MIEVOM Briefing
"Somalia Update"

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UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

GLOBAL MARITIME CRIME PROGRAMME

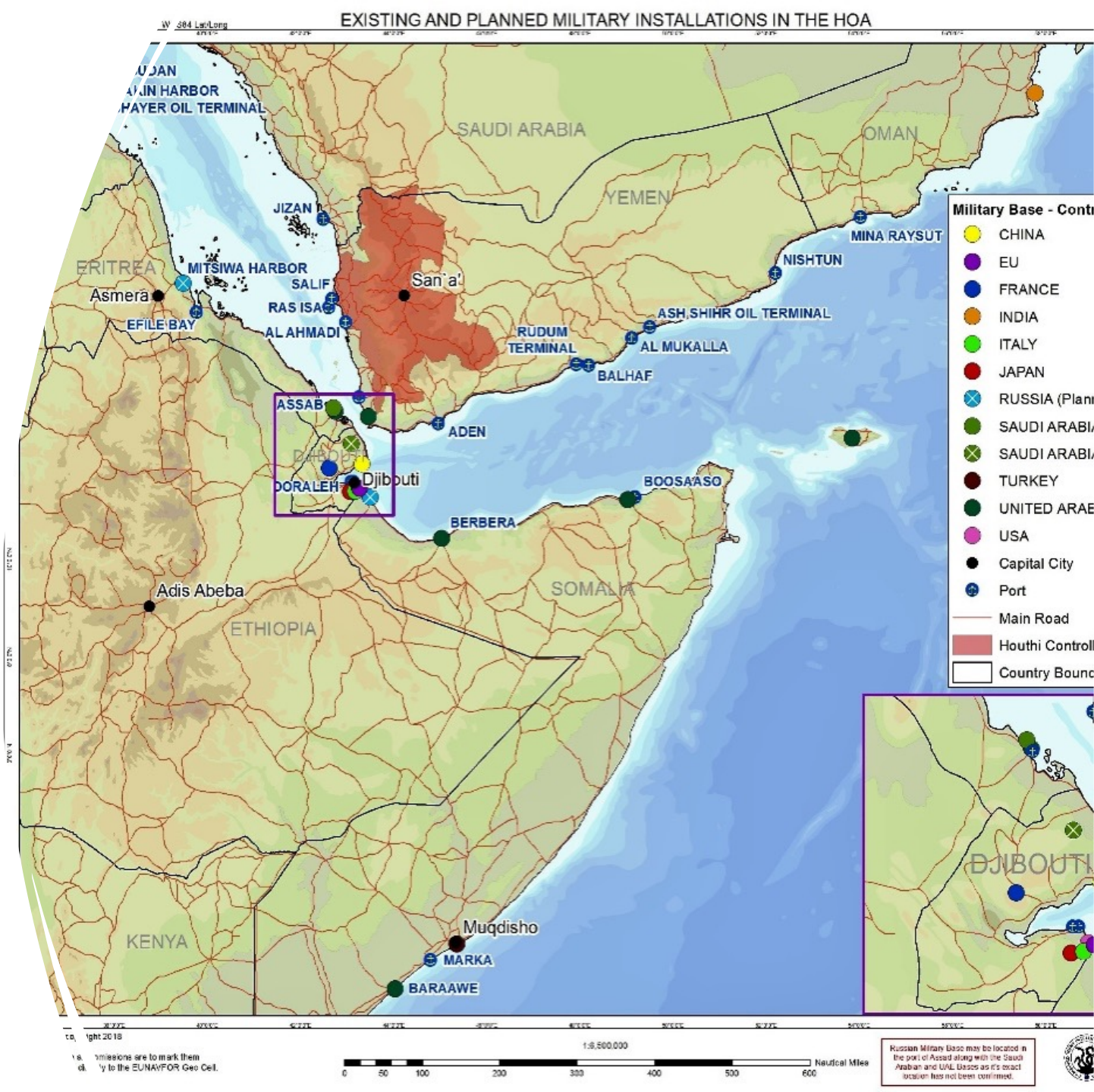
EU NAVFOR Somalia

European Union Naval Force – Somalia
Operation Atalanta
www.eunavfor.eu

TILLINGBOURNE
INTERNATIONAL

