



**ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION  
CENTRE (MMCC) ZONE F**

**MONTHLY ACTIVITIES REPORT  
JULY 2022**

**MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR JUNE 2022**

**OVERVIEW**

1. Maritime Zone F remained safe and secured. The month of June did not record any piracy or armed robbery-related incident.
2. Despite the calmness, Guinea's maritime domain recorded a collision involving a naval speed boat and a canoe carrying passengers. This incident resulted in the death of one passenger and injured several others. It also recorded a drug trafficking incident involving a Sierra Leonean flag vessel. This resulted in the seizure of 2.6 tonnes of cocaine from the vessel.

**ILLEGAL FISHING THREAT ASSESSMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2022**

3. The piracy risk assessment for July 2022 is as follows:
  - a. The threat of pirate attacks in Maritime Zone F is likely for July 2022 since Pirate Action Groups (PAGs) are likely to launch periodic surprise attacks.
  - b. Attack on fishing vessels operating in Maritime Zone F remains likely following the history of these events.
  - c. Maritime Zone F is expected to be relatively safe. However, the possibility of unauthorised boarding and theft within ports/anchorages, especially the Takoradi and Conakry anchorage areas, remains likely.

**ILLEGAL FISHING THREAT ASSESSMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2022**

4. Illegal fishing assessment for July 2022 is as follows:
  - a. Illegal fishing will persist since coastal states within Maritime Zone F are not able to adequately implement measures to deal with the situation.
  - b. Both local and foreign vessels will conduct activities at the blind sides of maritime law enforcement agencies.

**ILLEGAL TRANSFERS THREAT ASSESSMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2022**

5. Illegal transfers assessment for July 2022 is as follows:
  - a. The likelihood of illegal transfers, including drugs, oil and other contraband goods, remains likely following their history of occurrence.
  - b. Both local and foreign vessels may engage in these activities without being spotted by maritime law enforcement agencies.

MARITIME SAFETY ASSESSMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2022

6. Maritime Zone F will remain vulnerable and may experience safety issues due to the poor approach to ensuring the safety of all vessels at sea.

ACTIVITIES

7. The MMCC Zone F and its member states undertook various activities during the month under review. The activities conducted during the period are outlined below:

a. MMCC Zone F. The MMCC Zone F undertook activities that included monitoring vessels, sharing maritime information, participating in training seminars and hosting delegates.

(1) Monitoring of Vessels. The Centre monitored, tracked vessels and observed suspicious activities within Zone F AoR.

(2) Sharing of Maritime Information. The MMCC Zone F shared maritime information with maritime law enforcement agencies and other relevant stakeholders and coordinated response activities at sea.

(3) Participation in Training Seminars. Personnel from the MMCC Zone F participated in the Maritime intelligence and information training seminar in Abidjan from 11 – 14 July 2022. The Centre also participated in the YARIS training held at the Fiesta Royale Hotel in Ghana from 4 – 15 July 2022.

(5) Hosting of Delegations. The centre hosted students' delegates of the Nigerian War College also the Centre on 20 July 2022. Additionally, the Centre also hosted the Programme Officer for ECOWAS Commission and a maritime consultant as part of efforts to conduct an assessment of all Zonal Headquarters and MOCs SOPs for information sharing.

b. Ghana Navy. The Ghana Navy conducted the following activities:

(1) Monitoring. Ghana Navy and other maritime agencies used the MDA tools available to monitor and track vessel activity in Ghanaian waters.

(2) Patrols. Patrols were conducted to dominate Ghana's AoR and enforce maritime regulations.

(3) Training. Personnel from the Ghana navy participated in YARIS and MDA train-the-trainer training in the month under review-

c. Cote d'Ivoire Navy. The Cote d'Ivoire Navy conducted the following activities:

(1) Patrols. The Ivorian Navy conducted patrols to dominate its AoR and enforced maritime regulations.

(2) Escort. Ivorian navy escorted a merchant ship during the month.

- (3) Tactical Exercise. A maritime tactical exercise was conducted with the Brazilian frigate during the period.
- d. Liberia Coast Guard. The Liberian Coast Guard undertook the following activities:
  - (1) Patrols. Conducted rigorous patrols to dominate its AoR and enforced maritime regulations.
  - (2) Fisheries Law Enforcement Patrols. Conducted fisheries law enforcement patrols over the period.
- e. Sierra Leone Navy. The Sierra Leone Navy conducted the following activities.
  - (1) Fisheries Monitoring and Surveillance. The Sierra Leone Joint Operations Centre monitored and coordinated activities within their AoR, including monitoring fisheries activities.
  - (2) Patrols. Patrols were conducted to dominate the AoR and enforce maritime regulations, including IUU fishing.
- f. Guinea Navy. The Guinea Navy conducted patrols, boarding and search and rescue.
  - (1) Patrols. Patrols were conducted to dominate AoR and enforce maritime regulations, including IUU fishing.
  - (2) Boarding. The Egyptian flag fishing vessel FADH ALESLAM (MMSI: 622109601), suspected to be engaged in IUU fishing in Guinean waters, was boarded.
  - (3) Search and Rescue Operations. Search and rescue operations were conducted to rescue passengers onboard a passenger canoe that collided with a naval speed boat.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

8. The following are recommended:
  - a. All vessels transiting the Maritime Zone F, the sea area from Guinea to Ghana, are advised to remain vigilant, maintain a sharp lookout, apply the BMP West Africa, and report any suspicious activities to the necessary authorities.
  - b. Vessels within ports and anchorages, especially Takoradi and Conakry ports/anchorages, are advised to remain vigilant and rotate crew on watch regularly, especially at night, to prevent petty theft and robberies.
  - c. Vessels are advised to desist from loitering around or drifting unnecessarily offshore to prevent them from being vulnerable to pirate attacks.

d. Coastal law enforcement agencies are encouraged to maintain surveillance to detect other maritime activities such as IUU, marine pollution, Stowaways, illegal ship-to-ship transfers and drug and weapon trafficking.

9. The MMCC Zone F maintains a 24-hour operations centre. Shipowners and other maritime stakeholders can contact the Centre via hotlines at +233 547976523/+233 302736804 or via email at [zonefmmcc@gmail.com](mailto:zonefmmcc@gmail.com)/[zonefmoc@gmail.com](mailto:zonefmoc@gmail.com) to access or report any incidents. The information received from vessels, shipping agents, Company Security Officers (CSOs) and other partners is treated with the utmost confidentiality and shared promptly on a need-to-know basis to coordinate responses.

*Signed*

Acting Director