

**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

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.

MS Risk is always mindful and compliant to legislation and guidelines on the use of private security services including, but not limited to the US FCPA (1977), UK Bribery Act (2010), Canadian Bill C-48 (2007), ASX 8 Corporate Governance Principles, and the World Bank/IFC Voluntary Principles on the Use of Government and Private Security Forces. MS Risk is a signatory of the Swiss government's International Code of Conduct. It is transparent and compliant to market expectations on legal and ethical conduct in the performance of services.

MS Risk has a dedicated team of researchers, a 24/7 hotline service and a pool of trained and experienced consultants to support client needs.

MS Risk supports clients in a variety of business sectors with the following services:

- Security Consulting
  - Risk assessments and intelligence reporting
  - 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](http://www.msrisk.com)

## 24 hr Contact Information:

Email: [operations@msrisk.com](mailto:operations@msrisk.com)  
Telephone: +44 207 754 3555

## Summary (July 6 - 12, 2015 - Week 28; Edition 97)

### List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

**Gulf of Guinea/West Africa:** No incidents reported during this reporting period

**Somalia-Indian Ocean:** No incidents reported during this reporting period

**Southeast Asia:** No incidents reported during this reporting period

**South America:** No incidents reported during this reporting period

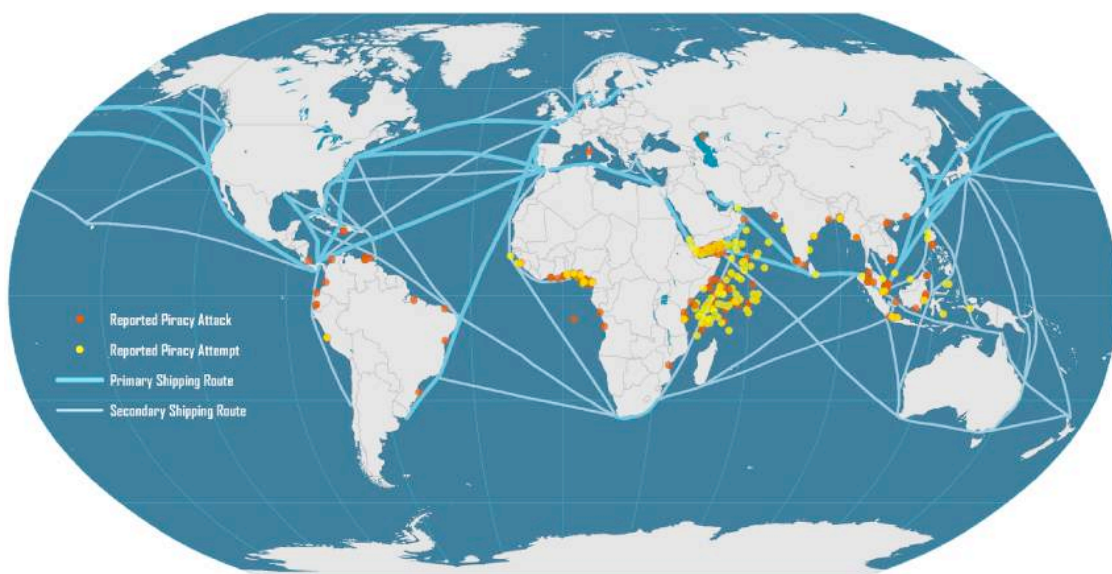
**North America:** No current incidents to report

**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

Masters are advised to remain vigilant at all times inside the 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:**

- None reported during this period.

