

# 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)

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## Summary (September 21 - 27, 2015 - Week 39; Edition 108)

### 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

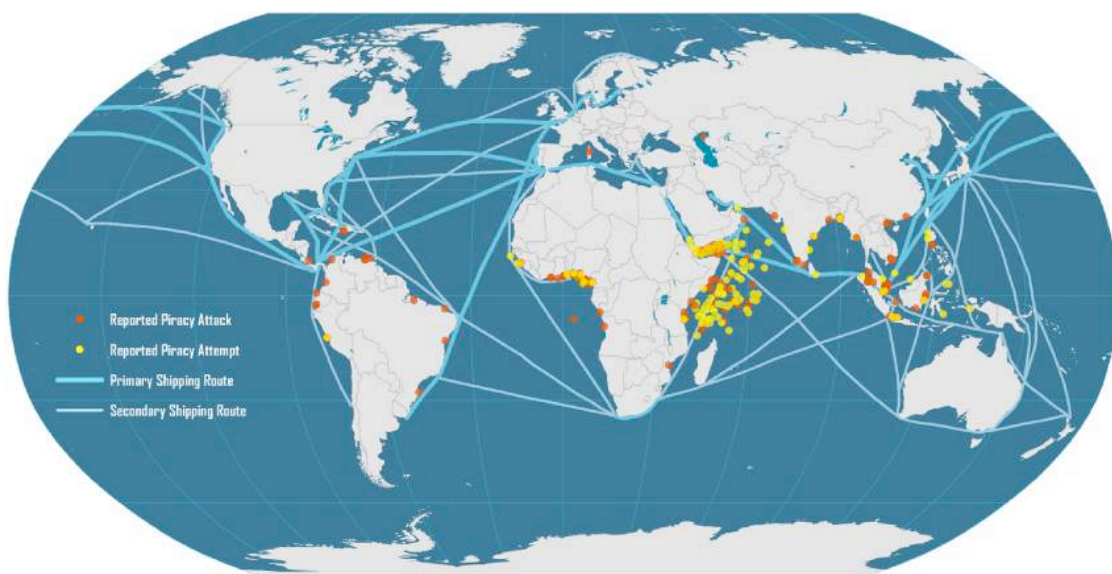
**North America:** No current incidents to report

**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.

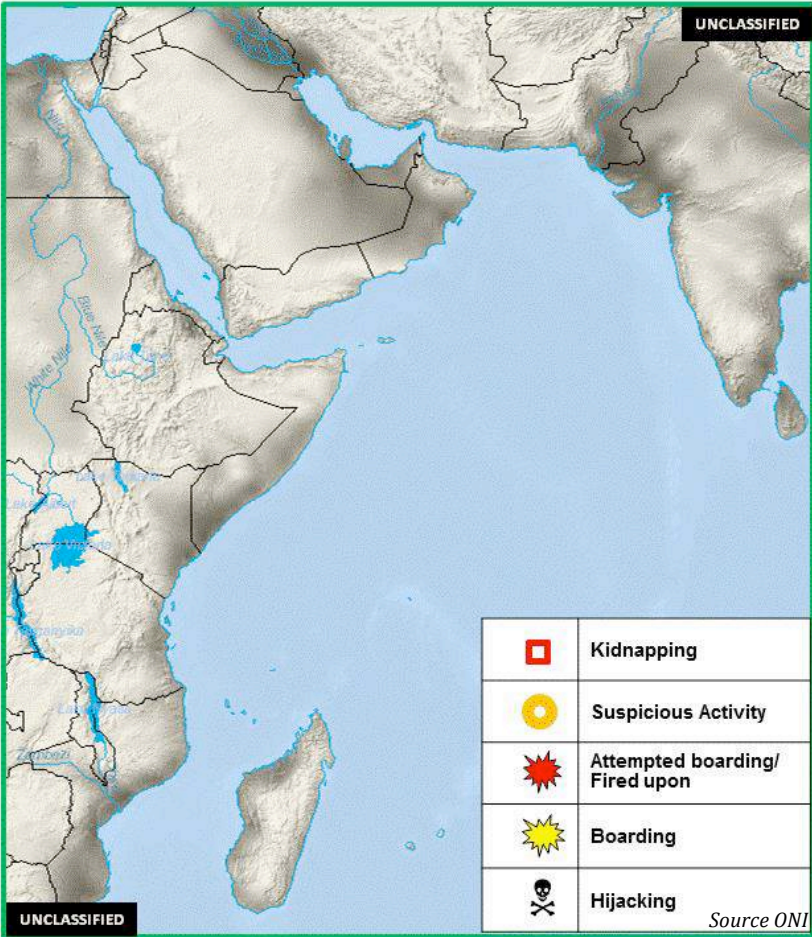
**Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies:**

- None reported during this period.

**Suspicious Activity:**

- None reported during this period.

