

ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION  
CENTRE  
(MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY  
MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY REPORT



11 – 17 MAR 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.

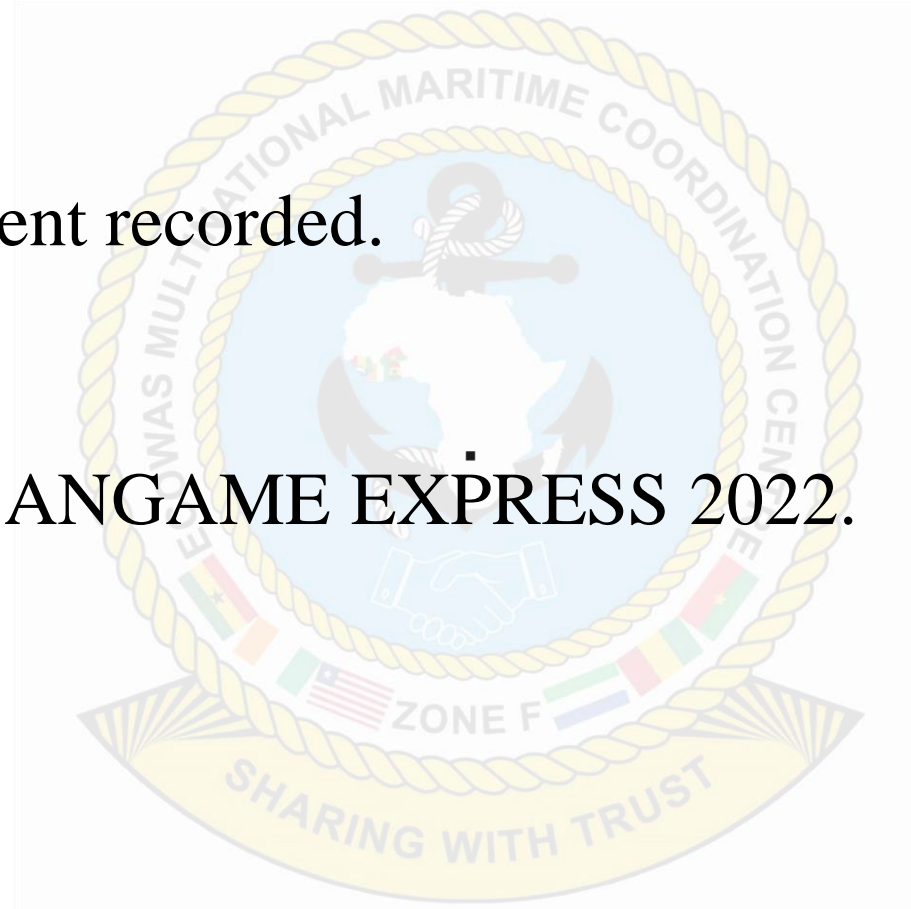
**SIGHTING AND IRREGULAR ACTIVITY:** All suspicious information with no proof of intent to board the vessel.

# OVERVIEW

- The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F and the Gulf of Guinea (GoG) remained safe and secure.

- No maritime incident recorded.

- Participated in OBANGAME EXPRESS 2022.



