

GLOBAL PIRACY REPORT

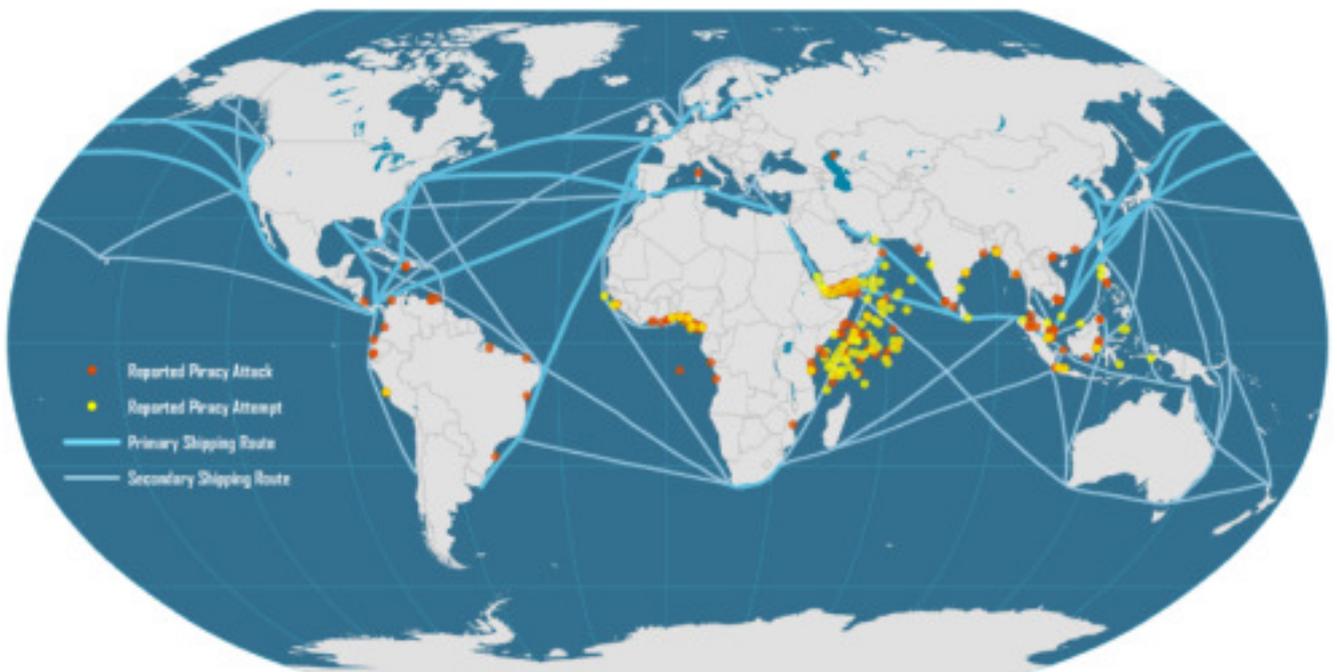
Detailed Weekly Piracy Report and On - The - Ground Analysis Focusing on Somalia, the Gulf of Guinea, Southeast Asia and South America

SUMMARY

September 9 – 15, 2013 (Week 37; Edition 2)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

- **Gulf of Guinea/West Africa:** No incidents reported during this period.
- **Somalia-Indian Ocean:** 1 unsuccessful attack and 1 late reporting of a suspicious incident.
- **Southeast Asia:** 1 late reporting of an unsuccessful attack.
- **South America:** No incidents reported during this period.
- **North America:** No current incidents to report
- **Central America-Caribbean:** No current incidents to report
- **South America:** No current incidents to report
- **Atlantic Ocean Area:** No current incidents to report
- **Northern Europe-Baltic:** No current incidents to report
- **Mediterranean-Black Sea:** No current incidents to report



SOMALIA

At Sea

Throughout this reporting period, there have been indications of pirate activity ashore. This activity is likely linked to the subsiding southwestern monsoon which will bring about increasingly favorable conditions for small boats and skiffs throughout the Somali Basin. Furthermore, this increased activity ashore is a further demonstration that despite an increased naval presence in the region, coupled with greater vigilance by vessels transiting the High Risk Area (HRA), pirates in the region continue to have the ability to conduct acts of piracy and that their intent is to continue to attack vessels in the region in an attempt to hijack them for ransom.

