

ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION
CENTRE (MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY
REPORT NO. 17

21 APRIL – 27 APRIL 2023

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.**

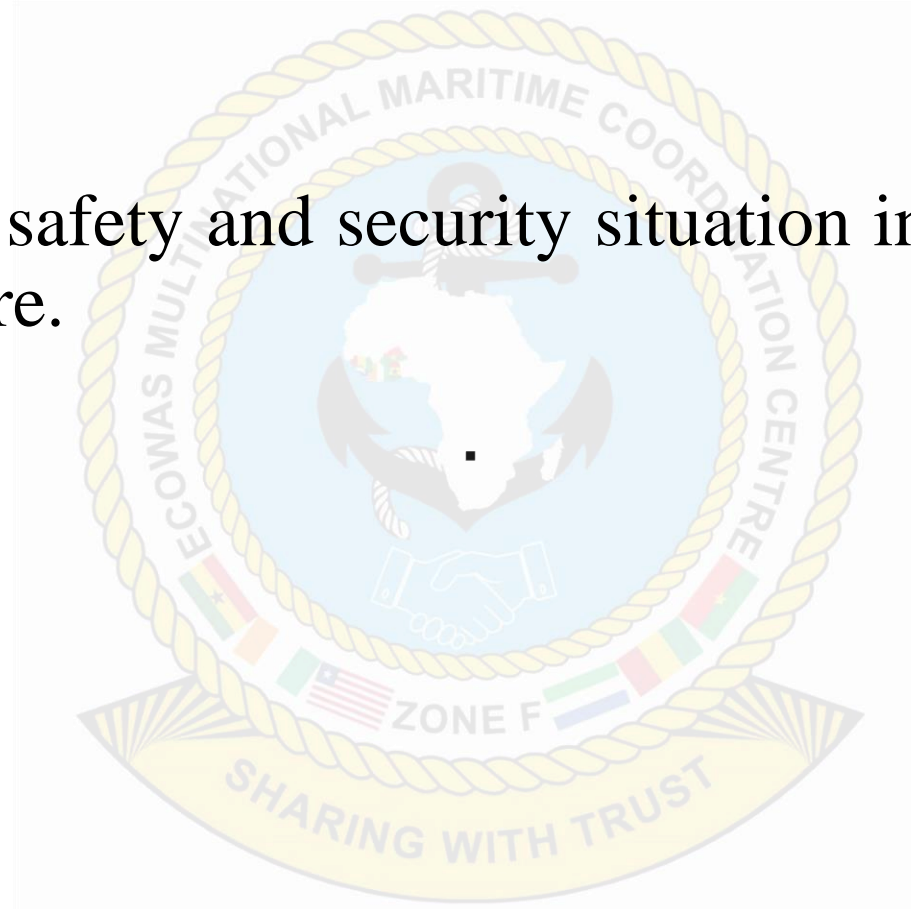
SUSPICIOUS APPROACH: All other unexplained activity in close proximity of an unknown vessel.

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 remains safe and secure.