# INCIDENTS RECORDED

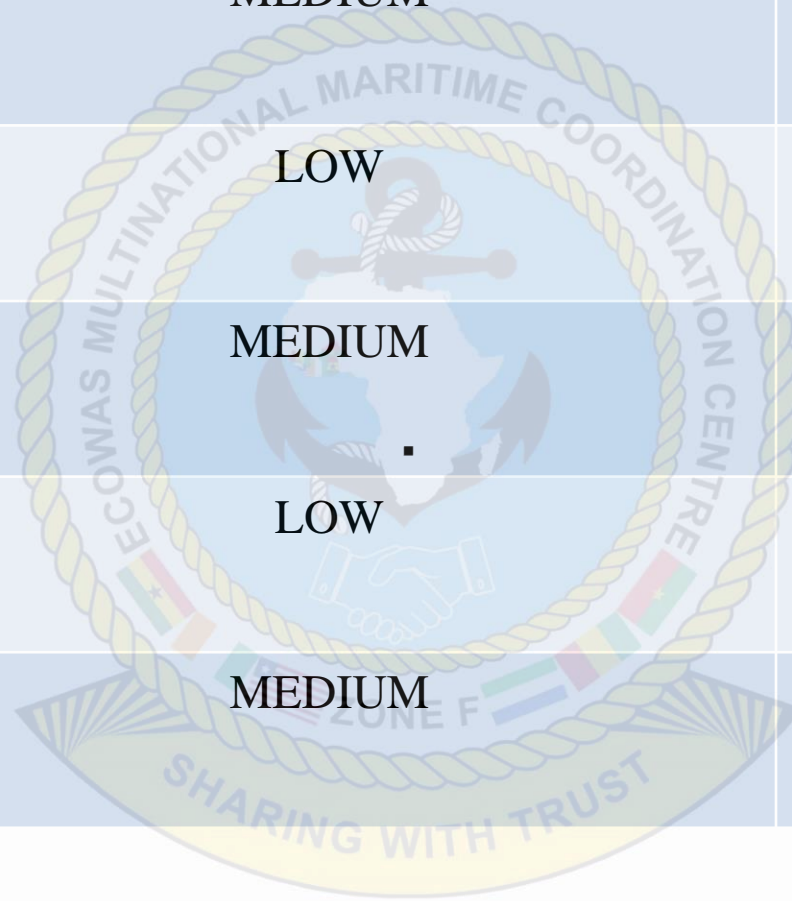
| Category                 | Type of Incidents  | No of Incident in Zones |   |   |   |   |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|
|                          |  | A                       | D | E | F | G |
| <b>TERRORISM</b>         | Terrorism  |                         |   |   |   |   |
|                          | Hijacking  |                         |   |   |   |   |
|                          | Kidnapping   |                         |   |   |   |   |
|                          | PIRACY/ ARMED ROBBERY/KIDNAPPING/HIJACKING/FIRING UPON/THEFT/SUSPICIOUS APPROACH/BOARDING (PAKHFTSB) | Armed Robbery           |   |   |   |   |
|                          | Fired 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  |                         |   |   |   |   |
|                          | Capsizing  |                         |   |   |   |   |
| <b>OTHERS</b>            |  |                         |   |   |   |   |

