

# QUATERLY REPORT Q4 2024

October – December

Unclassified – Industry release



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Maritime Domain Awareness for Trade – Gulf of Guinea

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United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations

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## Map of incidents



| <i>Hijack</i> | <i>Attack</i> | <i>Boarding</i> | <i>Robbery – Sea theft</i> | <i>Suspicious Approach</i> | <i>Sighting/Irregular Activity</i> |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 0             | 1             | 2               | 3                          | 1                          | 0                                  |





## Details of incidents Zone F

| Hijack | Attack | Boarding | Robbery – Theft | Suspicious Approach | Sighting/Irregular Activity |
|--------|--------|----------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0      | 0      | 0        | 2               | 1                   | 0                           |



**THEFT, ROBBERY:** On 18th October 2024, at 2219UTC, an attempted theft took place on an MV (**NAME WITHHELD**) at Takoradi anchorage. An unknown number of persons boarded the MV. The alarm was raised by the MVs crew. The unknown persons immediately left the MV without taking any of the ship’s property. The Port Control were informed, the Coast Guard sent a vessel to the MV to carry out an investigate and search the area. All Crew are safe.

*MDAT-GOG ref: Weekly 24-43.*

**SUSPICIOUS APPROACH:** On 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2024, at 1615UTC, a small craft, green in colour, with 7 to 8 persons on board, followed a merchant vessel (**NAME WITHHELD**) for approximately 1.5 Hrs before changing course. The closest point of approach of the small craft to the MV was reported to be 1.5NM. The vessel and crew are safe and proceeding to the next port of call.

*MDAT-GOG ref: Weekly 24-48.*



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**THEFT, ROBBERY:** A vessel (**NAME WITHHELD**) was boarded at the Takoradi anchorage, Ghana at 22:50 LT/UTC on 07 December 2024. The incident took place at: 04:53N 001:39W. The crew observed three individuals armed with knives at the forecastle store. One of them threatened the crew with a knife while the others stole ship's stores. The alarm was raised and a PA announcement was made while authorities were also informed. Upon seeing the responding patrol boat, the perpetrators fled with the stolen goods

*MDAT-GOG ref: Weekly 24-51.*



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## Details of incidents Zone E

| Hijack | Attack | Boarding | Robbery – Theft | Suspicious Approach | Sighting/Irregular Activity |
|--------|--------|----------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0      | 0      | 1        | 1               | 0                   | 0                           |



**THEFT, ROBBERY:** On 28th November, at approximately 03:40UTC, a vessel (**NAME WITHHELD**) was boarded by 15 armed robbers. They removed sections of the razor wire perimeter, overpowered several crew members, and held them captive under armed guard. The robbers forcibly took personal belongings and attempted to breach secured containers. They escaped around 04:15UTC using two skiffs.

*MDAT-GOG ref: Weekly 24-49.*

**BOARDING:** On 05th December at 2255UTC, at 9 NM south of Cotonou, Benin, a fishing vessel (**NAME WITHHELD**) has been boarded 3 or 5 unauthorised armed persons from a wooden boat. Items have been reported as stolen. The vessel docked at Cotonou port. Investigation on going.

*MDAT-GOG ref: Weekly 24-49*





## Details of incidents Zone D

| Hijack | Attack | Boarding | Robbery – Theft | Suspicious Approach | Sighting/Irregular Activity |
|--------|--------|----------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 0      | 1      | 1        | 0               | 0                   | 0                           |



**THEFT, ROBBERY:** On 20th December, at 23:35UTC, MDAT-GoG has received a report of an incident in position 01°38'N 008°55'E, 29NM southwest of Bata, Equatorial Guinea. The master of a merchant vessel (**NAME WITHHELD**) reports that a small craft approached and is following the vessel at approximately 0.75NM. According to the report, the small craft discharged firearms. The vessel and all crew are safe and continuing to its next port of call.

*MDAT-GOG ref: Weekly 24-52.*

**THEFT, ROBBERY:** On 21st December, at 21:30UTC, a vessel (**NAME WITHHELD**) was boarded by six unauthorized persons off Santo Antonio, Sao Tome and Principe. The crew observed 3 skiffs closing their positions and six persons have boarded the ship. The crew took refuge in the citadel. The vessels crew are now safe and out of the citadel and all unauthorised persons are no longer on board. Vessel is continuing to its next port of call.

