



EU NAVFOR ATALANTA

Singapore 16th February 2023



CAPT (SP- N) RAFAEL-TORRECILLAS
Chief Of Staff EU NAVFOR OP Atalanta

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PROVIDING MARITIME SECURITY IN THE NW INDIAN OCEAN



AGENDA

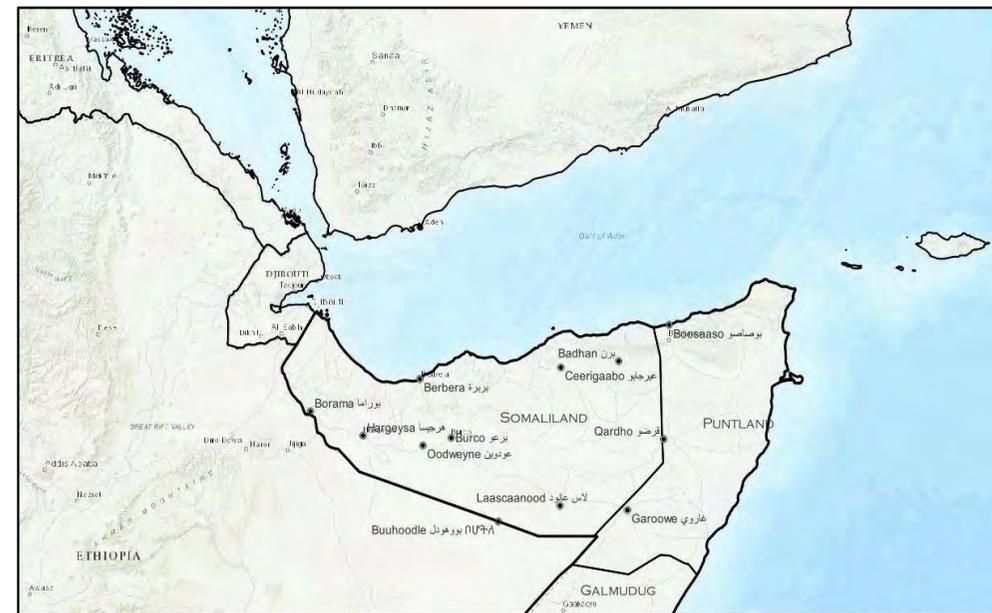
- Regional Developments.
- Maritime Events in 2022 – 2023.
- Regional & Blue Water Threats.
- Piracy Status.
- Threat Assessments.
- EUNAVFOR Reporting (IRTB-IRTA)
- Observed Trends and PoL evolution.
- Conclusion.





REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

ACTOR / AREA	DEVELOPMENTS
SOMALILAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-Declared Independence – Not internationally recognized • Social unrest due to repressive governmental policies and elections • Coast Guard Available, limited reach up to TTW • Border clashes with Puntland
PUNTLAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-autonomous Region • Presence of IS in Bari Region, Almiskat mountains • Continued border clashes with Somaliland • Political unrest
YEMEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No renewed Ceasefire • UAV & GPS Missile attacks on Maritime domain involved in Oil Operations • Target discrimination and ID capability • Supported by Iran • Maritime Security Capability
DJIBOUTI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US, FR, IT & CH Bases and Naval presence • Improving diplomatic relations with Eritrea (yet fragile) • Acts as the main maritime trade corridor to Ethiopia





MARITIME EVENTS IN 2022 & 2023

- Conflict Related
- Not MSE
- Illegal Movement of People
- Fishing Dispute
- Narcotic Smuggling
- Other Maritime Crime
- Weapon Smuggling



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YEMEN COASTAL THREAT

Facts

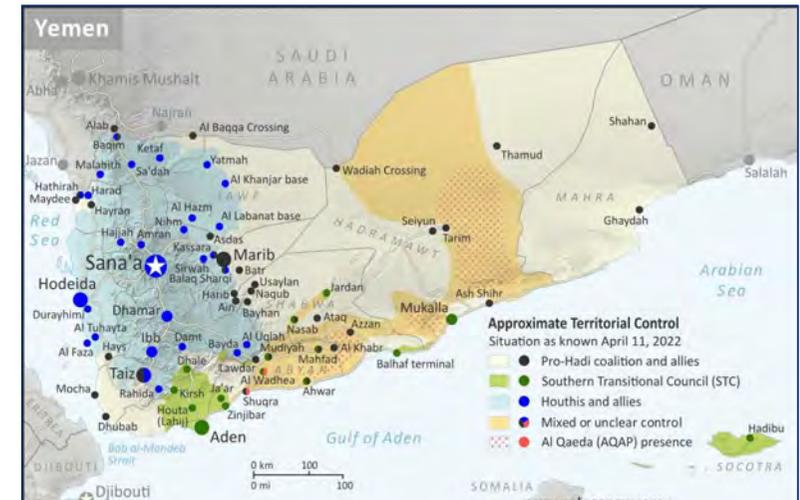
- 3 Tankers targeted (Al-Dhabba and Qena).
- One attack by LACM
- Ansar Allah boarded small vessels
- UAV Propaganda