# 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           |

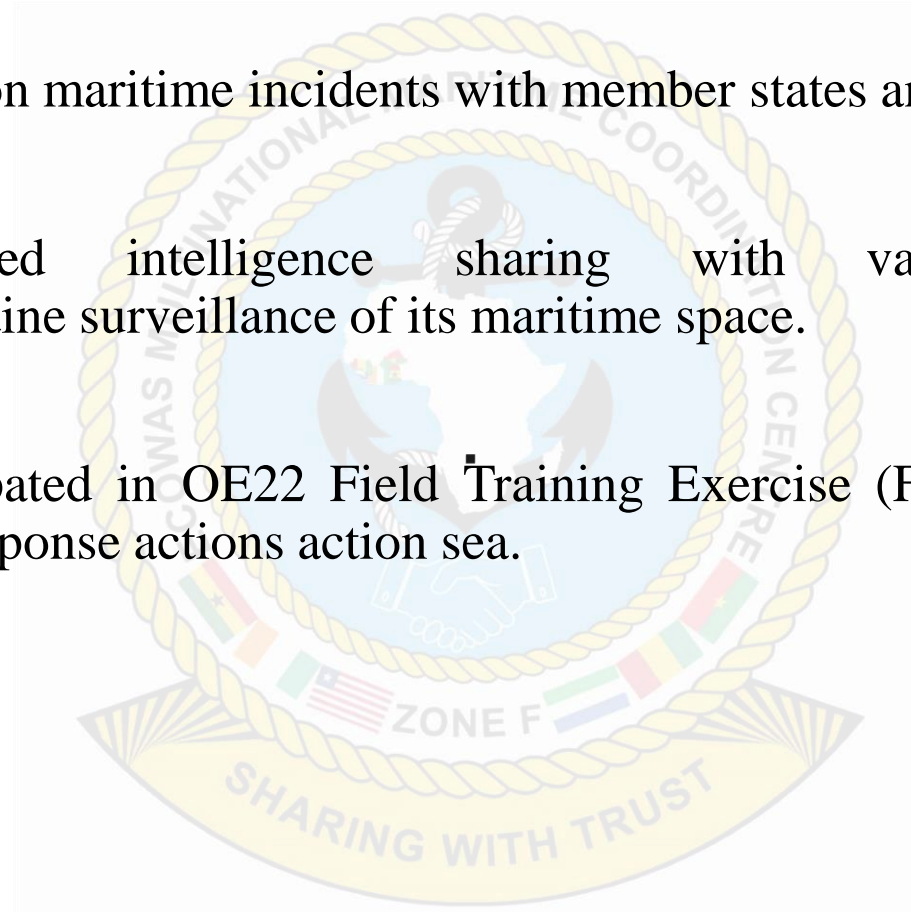
# MARITIME RISK ANALYSIS – ZONE F

| COUNTRY       | PORTS/ANCHORAGES | EEZ    |
|---------------|------------------|--------|
| GHANA         | MEDIUM           | MEDIUM |
| COTE D'IVOIRE | LOW              | LOW    |
| LIBERIA       | MEDIUM           | 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.
- The MMCC Zone Participated in OE22 Field Training Exercise (FTX) activities by disseminating injects and coordinating response actions action sea.



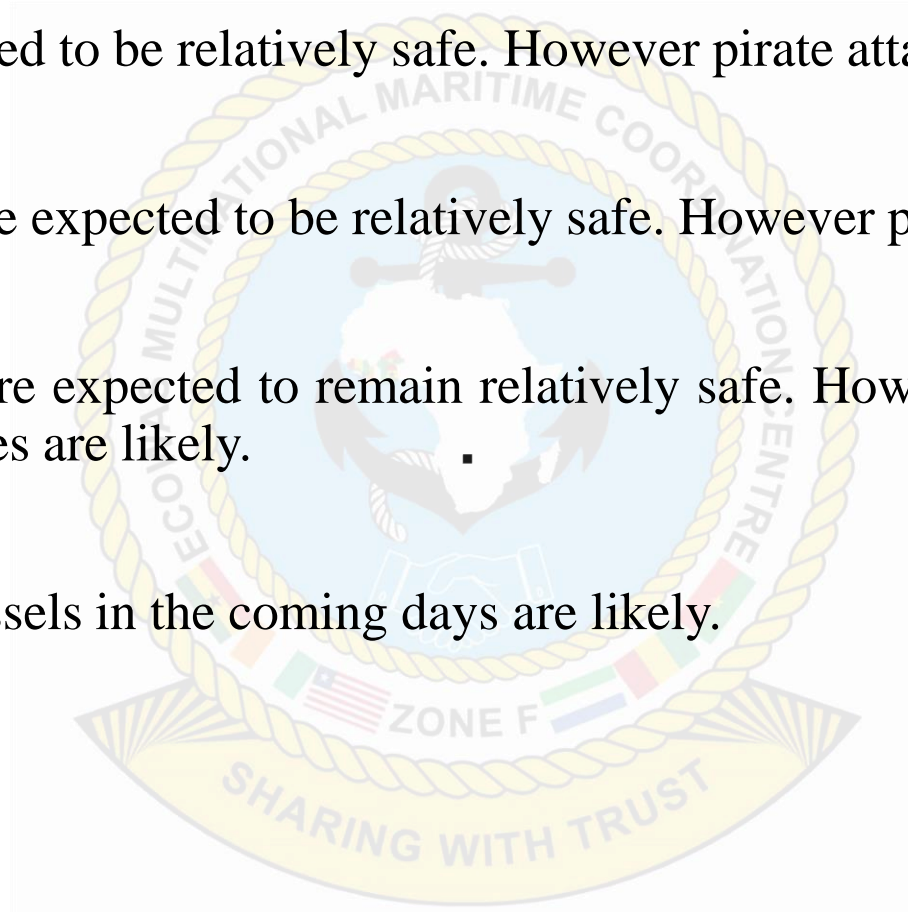
# GENERAL COMMENTS/ADVISORIES

- 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 26 incidents recorded within same period in 2021 with 17 incidents including 3 kidnapping occurring offshore.
- The number of piracy incidents are expected to continue to decline further during the course 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.

