

ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION  
CENTRE (MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY  
REPORT NO. 47

18 NOVEMBER – 24 NOVEMBER 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.

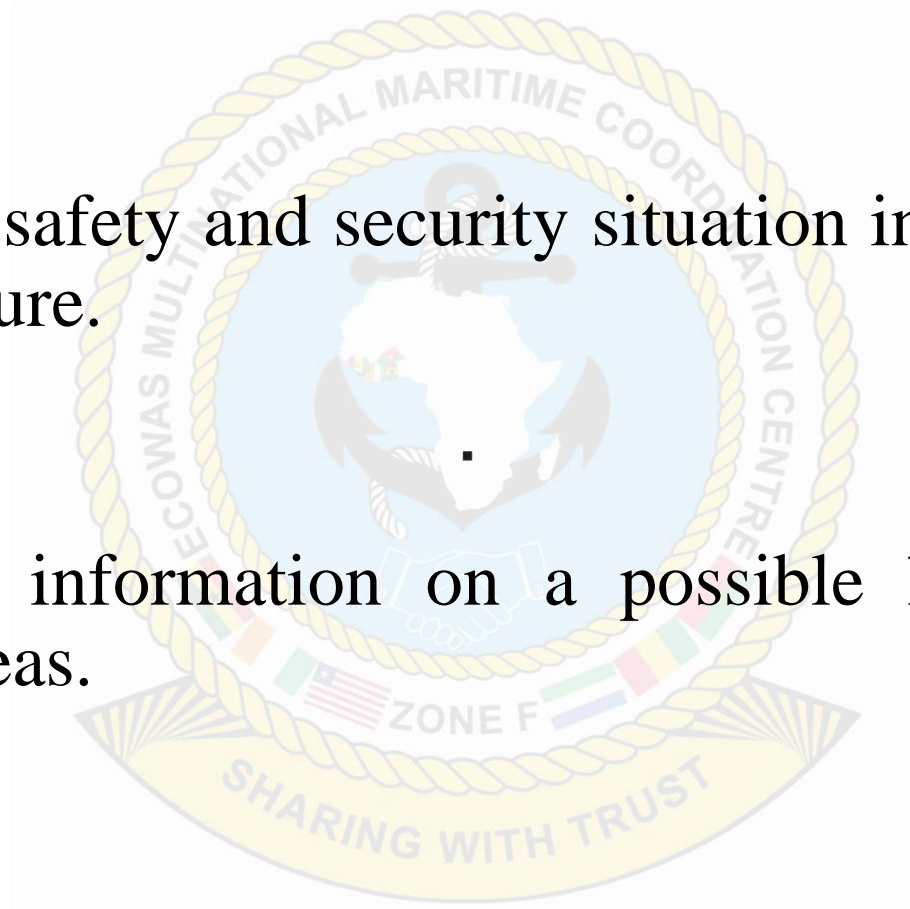
**SIGHTING AND IRREGULAR ACTIVITY:** All suspicious information with no proof of intent to board the vessel.

# OVERVIEW

- The MMCC Zone F weekly report highlights the general maritime safety and security issues observed and coordinated by the Centre.

- The general maritime safety and security situation in Maritime Zone F remained safe and secure.

- The Centre received information on a possible hijack which had occurred in the high seas.



# INCIDENTS RECORDED

Category	Type of Incidents	No of Incident in Recorded				
		Ghana	Cote d'Ivoire	Liberia	Guinea	Sierra Leone
<b>TERRORISM</b>	Terrorism					
<b>PIRACY/ ARMED ROBBERY</b>	Hijacking					
	Kidnapping					
	Armed Robbery					
	Fired Upon					
	Robbery/Attempt Robbery					
	Attempt Boarding					
	Boarding					
	Theft					
<b>ILLICIT TRAFIC</b>	Human					
	Drug					
	Weapons/Ammunitions					
	Smuggling					
<b>IUU 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					
	Loss of ship					
	Sanitary Evacuation					
	Submerging					
<b>OTHERS</b>	Warning/ Alert And Advisory					

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## HIJACK

Information received from MDAT-GoG indicates that, communication with MT B. OCEAN(93778340) has been lost since 232300z Nov 22 at position 01°18' 36"N – 004°39'17"W. An update was received from NN FALCONEYE indicating MT B OCEAN was observed to have changed/transmitted her AIS navigational status interchangeably from underway using engine to restricted manoeuvrability and finally to vessel not under command between 221508 – 240017 Nov 22. This may be an obvious case of an hijack incidence and the ship's crew were possibly trying communicate for help.

