

MS | RISK

Global Piracy Report

Detailed Weekly Piracy Report Focusing on the Horn of Africa, Gulf of Guinea, Southeast Asia and South America; and Reporting of On - The - Ground in Somalia and Kenya

About MS Risk

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 - Interim security
 - Training
 - Special assignments
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 - 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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Summary (November 3 - 9, 2014 - Week 45; Edition 62)

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

Gulf of Guinea/West Africa: Four incidents reported during this period

Somalia-Indian Ocean: Four incidents reported during this period

Southeast Asia: One incident reported during this period

South America: No incidents during this period

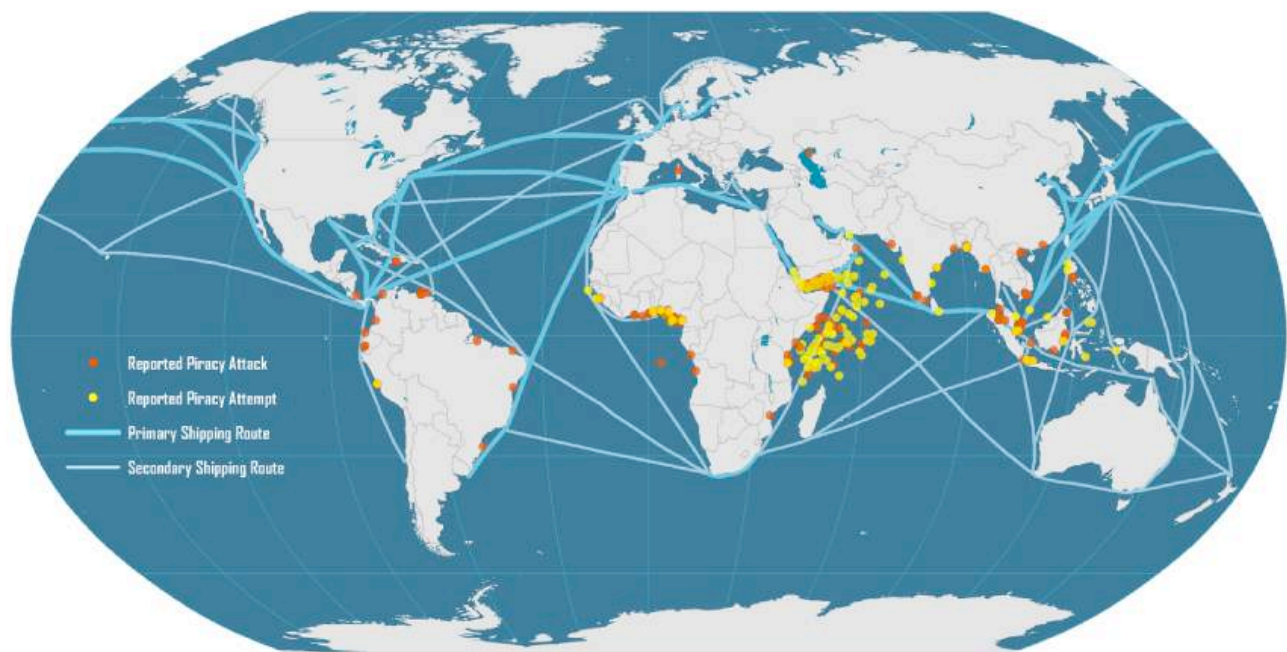
North America: No current incidents to report

Central America-Caribbean: 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

Executive Summary

While there has been no successful hijacking of a vessel transiting the region in over two years, the threat of piracy remains high as Pirate Attack Groups (PAG's) continue to approach vessels in a bid to attack and hijack them. The Southwest Monsoon season is now in a transition period. Waves off the eastern coast of Somalia are up to 1.5 meters with winds up to 20 knots – conditions that are becoming increasingly favorable for single skiffs and whalers to operate in. Vessels transiting the Gulf of Aden and waters off the coast of Somalia are reminded that skiffs and whalers will increasingly move their operations out of the Gulf of Aden and further out to sea in an attempt to hijack a vessel.

