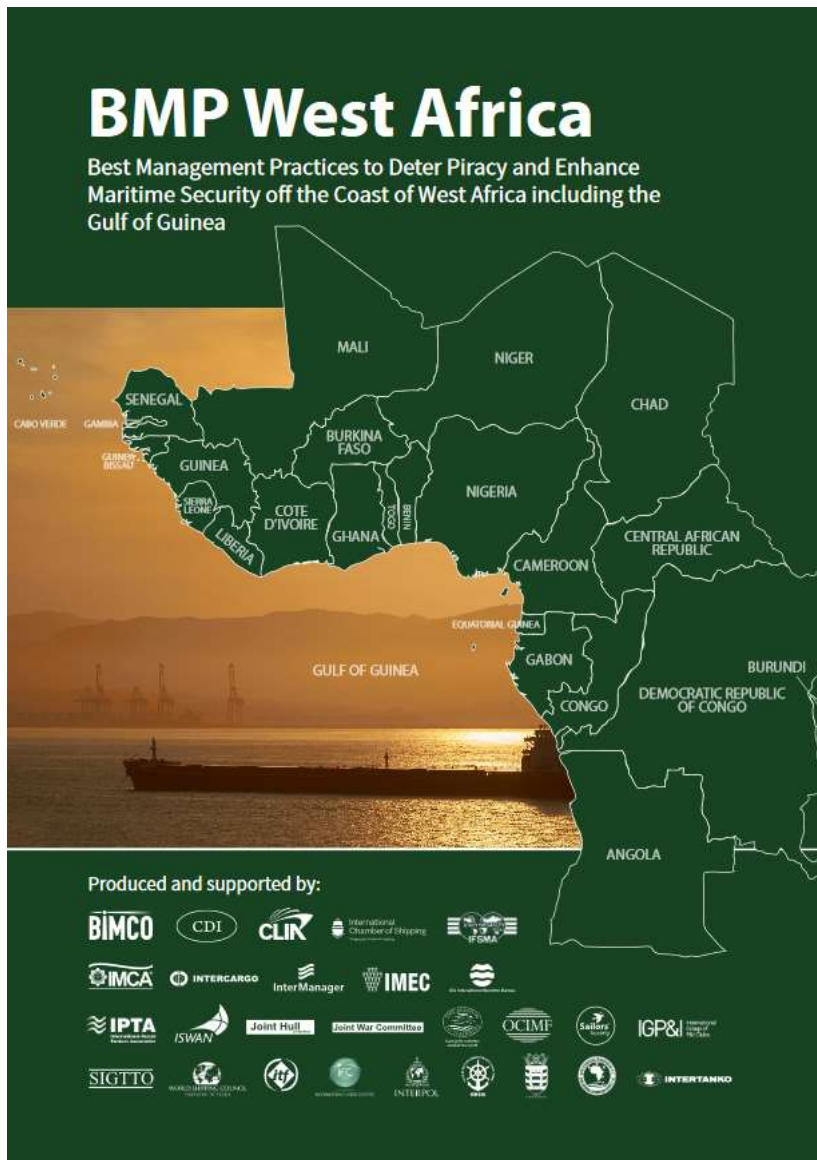


BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTISES WEST AFRICA



Industry organisations, supported by government and military organisations, have worked together to produce a new publication **“Best Management Practises West Africa”**.

This document will help maritime companies and mariners to risk assess voyages and detect/deter/delay external threats to their safety during their presence in West Africa including the Gulf of Guinea.

You can download this document in this following address:

<https://www.ocimf.org/publications/books/bmp-west-africa.aspx>



MDAT-GoG Monthly Report 04/2020 April

OVERVIEW

The MDAT-GOG has been in operation since 20 June 16. It is a virtual reporting mechanism supporting the interregional architecture defined by the Yaounde Code of Conduct. The primary output from the MDAT-GoG is to contribute by maintaining coherent maritime situational awareness in the central and western African Maritime Space, with the ability to inform and support industry, contributing to the safety and security of the Mariner in the regional maritime domain. All vessels are encouraged to report to the MDAT-GoG using the existing reporting formats. The information supplied by vessels will be treated as commercially confidential.

All details can be found on [SHOM Chart 8801CSD](#) or [UKHO Chart Q6114](#), 30 June 2016, to allow vessels to report when their vessel will be transiting the revised Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA), also described on both security charts with the MDAT-GOG, using the email address watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org. Phone number is monitored permanently (+33 (0)298 22 88 88).

Any queries regarding ADVISORY NOTICES ring: +33 (0)298 22 88 88, for further information. ADVISORIES are not classified as Maritime Security Events and have not been verified by MDAT-GoG. This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. MDAT-GoG is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting.

Masters are encouraged to comply with [Global Counter Piracy Guidance](#) and with [Best Management Practices West Africa \(BMP WA\)](#) during their presence in Voluntary Reporting Area.

