

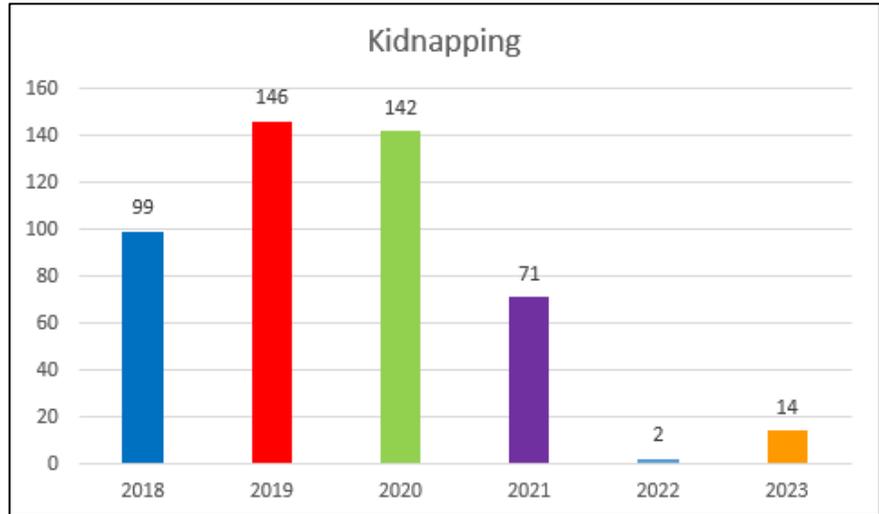
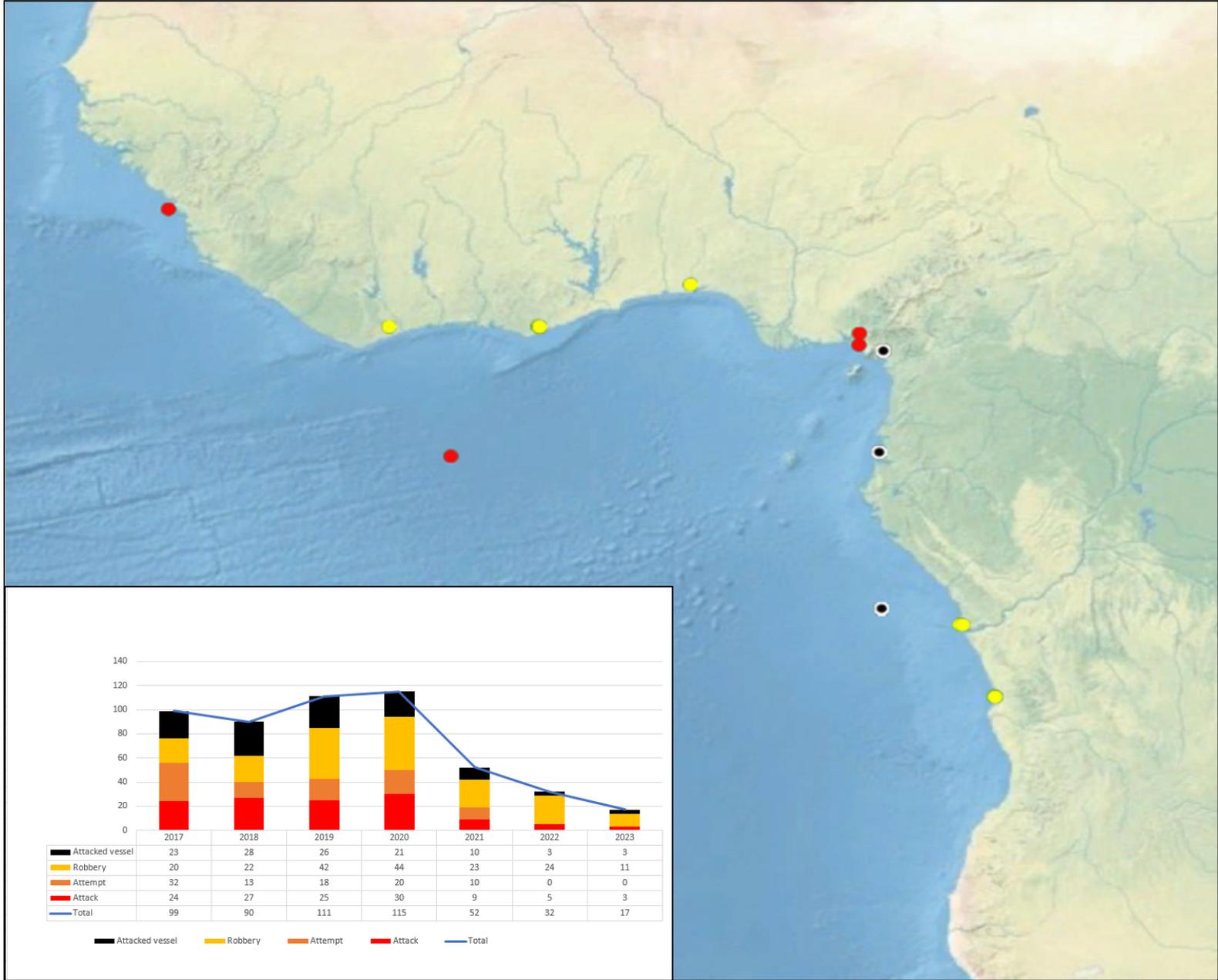