Masters are advised to remain vigilant at all times inside the High Risk Area (HRA) and are advised to adhere to strict guidance and protective measures as set down in BMP4. Sailing yachts should avoid transiting the HRA. Past activity has demonstrated that pirates will attack both large and small yachts transiting this region. While successful attacks and hijackings of merchant vessels have significantly decreased over the past two years, the possibility of attacks and the successful hijacking of sailing vessels continue to remain high. This is due to the reduction of revenue sources from pirated merchant vessels and the fact that sailing yachts are vulnerable and easier targets. PAG's continue to conduct "soft approaches" on merchant ships transiting the area. Skiffs have approached vessels in order to probe the reaction of the crewmembers and any possible Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP) onboard. If the pirate approach does not elicit a response, the pirates will likely proceed with an attack, in which additional skiffs may participate.

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.

Suspicious Activity:

- **7 November 2014** – A vessel reported a suspicious approach at 0357 UTC in position 13:15.00N – 04:90.300E. Vessel was transiting the IRTC West bound lane at 13 knots and noticed two white hulled boats with orange canvases at 4 nautical miles ahead. Vessel altered course to starboard, resulting in both suspect boats altering their course. Suspect boats closed in on the vessel to 1 nautical mile. Armed security team on board vessel was called to the bridge however the suspect boats continued to close in on the vessel to within 5 cables at 15 knots. Armed security team displayed their weapons resulting in the

boats stopping their approach at approximately 2 cables. No weapons or boarding equipment were sighted as the orange canvases were being used as an extension of the freeboard to hid the contents of the boats. Both suspect boats had six people on board.

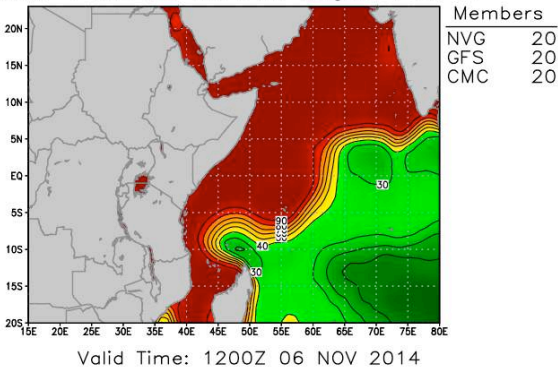
- At 0639 UTC, 03;07S – 052;29E, a vessel reporting being followed by a blue and white trawler. The trawler increased speed and closed from 12 to 6 nautical miles before steering in the direction of another vessel. Vessel and crewmembers have been reported safe.
- **3 November** 2014 – At 0425 UTC, 15;30N – 050;18E, a vessel reported sighting 1 dhow towing 3 skiffs. Reporting vessel and crewmembers reported safe.
 - At 0527 UTC in position 13;35 N – 05;019E, a mothership towing 3 skiffs was sighted at a distance of 4 nautical miles, speed of 6 knots, from a vessel. Mothership passed astern of the vessel maintaining a distance of 4 nautical miles. Vessel and all crewmembers on board have been reported safe.

Weather Analysis

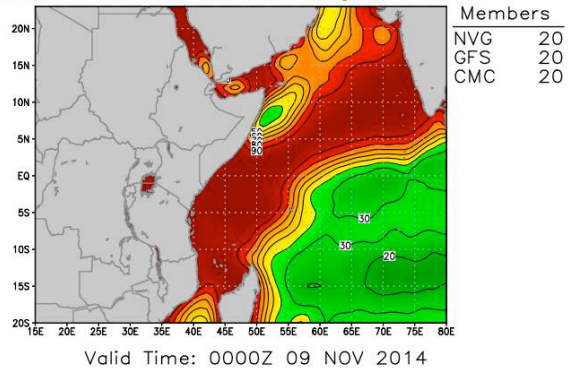
- **North Arabian Sea** – West-southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – North-northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots with seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden** – Easterly winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; in the eastern section of the Gulf, winds will be easterly at 7 – 12 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Easterly winds of 12 – 17 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 12 – 17 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** – Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – Southeast winds of 12 – 17 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southeast winds of 12 – 17 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** – Southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Channel; with southerly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the southern Channel.
 - **Extended Forecast** – North-northwest winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the northern Channel; in the southern Channel, winds will be north-northeasterly at 7 – 12 knots with seas of 5 – 7 feet.
- **Surface Currents** – The northern Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden currents are variable with most areas having an average speed 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** – As the Northeast Monsoon season becomes the dominant feature in the region; expect calm seas and light winds in the Arabian Sea with isolated rain showers and thunderstorms off the coast of the Somali Basin.