*MDAT-GOG ref: Weekly 24-52.*



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## Advisory / Warning / Notice released

| MDAT GoG Notices |  |                     |   |
|------------------|--|---------------------|---|
| Type             | Number                                 | Classification      | Description   |
| ADVISORY         | 001/NOV/24                             | SUSPICIOUS APPROACH | <p>MDAT-GoG has received a report of an incident 100NM West of KAKENDE, GUINEA.</p> <p>A small craft green in colour with 7 to 8 people on board, followed the MV for 1.5 hours before changing course. The closest point of approach of the small craft to the MV was reported to be 1.5NM.</p> <p>The Vessel and crew are safe and the vessel is proceeding to next port of call.</p> <p>Authorities are investigating.</p>   |
| WARNING          | 001/DEC/24                             | ATTACK              | <p>MDAT-GoG has received a report of an incident in position 01°38'N 008°59'E, 29NM southwest of Bata, Equatorial Guinea. The master of the merchant vessel reports that a small craft approached and is following the vessel at approximately 0.75NM. According to the report, the small craft discharged firearms. The vessel and all crew are safe and continuing to its next port of call. 0206UTC: The CSO reports that the small craft is no longer visible or detectable.</p>  |
| WARNING          | 002/DEC/24<br>002/DEC/24<br>UPDATE 001 | BOARDING            | <p>MDAT-GoG has received a report of an incident in position 01°59'N 008°12'E, 91NM west of Bata, Equatorial Guinea. The MDAT GOG received a report from a vessel's Company Security Officer that six unauthorised persons have boarded the vessel. The crew are reported to be safe in the citadel. It is further reported that the unauthorised persons are still onboard.</p> <p><u>Update 001</u>: the vessel crew is now safe and out of the citadel and all unauthorised persons are no longer on board. The vessel is continuing to its next port of call.</p> |



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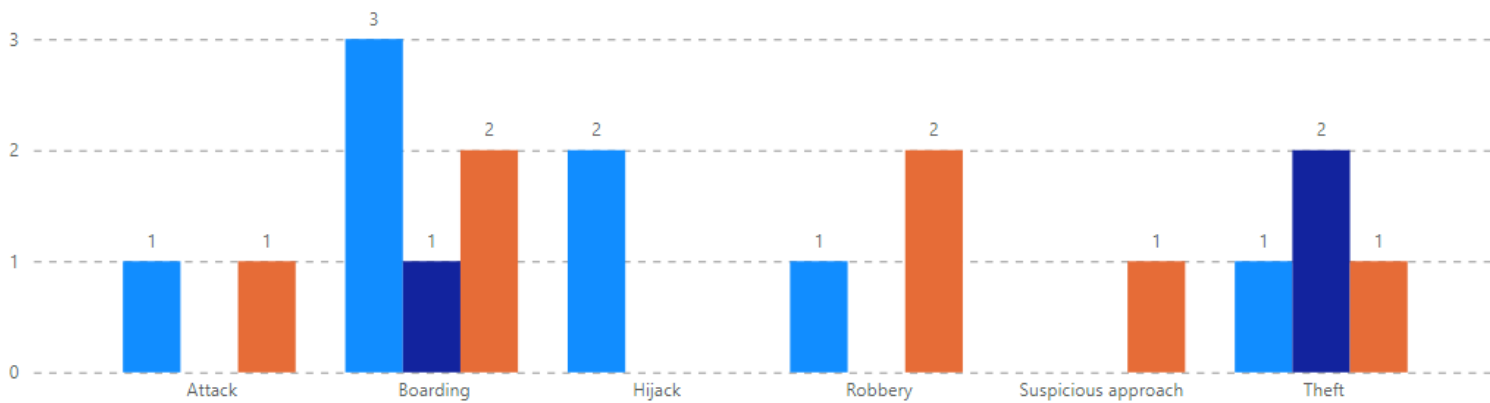
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## Statistics