Incident Map



## On the Ground Reporting

- **24 September 2015** – According to a new report by the Royal United Services Institute, contrary to some widely circulated beliefs, there is little evidence to suggest that al-Shabaab insurgents are heavily involved in the illegal ivory trade and that the group receives significant profits from elephant poaching. The authors of the report have disclosed that allegations that al-Shabaab is a major player in East African ivory trafficking makes for a potent and misleading narrative, which risks diverting attention from organized crime groups that direct the trade with the help of corrupt officials. They further indicate that any al-Shabaab involvement has probably been small-scale and opportunistic, noting that the militant group’s key funding streams include taxing charcoal and sugar cargoes in territory where that remains under its control. The report, which focuses on defense and security issues, was based partly on interviews with experts on al-Shabaab and wildlife trafficking as well as research in Nairobi and northern Kenya, near the border with Somalia.
- **22 September 2015** – According to police officials, at least five people were killed and ten others wounded when a car bomb exploded close to the presidential palace in the capital city on Monday. Ali Hussein has reported that the attack may have been aimed at a United Nations convoy, which left the palace just before the blast. While there has been no immediate claim of responsibility, officials are blaming al-Shabaab, which is trying to overthrow the country’s western-backed government. Over this past month, the militant group has increased its tempo of attacks and has managed to retake a town in the central region as well as attack African Union (AU) troops. While al-Shabaab has often used cars driven by suicide bombers as a way of breaking into a location, with more attackers following on foot, officials have disclosed that this did not occur following Monday’s attack. **Update (23 September)** – Somali police have disclosed that two Polish citizens are amongst the five people killed in a suicide car bombing near the presidential palace in Mogadishu on Monday. According to Capt. Mohamed Hussein, a Somali police official, two Polish citizens were among the three foreigners killed, adding that police are still trying to determine the nationality of the third foreigner. Poland’s foreign ministry has confirmed the death of one Polish citizen, with officials disclosing that the individual was doing humanitarian and business work in Somalia. Al-Shabaab has since claimed responsibility for the attack.

## Regional Reporting

- **24 September 2015** – Ugandan police have warned of a possible attack on mosques including in the capital Kampala by Somali-based al-Shabaab. Police officials have disclosed that they had received intelligence indicating that al-Shabaab insurgents were planning an attack on Kampala during the Eid al-Adha holiday on Thursday. In a statement issued late on Wednesday, police officials disclosed that “the hunt for the al-Shabaab cell/group behind this planned attack is ongoing, we call upon the general public to be extra vigilant.” Sources have indicated that police have increased security around the city.
- **23 September 2015** – According to local police officials, Kenyan security forces searching a Norwegian ship at Mombasa port discovered undeclared weapons amongst the consignment of UN vehicles. Mombasa police chief Francis Wanjohi told a news conference that rifles and Russian-made rocket-propelled grenades were amongst a “cache of firearms” found onboard the vessel. He disclosed that the Kenyan government is currently trying to determine whether it was a UN agency transporting the weapons

and why the arms were not disclosed in the cargo manifest. Twenty crewmembers of the vessel will be charged with illegal arms trafficking. At the conference, Wanjohi stated, “none of these were declared in the manifest, therefore the Kenyan government was not aware of that...it is procedural that everything must be declared, but in this case the Kenyan government was not made aware.” On Wednesday, a UN peacekeeping spokesman stated that the weapons found were part of declared cargo that was packed in India and destined for the Indian battalion in the UN peacekeeping mission in Congo. According to the spokesman, “the weapons were declared in the bill of lading but not in the manifest,” adding, “a request was sent by the UN contractor responsible for the ship to the Mombasa ship agent to amend the manifest, but since this was not possible, a declaration of the weapons accompanying the military vehicles was attached...It is unfortunate that the Kenyan authorities inspected the cargo without a UN presence, which runs contrary to established protocol.” The spokesman further disclosed that it is normal practice for weapons attached to carriers to be dismantled and placed inside them in order to avoid damage during shipping. During the press conference, Wanjohi disclosed that all UN trucks on the vessel will remain at the port until verification is completed. Kenyan police spokesman Charles Owino also indicated that an investigation is ongoing and that a report will explain why police targeted the vessel, the Hoegh Transporter. In a statement released Wednesday, the Norwegian shipping company Hoegh Autoliners confirmed that Kenyan authorities found weapons inside some of the UN vehicles that had not been declared in the cargo manifest. The shipping company further disclosed that its shipping contract clearly stated that no weapons should be transported. **Update (25 September)** – On Friday, the UN denied that weapons found on a cargo ship, which was seized by Kenyan authorities at the port of Mombasa, were being transported illegally, stating that they were part of a legitimate consignment for its peace mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It has also criticized Kenyan authorities for breaking protocols by inspecting the vessel’s cargo in their absence. Both Kenyan authorities and the vessel’s Norwegian owners however have disclosed that the weapons were not declared. The UN is currently awaiting the outcome of drugs tests by Kenyan police on a substance that was found around some of the vehicles.

# GULF OF GUINEA

## Executive Summary

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off West Africa is currently at a low level, with no incidents reported 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.



## 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.

## 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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