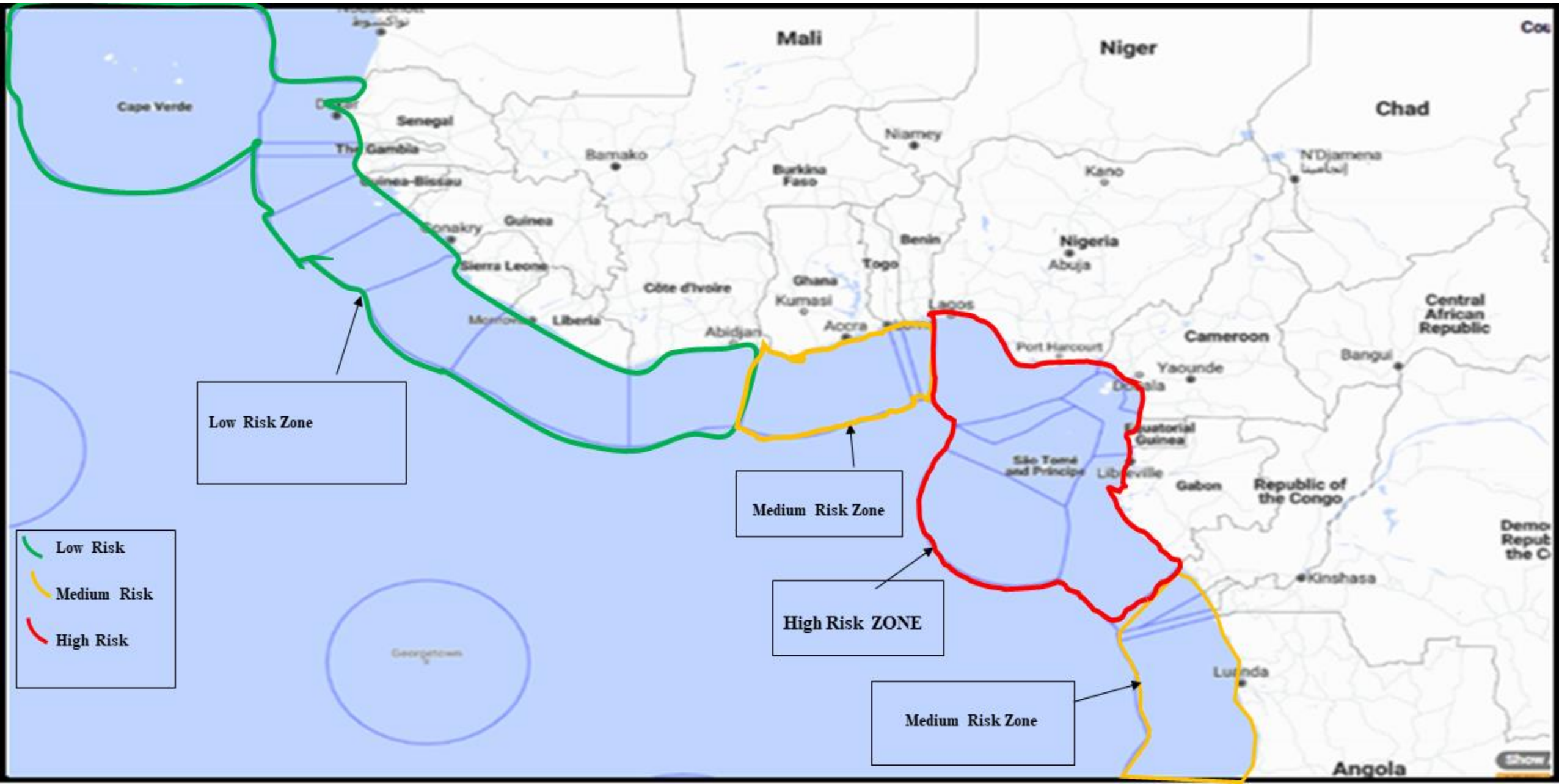


# FORCAST FOR THE COMING WEEK

- 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



# FORCAST FOR THE COMING WEEK

Annual multinational Maritime Exercise in the Gulf of Guinea ,  
OBANGAME EXPRESS 2022 ends on 18 March 2022.