MDAT – GoG Update



CDR Stephan Litzler – French LO to IFC Singapore

- Quiet situation in 2022 in the Gulf of Guinea
- Resumption of piracy act, including petro-piracy and abduction incidents
- Modification of modus operandi with incidents far in international waters
- New trend in Sierra Leone/ Guinea Conakry ?
- Political/economic situation in Nigeria
- Hot spot in Gabon/Cameroon
- Security situation in Angola

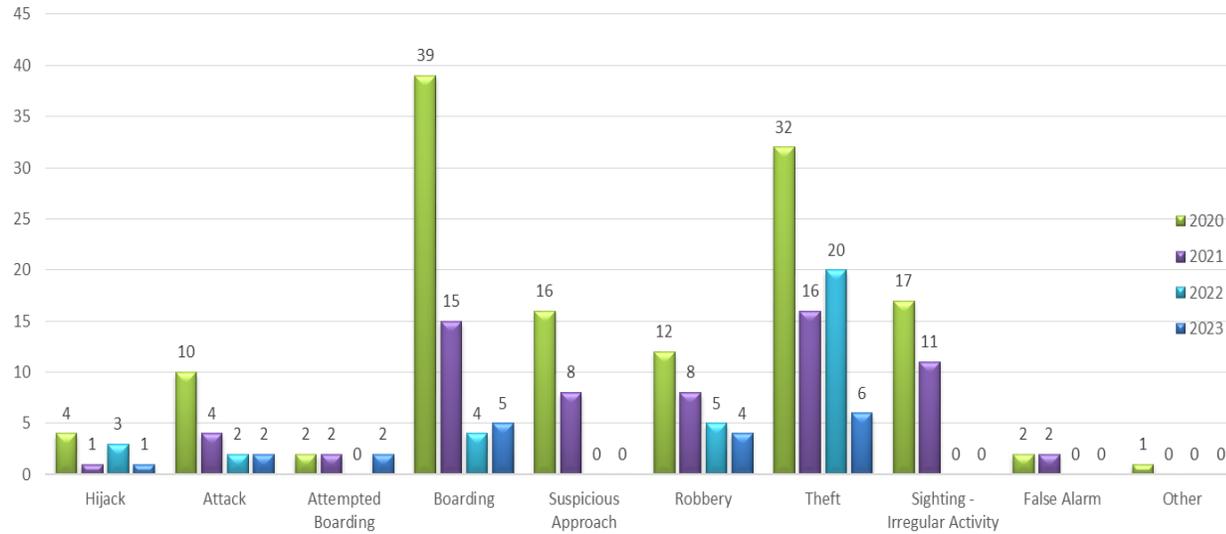




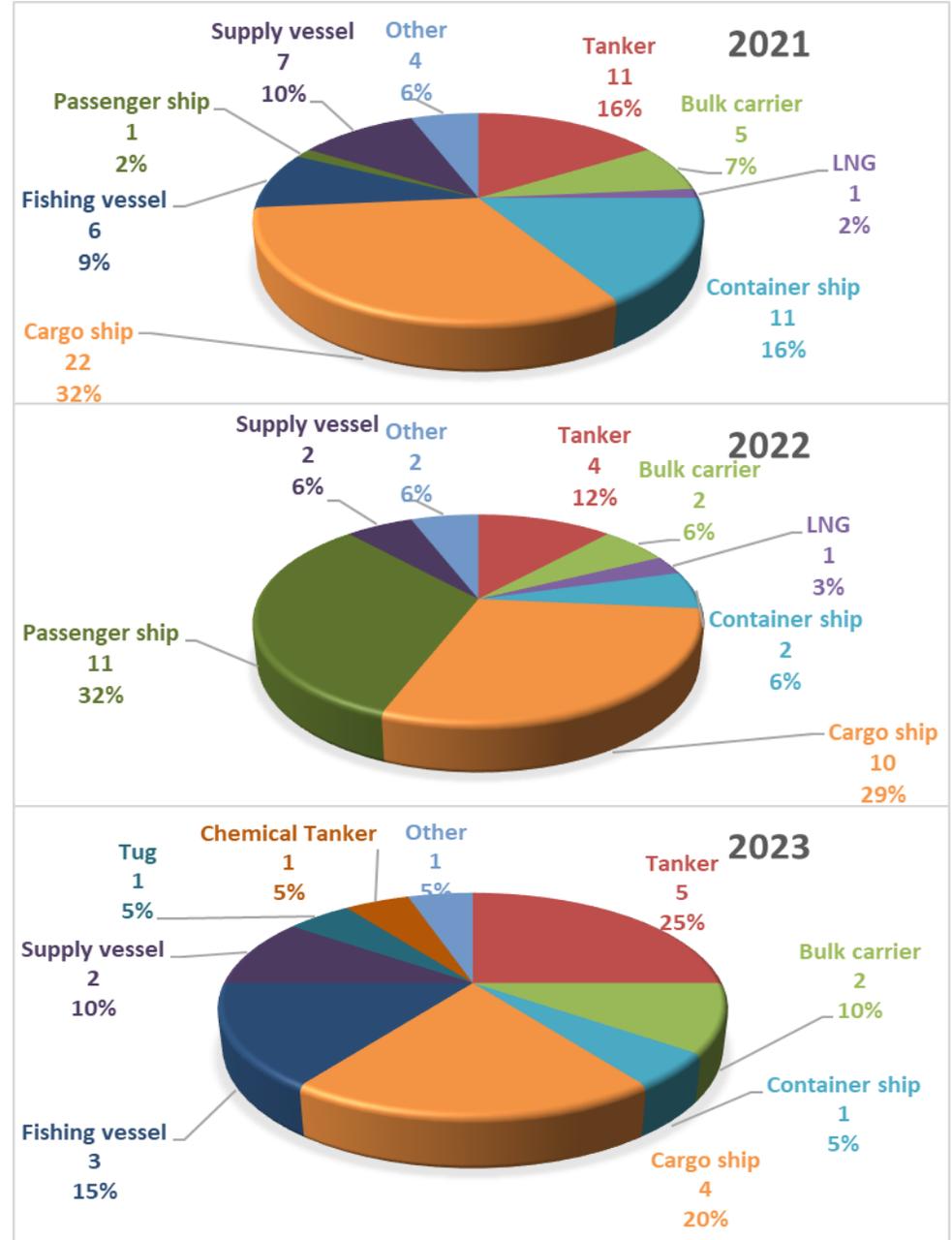
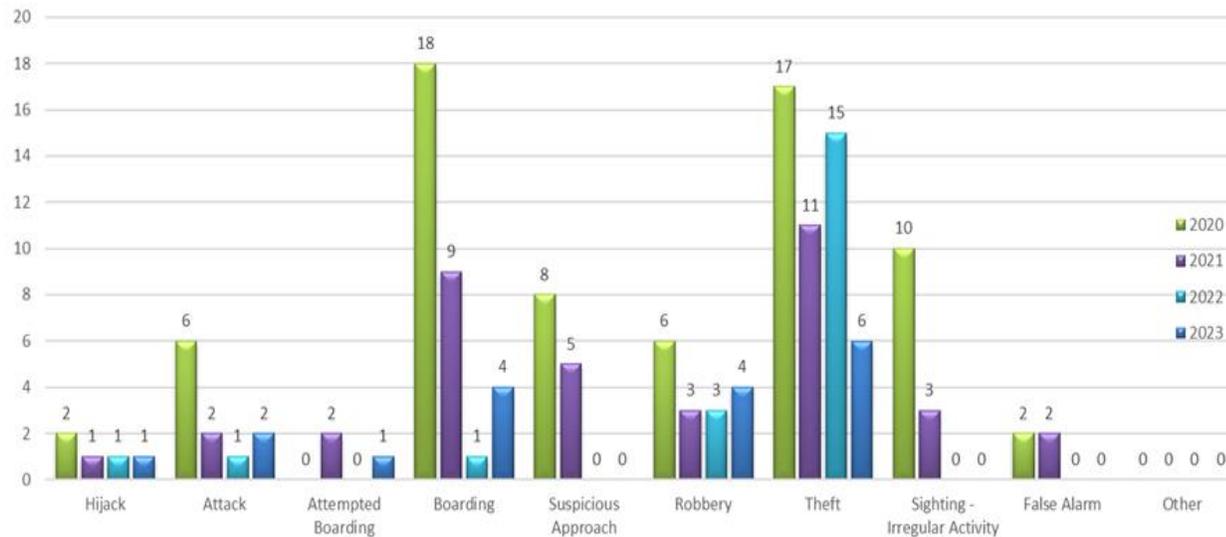
Statistics