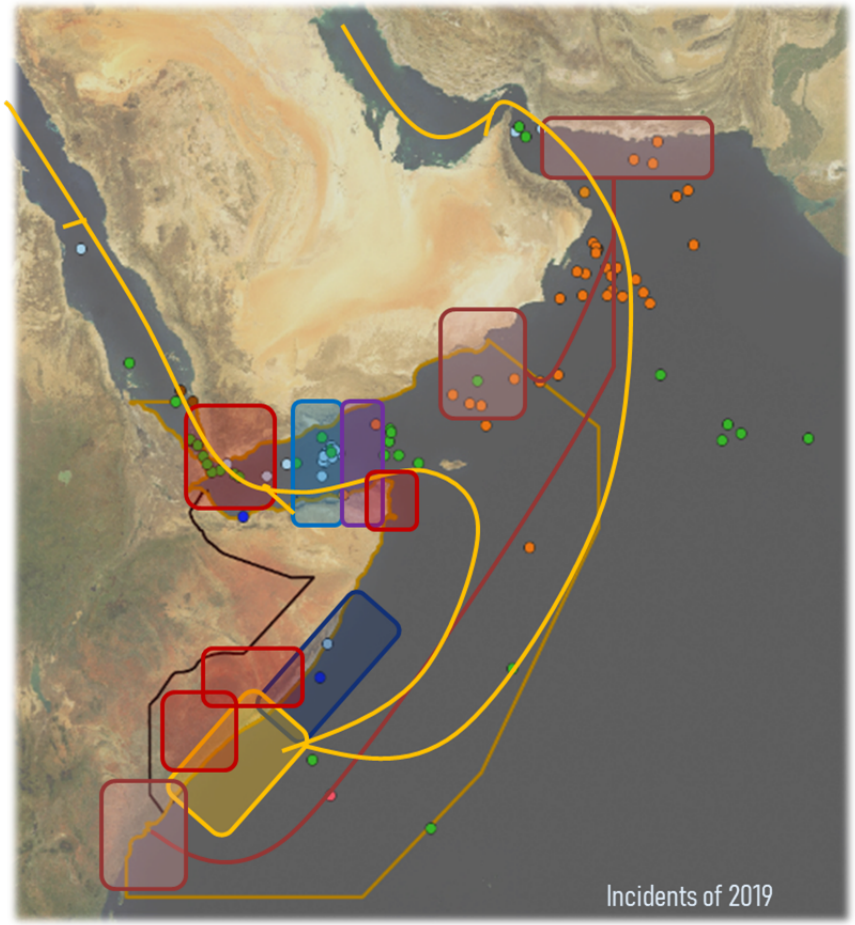
REGIONAL CONTEXT

- Competition for influence
  - (CHN, UAE, TUR, QTR, IND)
- Conflict in Somalia
- Border dispute Somalia/Kenya
- Conflict in Yemen and Mozambique
- Crisis in Ethiopia
- Coup d'état in Sudan
- Terrorist Insurgencies
- Tensions in the Strait of Hormuz
- Multiple illegal traffics