Further information indicates that, the vessel was involved in three different STS with MV CAP BOJADOR and AIS was turned off at position 00°53' 36"N – 004°50'48"W at 220004z Nov 22.

The STS lasted for two(2) days before the attack on the vessel. The fishing vessel is currently at Abidjan port.

Further updates on the incidents will be communicated in due course.

# INCIDENT POSITION



## VESSEL DETAILS

**NAME:** MT B. OCEAN

**IMO:** 9377834

**MMSI:** 538004147

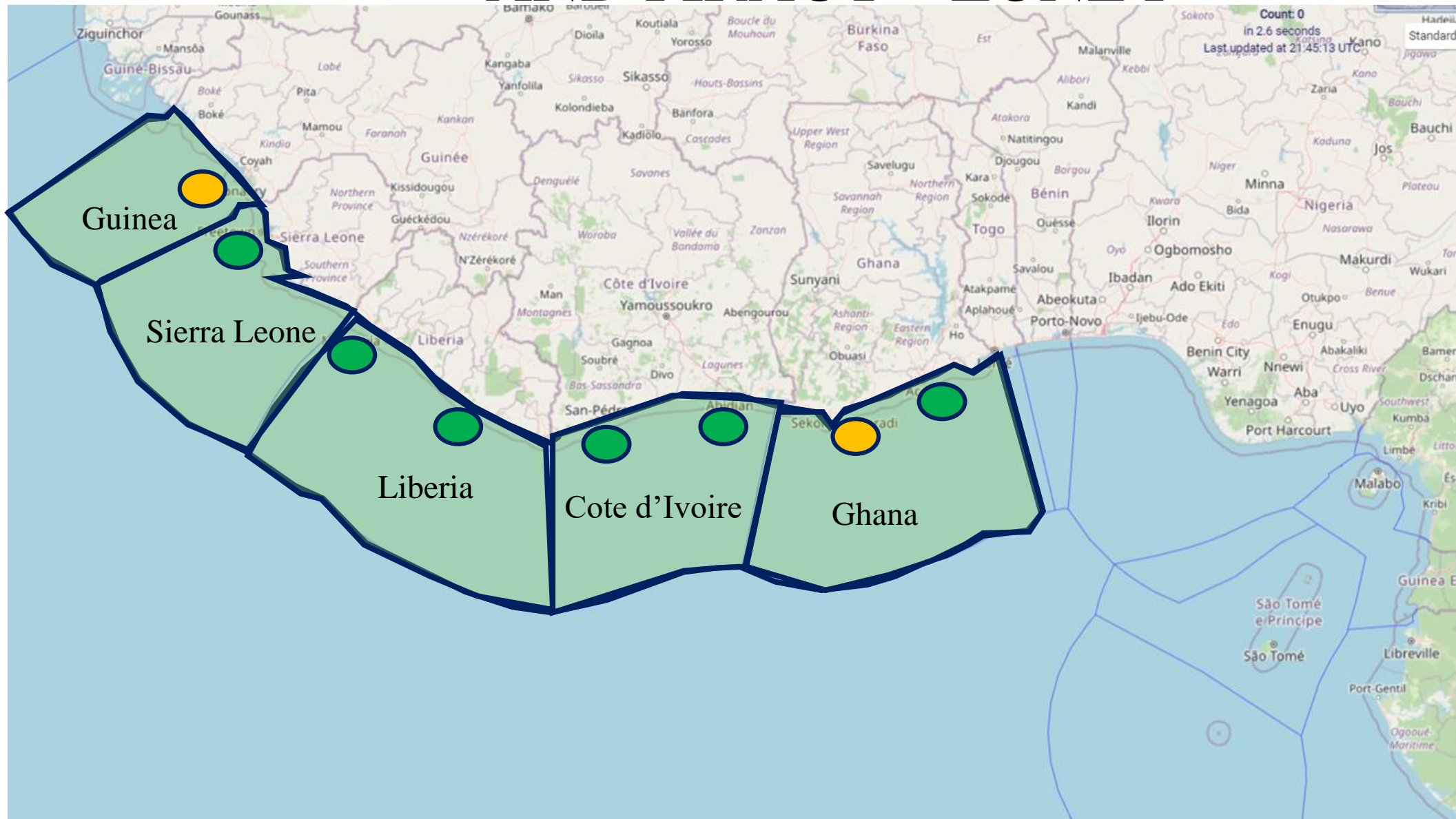
**FLAG:** Marshall Island

**LENGTH/BREADTH:** 106m X 17m

# OTHER MARITIME ACTIVITIES – ZONE F

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ACTIONS TAKEN</b>
