

ECOWAS MULTINATIONAL MARITIME COORDINATION  
CENTRE (MMCC ZONE F)

WEEKLY MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY  
REPORT NO. 20

12 MAY – 18 MAY 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.**

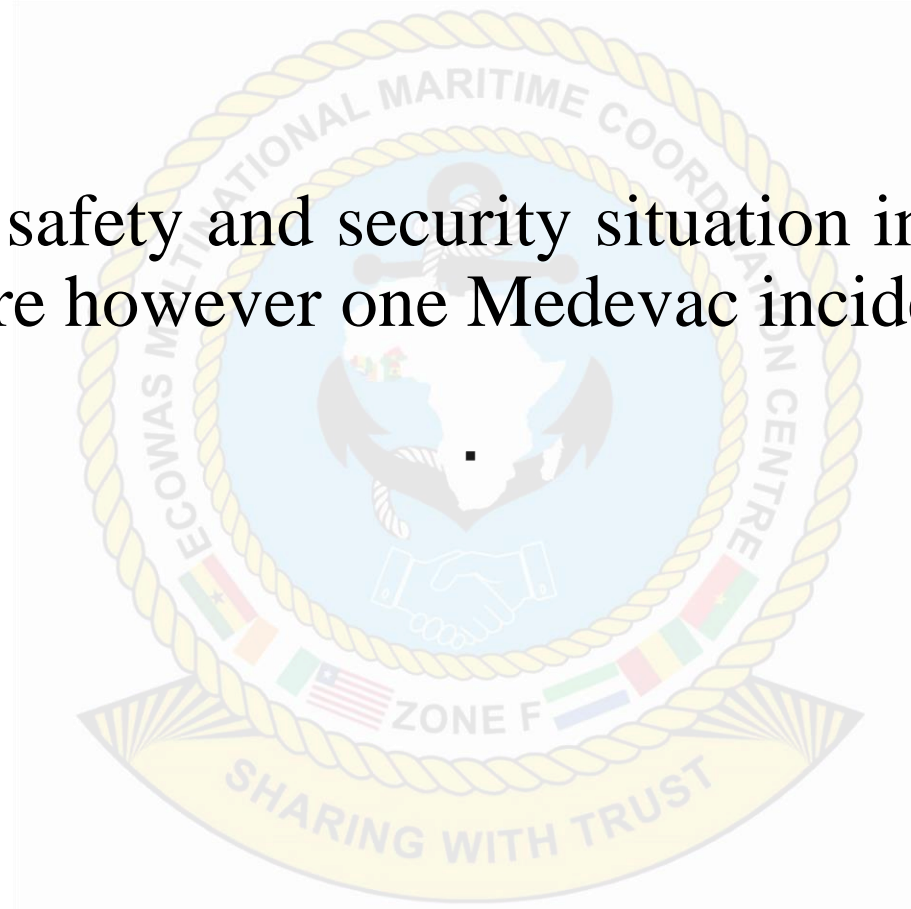
**SUSPICIOUS APPROACH:** All other unexplained activity in close proximity of an unknown vessel.

**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 however one Medevac incident was recorded.



# MARITIME 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>ILLCIT TRAFIC</b>	Human					
	Drug					
	Weapons/Ammunitions					
	Smuggling					
<b>IUU 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					
	Loss of ship/persons					
	Medevac/Evacuation		1			
	Submerging					
<b>OTHERS</b>	Warning/ Alert And Advisory					