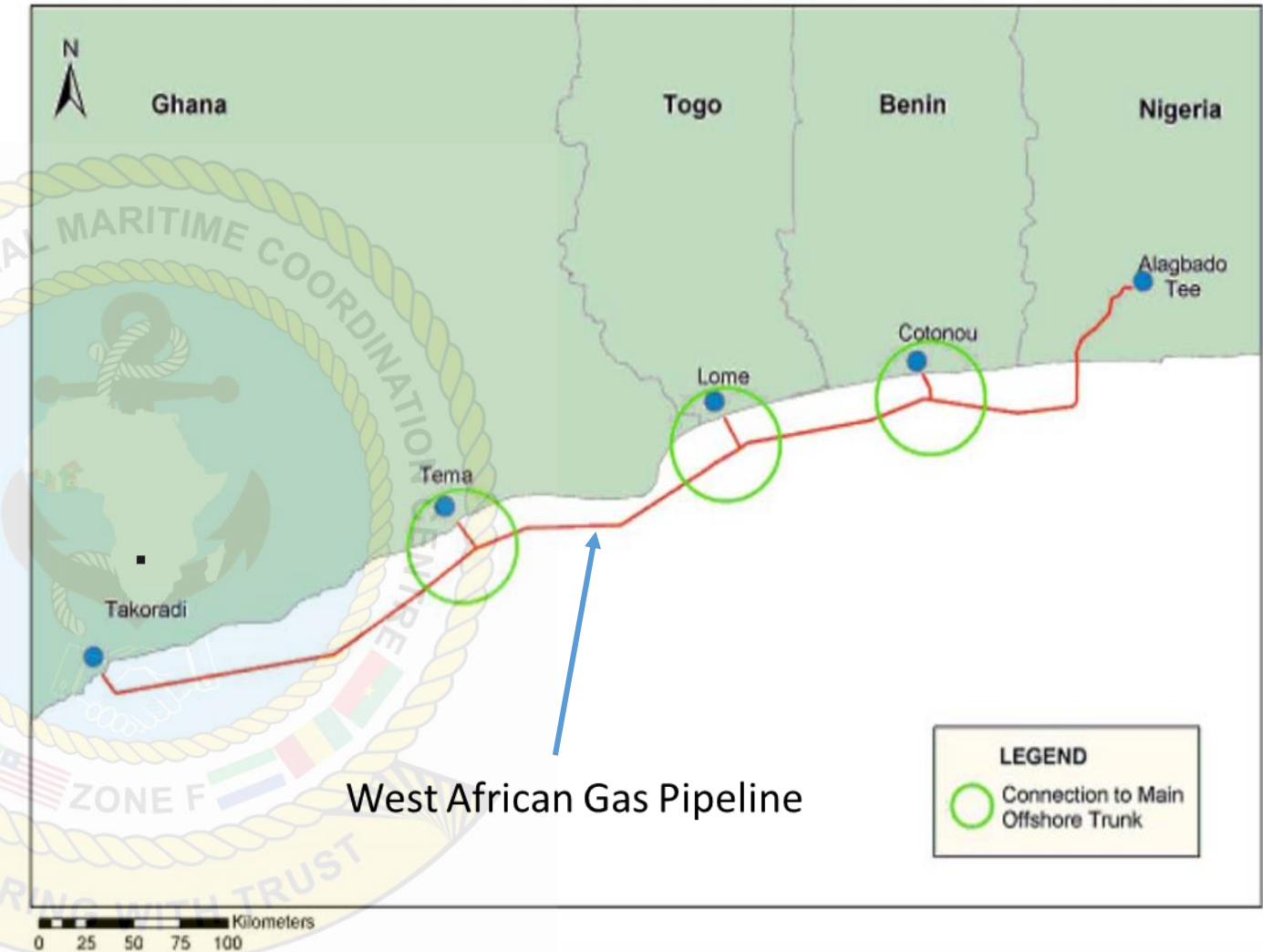
# NOTICES

## 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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