Classification of incidents by year

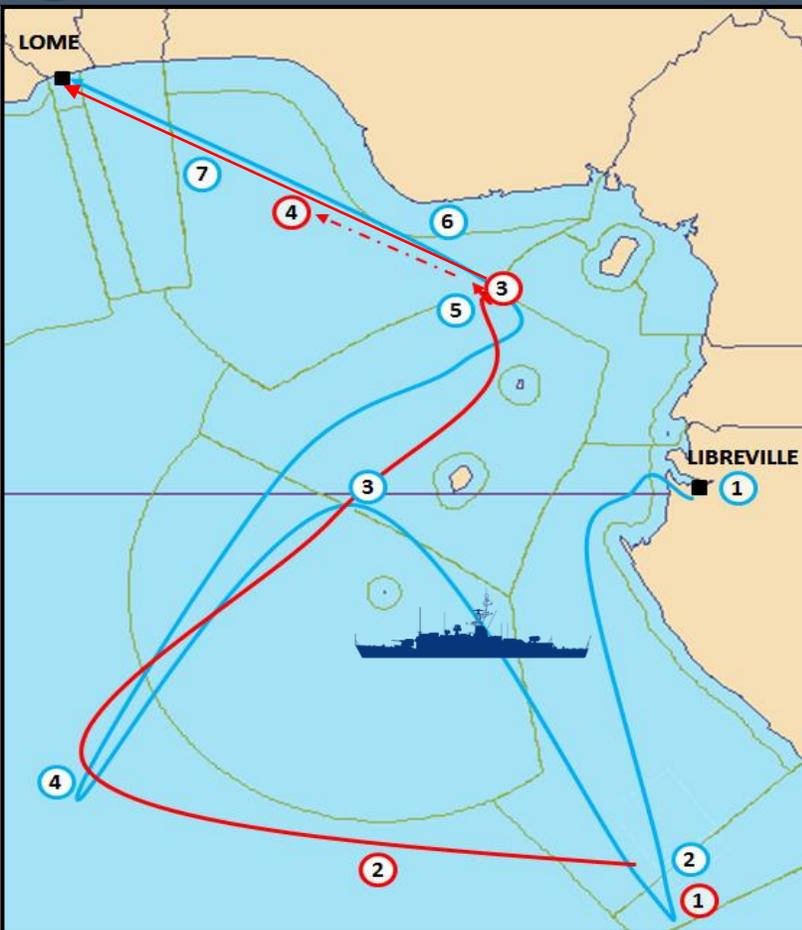


Classification of incidents - First Semester





MONJASA REFORMER



25/03 - 2239Z : distress call reporting an on-going pirate attack

FS PM L'HER (LHR) COURSE OF ACTION

- ① **26/03 – 1500Z** : LHR heaves anchor from Libreville
- ② **27/03 – evening** : LHR sails toward *Reformer* last known position and investigate the area
- ③ **28/03 – night** : LHR joins a probable position obtained from foreign partner intel
- ④ **28/03 – afternoon**: LHR reaches a new position given by MRCC Liberia
- ⑤ **30/03 – evening**: While cruising to a new position from MRCC Liberia, LHR's UAV identifies *Reformer*
- ⑥ **31/03 – morning** : Back in control, *Reformer* is escorted to Lomé
- ⑦ **01/04 – evening** : Arrival in Lomé

REFORMER PROBABLE JOURNEY

- ① **25/03 - 2239Z** : Pirate attack
- ② **25/03 → 28/03 evening** : Hijacking and Bunkering by pirates
- ③ **30/03 – evening** : Having sailed to get closer to their base, pirates leaves the ship with 6 hostages
- ④ **30/03 – evening** : Probable pirate escape route

Incident

- Attack while waiting to execute a fuel transfer