# DETAILS OF INCIDENT

## MEDEVAC – COTE D’IVOIRE

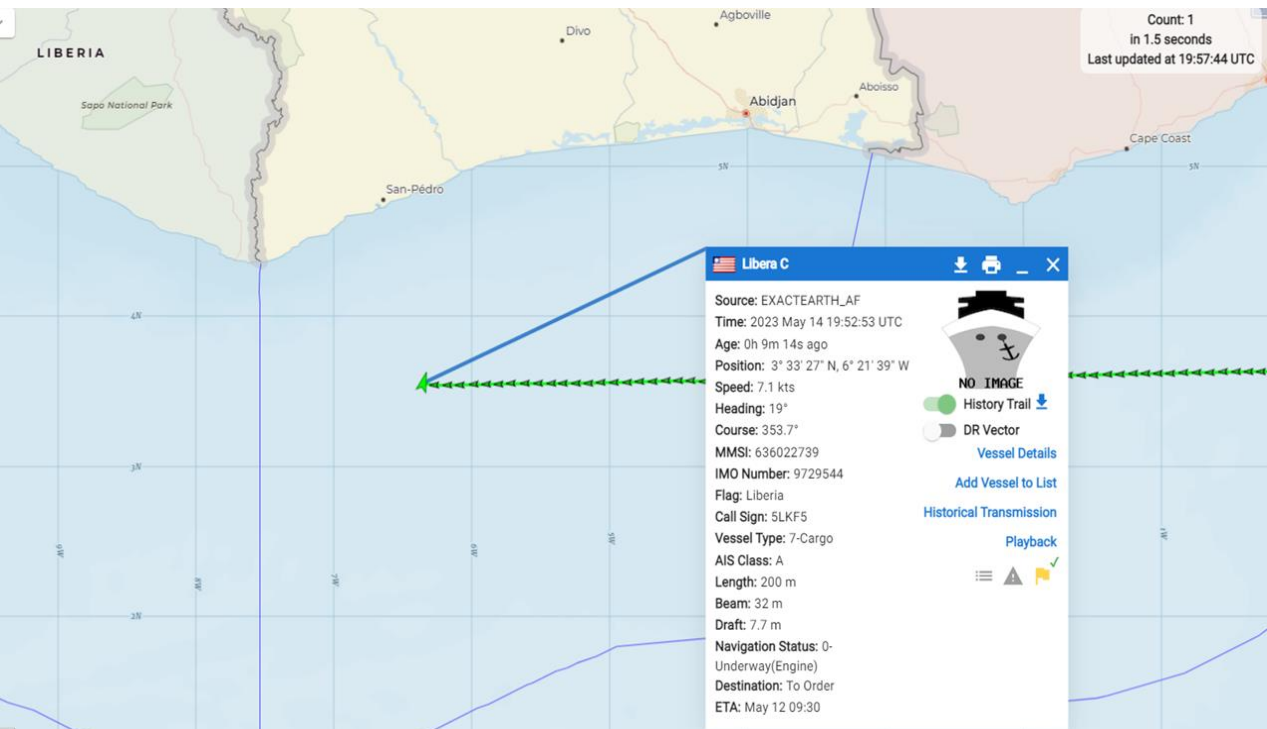
On May 14,2023 around 1912Z, Information received from Liberia MRCC indicates that, the Liberia flagged vessel LIBERA C needed a Medevac assistance at about 72NM South of San Pedro, cote d’ivoire.

## ACTION TAKEN

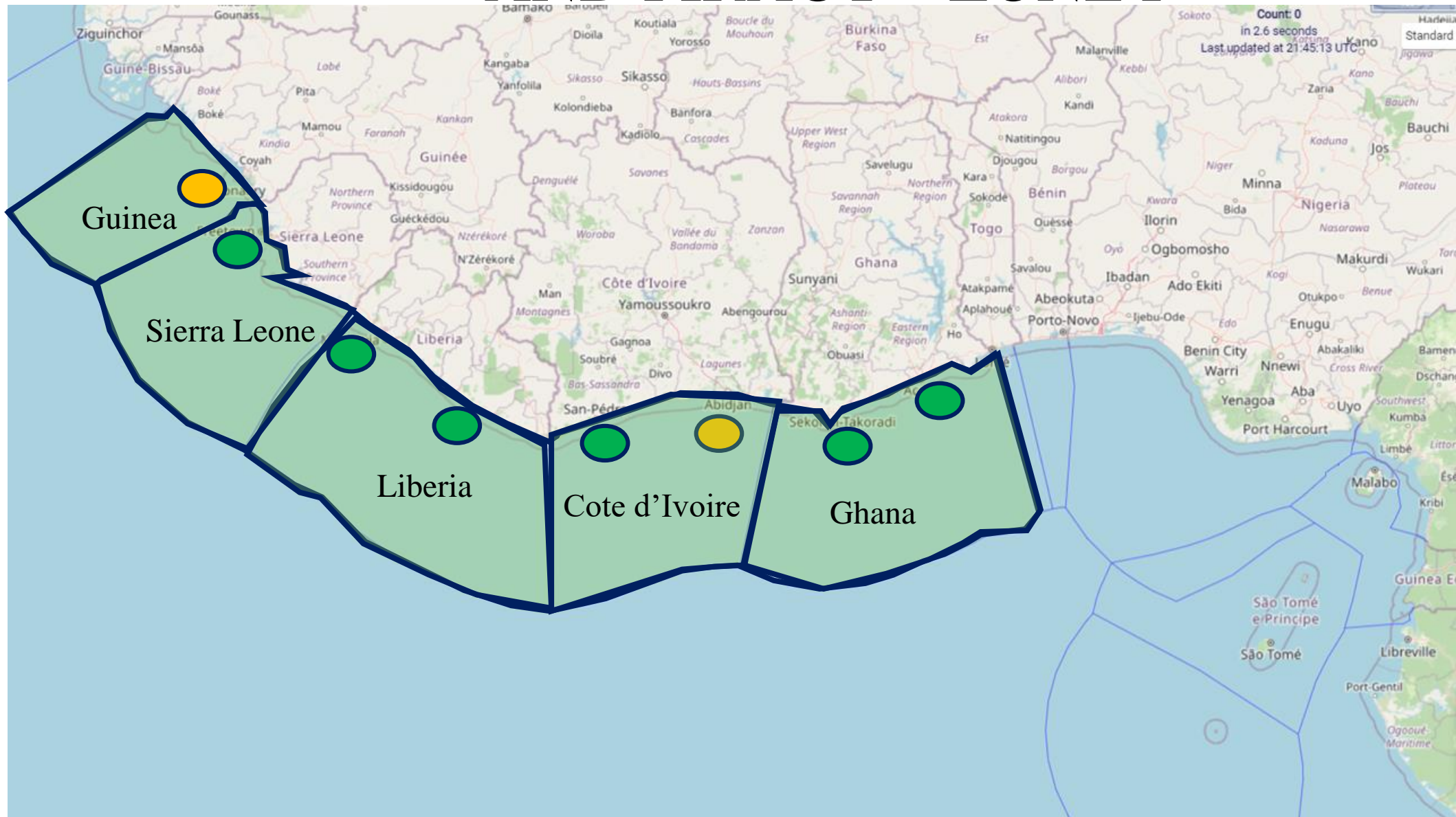
The centre shared information received with MOC Abidjan and MOC San Pedro and the rest of member states. At around 2349Z, response from MOC Abidjan indicated that, the MRCC Abidjan was handling the situation, and had contacted the vessel LIBERA C. A meeting point was agreed for a fast boat to pick up the injured person at around 150930Z. All necessary arrangements were made to received the injured crew. The injured crew was sent to Abidjan port and transferred to Farah clinic at Abidjan for further treatment. The crew is safe.



