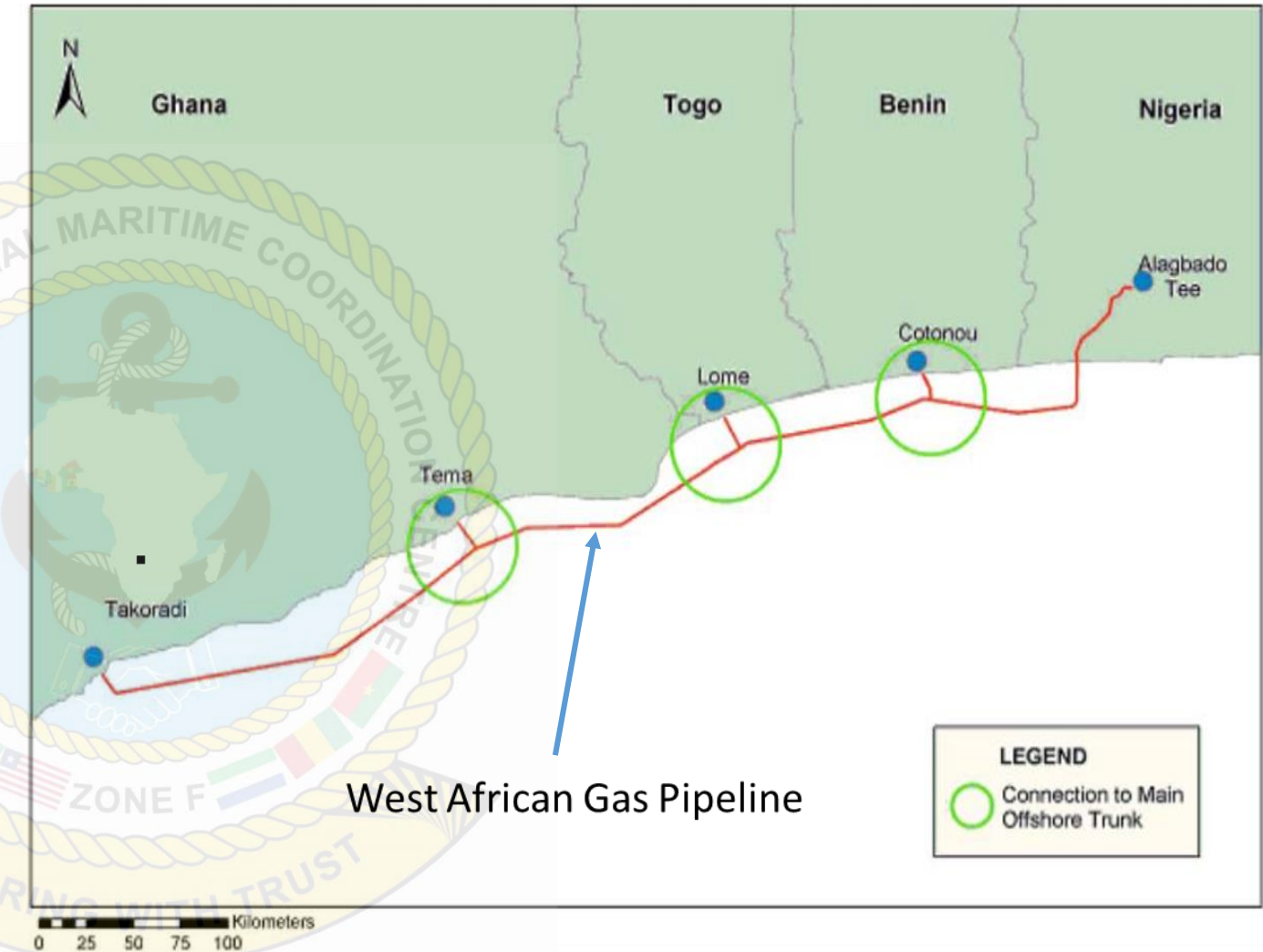
NOTICES

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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