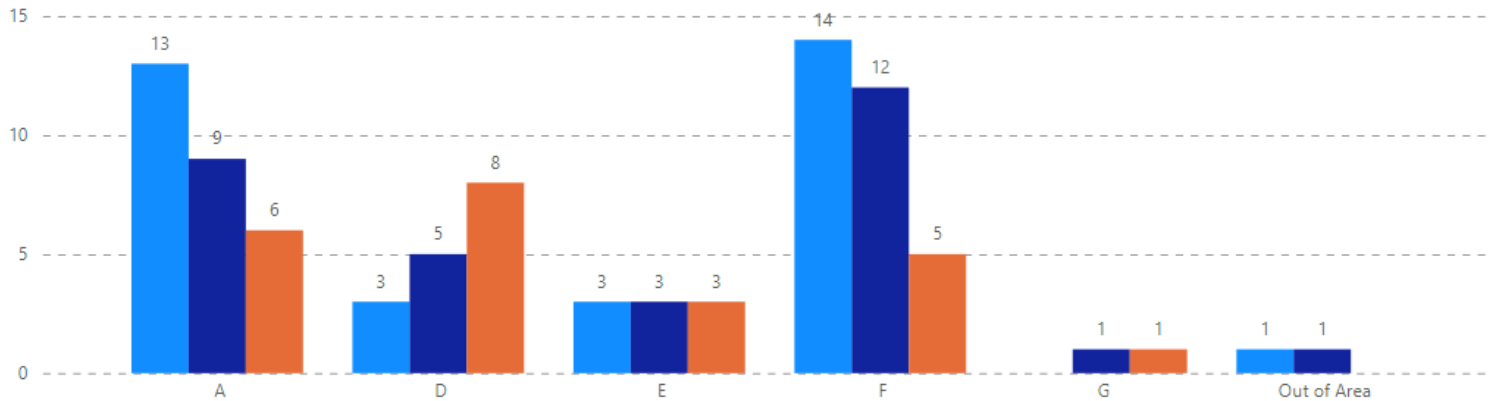
Type of incidents / Year 4th quarterly (Q4)

● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024



Incidents / Area

● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024



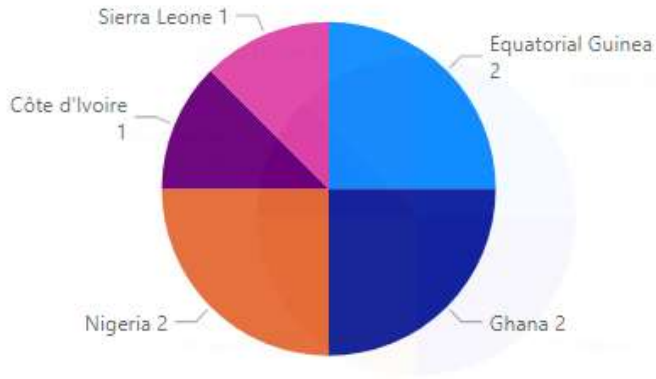




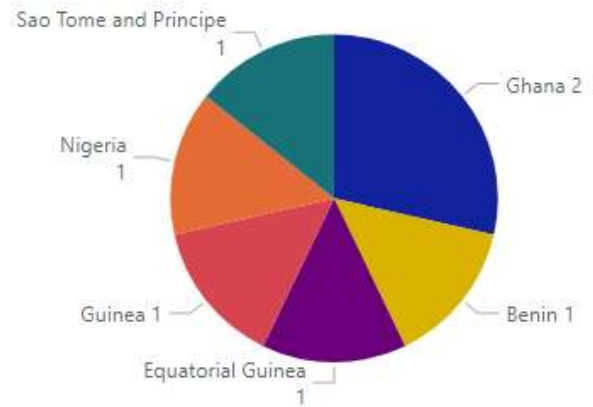
## Statistics

Incidents / Country Q4-2022

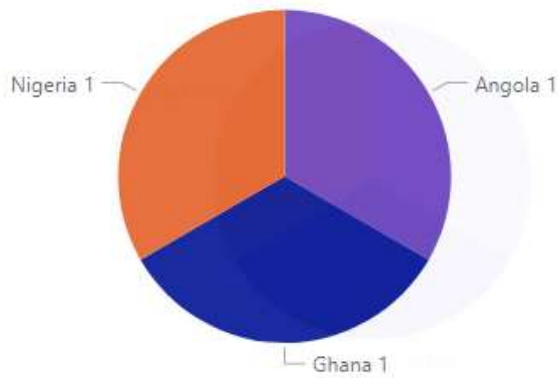
Incidents / Country Q4-2022



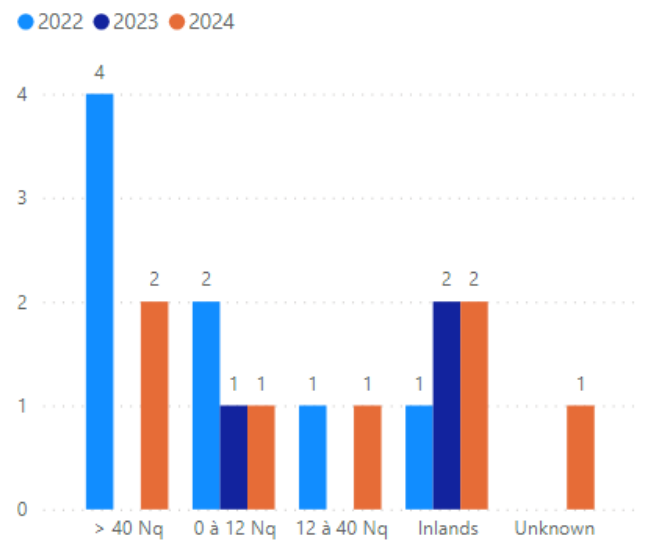
Incidents / Country Q4-2024



Incidents / Country Q4-2023



Distance incidents Q4



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## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Maritime Domain Awareness for Trade- Gulf of Guinea (MDAT-GOG) has been in operation since 20<sup>TH</sup> June 2016. It is a virtual reporting mechanism supporting the interregional architecture defined by the Yaounde Code of Conduct. The primary output from the MDAT-GoG is to contribute by maintaining coherent maritime situational awareness in the central and western African Maritime Space, with the ability to inform and support industry whilst contributing to the safety and security of the Mariner in the regional maritime domain. All vessels are encouraged to report to the MDAT-GoG using the Best Management Practices – West Africa reporting formats . The information supplied by vessels will be treated as commercially confidential.

Details for the Voluntary Reporting Scheme (VRS) can be found on the maritime security charts: [SHOM Chart 8801CSD](#) /or [UKHO Chart Q6114](#)

Masters are encouraged to comply with [Best Management Practices West Africa \(BMP WA\)](#) and [Global Counter Piracy Guidance](#) during their presence in Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA).

MDAT-GoG reports are primarily based upon information sent by vessels using the VRS. Masters and Company Security Officers (CSO) are encouraged to report as early as possible events or sightings with as much detail as possible to allow MDAT-GOG to initiate the appropriate response.

**Incomplete reports can cause delay to the issue of MDAT-GoG WARNINGS and the ability to contact local Navy assets for assistance. When an incident occurs MDAT-GoG requests Masters are requested to contact MDAT-GoG on +33 298 228888 (monitored 24/7/365) as soon as possible to facilitate a faster response by MDAT-GoG and regional authorities.**

## MDAT-GoG MARITIME SECURITY DEFINITIONS

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>HIJACK</b>                           | Unauthorised persons have illegally boarded the ship and taken control of the vessel against the will of the Master and crew.  |
| <b>BOARDING</b>                         | An illegal boarding is where the attackers have boarded the ship but have not taken control of the vessel.   |
| <b>ATTEMPTED BOARDING</b>               | Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat, but are thwarted by BMP measures, PAST, weather conditions, lack of appropriate equipment, etc. |
| <b>ATTACK</b>                           | The ship has been subjected to an aggressive approach by unidentified craft and weapons have been discharged.  |
| <b>SUSPICIOUS APPROACH</b>              | Definite alteration towards the ship, rapid increase in speed which cannot be accounted for in the prevailing conditions. Sudden changes in course towards ship and aggressive behaviour.  |
| <b>ROBBERY</b>                          | Theft realized in territorial waters with threat/violence to crew.   |
| <b>THEFT</b>                            | Theft realized in territorial waters with no violence.   |
| <b>SIGHTINGS AND IRREGULAR ACTIVITY</b> | Suspicious activity not associated with the locality or prevailing conditions  |