Furthermore, over the past several weeks, there has been an increase in reporting of suspicious approaches on merchant vessels along the Western approaches to the Gulf of Aden. Although military units have been dispatched to investigate, they have been unable to confirm the presence of skiffs with pirate-related equipment. Nevertheless, it is highly likely that skiffs with pirates on board may be in the area, testing the responsiveness of merchant vessels.

The near term forecast indicates that small boat and skiff operations are increasingly becoming more favorable along the eastern coast of Somalia, extending from the tip of the Horn of Africa down the Somali Basin. Therefore as the southwestern monsoon begins to subside throughout the waters off the coast of Somalia and in the High Risk Area, and the weather conditions become conducive for small pirate skiffs to operate, MS Risk warns all vessels transiting through the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden to increase their vigilance. It is advised that all vessels remain alert wherever they are in the region and that they apply the Best Management Practices (BMP), as well as reporting any sightings of skiffs, suspicious activity and attacks. These conditions are likely to last until the North East Monsoon, which typically begins in mid-November.

Hijacks

- None during this reporting period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **10 September 2013** - Liberia-flagged tanker reported an approach by suspicious skiffs at 0534 UTC in the Gulf of Aden. OOW noticed on the radar screen three objects at bearing 340deg proceeding towards the vessel from a distance of 3 nautical miles. One skiff approached the vessel at full speed. Armed security guards on board the tanker stood to while the crew members carried out anti-piracy measures. The skiff approached the vessel accommodation area with three pirates on board while the other two skiffs remained at a distance on the starboard bow holding a parallel course. Armed security guards displayed their weapons, prompting the first skiff to alter its course. A further two boats were then observed on the starboard side. One skiff approached from the port side to within 8 cables. . Armed security guards fired two flares after their display of weapons was ignored. After passing astern once more, the skiff joined two other boats at one nautical mile.

Three boats from the first approach and the two others observed on the starboard bow met after a few minutes and stopped in one position at 0606 UTC. Due to the poor visibility (fog) beyond 5 nautical miles, crew members on board the tanker were unable to identify fishing gear or any weapons on the boats.

7 September (Late Report) - Tanker heading towards IRTC A observed a number of skiffs at 0700 and 0800 UTC in the Gulf of Aden. Two groups, group 1 consisting of three skiffs and group 2 consisting of four skiffs, approached the vessel at high speed. Weapons were not sighted on board the skiffs however later weapons were sighted on board the skiffs in group 1. The armed security team on board the tanker stood to and the skiffs aborted their approach. Skiffs remained within the IVO.

Updates

- **9 September 2013** - An alleged Somali pirate has been sent back to jail less than twenty-four hours after he was released pending trial. Last week, US District Judge Ellen Huvelle had ordered that Ali Mohamed Ali been released from custody, stating that the accused pirates' continued pretrial detention, which so far has lasted twenty-eight months, violates his rights under the Constitution's due process clause. However the following day, a three-judge panel of the US Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia Circuit granted a government motion to return Mr. Ali back into custody. The Court did not provide a reason for the decision. According to Mr. Ali's lawyer, the accused pirate was picked up Friday afternoon and returned to prison. This is the second time that Mr. Ali has been returned to prison after a court ordered him released. Last year, a different appeals court panel had ordered Mr. Ali back to jail after an earlier order by Judge Huvelle to release him. Jury selection for Mr. Ali's trial is scheduled to begin 31 October 2013.

Piracy Related News

- **10 September 2013** - Spain's National court has jailed six Somali pirates accused of trying to kidnap the crew of a tuna-fishing boat from the Basque Country eleven months ago. According to court documents, the *Izurdia* was targeted by pirates on 10 October 2012 while sailing in the Indian Ocean, some 350 miles off the coast of Somalia. The pirates attempted to board the tuna ship, and opened fire on the crew, at which point the on-board security guards put their emergency safety procedures into practice. All crew members, aside from the captain and the operations chief, hid in the control room. A security barrier was also raised around the boat. The security team on board the vessel responded to the pirates "intense" bombardment of gunshots as the *Izurdia* was chased across the water for thirty minutes prior to the pirates fleeing the scene. A Dutch NATO ship discovered the skiff and pirates the following day. Two helicopters were sent out and the pirates later surrendered and handed over their arms. Cabdiweli Cabdullahi ('Abdu Willy') and Raagegesey Hassan Aji were jailed for 36 years apiece for a similar incident in 2009, and for the attempted abduction last year; Adane Yusuf Ali, Abdi Ali Salad, Abdilahi Ise Jama, Yahye Omar Ali Hassan, Ali Mahammed Ali and Ali Mahamed Hirsi have been sentenced to a total of 1,122 years between them – although in practice, they will probably only serve a maximum of 40 years each.