### Map

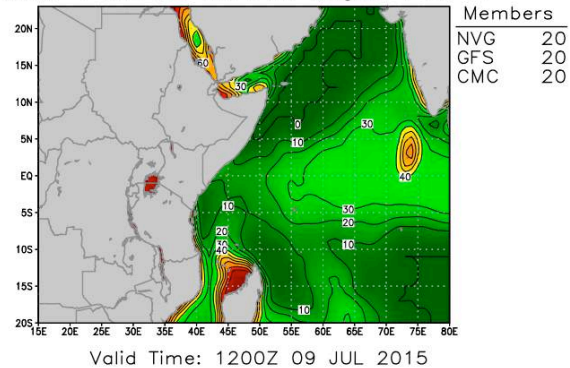




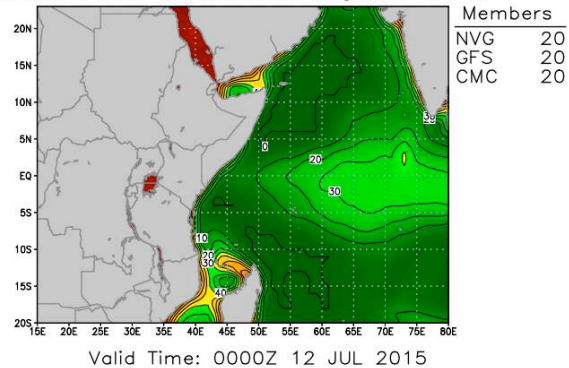
## Weather Forecast

- **Northern Arabian Sea** – Southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 8 – 20 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 20 – 25 knots and seas of 8 – 10 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman** – Easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with east-southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast** – In the western section of the Gulf, winds will be westerly at 5 -10 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet; with south-southwest winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden** – West-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with westerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 -5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
  - **Extended Forecast** – West-southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with westerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast** – Southerly winds of 25 – 30 knots, gusting to 40 knots, and seas of 10 – 12 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 25 – 30 knots, gusting to 40 knots, and seas of 10 – 12 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean** – Southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel** - Southerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the northern Channel; with south-southeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet in the southern Channel.
  - **Extended Forecast** - Southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the northern Channel; with southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the southern Channel.
- **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:** An upper level ridge over the Iraq and Arabian Gulf will allow for mostly favorable conditions over these areas. Monsoonal winds in the Arabian Sea will lead to elevated wave heights.

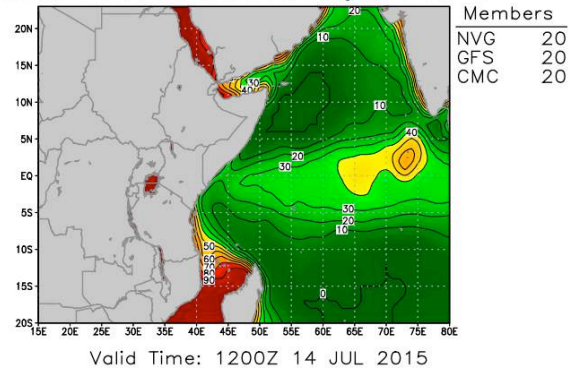
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



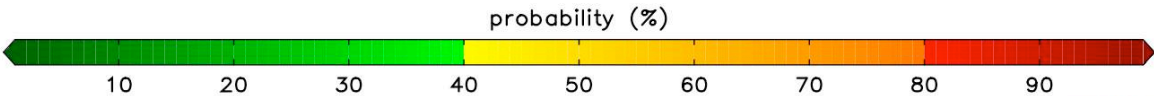
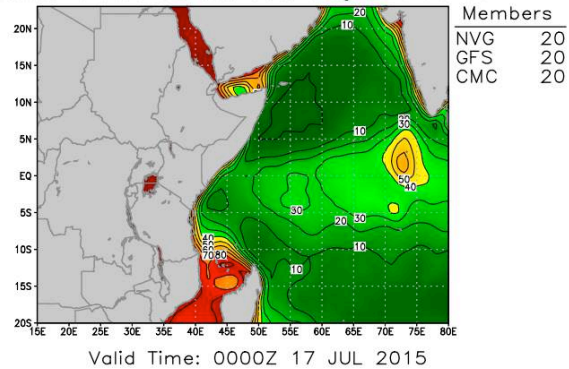
Winds < 15.0 kts and Wave Heights < 5.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



Winds < 17.0 kts and Wave Heights < 7.0 ft



\*\*\* The green shading represents a reduced likelihood of pirate activity while the red shading represents an increased likelihood of pirate activity \*\*\*

## On the Ground Reporting

- **11 July 2015** – Somalia's government reported Saturday that twelve al-Shabaab militants were killed in Friday evening's raids on two heavily-fortified hotels in the capital, Mogadishu. Speaking to reporters, Internal Security Minister Abdirasak Omar Mohamed stated that "it was only them (the attackers) who died" in the coordinated suicide strikes," adding "the violent elements attacked the Weheliye and Siyaad hotels in order to disrupt people from breaking their fast in peace. Seven attackers were involved in the hotel Weheliye attack while five attackers were involved in the Siyaad hotel, and all of them were killed." A contradicting statement however has been released by the UN Special Representative for Somalia, Nicholas Kay, who indicated that the raids had "resulted in the death and injuries of civilians, members of the security forces, AMISOM (African Union) troops and government officials." Late Friday, security sources had disclosed that at least five people were killed in the attacks, with witnesses adding that at least a dozen people were wounded. The evening also saw mortar rounds fired at Mogadishu's former main football stadium, which is now a key base for African Union (AU) troops. On Saturday, the capital city remained clam, with road traffic gradually starting to use the road where the attacked hotels are located.
- **10 July 2015** – On Friday, al-Shabaab militants stormed two hotels in the capital city, killing at least five people before they were themselves killed in heavy fighting. According to security sources, at least one suicide bomber used a car packed with explosives to smash open the gates of one of two hotels, both of which are fortified, guarded and popular with lawmakers from the nearby parliament as well as with government workers and businessmen. On the grounds sources have reported that the twin attacks on the hotels of Weheliye and Siyaad were simultaneous and apparently coordinated, with al-Shabaab militants throwing grenades and intense gunfire breaking out. Security officials also reported that mortar rounds were fired at Mogadishu's former main football stadium, which is now a key base of African Union (AU) troops. No casualties were reported in that attack.