- Mothership + 2 skiffs
- Equipment, training, qualifications
- **Violence**, rough treatment to the crew
- Despite citadel use, 6 sailors kidnapped.
- Part of the cargo was stolen, as well as a lot of personal items from the crew and some of the ship appliances.

Military response

- FS Premier Maître L'Her (LHR), under Corymbe national tasking and EU- Coordinated Maritime Presence mandate
- FS deployed from Libreville, whereas in portvisit, alongside Spanish vessel Audaz
- Use of fixed wing UAV

Assessment

- 1st incident after a long pause
- Vessel specifically targeted ?
- Shore-based causes are still there.
- It is likely that piracy acts will continue in the GoG



Closing-in, LHR receives a MAYDAY call from the *Reformer*. They confirm that the pirates have left the ship while taking hostages.

LHR readies her boarding party to assist the crew gain back control on the drifting *Reformer*



Incident

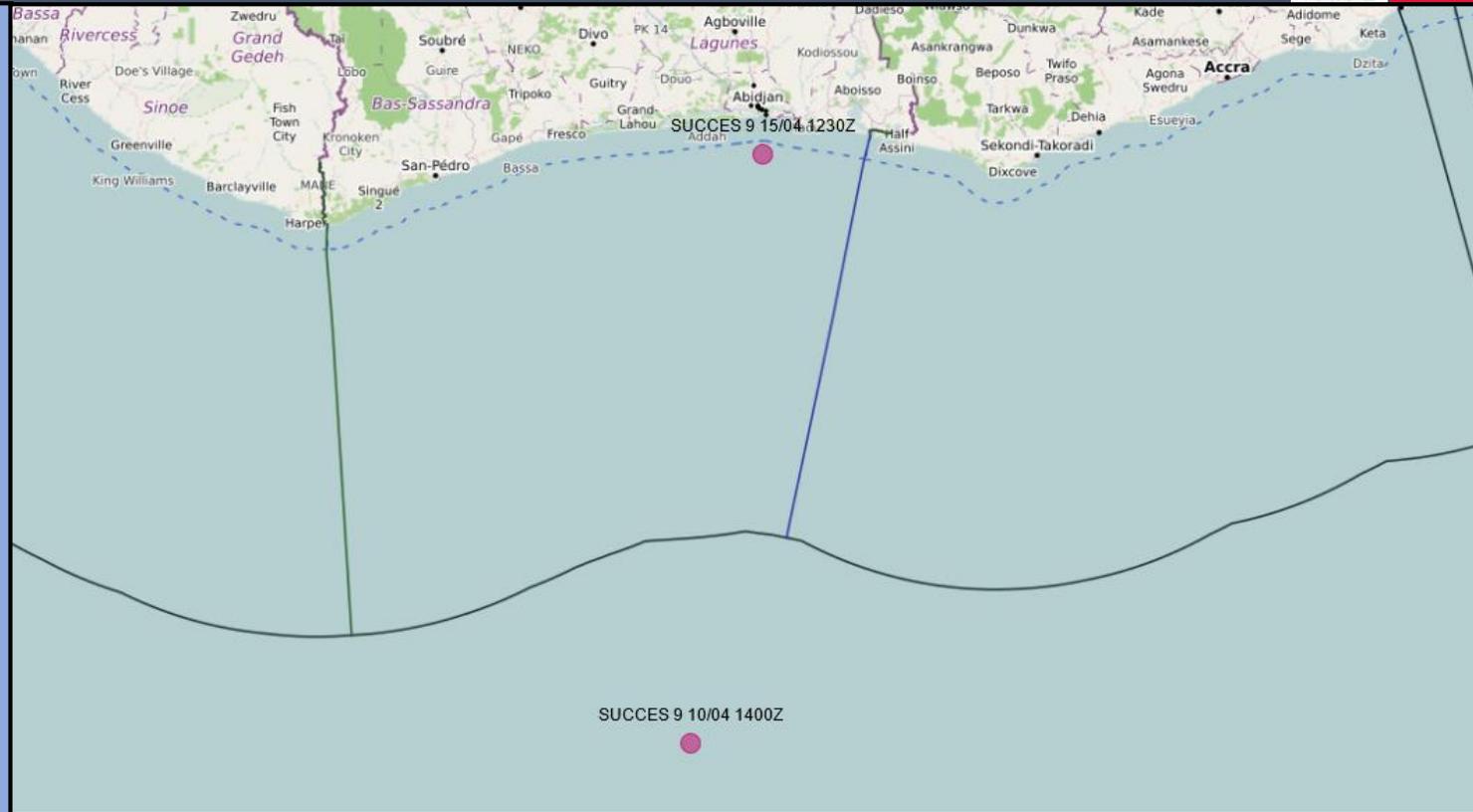
- January and November 2022 - B Ocean
- March 25th – Monjasa Reformer
- Singaporean flagged tanker Success 9 with 20 crewmembers onboard
- No report to MDAT GoG before the incident