Comments

- Far away from controlled areas
- One Land attack missile confirmed (GPS guided, not UAV)
- UAV attack highly likely (in vicinity of coast)
- Gave warnings before the attack
- No truce since oct 22

Assessment:

- Ansar Allah have the capability to monitor Maritime Domain
- Have capability, intent and possibility to conduct attacks on shipping
- Target specific flags or related companies opposing their interests (“Ban” on oil export from Yemen)



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UAV ATTACKS AL DHABBA.

21OCT: 2X UAV
MT Nissos Kea

Targetting: Oil
industry

Claims:

Yemen gov to
pay salaries oil
workers in East
Areas

IRTB 32



CCTV-Footage showing the attack at Al-Dhabba on
21 October 2022

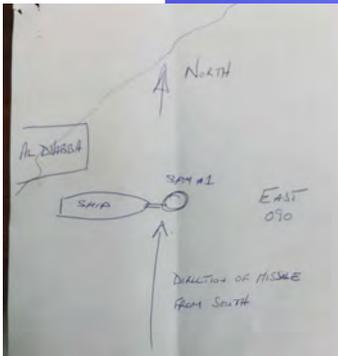
- UAV narrowly missing the SPM Buoy -



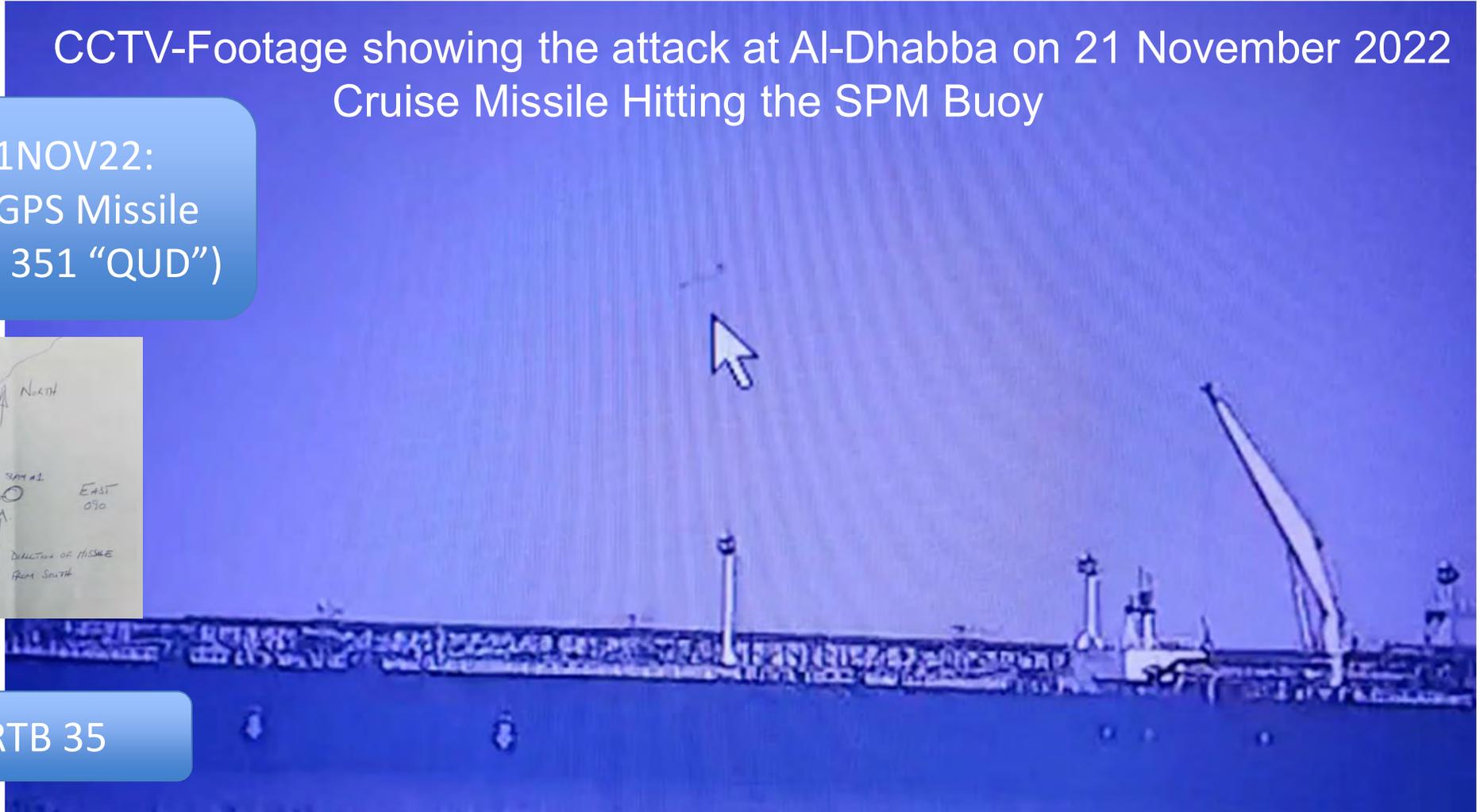
CONFLICT RELATED ACTIVITY

CCTV-Footage showing the attack at Al-Dhabba on 21 November 2022
Cruise Missile Hitting the SPM Buoy

21NOV22:
1-2 GPS Missile
(Type 351 "QUD")



IRTB 35



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LACM ATTACK IN AL DHABBA



Debris recovered from seabed confirms LACM TYPE 351 "QUD". GPS guided.

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BLUE WATER THREATS

Facts:

- Attack by UAV in Blue Waters (MV PACIFIC ZIRCON) to Israel affiliated ship. Ship is possible launching platform
- Seizure of Greek tankers by IRAN following detention of Iranian ship in Aegean Sea (Mediterranean)

Comments:

- Attribution of events might not be always clear
- Drone threat (All kind). Growing market, vehicles and technology cheaper.

Assessment:

- **Drone threat** remains an unsolved threat and is widely spread
- **Globalization.** Events that occurred far away from WIO might affect shipping.
- **Affiliation.** Own affiliation remains the main factor for targeting shipping