Maritime threats

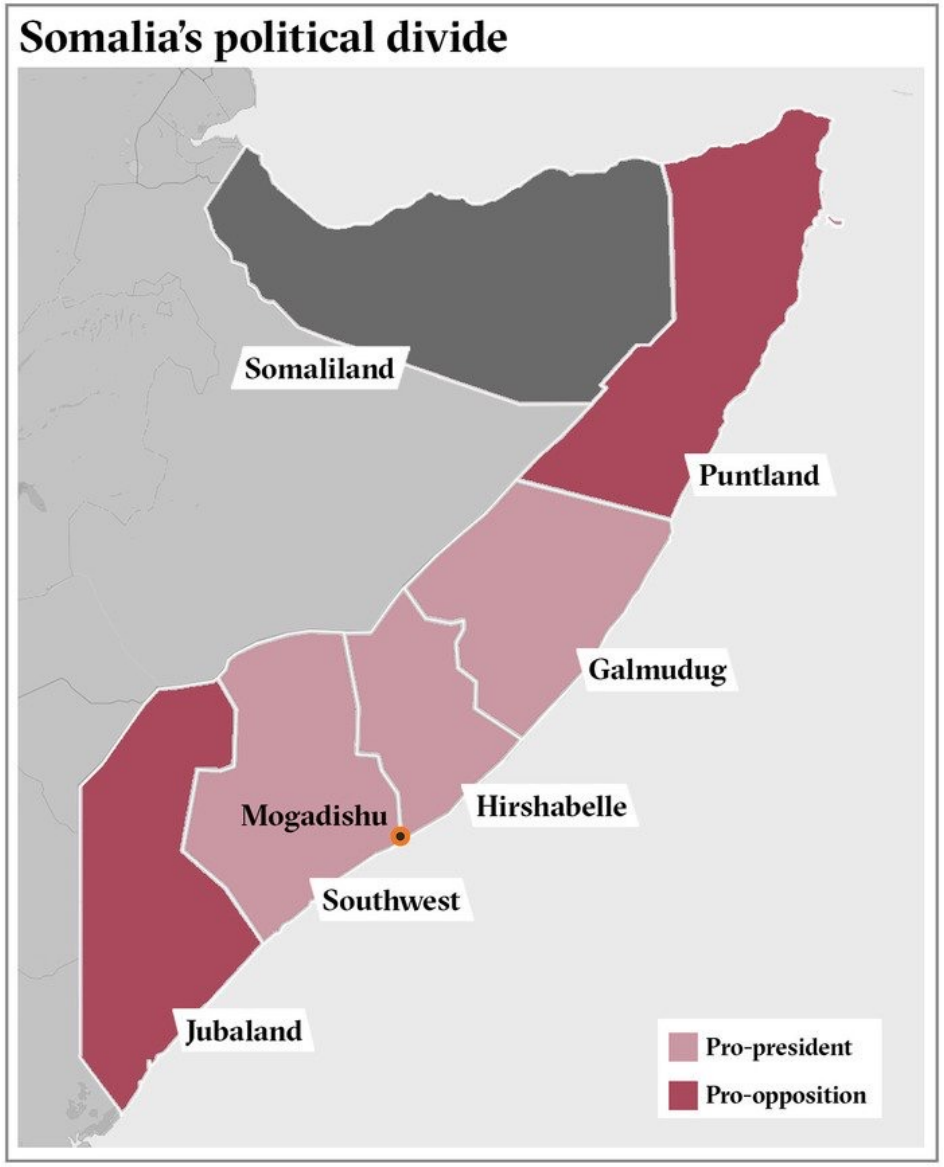
- Narcotics Smuggling
- Weapons Smuggling
- Human Migration / Smuggling
- Asymmetric Threats / Terrorism
- Piracy
- Charcoal Smuggling
- Non-Maritime Security Event