7 events have been reported to MDAT-GoG for April 2020, Serials 042/20 to 050/20.

Fair winds and following seas!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [Monthly Statistics](#)
- [Map of Incident](#)
- [Details of Incident](#)
- [Maritime Criminal Activity Report](#)

CLASSIFICATIONS

Hijack: Vessel taken by attacker, no longer under the control of the Master.

Attack: Use of weapons by assailants at vessel or boarding with intent to take-control of the vessel.

Boarding: Assailants board a vessel with intention to take control of the vessel.

Suspicious approach: Close approach with unknown-

Robbery: Theft realized in territorial waters with threat/violence to crew.

Theft: Theft realized in territorial waters with no violence.

Sighting and Irregular activity: All suspicious information with no proof of intent to board the vessel.

CONTACT US

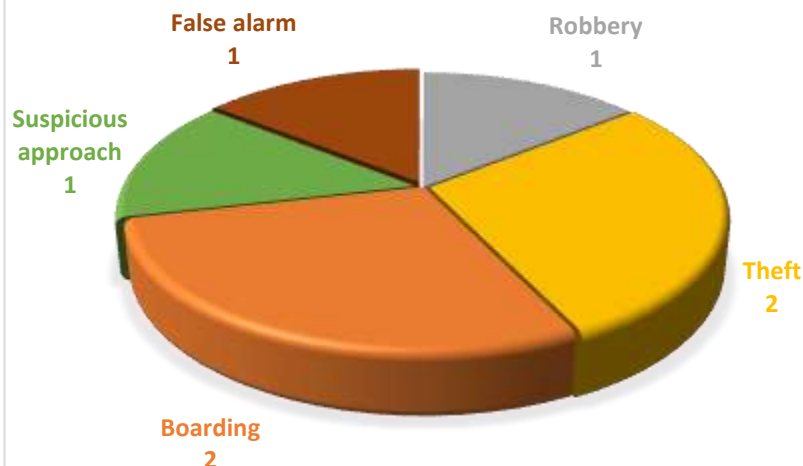
watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org

Emergency: +33 298 22 88 88

Exercise: +33 298 22 13 02

Phones and mail are monitored 24/7. Both French and English are spoken.

MONTHLY STATISTICS: APRIL 2020

[Back to main page](#)**INCIDENTS****ADVISORIES:**

1 issued

Date of issue

Classification and comments

001

19/04/20

Boarding

WARNINGS

2 issued

Date of issue

Classification and comments

001

10/04/20

Suspicious Approach

003

30/04/20

DRILL EXERCISE

3 issued

Date

Company

001

01/04/20

COSCO Shipping Lines Co Ltd

002

20/04/20

Songa Shipmanagement Ltd

003

21/04/20

BP Shipping Ltd

INCIDENTS reported

- Hijack: 0
- Attack: 0
- Boarding: 2
- Susp. approach: 1
- Robbery: 1
- Theft: 2
- Sighting – Irr. activity: 0
- False alarm: 1

NOTICES

Any queries regarding these Advisory Notices, contact us for further information. ADVISORIES are not classified as Maritime Security Events and have not been verified by MDAT-GoG. This information is provided to inform maritime situational awareness for mariners operating in the region. MDAT-GoG is not responsible for the accuracy of this reporting.

