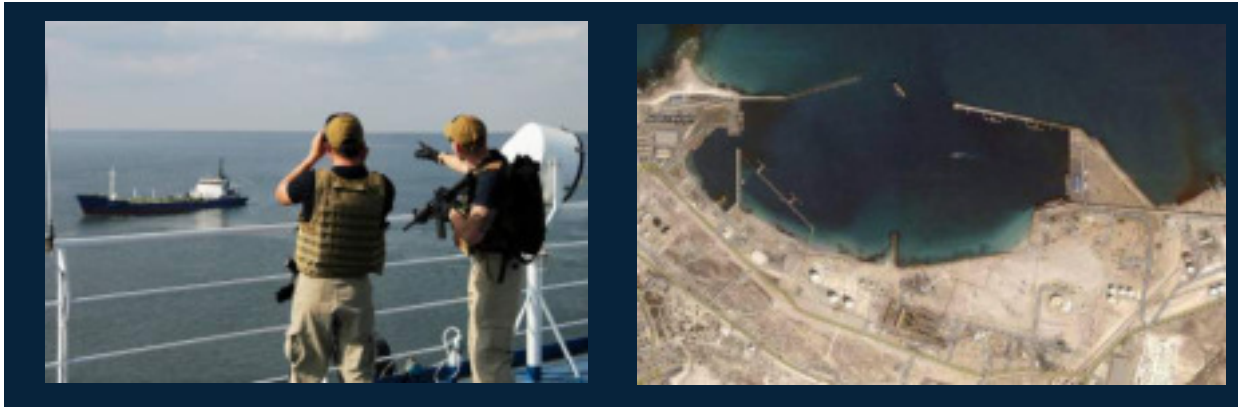




Maritime Security Review

7 March 2016

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Summary

List of Incidents at Sea for this Reporting Period

Main Regions

Gulf of Aden/Arabian Sea: No incidents reported during this period

Gulf of Guinea: No incidents reported during this period

Southeast Asia: One incident reported during this period

Worldwide

North America: One late reported incident

Central America/Caribbean/South America: No current incidents to report

Atlantic Ocean Area: No current incidents to report

Northern Europe/Baltic: No current incidents to report

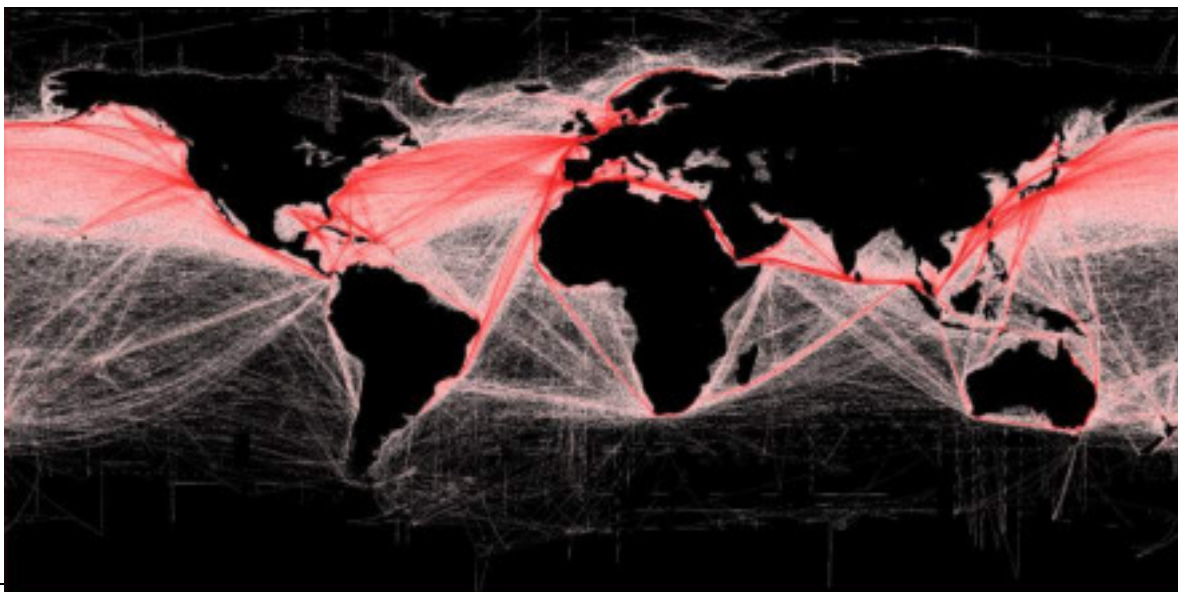
Mediterranean/Black Sea: One late reported incident

Arabian Gulf: No current incidents to report

East Asia/Indian Subcontinent: No current incidents to report

Northeast Asia: No current incidents to report

Pacific Ocean/Southern Ocean: No current incidents to report



Gulf of Aden/Arabian Sea

Somalia

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off East Africa remains at a low level, with no reports of suspicious activity during this reporting period.