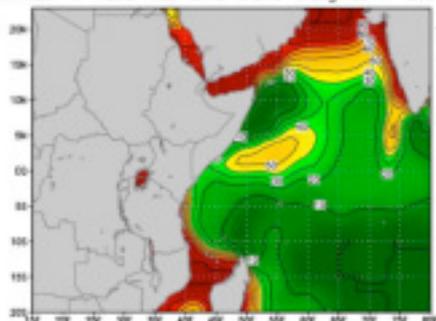
Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Aden** - Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 6 - 8 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 6 - 8 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Oman** - Southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 4 - 6 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** - South-southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with south-southeast winds of 5 - 10 knots and seas of 2 - 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** - Southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots and seas of 8 - 10 feet; with southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots and seas of 8 - 10 feet in the vicinity of the Horn of Africa.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 6 - 8 feet; with southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots and seas of 6 - 8 feet in the vicinity of the Horn of Africa.
- **Arabian Sea** - Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 6 - 8 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** - Southwest winds of 20 - 25 knots and seas of 8 - 10 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southwest winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 6 - 8 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** - East-southeast winds of 15 - 20 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet in the northern channel; with east-southeast winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 4 - 6 feet in the southern channel.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Easterly winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 4 - 6 feet in the northern channel; with easterly winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 3 - 5 feet in the southern channel.
- **Surface Currents** - The northern Arabian Sea and GOA currents are variable with most areas having average speeds of 1 knot. The Mozambique Channel currents are variable, having an average speed of 2 knots. Currents speeds along the Somali basin are northeasterly, averaging between 1 - 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion** - The northern and western Indian Ocean areas are currently under the influence of late southwest monsoon conditions, with low pressure producing partly to mostly cloudy skies with rain showers and thunderstorms. The Mozambique Channel will be under the influence of low pressure. Expect partly to mostly cloudy conditions throughout most central African coastal areas.

Sea Conditions for the Following Week

10-Day Piracy Small Boat Operations Weather Forecast, DTG: 2013091000

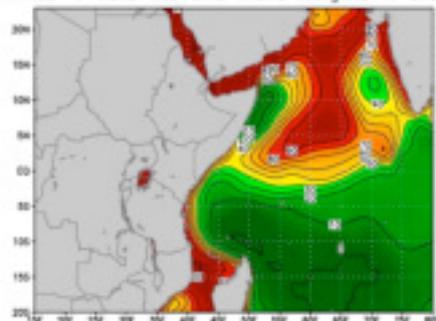
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



Members	
NGP	20
GFS	20
CMC	9

Valid Time: 1200Z 12 SEP 2013

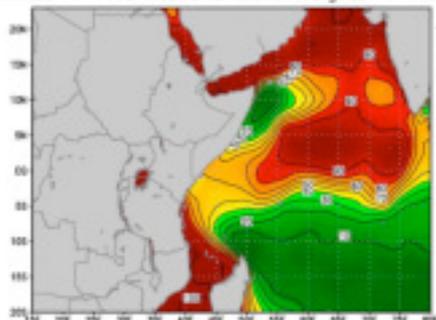
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



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GFS	20
CMC	9

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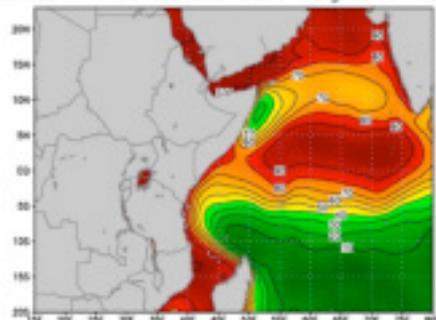
Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



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GFS	20
CMC	9

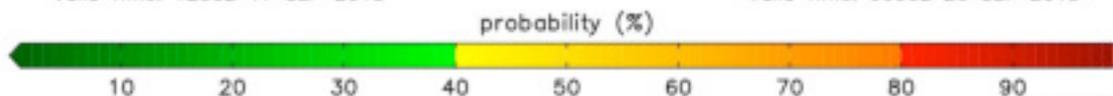
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Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Members	
NGP	20
GFS	20
CMC	9

Valid Time: 0000Z 20 SEP 2013



*** In this graphic, the green shading represents a reduced likelihood of small boats and skiffs operating in the area due to harsh sea conditions, while the red indicates a higher likelihood of favorable sea conditions for skiffs and smaller boats ***