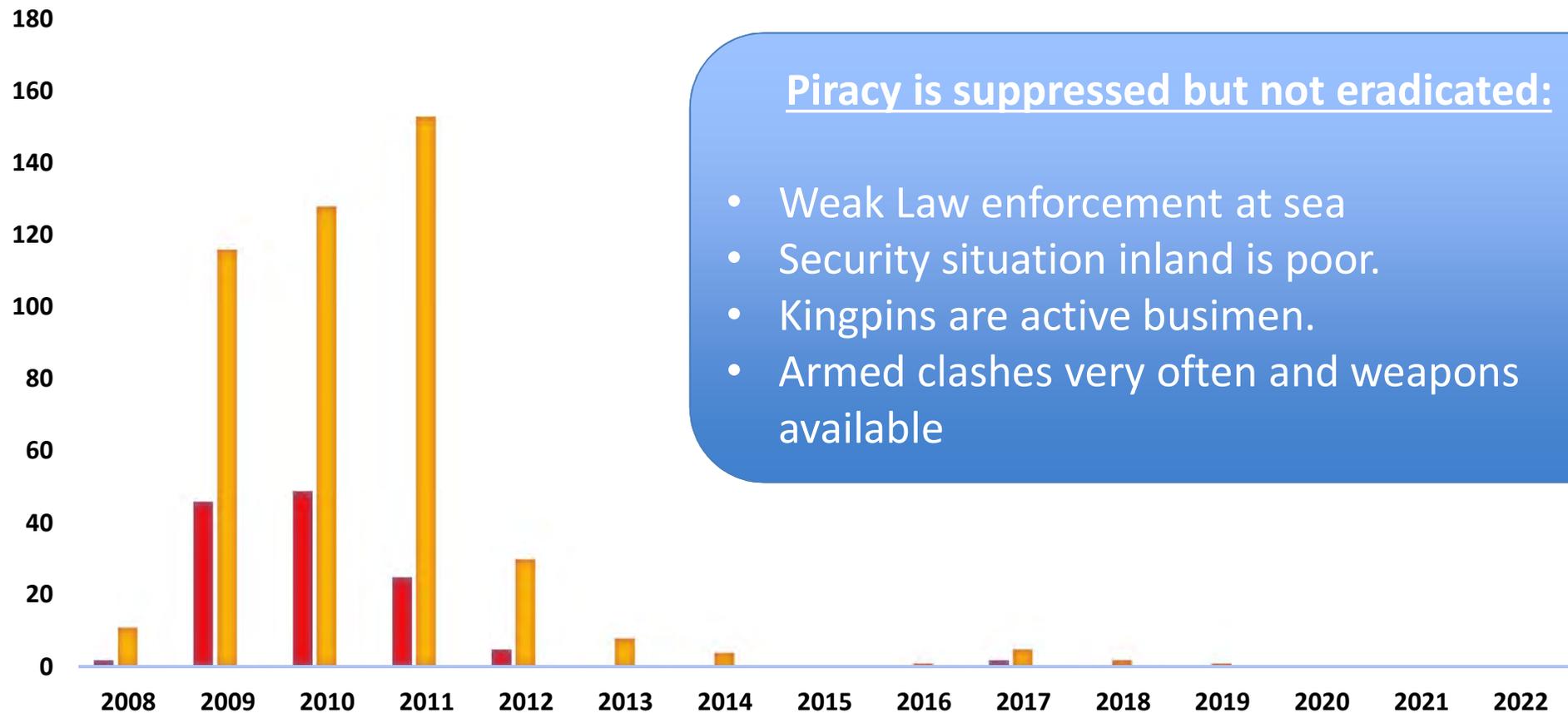




PIRACY STATUS

PIRACY EVENT 2008 - 2022

■ Pirated ■ Attacked



Piracy is suppressed but not eradicated:

- Weak Law enforcement at sea
- Security situation inland is poor.