# IMAGES OF THE VESSEL AND INJURED CREW



# MARITIME RISK ANALYSIS ARMED ROBBERY AND PIRACY – ZONE F



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

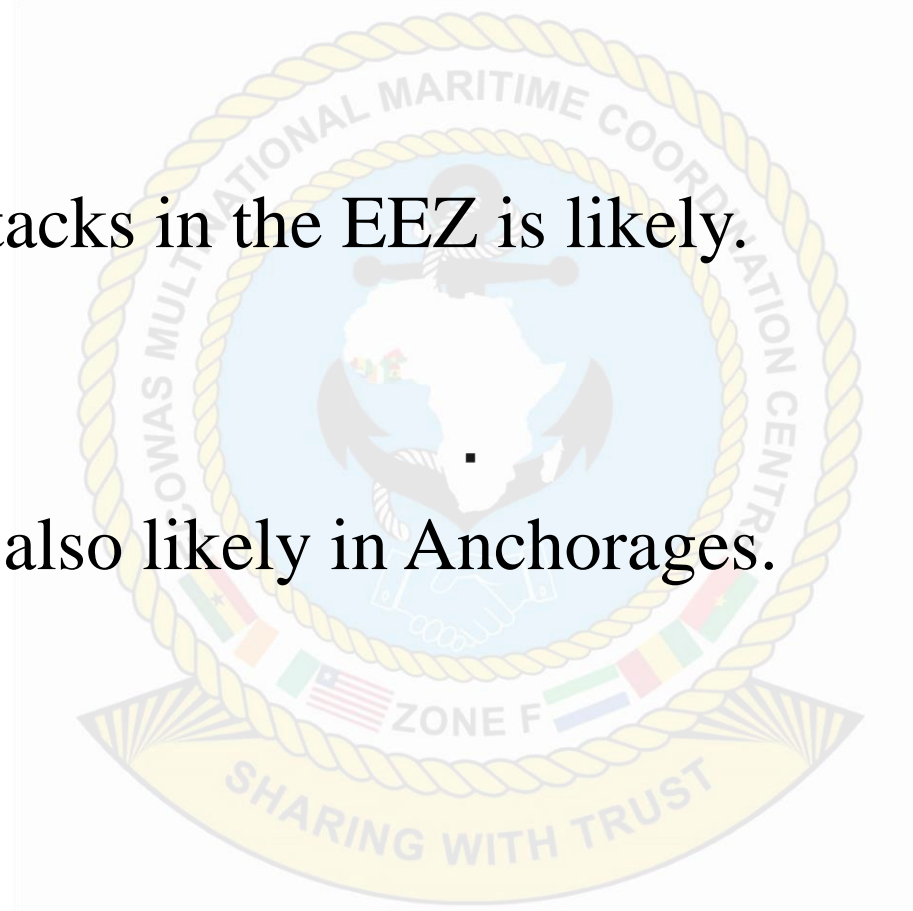


# FORECAST FOR THE COMING WEEK

- 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	<b>NTR</b>	NTR	<b>NTR</b>	NTR
Visit	NTR	<b>NTR</b>	<b>NTR</b>	<b>NTR</b>	<b>NTR</b>	<b>NTR</b>
Others	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR	NTR