CONTACT US

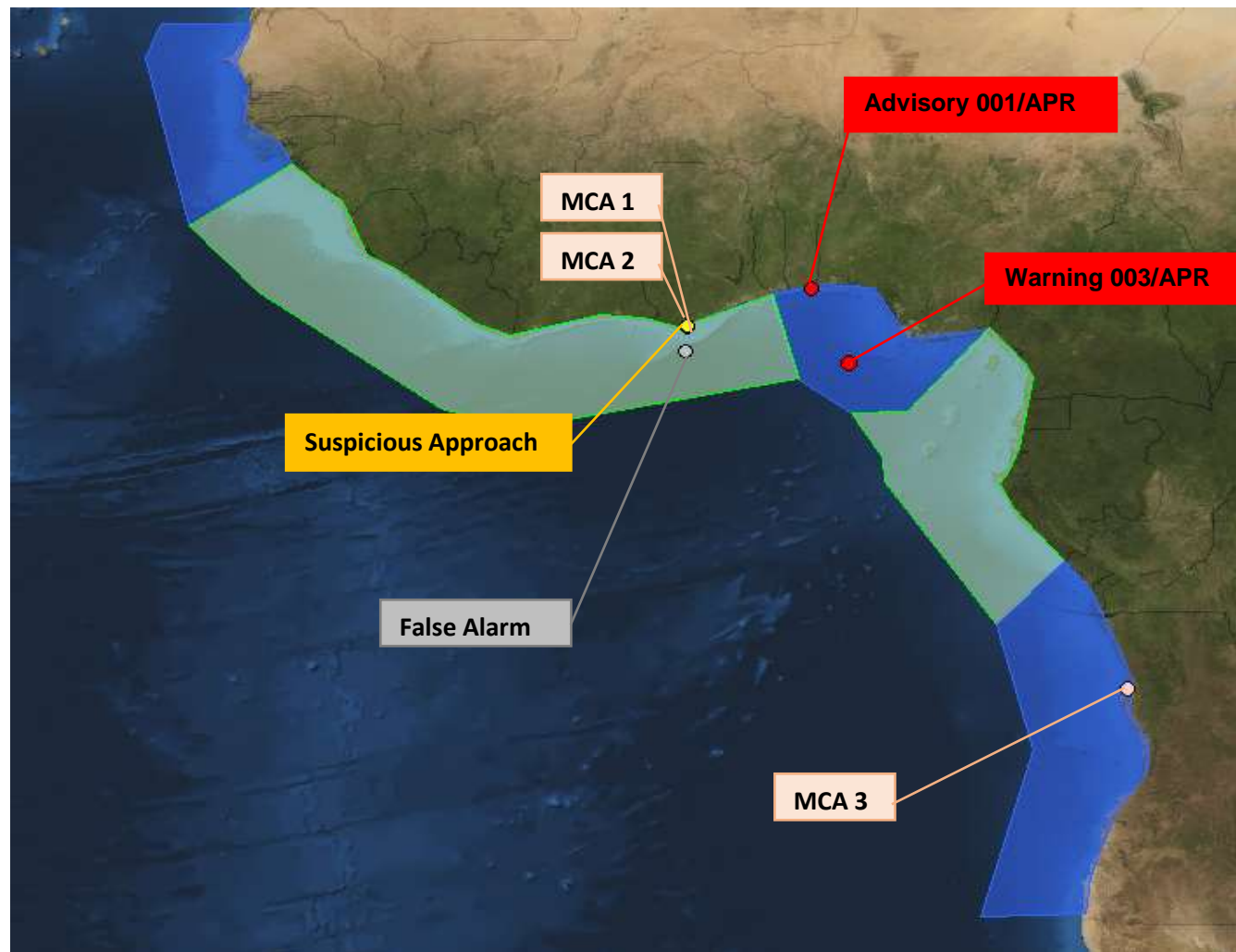
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MAP OF INCIDENTS

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HIJACK	ATTACK-BOARDING	SIGHTING – IRREGULAR ACT. - SUSPICIOUS APPROACH	THEFT - ROBBERY	SEARCH AND RESCUE - MISC
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MCA : MARITIME CRIME ACTIVITY

DETAIL OF INCIDENTS

[Back to the Map](#)**False Alarm**

Incident 042/20

<u>Category</u>	False Alarm	<u>Status of Incident</u>	Not concerned
<u>Date</u>	10 Apr. 20	<u>Time (UTC)</u>	07:17
<u>Position</u>	03°56N – 001°45W	<u>Bearing / Range</u>	179/57NM off Takoradi, GHANA
<u>Status of Vessel</u>	En Route	<u>Weather during the Attack</u>	Clear, NNE 6 KTS wind, NNE smooth sea, 0.2M

Description: An MT (**NAME WITHHELD**) has been approached at 0717UTC the 10th April, in position 03°56'N - 001°45'W by a 15m long skiff with red and white hull and 6-7 persons on board. Skiff approached to within 50m. No ladder or weapons were sighted. After 30 minutes, skiff broke off pursuit. Crew and ship were reported safe.

MDAT GOG Comment: After reception of the AAR and pictures taken by the crew, this event, previously classified as a suspicious approach, is now classified as a FALSE ALARM.

Duration of Attack: Approximately 30 minutes.

Method Of Approach: Craft chasing the MT, insistent in approaching despite the fire hoses and the evasive manoeuvres.

Type of Vessel used: Wooden boat (red and white hull) with 7 people on board.

Consequences for Crew/Ship/Cargo: Nil.

Incident reported to:
MDAT, Area F.

MDAT Reference: [Warning 001/APR and Weekly 20-15.](#)

INCIDENT CLOSED

DETAIL OF INCIDENTS

[Back to the Map](#)**Advisory 001/APR**

Incident 045/20

<u>Category</u> <u>Date</u>	Boarding 19 Apr. 20	<u>Status of Incident</u> <u>Time (UTC)</u>	Successful 05:40
<u>Position</u>	06°17N – 002°32E	<u>Bearing / Range</u>	122/7NM off Cotonou, BENIN
<u>Status of Vessel</u>	At Anchorage	<u>Weather during the Attack</u>	Not stated

Description: On the 19th April at approximately 0540UTC, while at Cotonou Anchorage, an MV (**NAME WITHHELD**) was boarded by an unknown number of attackers. The Beninese Authority has dispatched quickly two patrol boats and a joint operation with the Nigerian Navy was planned on the 20th April to secure the MV (**NAME WITHHELD**).