Sea Conditions for the Following Week

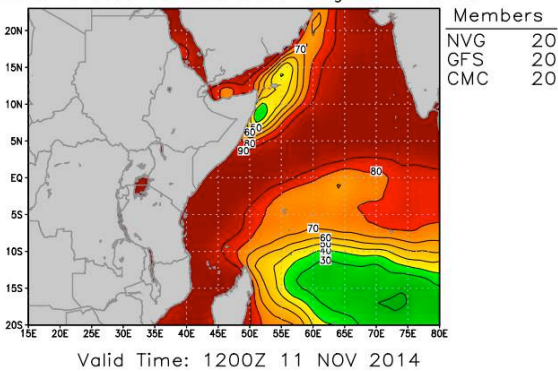
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



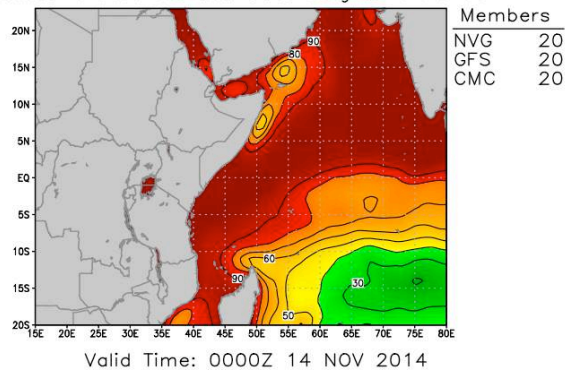
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



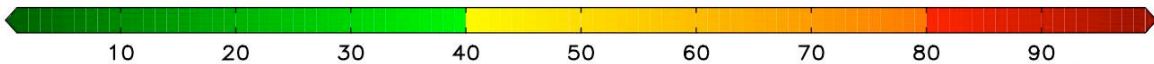
Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



probability (%)



*** In this graphic, the green shading represents a reduced likelihood of small boats and skiffs operation 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 Reporting

- **6 November 2014** – Over the past several days, Somali security forces in Mogadishu have arrested 82 terror suspects, including 22 suspected al-Shabaab militants, in a sweep of several neighborhoods across the capital city. Speaking to reporters Thursday, Ministry of National Security spokesman Mohamed Yusuf Osman disclosed that security forces arrested 82 suspects and seized a weapons cache during operations that were carried out in the Hodan, Howlwadag, Warta Nabada, Yaqshi and Heliwa districts of the capital city. Security forces also took control of two garages and five cars intended for use in terror operations.
 - On Wednesday, during overnight security operations in the Dharkenley neighborhood of Mogadishu, security forces accidentally killed a young cleric. According to sources, the security forces entered a Quarnic School in Abba Gedo village, located south of Dharkenley district, where they first arrested the victim who later died following a bullet shot to his chest. The victim, Sheikh Hassan Ahmed, was a teacher at the school. Dharkenley district commissioner Adan Dhere confirmed the incident, describing the killing as an accident and stating that police detectives were investigating the incident.
- **4 November 2014** – Suspected al-Shabaab gunmen have gunned down a renowned businessman in the port city of Bossaso on Tuesday evening. According to witnesses, Yusuf Alin was shot dead in front of the Karama Hotel, with security sources disclosing that the assailants fled the scene shortly afterwards. The latest incident comes as al-Shabaab militants have increasingly carried out ambushes along the main road between Bossaso and Garowe.