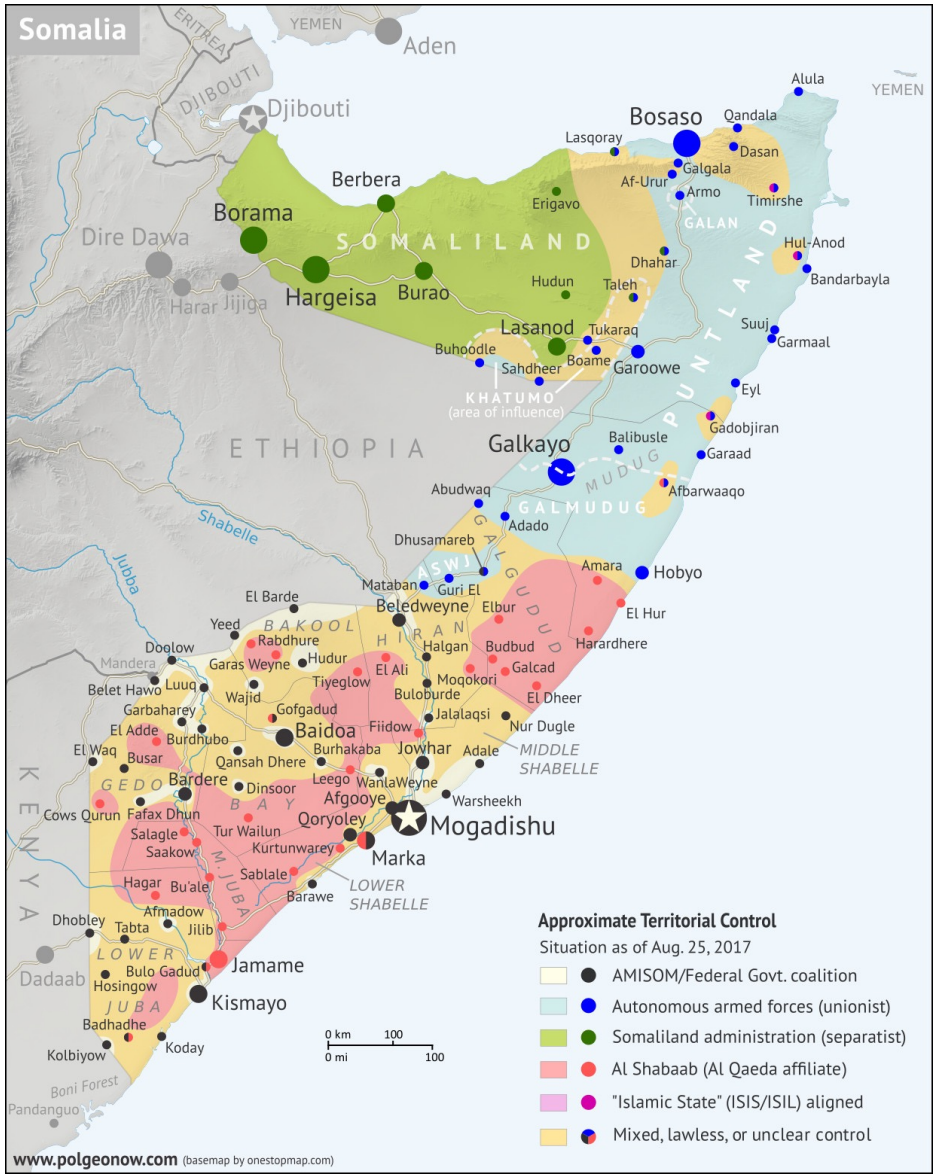
Pol/Mil Situation

“Putting Maritime Ops in Context”

Orientation:
1. Political Control



Orientation:
2. Military Control



The Current Political Crisis

Could Somalia follow the same path as Afghanistan ? In large part, Somalia's immediate future will be determined by three key factors:

The strength of al-Shabab's insurgency,

The performance of a struggling federal government,

The patience levels of international partners.

The omens are bleak, and without a dramatic change, Somalia's path could very well mirror the outcome in Afghanistan.