On-The-Ground Analysis

- **13 September 2013** -Both the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) for Somalia and Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud have condemned the latest attack to hit Somalia, in which Ahmed Mohammed Madobe's vehicle was targeted as he was travelling in the port city of Kismayo on Thursday. Mr. Madobe, who is the leader of the interim Jubba administration, is reported to have escaped serious injury however at least twenty people, including five aides, a special security guard and his driver were killed when his car was hit by another vehicle carrying explosives. In response to the incident, the UN Special Representative stated that "Ahmed Madobe is a key partner in the search for peace and reconciliation in Somalia. It is reprehensible that he would become a target for extremist violence at a time when he is playing a key role in state building and peace building." The UN Representative also expressed his sincere condolences to those who lost loved ones in the attack. Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, who is currently in Dubai, has also condemned the attack, stating that the "Somali government strongly deplores the attack against the convoy which was carrying Sheikh Ahmed Madobe in Kismayo."
- **12 September 2013** - Witnesses have reported that two Islamists from the United States and the United Kingdom have been killed in a shootout in Somali after falling out with al-Shabaab. Reports have indicated that Alabama-born Omar Hammami, better known as al-Amriki, along with Osama al-Britani, a British citizen of Pakistani origin, are said to have died in an early-morning attack on a village located just south-west of the capital city, Mogadishu. One of al-Amriki's fighters has indicated that the two men were overpowered by al-Shabaab militants who attacked a village near the town of Dinsor. He further noted that the militants had taken away the bodies of the two Westerners. According to the fighter, another of their allies, Khadap al-Masari, originally from Egypt, surrendered while two other extremists, including one foreigner, have also been reportedly killed in the battle however their identities have not been released. According to sources, the two militants left al-Shabaab after they fell out with the group's top leader Ahmed Abdi Godane. The two men are also believed to be allies of veteran Somali Islamist, Sheikh Hassan Dahir Awyes, who split from the militant group in June of this year. Reports have indicated that since the split, al-Shabaab militants have been hunting down and killing any allies of Awyes. In June of this year, militants loyal to Godane killed two of their own top commanders; many believe that this prompted al-Amriki and al-Britani to flee and go into hiding. Awyes is currently in the custody of the UN-backed government. So far, there have been no comments or confirmations of the two militants' deaths from the Somali government, however local residents, along with a senior source within al-Shabaab, have confirmed that the two men are dead. Al-Amriki was one of the most prominent foreigners fighting in Somalia. In March of this year, the US State Department offered a US \$5m (£3.1m) reward for any information that would lead to his capture and conviction. He grew up in the town of Daphne in the state of Alabama, and was supposedly radicalized after a visit to Syria as a teenager. Over the years, he became an adherent of stricter Islam and moved to Somalia in 2006 where he joined al-Shabaab and became one of the militant group's senior officials. There is minimal information about al-Britani. While officials in the UK have previously stated that they have been aware of the Briton's presence in Somalia for some time, they have not confirmed his death.
- **11 September 2013** - Some 160 Somali religious scholars have issued a fatwa, denouncing al-Shabaab, stating that the militant group has no place in Islam. This is the first time that Somali leaders have pronounced a fatwa against the military group, which continues to control many rural areas throughout the country despite being pushed out of key cities over the past two years. The announcement was made at a conference in Mogadishu on the phenomenon of extremism where the scholars stated that they condemned al-Shabaab's use of violence. The fatwa also comes at a time when residents of central Somalia indicated that al-Shabaab militants executed a young man in the town of Bula Burte and performed a double amputation on another in front of a crowd of several hundred. One of the aims of the conference was to issue Islamic opinion on whether the group had legitimacy or not, with the final fatwa concluding that it is not an Islamic movement. Sheikh Hassan

Jaamai, an Islamic scholar, stated shortly after the conclusion of the conference that “it’s like a gang that comes together to kill Somalis...without any legitimate reason or justification.” Sheikh Abdikani, a participant from the Gulf, stated that “the only thing they want is to create chaos in the country so that they can survive,” it is believed the Sheikh was referring to two bomb attacks carried out on a restaurant in central Mogadishu that killed fifteen people on the opening day of the conference. Al-Shabaab has since confirmed responsibility for the attacks. Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud opened the government-organized conference, which drew Somali scholars, elders and imams from both within the country and abroad. At the end of the four-day conference, the seven points of the religious edict included:

- ◆ “Al-Shabaab has strayed from the correct path of Islam, leading the Somali people onto the wrong path. The ideology they are spreading is a danger to the Islamic religion and the existence of the Somali society.”
 - ◆ “The Somali government is an Islamic administration; it is forbidden to fight against it or regard its members as infidels.”
 - ◆ “Al-Shabaab, an extremist group, must alone to God and must cease its erroneous ideology and criminal actions.”
 - ◆ “It is forbidden to join, sympathize or give any kind of support to al-Shabaab.”
 - ◆ “It is a religious duty to refuse shelter to al-Shabaab members, who must be handed over to Somali institutions responsible for security.”
 - ◆ “It is a taboo to negotiate on behalf of al-Shabaab members in custody or release them from jail.”
 - ◆ “Somali officials have a religious duty to protect the Somali people from the atrocities of al-Shabaab. The Somali public also has an obligation to assist the government in its security operations against al-Shabaab.”
- **10 September 2013** - On Wednesday, al-Shabaab insurgents celebrated the anniversary of the 11 September 2001 attacks with a eulogy on Twitter for the “courageous” hijackers. In a series of posts on their new Twitter account, the Islamist group vowed that “the mujahideen will continue with their jihad against the West until the world is ruled by one sovereign state, an Islamic state,” further writing that “a single attack by the mujahideen shattered US dreams of global domination, tarnished their reputation and severely crippled their economy.” Another post stated that “today, the spark ignited by those courageous 19 martyrs has grown into a raging inferno that continues to threaten every kafir (infidel) aggressor,” and that the group praised the hijackers as “19 young men with a rigid faith and firm conviction.” The posts come just days after their return to Twitter earlier this week under the new account name @HSM_Press. Their previous account was suspended last week, the second time they have been removed from the site this year, after they threatened to kill Somalia’s President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud.

Domestic News

- **9 September 2013** - On Monday, Somalia’s Federal Government announced that it has officially signed a cooperation agreement with the People’s Republic of China. After meeting in Mogadishu with Deputy Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister of Somalia Fawsiya Yusuf Haji Aden and the Chinese ambassador to Kenya, Liu Guangyoun, the two Ministers signed an agreement on behalf of their respective countries, which will effectively pave a five year plan to help Somalia’s recovery. In a press conference held shortly afterwards, Minister Fawsiya confirmed that “today we have signed two agreements following our visit to China which will allow the China government to help us.” During the press conference, Ambassador Liu Guangyoun indicated that China and Somalia had a long relation which dates back fifty years, further noting that China is committed to rebuild three main facilities in Somalia which will include the mother and child health hospital, the Mogadishu Stadium, the National Theatre as well as the road between Galkayo and Burao in the northern region of Somalia. The ambassador also announced that China will re-establish its embassy in

Mogadishu on land donated to China by the Somali government. Mogadishu Mayor Mohamud Ahmed Nur has confirmed that the local government has donated land at the Liido beach resort for the future Chinese Embassy.