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.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Boarded

- None reported during this period.

Kidnapping

- None reported during this period.

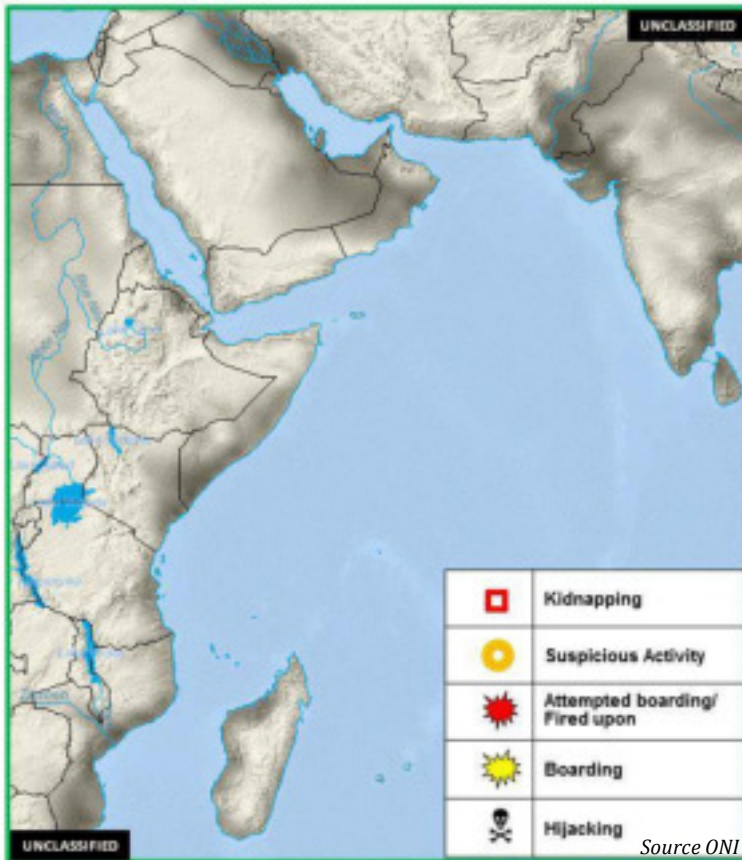
Suspicious Activity

- None reported during this period.

Other Activity

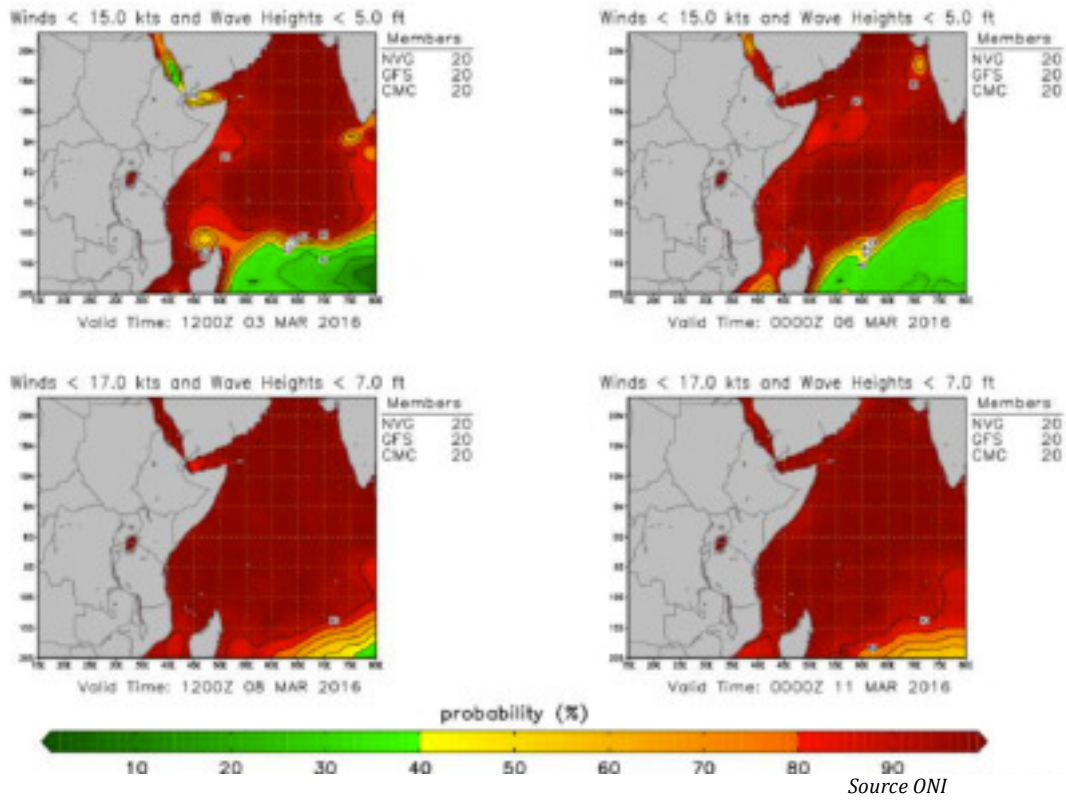
- None reported during this period.