Military response

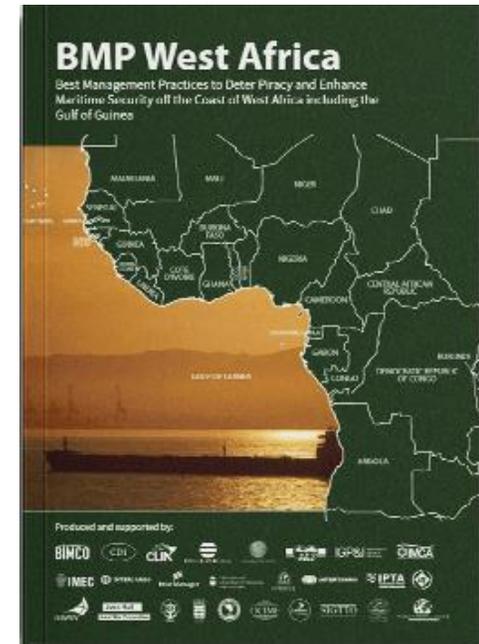
- FN Falcon 50 MPRA deployed from Dakar to Abidjan
- Daily flights over the area
- Final escort by 2 Ivorian patrol boats

Assessment

- Similar circumstances as B. OCEAN
- Limited success of F50 flights due to insufficient information provided to relevant authorities
- Limitations to use of satellite data for this type of incident
- Absence of military assets = Intel ?
- Trust in info sharing !



- From the last incidents:
 - Happened far out at sea – no assets in the vicinity – long searches
 - Potential mothership or accomplices onboard other boats
 - Companies should:
 - Reassess citadels, keeping in mind the duration of the incidents
 - Ships should
 - Report to MDAT GoG in accordance with BMP WA
 - Deploy preventive measures IAW BMP WA
 - Drill anti piracy measures
 - Report any suspicious activity, ships with characteristics changes, old tugs drifting etc
 - All stakeholders should:
 - Circulate the information they have IAW the approved process, as it is possible **that sea pirates specialized in petro-piracy try to hijack other tankers far away offshore**
- MDAT-GoG is French Navy and Royal (UK) Navy => Trust in info sharing**



Industry and government approved process



Contact and media

Emergency phone (24/7/365): +33 2 98 22 88 88



- MDAT GoG webpage
<https://gog-mdat.org/>



- Twitter account – activate notifications for alerts !



@MDAT_GoG