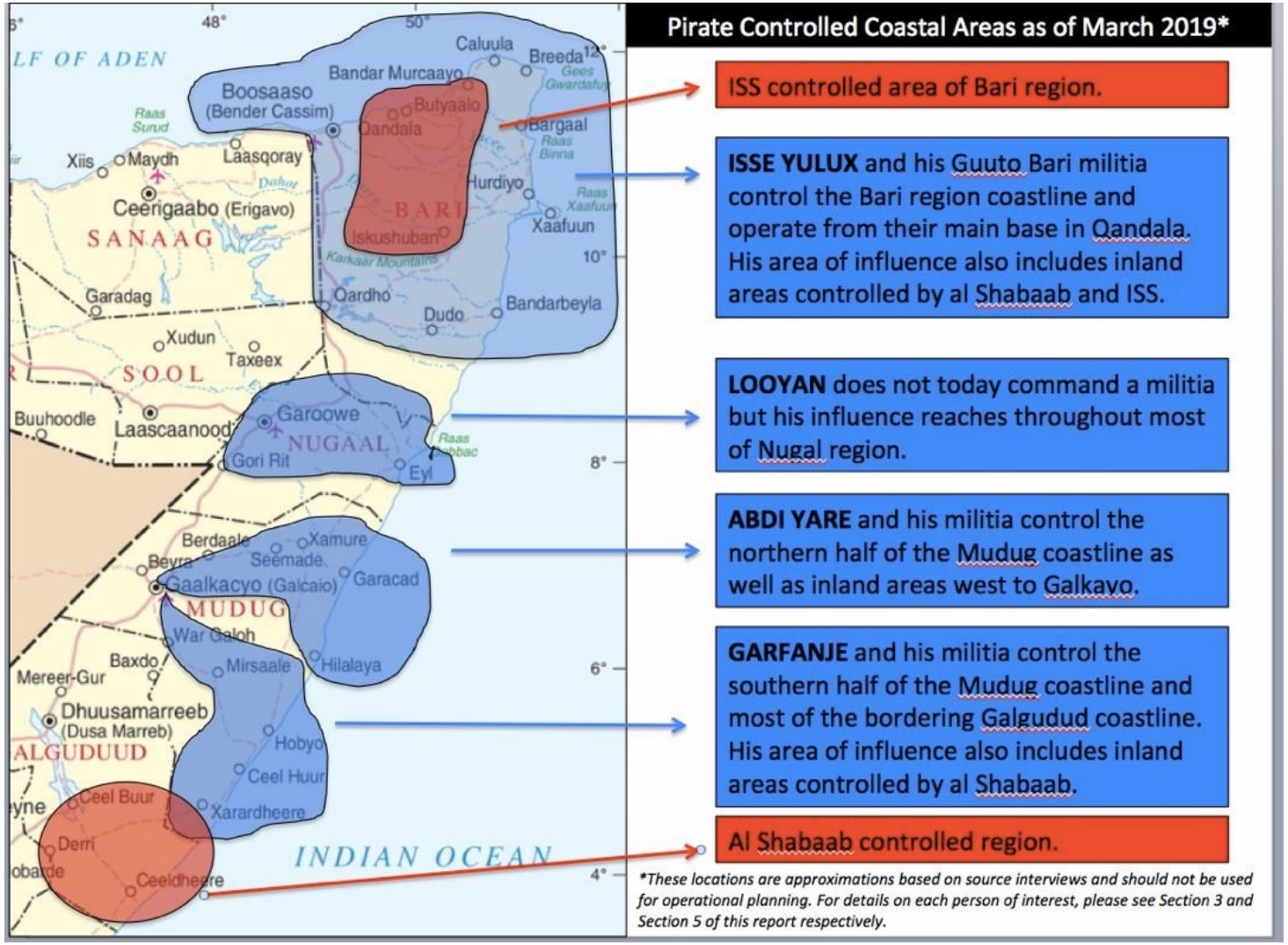
Land Threat/Maritime

“What is the capacity of piracy to return”

Maritime Crime Climate

- ISIL: Coastal territory. Leadership linked to pirate. Weapons smuggling. Attacks in Bosasso and Mog?
- Pirate links to Al Shabaab (and ISIL). Mumin is related to Isse Yulux
- Weapons Trafficking
- VBIED components from Yemen used in Mogadishu
- Human Smuggling
- IUU Fishing/Links to Crime
- Drug Trafficking
- Sanctions breaking

Former Pirate Kingpins Controlled Areas



Militia/Pirate Action Groups

- Piracy Networks weaker less financing
- Few (if any) Safe Areas to operate from
- Former pirate leaders could use funds from organized crime to fund pirate attacks:
  - Kidnapping
  - Militias
  - Illegal fishing
  - Human smuggling

Is Oil and Gas a new Opportunity ?

- The Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) is intending on selling 50 exploration and production (E&P) blocks, covering 173,000 square kilometers of ocean,
- The actual exploration and production platforms are not at risk, but the offshore industry does not survive without a myriad of smaller vessels. Pirate groups in Nigeria have exploited the oil industry for years, targeting support vessels
- As money flows into Somalia to support the growth of the future oil industry, unless the power of the former pirate syndicates is curtailed, the confidence of international businesses to invest in Somalia will be limited, as protection from attack cannot be guaranteed.
- Or is this just another boom for PCAS ?

Piracy Assessment

Despite not seeing success at sea, pirate syndicates have not gone away, but have merely evolved into criminal purposed militias that exercise significant power on land, controlling territory around the ports they “own” and competing with the ability of the relevant Federal Member State (FMS) to govern.

Therefore:

Pirate attacks unlikely at this stage

Maritime Governance

Progress towards a Blue Economy and Security

Structures

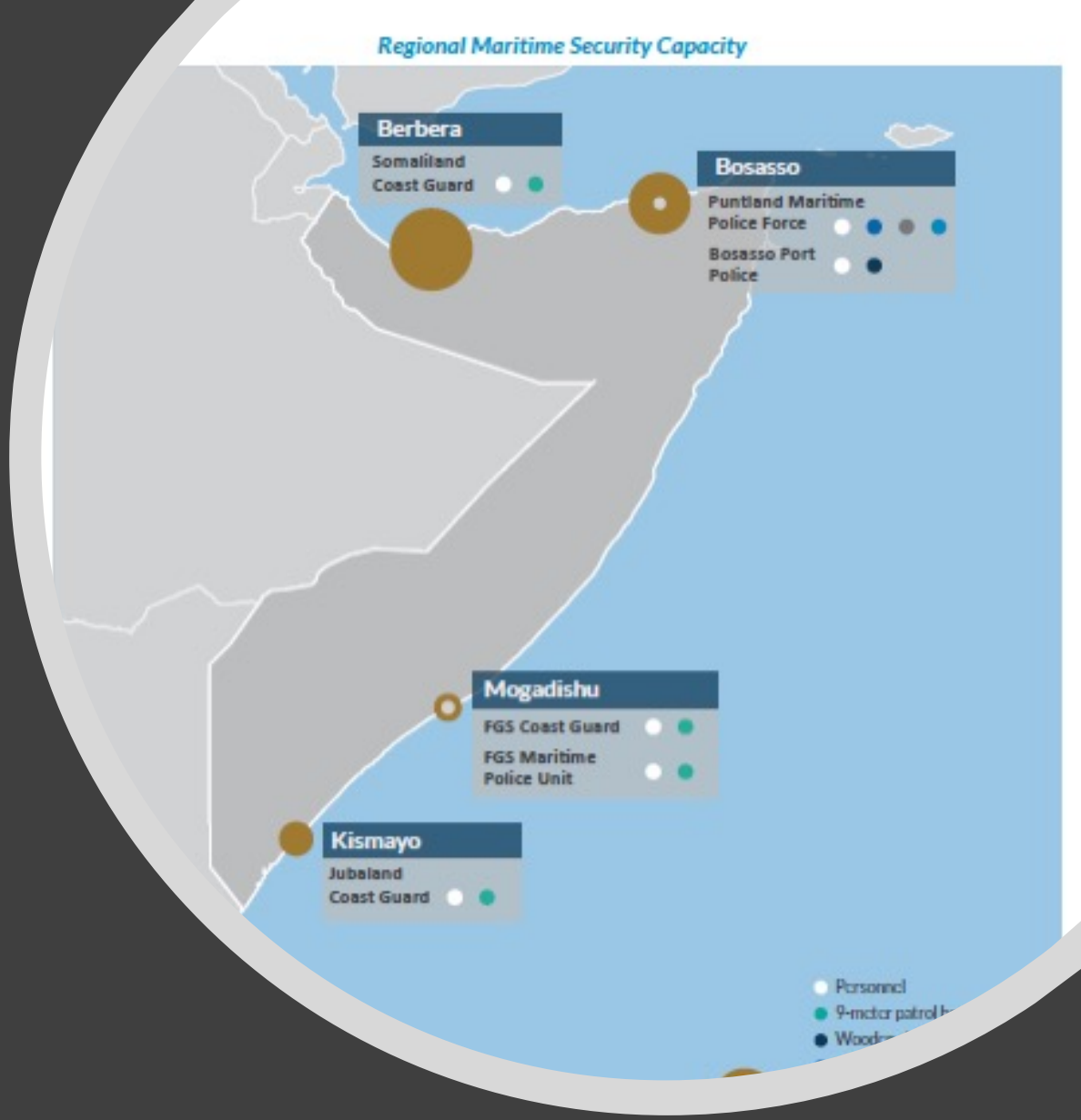
- Somali Maritime Resource and Security Strategy (SMRSS)
- National Maritime Security Committee (NMCC)
- Donor Group formerly Maritime Resource and Security Committee (MSCC)
- Somalia has withdrawn from CGPCS

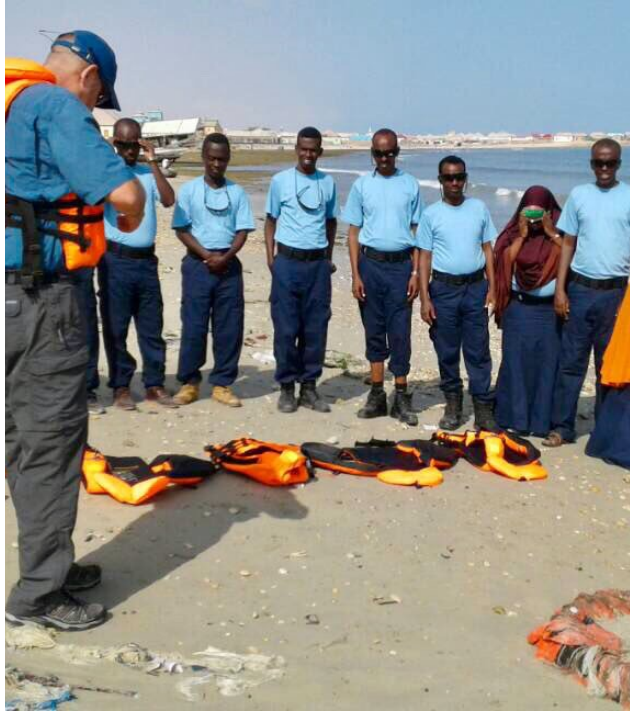
Maritime Capability

How are we really doing ?