IUU FISHING	NTR	NTR
MARITIME POLLUTION	NTR	NTR
ILLEGAL TRANSFER	NTR	NTR
CYBER CRIME	NTR	NTR
DRUG TRAFFICKING	NTR	NTR
ILLEGAL MIGRATION	NTR	NTR

# MARITIME RISK ANALYSIS ARMED ROBBERY AND PIRACY – ZONE F



- Anchorage
- Low risk
- Medium risk
- High risk
- EEZ
- Low risk
- Medium risk
- High risk

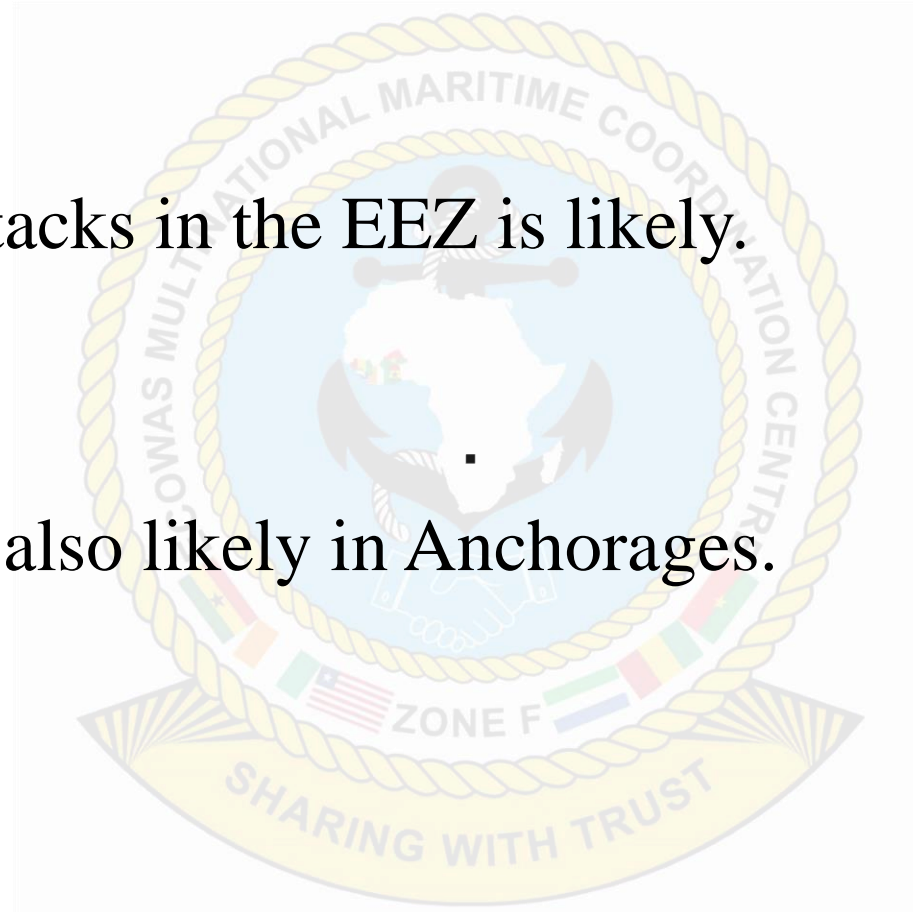


# FORECAST FOR THE COMING WEEK

- Maritime Zone F is expected to be relatively safe.

- However, pirate attacks in the EEZ is likely.

- Armed Robbery is also likely in Anchorages.