Domestic News

- **3 November 2014** – European Union and United Nations envoys warned Monday that on-going power struggles between Somalia's President and Prime Minister are risking the war-torn country's fragile gains, with envoys calling for "responsible political leadership." In a statement released Monday, EU special envoy Alexander Rondos disclosed that there was "deep concern" at the "public differences" between President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud and Prime Minister Abdiweli Sheikh Ahmed, noting "this is already having an impact on the functioning of the federal institutions and Somalia's state and peace building goals.... Somalia needs peace. It needs responsible political leadership." UN envoy Nicholas Kay also indicated Monday that the ongoing tension "puts at risk" political goals including a referendum on a new constitution next year, ahead of elections in 2016. He further indicated that he was worried about recent reports that lawmakers were being bribed with cash to vote, stating, "Somalia and Somalis deserve better." The warning from EU and UN envoys comes after the prime minister last month reshuffled several cabinet members, including many who were close allies of the president – a move that President Mohamud called "outrageous." The Somali president however has hit back at criticism by donors, and has called for the "respect of Somalia's sovereign right." On Monday, President Mohamud stated, "while I appreciate the concerns of the international community, the best way to support Somali leaders and institutions is to respect and allow them to resolve their differences through legitimate means and within the existing and maturing institution." The Somali government, which took power in August 2012, is the first to be given global recognition since the collapse of Somalia's hardline regime in 1991. Since then, the government has received billions in foreign aid, including funding for the UN-mandated 22,000-strong African Union force, which has concentrated on ousting al-Shabaab militants. While the newly-formed Somali government was

initially hailed as offering Somalia the best chance for peace in a generation, replacing a transitional leadership that was mired with ineffectiveness and rampant corruption, political disagreements and reports of corruption have raised concerns about the government, which like the last has been severely affected by infighting and which has failed to unite in the face of the threat by al-Shabaab. Last week, during a visit to Mogadishu, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon warned that Somalia again risked returning to famine if additional aid was not delivered soon. According to UN figures, three years after more than 250,000 people died of hunger, three million people are in need of support.

Regional Reporting

- **6 November 2014** – Ugandan officials have suspended fifteen of its military commanders over various allegations of misconduct during their deployment as peacekeepers in Somalia. The suspensions, which were confirmed by the Ugandan army Thursday, follow a recent report released by Human Rights Watch (HRW), which accused troops operating under the internationally-funded African Union (AU) force in Somalia, AMISOM, of targeting vulnerable women and girls in Mogadishu. In its report, the rights group indicated that AU troops from Uganda and Burundi, relying on Somali intermediaries, “used a range of tactics, including humanitarian aid, to coerce vulnerable women and girls into sexual activity.” Uganda’s defense and army spokesman Paddy Ankunda has confirmed that the army is carrying out “...a general appraisal on performance of the force.” While the spokesman did not comment on the allegations, he did indicate that until the investigations were completed, the senior military commanders would be suspended for the time being. According to the spokesman, the suspended officers include two generals. A report released by HRW in September quoted several women as saying that they had gone to the AMISOM camp seeking medicine for their sick babies but were instead sexually exploited. According to the report, the women largely came from camps in the capital city Mogadishu, where they fled during Somalia’s devastating 2011 famine. AU chief Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma ordered an investigation into the allegations in the wake of the report and a probe is due to be completed at the end of this month. The 22,000-strong AMISOM force comprises of soldiers from six nations and has been fighting alongside Somali government forces since 2007. AMISOM donors include the United Nations, European Union, the United States and Britain.
- **5 November 2014** – Gunmen in the Kenyan port city of Mombasa have killed a moderate Muslim cleric who was a vocal opponent of the radical preaching’s of Somalia’s al-Shabaab. According to security sources, Salim Bakari Mwarangi was shot late Tuesday by gunmen riding a motorbike. He was killed as he was leaving prayers at the Bilal mosque in Mombasa. Mombasa police chief Robert Kitur disclosed “police have launched an investigation and manhunt for the attackers.” Kassin Bakara, a relative of Mr Mwarangi, indicated that the slain cleric had received numerous death threats and feared for his life. In recent months a number of nations have warned their nationals to avoid all but essential travel to Mombasa, which has been hit by a number of bombings and shootings since Kenya entered Somalia in 2011.

