

RÉPUBLIQUE GABONAISE

UNION – TRAVAIL – JUSTICE

ADMINISTRATION MARITIME



GABONESE REPUBLIC

UNION – WORK – JUSTICE

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

**INTERNATIONAL SHIP REGISTRY OF GABON
COMMISSIONAIRE OF MARITIME AFFAIRS**

**INTERSHIPPING SERVICES LLC.
AL SHORAFI TOWER 2 OFFICE NO 1903, 19TH FLOOR,
SHEIKH RASHID BIN HUMAID AL NUAIMI STREET
RASHIDIYA 3, P.O BOX: 4295, AJMAN, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

T: + 971 6 74 28 120

EMAIL : admin@intershippingservices.com

WEBSITE : www.intershippingservices.com

MARCIR: 02/2023

DATE: 25th December 2023

**To : Representatives of Gabon flagged vessels, Deputy Registrars, Ship-owners,
Ship-operators / Managers and Masters.**

Subject: Security Status at Southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

PREAMBLE

In wake of the recent spate of attacks in the Southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden by armed skiffs, drones or anti-ship missiles, the task of this Marine Security Advisory is to inform Owners/Operators/Company Security Officers/Masters of the imminent danger during transit through this region.

Vessels observing innocent passage through this region have witnessed threats and attacks on multiple vessels through the Southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. On multiple occasions the militia operating in this region have launched missiles from drones and have demanded ships to turn around and proceed to their controlled areas.

SECURITY LEVEL

Gabon flagged vessels transiting the Southern Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden are to increase their security level to security level 3 and implement all protective measures in their Ship Security Plan.

AIS

As per International Maritime Organization (IMO) Resolution A.1106(29) paragraph 22, if the master believes that the continual operation of AIS might compromise the safety and security of his/her ship or where security incidents are imminent, the AIS may be switched off.

It is to be noted that militia have attacked ships with AIS switched on and off. While switching the AIS off can make it more difficult for the militia to track vessels, it will also make it more difficult for the vessel to receive support if needed.



UKMTO/ MSCHOA/ BMP

All vessels should report to the UKMTO and register with the Maritime Security Centre for the Horn of Africa (MSCHOA) in accordance with industry BMP (Best Management Practices) and take advice from the coalition forces operating in the area. Best Management Practices 5 (BMP5) will continue to provide the necessary guidance for shipping to ensure threat and risk assessments are developed for every voyage to mitigate the risks presented by remaining security threats in the region.

When operating within territorial seas or calling ports within the previously defined HRA as shown on UKHO Chart Q6099, Masters shall set the vessel security level to the level set by the port State authority but may implement security measures in excess of the security level set by the port authorities based on their assessment of the conditions in the port. When operating outside territorial seas or ports within the previously defined HRA shown on UKHO chart Q6099, all Gabon flagged vessels shall operate at security level II. All security level changes should be reported directly to the Flag Administration by the Master via email shipalert@intershippingsservices.com. Masters are advised to carry out pre-voyage threat and risk assessments to consider the latest maritime security information from organizations supporting the VRA.

PMSC

Gabon flagged vessels may consider using a Private Maritime Security Company (PMSC) to provide additional armed or unarmed security personnel while transiting the high-risk area. Contact MSCHOA prior to transiting the Western Indian Ocean, the Somali Basin, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman and the Red Sea.

The contact details of MSCHOA are:

Maritime Security Centre – Horn of Africa (MSCHOA)
Email postmaster@mschoa.org
Telephone +44 1923 958545 +44 1923 958700
Fax +44 1923 958520
Website www.mschoa.org

When transiting the Western Indian Ocean, the Somali Basin, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman and Red Sea.

Register their vessels with UKMTO Email: watchkeepers@ukmto.org and ukmto@eim.ae
Phone: +44 - 2392-222060, +971-50-552-3215
Fax +44 1923 958520

Gabon Maritime Administration

International Ship Registry of Gabon

Intershipping Services LLC.

Al Shorafa Tower 2 Office no 1903, 19th Floor,
Sheikh Rashid Bin Humaid Al Nuaimi Street
Rashidiya 3, P.O Box: 4295, Ajman, United Arab Emirates
T: + 971 6 74 28 120 | **M:** + 971 544 32 5002

E: shipalert@intershippingsservices.com, technical@intershippingsservices.com

W: www.intershippingsservices.com