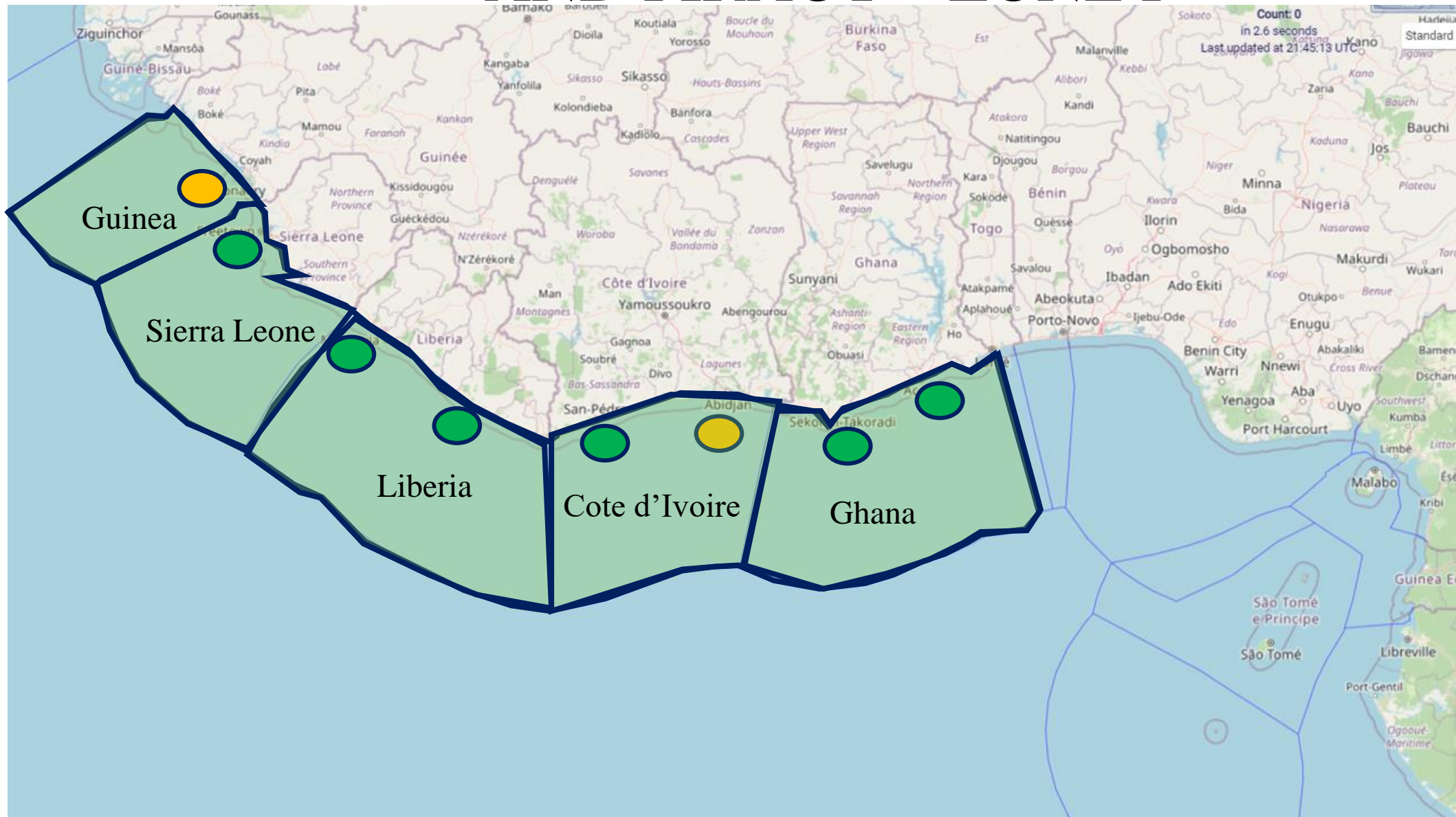
INCIDENTS RECORDED

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

OTHER MARITIME ACTIVITIES – ZONE F

EVENT	DESCRIPTION	ACTIONS TAKEN
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



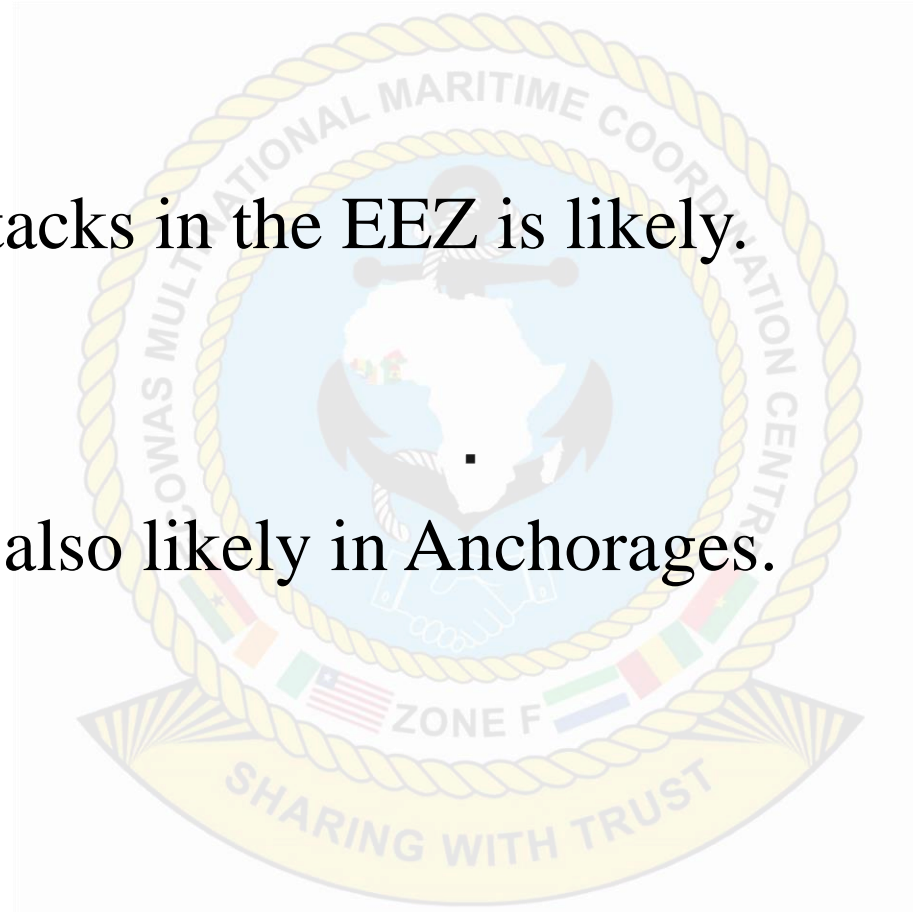
- Anchorage
- Low risk
- Medium risk
- High risk
- EEZ
- Low risk
- Medium risk
- High risk

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

Category of Event	Ghana	Cote d'Ivoire	Liberia	Guinea	Sierra Leone	MMCC ZONE F
Conference/Seminars Training	Sea Vision training commenced from 25 APR 23 - Friday 28 APR 23	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR
Maritime Exercises	NTR	The Ivorian Navy deployed a patrol boat at sea as part of the surveillance of the maritime facade.	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR
Visit	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR
Others	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR

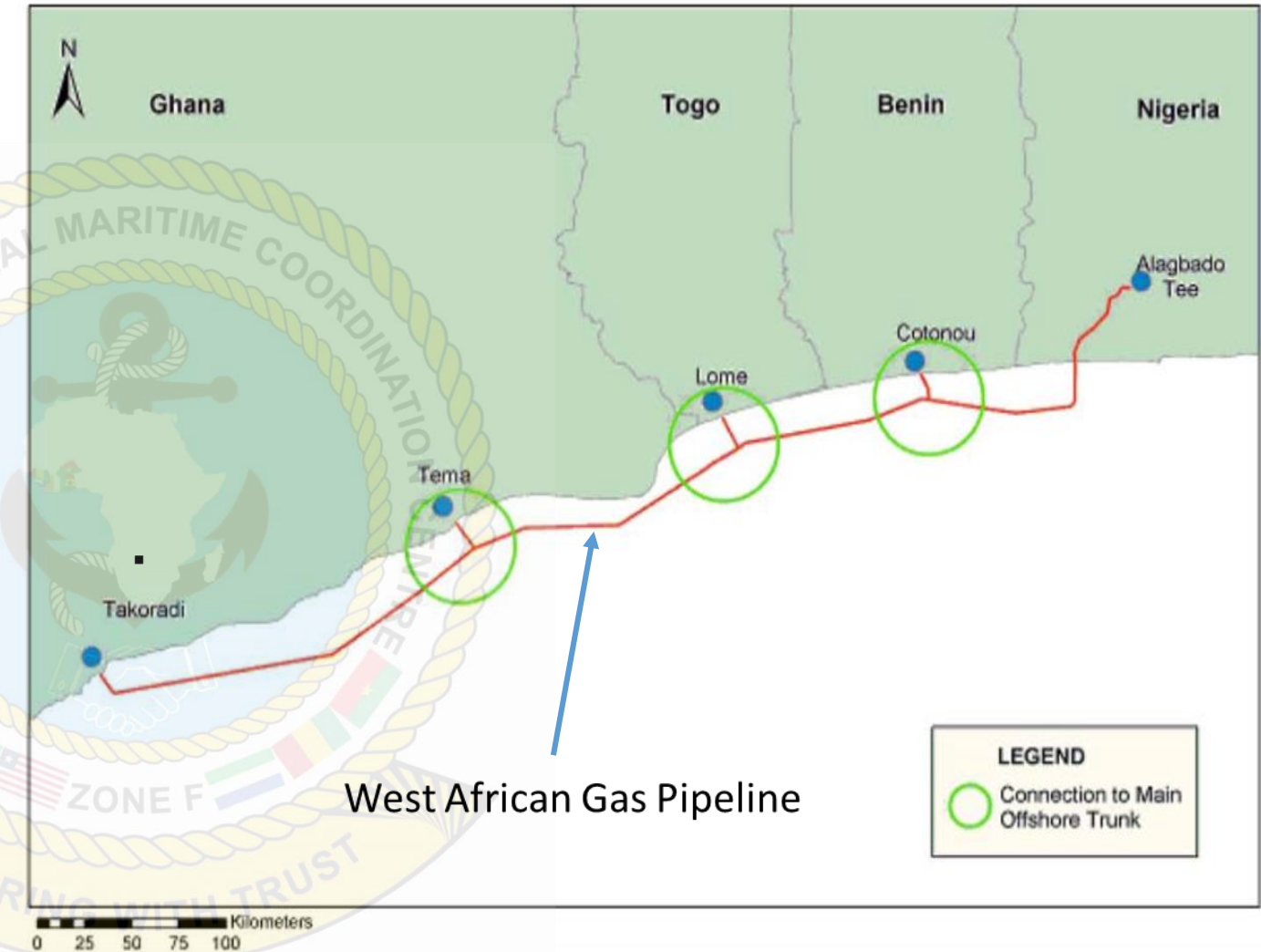
NOTICES

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

Mexican Navy Seizes 11,500 Tequila Bottles Filled With Liquid Meth

The Mexican Navy has seized a massive haul of methamphetamine in liquid form at the port of Manzanillo, the service announced Monday. Over the weekend, Mexican Navy inspectors examined a consignment of 11,500 bottles of tequila. Its brown color was consistent with aged "anejo" tequila, but the appearance did not fool the inspectors' drug dog, which alerted to the shipment. On examination, the inspectors found that the tequila bottles were actually filled with liquid methamphetamine. All told, the bottles contained about 8,600 kilos of meth in liquid form.

Liquid meth is powdered meth that has been dissolved in water. It is a common disguise used by Mexican smugglers, and liquid meth is routinely seized at the southern border, where most of the U.S. supply is imported. The brown-colored, poisonous fluid has been captured inside gas cans, five-gallon buckets, pumpkins, juice bottles, coconut water cartons and moist towelettes, among other products. Meth can be consumed by the end user in dissolved form, but dealers often boil off the water used for smuggling and recover the powdered methamphetamine for retail sale.



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