- Kingpins are active busimen.
- Armed clashes very often and weapons available

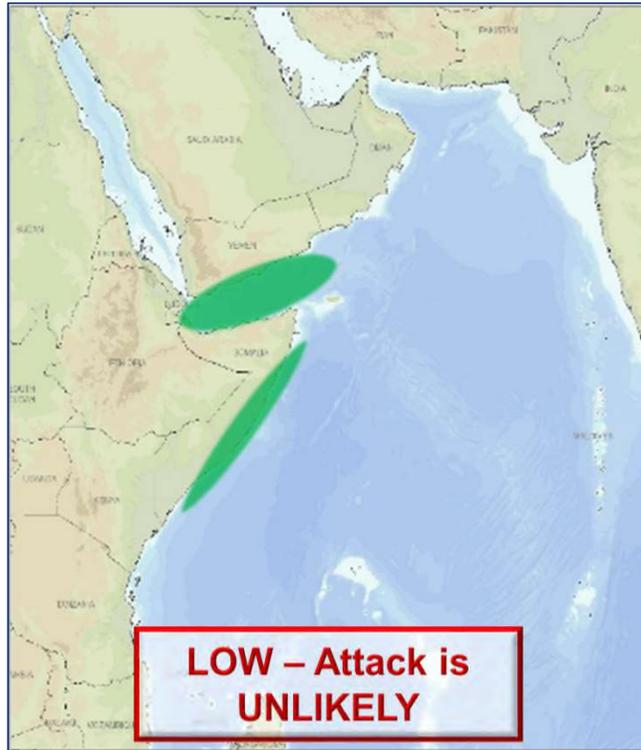
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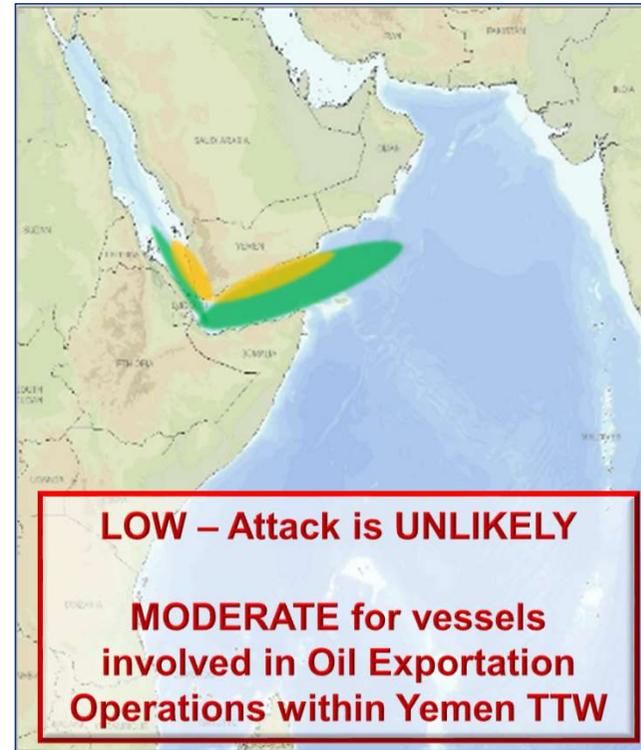