Map



GULF OF GUINEA

Executive Summary

While over the past week pirate and maritime crime activity in the Gulf of Guinea has remained at a low level, the threat of piracy and maritime crime remains high. Masters are reminded to remain vigilant at all times and in all regions of the Gulf of Guinea.

At Sea

Hijacks:

- **5 November 2014** – Tanker, Basat, with 14 Turkish crewmembers on board was attacked by pirates in Nigerian waters. Vessel was en route from Douala, Cameroon to Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Minimal details are currently known about the attack. Pirates boarded the vessel and all but two crewmembers made it to the citadel. Two crewmembers were taken hostage. Pirates have reportedly called the crewing company to demand a US \$5 million ransom. On 6 November, the tanker arrived in Abidjan, at 0400 UTC November 7, the vessel was anchored.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **4 November 2014** – Pirates boarded an underway tanker near position 03:00N – 006:45E, approximately 77 nautical miles south-southeast of Brass.

Suspicious Activity:

- **6 November 2014** – Nine robbers attempted to board an anchored vessel twice using ropes and hooks near position 06:02N – 001:15E, Lome Anchorage, Togo.
- **4 November 2014** – Six pirates in a boat approached and fired upon an underway container vessel near position 04:03N – 005:28E, 30 nautical miles from the Bayelsa Coast. The pirates managed to come alongside the vessel, destroy part of the razor wire and attempted to hook on their boarding ladder. Master increased speed, took evasive maneuvers and managed to avoid a pirate boarding. Vessel and crewmembers have been reported safe.

Weather Analysis

- **Gulf of Guinea** – Southwest winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.

- **Synoptic Discussion** – Expect partly to mostly cloudy conditions for the Gulf of Guinea with scattered rain showers.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Executive Summary

The threat of violent attacks, crime and hijackings remains high in waters off Southeast Asia. Pirate Action Groups (PAG's) are likely to target vessels to siphon fuel or oil onto another ship. Masters are therefore reminded to remain vigilant at all times in all regions, including at ports and anchorages. Attacks and robberies can occur at anytime. Incidents involving the siphoning of oil/fuel have been on the rise in recent months. Masters are reminded to remain vigilant at all times and to report any incidents, suspicious activity, attacks or hijackings to the local authorities.

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- **4 November 2014** – The duty crewman on board an anchored offshore tug near position 01:13N – 103:34E, 4 nautical miles off Tanjung Piai, Johor, noticed a robber on the main deck and immediately notified the bridge. The crew raised the alarm and was mustered into the citadel. Upon seeing the crew's alertness, the robber fled. Upon searching the vessel, the crewmembers noticed that the padlock on the storeroom doors were found damaged with a few items missing.

Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

Weather Analysis

- **South China Sea** – Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – Northeast winds of 12 – 17 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet.
- **Malacca Strait** – Variable winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; with variable winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait.

- **Extended Forecast** – North-northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; in the southern Strait, winds will be variable at 5 – 10 knots with seas of 1 – 3 feet.
- **Andaman Sea** – South-southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots, gusting to 30 knots, with seas of 8 – 10 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast** – North-northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – The fall transition continues to influence the region. Expect mostly cloudy conditions with rain showers and thunderstorms and increase sea heights in the South China Sea and Malacca Strait

SOUTH AMERICA

Executive Summary

While there have been no recent reported incidents in this region, the threat of violent attacks and robberies remains high in waters throughout South America. Masters are reminded to remain vigilant at all times and in all regions, including ports and anchorages. Attacks and robberies can occur at any time.

At Sea

Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:

- None reported during this period.



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