Maritime Police/CG

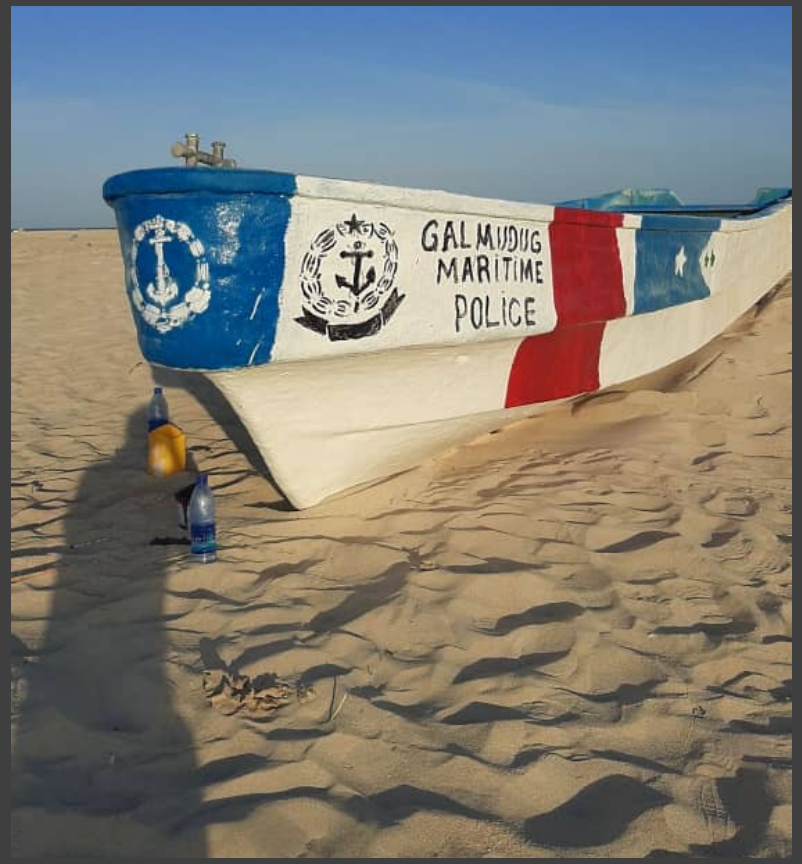
- There was a BIG GAP in the traditional piracy areas
- But being resolved with an embryonic Galmudug Maritime Police Unit





Galmudug Maritime Police Unit - Hobyo

- 3 Training rotations in Bosasso and Seychelles basic skills by UNODC funded by the CGPCS Trust Fund
- Additional Training by EUNAVFOR
- Currently in Seychelles undergoing training by UNODC in the Seychelles Police Academy
- Basic pay from Galmudug State
- Lack of equipment (self help) UNODC boat on the way



Galmudug Maritime Police Unit - Equipment

- Lack of equipment (self help) UNODC boat on the way

Galmudug Maritime Police Unit - Operations

- Intercepted the Yemeni Fishing dhow on 22 March
- No Licence. Tax paid to Al Shabaab
- Crew found to contain children – refugees from Yemen conflict, which created human rights issues that GMPU were not equipped to deal with although they tried
- Captain fined and ship released.
- In a recent incident the GMPU were fired on by a Chinese trawler and flares fired directly into the GMPU boat injuring several crew who needed hospital care for their eyes
- Last week Chinese trawler arrested
- Recognition issue

Somaliland Coast Guard - Berbera

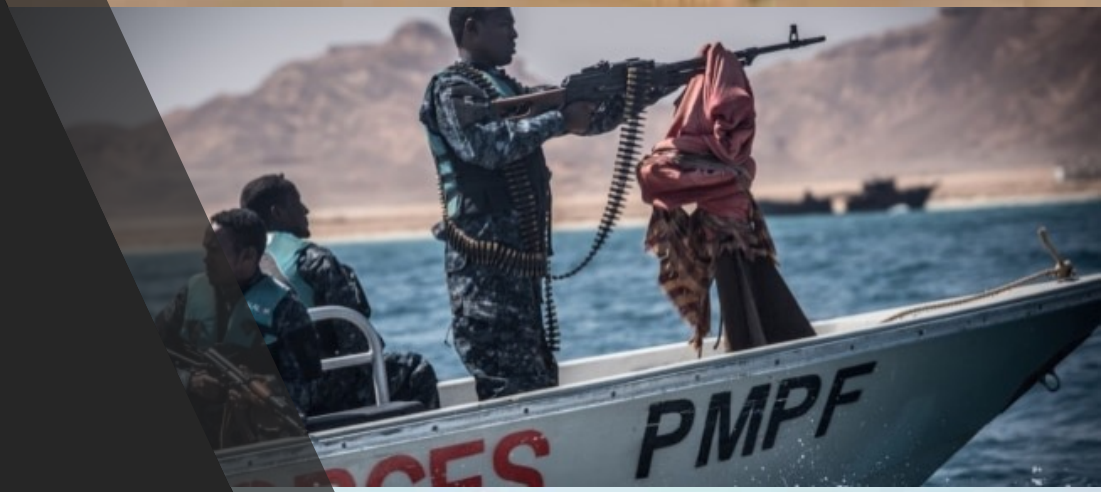
- Maritime Presence Operations patrolling in the port area and coastal waters
- Search and Rescue (SAR) Operations
- Dissuade and counter Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing activities
- Conduct and/or provide support to Marine Environmental Protection missions
- Training from UNODC and EUCAP Somalia