# MARITIME EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

<b>Category of Event</b>	<b>Ghana</b>	<b>Cote d'Ivoire</b>	<b>Liberia</b>	<b>Guinea</b>	<b>Sierra Leone</b>	<b>MMCC ZONE F</b>
Conference/Seminars Training	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR
Maritime Exercises	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR
Others	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR

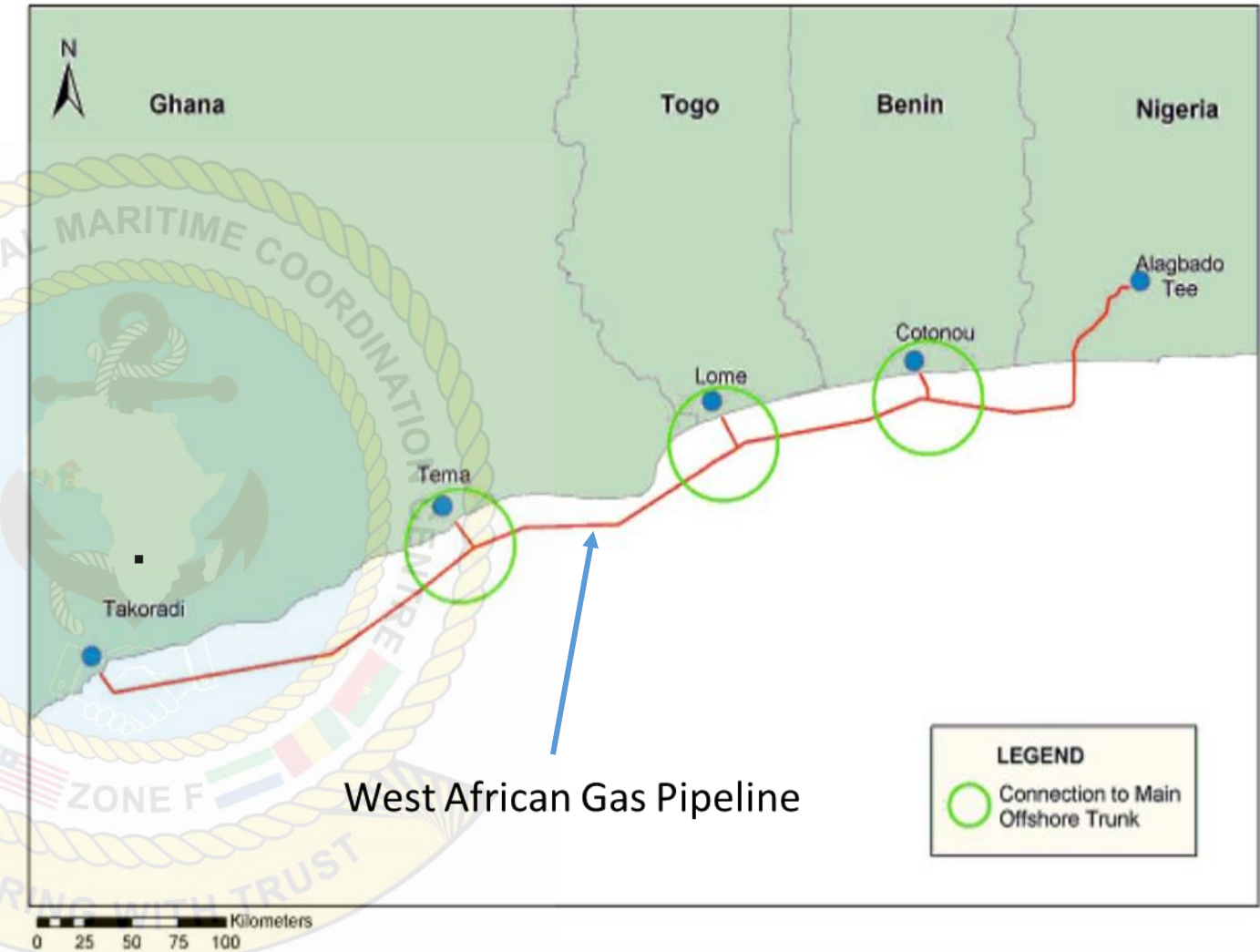
# NOTICES

## 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.



# MARITIME NEWS OF INTEREST

**Ghana and Liberia sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for cooperation in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities.**

The Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, Mavis Hawa Koomson, and Liberia's Director General of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority, Madam Emma Metieh Glassco have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to combat Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing activities. Speaking at the signing ceremony in Accra on Monday, Madam Koomson described IUU as a major challenge facing the sub-region, with far-reaching environmental and socio-economic consequences.

She cited the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development as saying that illegal fishing costs the West African sub-region USD23 billion per year and called for a united front to combat IUU.



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