THREAT ASSESSMENTS

Piracy Related



Conflict Related



Uncertainty yardstick

BENIGN	LOW	MODERATE	HIGH	CRITICAL
No Threat	0-30%	31-60%	61-90%	>90%

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IRTB, IRTA

Industry Releasable Threat Assessment



Issued on 01 Dec 22
ICOD 23 Nov 22



This Threat Assessment has been released to the maritime community in confidence.
It should not be disseminated further without permission.

- **IRTB, IRTA:** Product aim to Shipping Industry.
- Products are a joint product with CMF
- EUNAVFOR Info Exchange network:
- EUROPOL, Regional Centers, EMASOH, DGMARE & UN.
- Products can be further improved based on the Maritime Industry feedback and requirements.

EUNAVFOR happy to receive feedback.



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Joint Operational Center (JOC, 24/7)

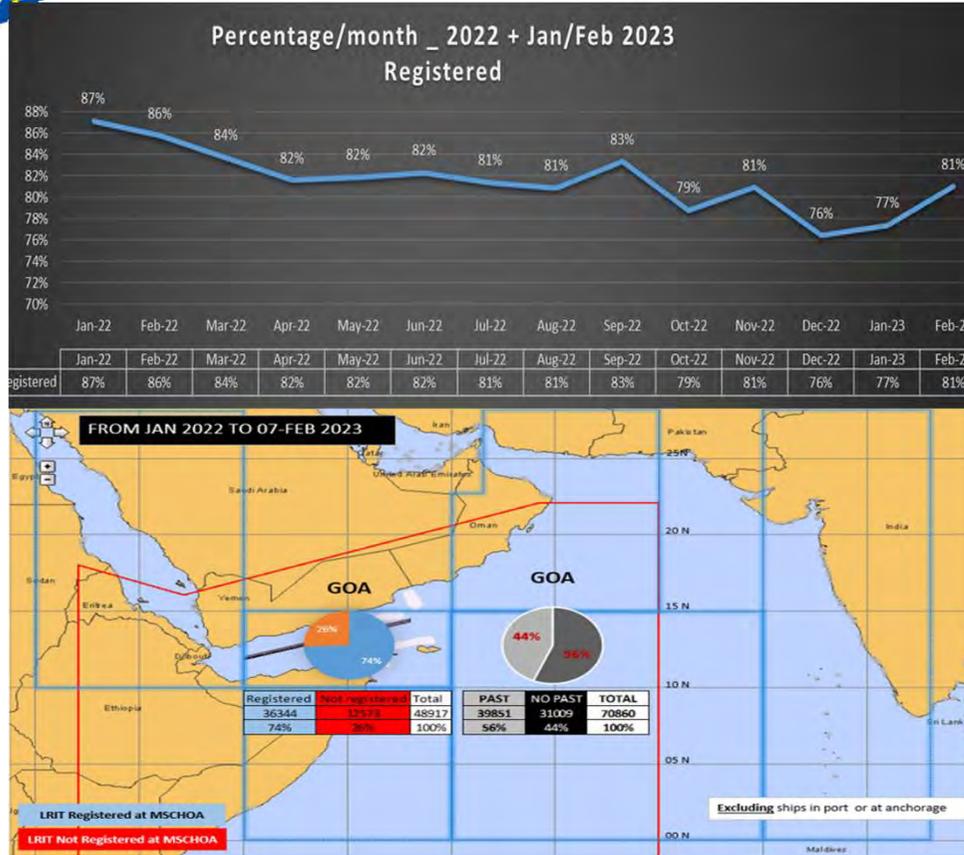
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OBSERVED TRENDS

