





ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION

CENTRE

(MMCC ZONE F)

## WEEKLY MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT



#### **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.

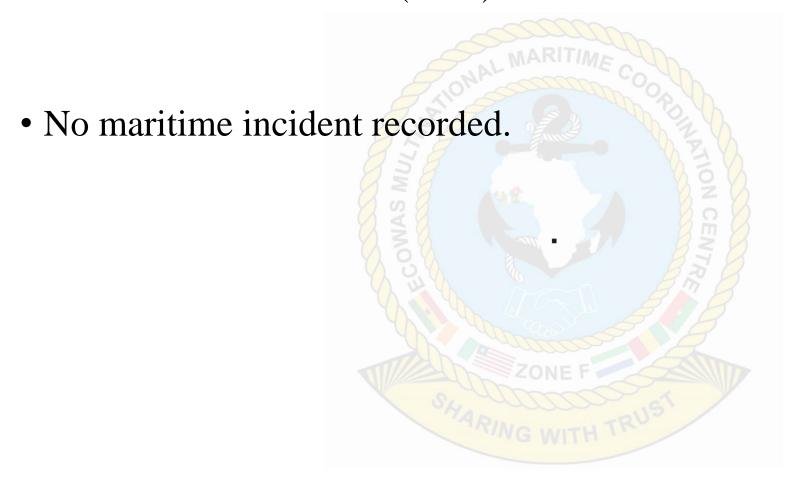
• OTHER MARITIME INCIDENCES.

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.



## 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					
UPON/THEFT/SUSPICIOUS APPROACH/BOARDING	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
t	Attempt Boarding					
(PAKHFTSB)	Boarding					
	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  SEARCH AND RESCUE	Collision					
	Sinking					
	Damage					
	Men Overboard					
	Assistance And Towing					
	Sanitary Evacuation					
	Capsizing					
OTHERS						

## 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	NTR	NTR
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 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.
- ➤ Participated in OE22 CPX activities.

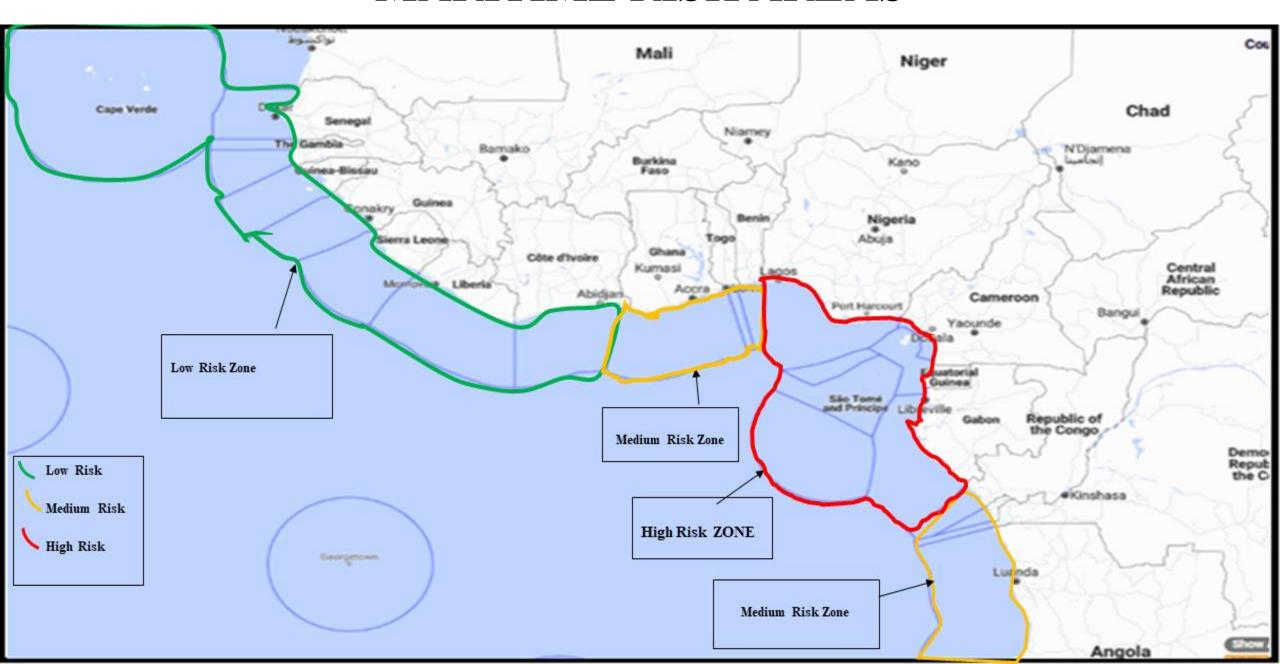
#### GENERAL COMMENTS/ADVISORIES

- The week under review remained calm and normal with no incident recorded.
- The GoG has so far recorded 16 incidents with only 2 incidents occurring offshore as compared to 25 incidents recorded within same period in 2021 with 16 incidents including 3 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



#### MARITIME INFORMATION OF INTEREST

Nigeria removed from the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) piracy record list.

The Director-General of NIMASA, Dr Bashir Jamoh, said this at the 2nd Edition of Nigerian Admiralty Law Colloquium in Lagos.

https://shippingposition.com.ng/nigeria-exits-imb-piracy-record-list-nimasa-d-g/

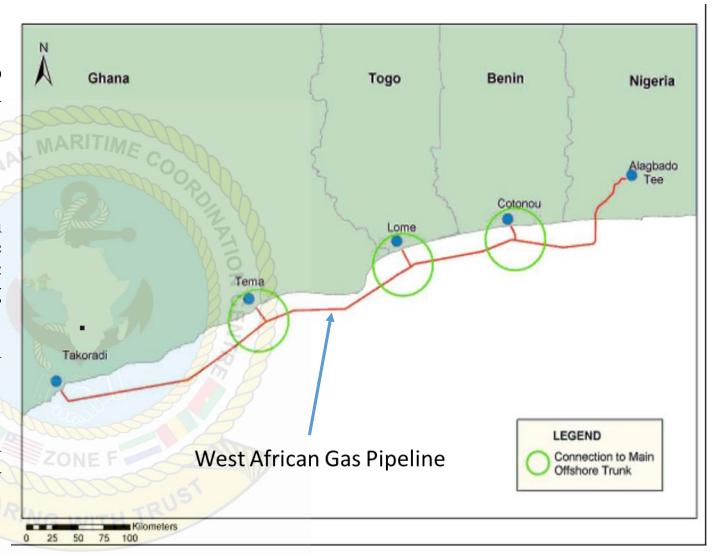
#### **NOTICES**

#### 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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