

MARITIME ACTIVITIES CONSULTANTS S.A.

"CONNECTING YOUR BUSINESS TO THE MARITIME RESOURCES YOU NEED"



TECHNICAL SERVICE CIRCULAR No. 05/2021, Date: 18/03/2021

Subject: "British security intelligence firm, Dryad Global, has recently issued its 2020 annual report, which provides an overview of piracy trends worldwide"

1. British security intelligence firm Dryad Global issued its annual report for 2020, providing an overview of piracy trends worldwide (<https://landing.dryadglobal.com/download-dryad-globals-maritime-security-annual-report-2021>). The report reveals that robberies are the most prevalent incident type in **West Africa**, but kidnapping incidents remain unacceptably high in the Gulf of Guinea. Meanwhile, incidents in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia remain low.
2. Incidents of low-level maritime crime, particularly robberies (most often in port and at anchor), continue to be the most prevalent incident type recorded throughout West Africa. Limited ISPS implementation and increasing rates of economic deprivation are likely to result in a partial increase of similar incidents into 2021.

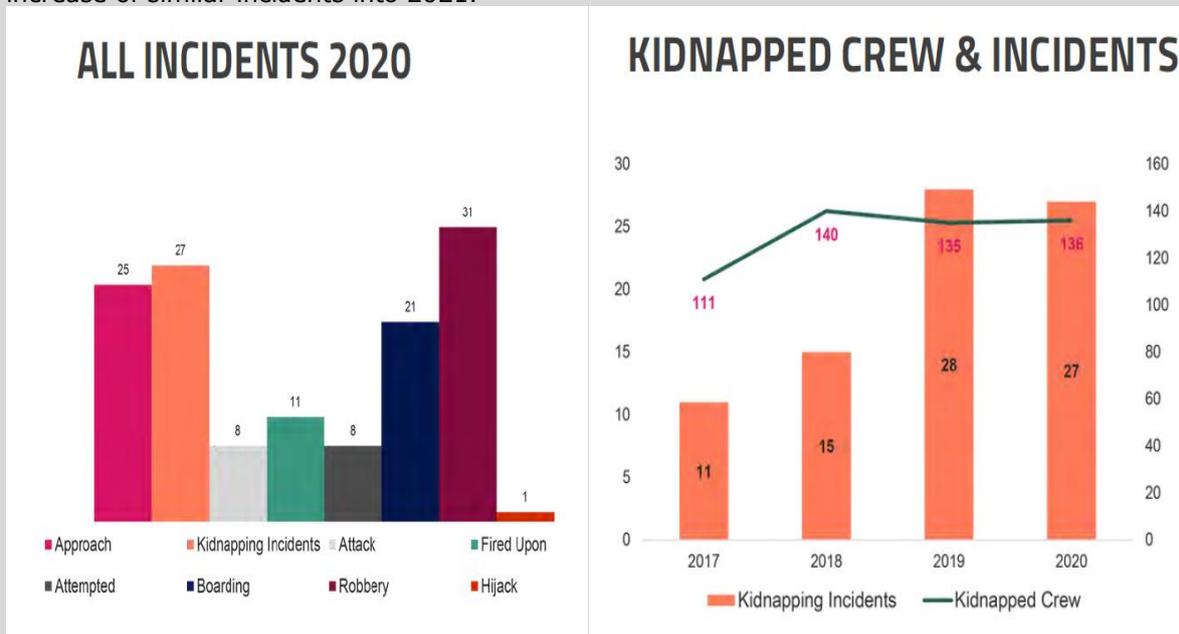


Figure 1 ALL SECURITY RELATED INCIDENTS 2020

3. The dominance of incidents of significant maritime crime and piracy in comparison to low complexity and opportunistic incidents such as robbery, is indicative of a deeply systemic issue within the **Gulf of Guinea**. On the other hand incidents reporting in the **Indian Ocean** throughout 2020 show that the volume of incidents remains low, across all incident classifications. Reporting themes signify a fundamental shift in the risk profile within the Indian Ocean, from one of piracy and maritime crime to one of geo-political turbulence and conflict overspill.

INCIDENTS LAST 4 YEARS

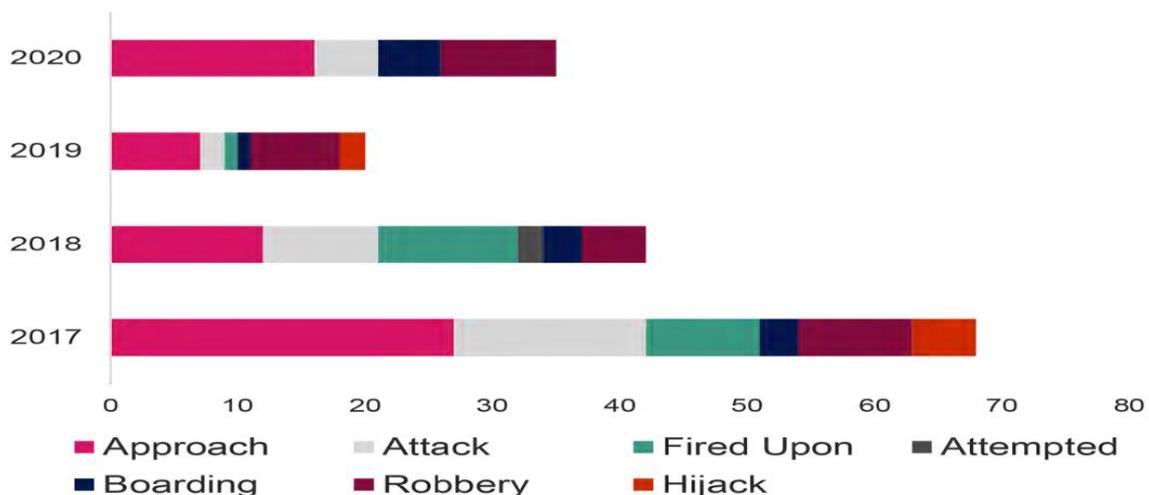


Figure 2 SECURITY RELATED INCIDENTS LAST 4 YEARS

4. The published 2020 data shows that **South East Asia** continues to be the global heartland of low level maritime crime within 2020. Incidents of vessel boarding and robbery are predominantly localised within the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, and Manila in the Philippines. The relatively high volume of incidents within a comparatively small geographic area signals a potential requirement for strengthening multilateral regional monitoring and pooling of maritime security resources.

5. In the same context the **International Maritime Organization** has recently issued Circular Letter No.4382 (10 February 2021) Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea where IMO urges action to deter piracy in Gulf of Guinea ([Circular Letter No.4382 \(10 February 2021\) Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea](#)).

6. **Maritime Activities Consultants S.A.** continues to closely follow up developments in the field of maritime security related incidents, including piracy and armed robbery on a global level, providing both to the administrations of International Registries and individual shipping companies concrete regulatory and operational guidance, as appropriate.

"SIMPLIFYING YOUR MARITIME NEEDS"



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