Incident Map



Weather Forecast for Gulf of Aden/Arabian Sea

- **Northern Arabian Sea:** Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots, gusting to 15 knots, and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
- **Gulf of Oman:** Variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots, gusting to 20 knots, and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast:** East-southeast winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with east-southeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Gulf of Aden:** East-northeast winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with east-northeast winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
 - **Extended Forecast:** East-northeast winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 1- 3 feet in the western section of the Gulf; with easterly winds of 18 – 22 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet in the eastern section of the Gulf.
- **Somali Coast:** East-northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern section of the coastline; in the southern section of the coastline, winds will be easterly at 10 – 15 knots with seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Easterly winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern section of the coastline; with east-southeast winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern section of the coastline.
- **Central African Coast/Indian Ocean:** East-northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** East-southeast winds of 13 – 18 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet.
- **Mozambique Channel:** Easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Channel; with east-southeast winds of 8 – 12 knots and seas of 4 – 6 feet in the southern Channel.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Easterly winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Channel; with northerly winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 4 – 6 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:** The Northeast Monsoon is underway in the Somali Basin. Thunderstorms will continue through the near term in the Gulf of Oman and along the Iranian coastline, giving way to high pressure. A disturbance will enter the Gulf of Oman late on 6 March, bringing scattered rain showers and thunderstorms across the same regions. Isolated thunderstorms and rain showers can be routinely expected along the Somali and eastern African coasts.



Spotlight Report: Yemen

As of 6 March, the following ports in Yemen are open:

- Aden
- Hodeidah
- Mokha
- Mukalla
- Salif

The remaining ports are closed due to the ongoing conflict between the pro-government coalition and Houthi rebels. **NOTE:** In a message dated 5 February, the Saudi Embassy in London has advised international organisations and aid agencies to move offices and staff from regions where Houthi Militia and supporters are active. The UN has reiterated that aid efforts will continue to facilitate access per the Saudi de-confliction mechanism. MS Risk advises that shipmasters and owners stay up-to-date on the situation, and be aware of changes to maritime guidelines for entry into Yemeni territorial waters.

Activity Report

On 2 March, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) announced that its vessel, the *MAINPORT CEDAR*, delivered a shipment of food and medical supplies to al-Hodeidah port, weeks after the Saudi-led coalition diverted the vessel to the Saudi port of Jazan on 11 February. The coalition held the vessel after discovering communication equipment on board. The WFP has confirmed that it offloaded the equipment in Jazan in order to complete the voyage to Yemen. The delivery coincided with orders from the coalition that all vessels currently anchored at al-Hodeidah leave the port. The coalition has announced that it is seeking to facilitate aid deliveries to the port, which is reportedly crowded with empty vessels. Al-Hodeidah is Yemen's second largest port and is a key smuggling point for the al-Houthi-Saleh alliance, which has held the port since late 2014.

Procedure

MS Risk advises extreme caution for vessels traveling through the region. There is an increase of violence and criminal activity ashore. Shipping vessels should remain aware of the situation at all times, including changes to protocol when entering Yemeni maritime waters.

Gulf of Guinea

Over the past week, pirate and maritime crime activity in the Gulf of Guinea remained at a low level with no reported incidents of maritime crime during this one-week period.

In recent weeks, pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off West Africa, particularly off the coast of Nigeria, increased, with a number of incidents reported. With the hijacking of a tanker off the coast of Ivory Coast earlier this month, pirates may be actively seeking to hijack another vessel. While the entire Gulf of Guinea region remains at a high risk to piracy, MS Risk advises all vessels transiting within 100 nautical miles of Tema, Ghana; Lome, Togo and Cotonou, Benin to remain particularly vigilant.