International Developments

- **13 September 2013** - Amnesty International has denounced the forcible eviction of tens of thousands of homeless people from makeshift camps across the capital city. The eviction comes months after the Somali Federal Government announced in January a plan to relocate hundreds of thousands of displaced people to camps located on the outskirts of the city. However the human rights group has indicated that the process has led to “large-scale human rights abuses,” including the killing of two people during protests. A report put together by Amnesty International specified that the “relocation plan could have been a positive development” if it had respected “the security, fundamental rights and basic needs” of displaced people. However, the report added, the government plan proved to be “inherently flawed” and “seems to have resulted in large-scale human rights abuses and forced evictions.” The report also indicates that an eight-year old child and a mother of nine children were killed and several other residents were injured on 14 August when security forces opened fire on residents protecting them against the eviction of the large settlement. Some residents also reported to Amnesty that bulldozers had flattened their shelters, destroying their possessions and leaving them with nowhere to go. When Amnesty delegates visited the area on 21 August, they stated that they had seen evidence of a large number of shelters having been recently destroyed. While some 370,000 people have been living in the camps, after having fled drought, famine and fighting, their presence has hampered the government’s drive to rebuild the city. Furthermore, officials have defended the evictions, stating that such reports, like the one put forth by Amnesty International, have had a tendency to be “far from the truth” and the removals were “good for security as well as the image of the city.” Mogadishu’s local government spokesman Mohammed Yusuf has stated that “the government has the right to reclaim land and buildings belonging to its former institutions, so that it can offer the public service that is needed,” adding that “for that purpose, we move out people living on such lands or in those buildings....We tell them to put the national interest before the individual interest.”
- Meanwhile this coming Monday, Somalia’s government and international donors are scheduled to sign a three-year plan that will effectively focus on rebuilding the war-torn country. The plan is backed by pledges of new funding that EU officials hope could reach more than one billion euros (£819.1 million). The conference, which will be held in Brussels, is aimed at consolidating the fragile security gains that have been made in Somalia. Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamued, along with international backers, are expected to sign up to a “new deal compact” that will commit them to a series of goals in the areas of politics, security, justice, services and the economy. Furthermore, international donors are also expected to pledge aid in support of Somalia’s reconstruction. Around fifty delegates are expected to take part in the meeting, which will include officials from African states, the US, Japan, China, the Gulf countries as well as a number of EU states. On Monday, Somalia will also join the Cotonou agreement, which is the framework for the EU’s relations with countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Signing this agreement will make Somalia eligible for aid from the European Development Fund. The twenty-eight-nation EU is the largest donor to Somalia and helps fund the African Union’s AMISOM peacekeeping troops who have aided in driving al-Shabaab rebels out of Mogadishu and a number of their strongholds throughout central and southern Somalia. The EU has previously pledged 1.2 billion euros for Somalia between 2008 and 2013. It has also launched several missions to help the country strengthen its security, including a counter-piracy force and a mission to train Somalia’s military.

- **9 September 2013** - Experts warned on Wednesday that Somalia will be dealt a devastating blow if international banks carry out their threats of preventing money transfer systems of sending funds. With their country ravaged by a conflict that has lasted for decades, coupled with the lack of a formal banking system, over the years diaspora Somalis have depended on the money transfer services in order to support their families. According to recent report put together by aid agencies Adeso and Oxfam, diaspora Somalis have spent some US \$1.3 billion (1 billion euro) each year in sending money back to their country. However with Barclays, the last major British bank working with transfer companies, announced earlier this year that it will close all accounts with money transfer systems on September 30, some US \$500 million (380 million euro) will be cut in yearly flow, sparking fears that this may destabilize the country's weak economy. In the wake of the account closures, Degan Ali of Adeso, an African charity and development agency, has stated that "remittances are more and more the backbone of Somalia's economy," adding that "it is also a lifeline for the whole trading and business system," and noting that remittances were double that spent in humanitarian aid last year. Over the past year, international banks have been tightening their rules in a bid to cut money laundering and funding of groups that have been accused of terrorism, however experts have stated that in the case of these account, there has been no actual cases recorded of regular failures by Somali companies and that the closure of organized transfers could drive them underground. However the United Nations has indicated that long term solutions to curb the issue would be to set up formal banking systems.

Map



GULF OF GUINEA

At Sea

Hijacks

- No hijackings reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- No attacks or robberies reported during this period.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** - Southerly winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** - Southwest winds of 10 - 15 knots and seas of 5 - 7 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** - The Gulf of Guinea is under the influence of high and low pressure systems, bringing strong southerly winds and moisture into the area. Expect mostly cloudy conditions with rain showers and possible thunderstorms.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

At Sea

Hijacks

- No hijackings reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- **29 August 2013 (Late Report)** - While at anchor, seven robbers in a boat boarded a Marshall Islands-flagged container ship, the *Violetta*, from the stern at 2045 LT in Chittagong anchorage, Bangladesh. The crew members on board the container ship spotted the robbers, raised the alarm and blew the steam whistle immediately. Upon realizing the crew had been alerted, the robbers escaped empty-handed.

SOUTH AMERICA

At Sea

Hijacks

- No hijackings reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- No reports of attacks or robberies during this period.



About MS Risk

MS Risk is a privately owned company domiciled in the Isle of Man. It is underwritten by a syndicate of Lloyd's of London for special risks case management in all jurisdictions. It also acts as retained advisors to syndicates in the Lloyd's of London specialty risk insurance markets: kidnap for ransom, extortion, hijack, illegal detention, illegal war tax, malicious product tamper, terrorism, political and war risk.

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 - Planning and management
 - Due diligence and investigations.
- Project Management
 - Interim security
 - Training
 - Special assignments
- Crisis Response
 - Crisis management
 - Business continuity management
 - Hostile operations support to commercial interests
- Virtual Security Director service for clients lacking a full time security executive.

References are always available.

More information is found at www.msrisk.com

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