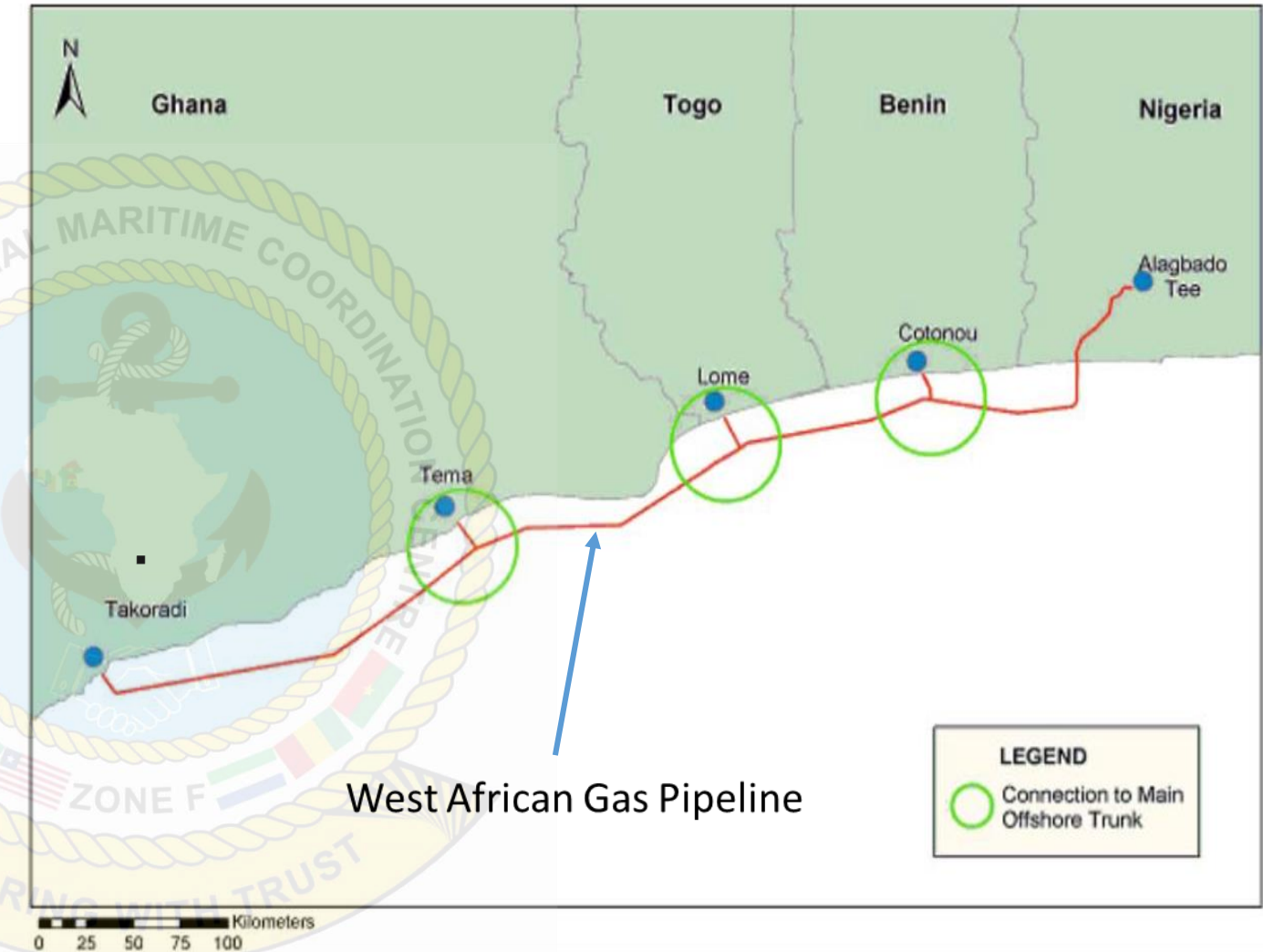
# NOTICES

## 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

## Italian Police Seize 2.7 Tonnes Of Cocaine Hidden Among Bananas

Italian police on Tuesday said they seized 2.7 tonnes of cocaine from a port in the southern region of Calabria.

Italy's Guardia di Finanza police force said that officers found 2,734 kilogrammes of extremely pure cocaine in two 12-metre-long refrigerated containers hidden among 78 tonnes of bananas.

This took place in the port of Gioia Tauro, calling the operation a "record seizure." Police said they estimated the drugs to have a street value of some 800 million euros (870 million dollars). The containers, which were coming from Guayaquil in Ecuador, were bound for Armenia and were due to go by the Georgian city of Batumi, the Guardia di Finanza said.





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