At Sea

Hijacks

- None reported during this period.

Unsuccessful Attacks/Robberies

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Boarded

- None reported during this period.

Kidnapping

- None reported during this period.

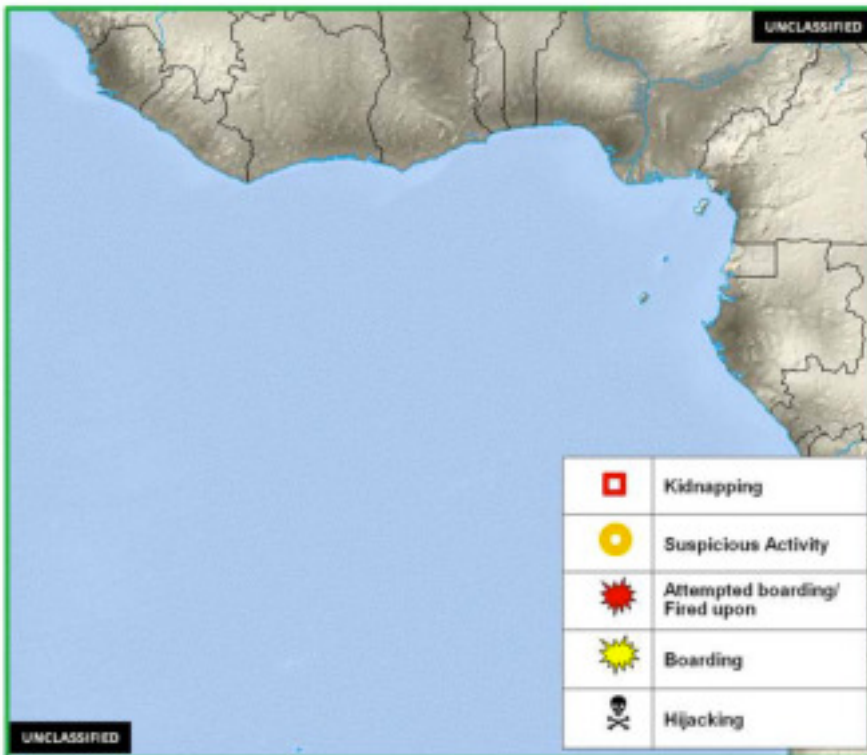
Suspicious Activity

- None reported during this period.

Other Activity

- None reported during this period.

Incident Map



Source ONI

Weather Forecast for Gulf of Guinea

- **Northern Arabian Sea:** South-southwest winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** South-southwest winds of 8 – 13 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Synoptic Discussion:** Expect partly to mostly cloudy conditions for the Gulf of Guinea with associated rain showers.

Southeast Asia

Pirate and maritime crime activity in waters off Southeastern Asia remains at a low level however the threat of violent attacks, crime and hijackings remains high across this region. During this reporting period, there was one reported incident of possible fuel smuggling.

Pirate Action Groups (PAG's) operating in this region 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

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Fired Upon/Attempted Boardings

- None reported during this period.

Vessels Boarded

- None reported during this period.

Kidnapping

- None reported during this period.