Duration of Attack: Not stated.

Method Of Approach: Not stated.

Type of Vessel used: Not stated.

Consequences for Crew/Ship/Cargo: Undisclosed information.

Incident reported to:
MDAT, Area E.

MDAT Reference: [Advisory 001/APR and Weekly 20-17.](#)

INVESTIGATION IN PROGRESS

DETAIL OF INCIDENTS

[Back to the Map](#)**Suspicious Approach**

Incident 046/20

<u>Category</u>	Suspicious Approach	<u>Status of Incident</u>	Failed
<u>Date</u>	30 Apr. 20	<u>Time (UTC)</u>	01:00
<u>Position</u>	04°54N – 001°42W	<u>Bearing / Range</u>	067/2NM off Takoradi, GHANA
<u>Status of Vessel</u>	At Anchorage	<u>Weather during the Attack</u>	Weather: Clear Wind: N/2 Sea: 1 Swell height: 0.5m

Description: On the 30th April 2020 at 0100UTC, an MV (**NAME WITHHELD**) has reported an attempted boarding in position 04°54.17'N - 001°42.85'W by one skiff with 6 persons on board at Takoradi anchorage. Following the unsuccessful attempt, the skiff attempted to board another MV (**NAME UNKNOWN**), unsuccessfully. The skiff returned to the first ship where it was arrested by a patrol boat.

Duration of Attack: Approximately 5 minutes.

Method Of Approach: The boat came alongside.

Type of Vessel used: Wooden boat with an outboard engine.

Consequences for Crew/Ship/Cargo: Nil.

Incident reported to:
MDAT, Area F.

MDAT Reference: [Weekly 20-18.](#)

INCIDENT CLOSED

DETAIL OF INCIDENTS

[Back to the Map](#)**Warning 003/APR**

Incident 047/20

<u>Category</u> <u>Date</u>	Boarding 30 Apr. 20	<u>Status of Incident</u> <u>Time (UTC)</u>	Successful 19:40
<u>Position</u>	03°30N – 003°49E	<u>Bearing / Range</u>	190/170 off Lagos, NIGERIA
<u>Status of Vessel</u>	En Route	<u>Weather during the Attack</u>	Not stated

Description: On the 30th April, 2020 at 1940UTC, an MT (**NAME WITHHELD**) has been boarded in position 03°30'N 003°49'E by a skiff with an unknown number of armed pirates.

Duration of Attack: Not stated.

Method Of Approach: Not stated.

Type of Vessel used: Not stated.

Consequences for Crew/Ship/Cargo: Undisclosed Information.

Incident reported to:
MDAT, Area E.

MDAT Reference: [Warning 003/APR](#) and [Weekly 20-18](#).

INVESTIGATION IN PROGRESS

MARITIME CRIMINAL ACTIVITY REPORT

[Back to the Map](#)

MARITIME CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Maritime Crime Activity 01: Theft

Event 043/20

GHANA, Takoradi

Description: On the 15th April at 0527UTC, 6 intruders were spotted by a duty crew member while they were attempt to board the MV (**NAME WITHHELD**) at Takoradi Anchorage (04°54N - 001°41W). The alarm was raised and the intruders fled away. Vessel and crew were reported safe.

Method Of Approach: use of a fishing boat.

Consequences for Crew/Ship/Cargo: Nil.

MDAT-GOG Reference: Weekly 20-16.

Maritime Crime Activity 02: Theft

Event 044/20

GHANA, Takoradi

Description: On 16th April, at 0105UTC, in position 04°52.43N - 001°41'01W, two intruders were discovered in the paint store by the deck officer on watch. The alarm was raised and the local authorities were informed. The intruders fled away by canoe with 5 persons on board. Two patrol boats were dispatched to secure the area.

Method Of Approach: Small canoe.

Consequences for Crew/Ship/Cargo: Paint supplies stolen. (Worth \$4000USD)

MDAT-GOG Reference: Weekly 20-16.

MARITIME CRIMINAL ACTIVITY REPORT

[Back to the Map](#)

MARITIME CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Maritime Crime Activity 03: Robbery

Event 050/20

ANGOLA, Luanda

Description: On the 30th April at 2315UTC, while at Luanda anchorage, a supply vessel (**NAME WITHHELD**) has been boarded by one man. An on-duty officer spotted the intruder who ran at him with a sharp object. The officer raised the alarm that caused the intruder to flee on a small motorboat with three other persons. Ship and crew were reported safe.

Method Of Approach: small motorboat.

Consequences for Crew/Ship/Cargo: Nil.

MDAT-GOG Reference: This event was a time late report.