REGISTRATIONS to ATALANTA VRS

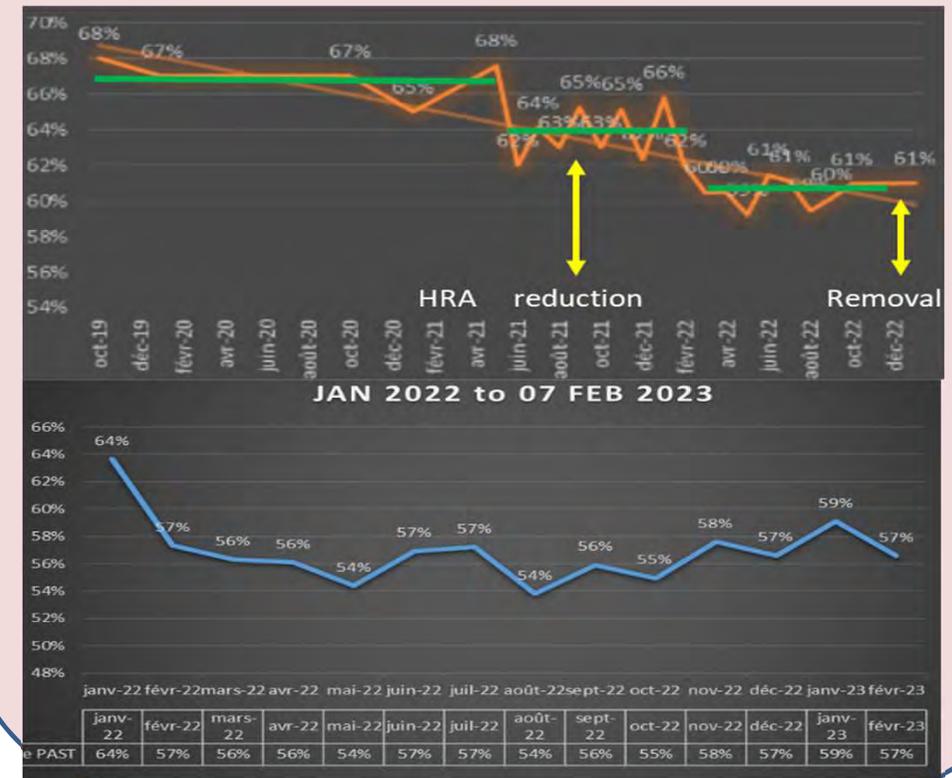


GENERAL TREND :

- slow decrease but nothing significant in Jan 23
- Red Sea and GoA (similar trends)
- later registration (but not significant)

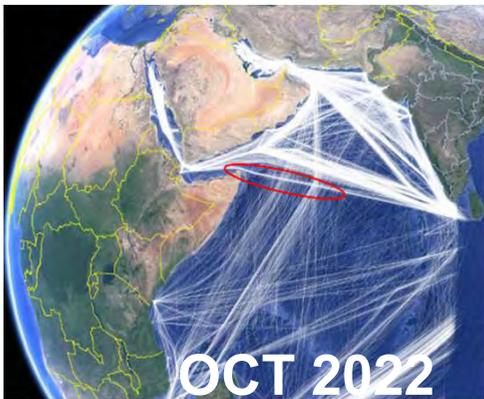
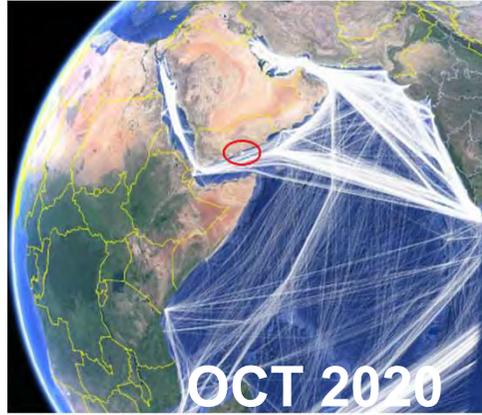
PAST

- General trend slow but sustained decline
 - Staggered-descent profile (inertial changes)
- => Jan 23 / too early to draw conclusions





Pattern of life Evolution



Perspectives :

- Expected reduction of speed
- PAST in accordance with JWC decisions
- IRTC still very popular

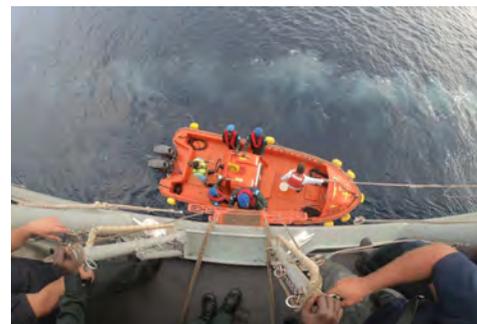


PROVIDING



CONCLUSION

Let's (ALL) keep "Opportunites" to a minimum



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