## Regional Reporting

- **8 July 2015** – On Wednesday, dozens of Kenyans demonstrated in the capital city, demanding direct US compensation for victims of the 1998 embassy bombing in Nairobi. According to Eliud Mulama, chairman of the Kenyan Victims of Terrorism Organization, "a good number of us have passed on since then because of the heavy medical expenses they could not be able to incur." He called on the US "to make an announcement about compensation" before or during President Barack Obama's upcoming visit. A letter delivered to the US embassy in Nairobi stated that compensation "will help bring closure and healing to so many who have suffered for so long because they stood with America." The protest comes just over two weeks before President Obama is due to arrive in Kenya for an official visit. The US missions in Nairobi and in neighboring Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, were hit by near simultaneous car bombings on 7 August 1998. The twin bombings killed a total of 224 people, and injured another 5,000; almost of all them were Kenyan and Tanzanian nationals. Washington has already indicated that has spent tens of millions of dollars in medical treatment, school fees, counseling and reconstruction services for the thousands of Kenyan and Tanzanian victims.



- **7 July 2015** – Kenyan officials have reported that at least fourteen people were killed in an attack launched by al-Shabaab militants early Tuesday in the country's northeastern region. Mandera County Commissioner Alex Nkoyo confirmed the attack, which took place near a military camp in Soko Mbuzi village in Madera County near the border with Somalia, adding that eleven people were wounded. It is believed that the victims were workers at a local quarry. Residents reported hearing two explosions, followed by heavy gunfire, in the middle of the night. Over the last eight months, Somali-based al-Shabaab militants have launched a series of attacks in Mandera County, with officials reporting that they have killed at least 85 people, adding that most of them were non-Muslims. In December last year, al-Shabaab militants killed 36 quarry workers in Mandera town. During that attack, they targeted the workers while they were sleeping and shot dead the non-Muslims.
  - On Tuesday, heavily armed militants attacked a convoy of passenger buses and their army escorts in the Lamu region, near the border with Somalia. According to an eyewitness, “they used grenades and heavy guns. We came under intense attack. The bus was sprayed with bullets but it is a miracle nobody was hurt.” Kenyan security sources have confirmed the attack, with officials disclosing that a security operation is in progress and that a section of the highway between the main coastal city of Mombasa and Lamu has been closed off to traffic. The latest attack in the region occurred near the town of Mpeketoni, which has been the scene of previous raids and massacres that have been carried out by Somali-based al-Shabaab militants. There were no immediate reports of any casualties.

# GULF OF GUINEA

## Executive Summary

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off West Africa is currently at a low level, with one incident and one late reported incident during this period. All vessels transiting this region however are reminded to remain vigilant.

## At Sea

### Hijacks:

- None reported during this period.

### Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings:

- None reported during this period.

### Suspicious Activity:

- None reported during this period.

### Kidnapping:

- None reported during this period.

### Other Activity:

- None reported during this period.

## Weather Forecast

- **Gulf of Guinea** – Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 5 – 7 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Southerly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 7 – 9 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – Expect partly to mostly cloudy conditions for the Gulf of Guinea with associated 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.

**Vessels Boarded:**

- None reported during this period.

**Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding's:**

- None reported during this period.

**Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:**

- None reported during this period.

**Suspicious Activity:**

- None reported during this period.

**Other Activity:**

- None reported during this period.

## Weather Forecast

- **South China Sea** – Westerly winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Southwest winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Malacca Strait** – Northerly winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; with southeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
  - **Extended Forecast** – Northerly winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait, with southerly winds of 3 – 5 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
- **Andaman Sea** – West-southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet.
  - **Extended Forecast** – West-southwest winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 6 – 8 feet.
- **Surface Currents** – Currents in the South China Sea and Malacca Strait will average speeds of 1 knot, while currents in the Andaman Sea will average between 1 – 2 knots.
- **Synoptic Discussion** – The Northeast Monsoon season influences the region. Expect increasing cloud conditions with rain showers and thunderstorms.

## 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.





South Suite, Ragnall House, 18 Peel Road  
Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 4LZ

24 hr Global Contact: +44 207 754 3555

[www.msrisk.com](http://www.msrisk.com)

### **Directors**

S.J. Bingham, V.K. Prentice, P.O.J Tracy

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