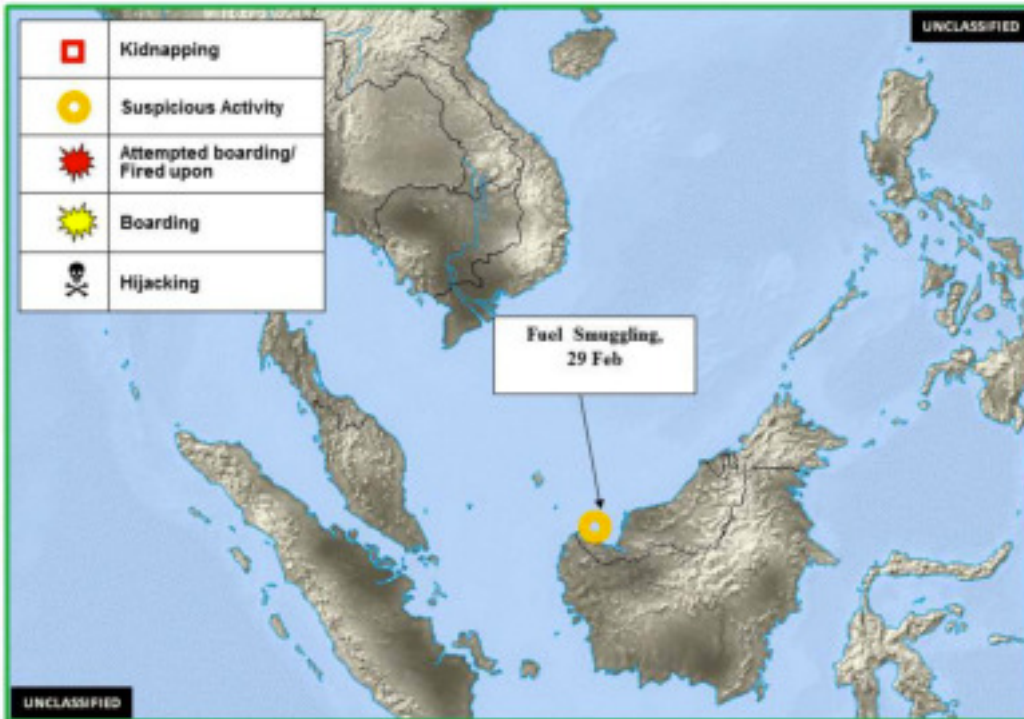
Suspicious Activity

- None reported during this period.

Other Activity

- **29 February 2016 (Malaysia)** – Malaysian Marine Police units detained two ships on suspicion of fuel smuggling. The incident occurred 3.8 nautical miles from Kampung Punang and involved the tankers *ATHENA* and *MEIWA MARU*. The ships were carrying 800,000 litres of subsidized diesel fuel however they did not have the documentation for the cargo. Both vessels were escorted to Labuan and handed over to the authorities for further investigation.

Incident Map



Source ONI

Weather Forecast for Southeast Asia

- **South China Sea:** Northeast winds of 15 – 20 knots and seas of 5 – 8 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Northeast winds of 10 – 15 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Malacca Strait:** Easterly winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet in the northern Strait; with variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
 - **Extended Forecast:** East-northeast winds of 7 – 12 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the northern Strait; with variable winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 1 – 3 feet in the southern Strait.
- **Andaman Sea:** North-northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 2 – 4 feet.
 - **Extended Forecast:** Northeast winds of 5 – 10 knots and seas of 3 – 5 feet.
- **Surface Currents:** Currents in the South China Sea and Malacca Strait average speeds of 1 knot, while currents in the Andaman Sea average 1 – 2 knots.
- **Andaman Sea:** A weak cold front will move along the southern China coastline through the first portion of the week with high pressure building in afterwards. Weak tropical disturbances progressively move across the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over the southern South China Sea. The Andaman Sea and Malacca Strait will see isolated to widely scattered rain showers and thunderstorms throughout the forecast period.

Worldwide

North America

- **16 February 2016 (United States - Late Report)** – Authorities searched a nearly empty shipping container in Port Everglades, Florida and found a burlap sack containing 154 pounds of cocaine. The container had reportedly recently arrived from Guayaquil, Ecuador. No arrests were made.



Source ONI

Central America/Caribbean/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

- **28 February 2016 (Greece – Late Report)** – Authorities in the port of Souda searched the Togo-flagged cargo ship *TRADER* and found weapons and ammunition in six shipping containers. The vessel had recently arrived from Mersin, Turkey.



Source ONI

Spotlight Report: Libya

Libya’s security situation remains critical; extreme caution is advised for commercial vessels operating in Libyan waters. Libya faces a significant rise in terrorism by Islamic State in Libya, which has now incorporated attacks via maritime trajectory. There is a significant threat to commercial vessels attempting to approach Libyan ports.

Port Status as of 6 March 2016

Port Name	Port Status	Risk Level	Risk Change
Port of Abu Kammash	Open	Low	
Port of al-Khums (Homs)	Open	Low	
Port of As-Sidra (Sirte, Es Sider)	Closed	High	

Port of Benghazi	Closed	High	
Port of Bouri (offshore port)	Open	No Known Risk	
Port of Derna	Closed	High	
Port El Brega (Marsa El Brega)	Open	High	Upgraded from Low. 1/16
Port of Hariga	Open	Medium	
Port of Mellitah	Open	Medium	
Port of Misrata (Qasr Ahmed)	Open	High	
Port of Ras Lanuf	Closed	High	
Port of Tobruk	Open	Medium	
Port of Tripoli	Open	High	
Port of Zawiya (Zawia)	Open	Medium	
Port of Zueitina	Closed	High	Upgraded from Medium. 1/16

Incidents

No current incidents to report

Arabian Gulf

No current incidents to report

East Asia/Indian Subcontinent

No current incidents to report

Northeast Asia

No current incidents to report

Pacific Ocean/Southern Ocean

No current incidents to report

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

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