Bosasso Port Police - Bosasso

- BPU training
- Construction of a Police Unit Compound and HQ
- Ops Room
- Uniforms
- Boats
- Maintenance

Puntland Maritime Police Force - PMPF

- PMPF HQ in Bosasso
- Supported by a UAE funded logistics contract – reducing commitment
- Land, Sea and Air capability
- Bases around the coast



Mogadishu Maritime Police Unit - Mogadishu and AMISOM Marine Unit

Other Threats

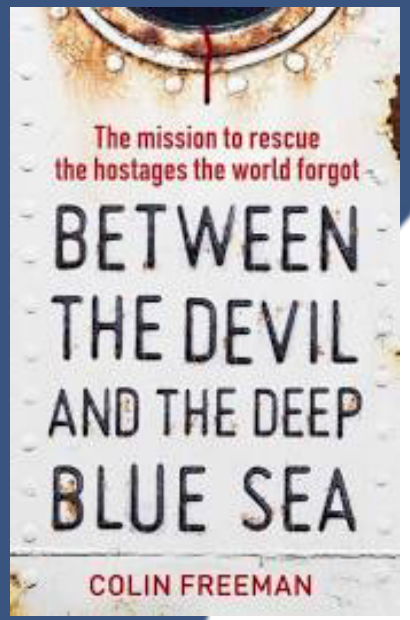
Are they factors ?

IUU Fishing

- A big problem
- Large fleets from China, Iran, SE Asia, Yemen (and others)
- Links to Crime
- Poor MDA
- No Patrol capability

- UNSCR 2551/20 (criminal and terrorism links)
- UNODC Demonstrator Project. 2 patrols of 2 weeks. Crews trained by UNODC/FAO in Seychelles with hopefully support from EUNAVFOR. Platform Chartered/Sea Riders. Needs donors to turn into a sustainable self funding effort

HOSTAGE SUPPORT PARTNERSHIP



Hostage Support Programme "Rescue Land based Victims of Piracy"

- Last 3 Maritime Hostages release in Aug 2020 from FV Siraj.
- Other non maritime hostages held by groups with pirate links:
  - ICRC Nurse by clan with pirate links
  - 2 Cuban Doctors held by AS
  - 2 Kenyan Engineers held by clan with AS links

- Objective 1: Monitor and Track all Hostages in Somalia (Pirate Victims and other hostages)
- Objective 2: Provide support in captivity (captives and families)
- Objective 3: Facilitate recovery to a safe location
- Objective 4: Assist with repatriation to home country
- Objective 5: Provide victim support post release

Total Hostages Rescued by HSP = 191

CONTACT GROUP
ON PIRACY OFF THE COAST OF SOMALIA

Law Enforcement Task Force

- CGPCS Wg 5: Disrupting financial flows and piracy networks
- LETF: Efforts by international law enforcement to pursue some of those (often living outside Somalia) who organized and financed piracy and responsible for kidnapping.
- Monitor, share information and build synergies among countries prosecuting piracy kingpins and where possible freeze their assets.

Sanctions (UNSC 2607/21)– Maritime Crime Coordination against Maritime Crime -IOFMC

- Coordination of effort against maritime smuggling/trafficking that funds terrorism in Somalia
  - Charcoal
  - Sugar
  - IED Components
  - Weapons
  - Trafficking on Fishing Vessels
- Awareness campaign – “exporter/shipper be aware of what you are shipping”
- Engage with flag states and owners to take action against Ship/Dhow operators in breech of UN sanctions
- Support states to seize cargoes or prevent clearance.
- Provide Technical Intelligence/Guidance support/tripwires

Where can you help us

- Shipper Beware
- Reporting - understanding the environment, accurate reporting.

Maritime Assessment

- Pirate Attacks unlikely
- BMP and PCAS are a significant deterrent reinforced by Naval Forces
- Capacity building is limited to ports. No seagoing patrolling ..Yet !
- Maritime Crime is funding criminal groups and terrorism in Somalia
- Unstable pol/mil situation exacerbates the maritime situation