



Industry Releasable Threat Bulletin (IRTB) 045

(Update 2 – Final Update)

Issued: 24 FEB 2025

Latest IRTA 01 DEC 24



For General Use. This threat bulletin has been released to the Shipping Industry.

1. **Foreword.** This Industry Releasable Threat Bulletin (IRTB) has been written by Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) and European Union Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) ATALANTA. It is intended to help shipping operators who are responsible for merchant and large commercial fishing vessels that pass through or operate in the Western Indian Ocean, Gulf of Oman, Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.
2. **Purpose.** The purpose of an IRTB is to bring a specific incident or threat to the attention of the shipping industry especially, in advance of the publication of our next quarterly Industry Releasable Threat Assessment (IRTA).
3. **Incident.** Armed Robbery.
4. **Date/time.** 15 Feb 2025.
5. **Location.** Incident took place inside Somali territorial waters at “BAARMADOOBE”, south of Cape Hafun (Figure 1).
6. **Incident Description.** On 15 Feb 25 the Yemen flagged FV “SAYTUUN-2” (Figures 2 and 3) was subject to a hijack event. Master and four-crew Yemeni members remained on board for six days together with the hijackers, who launched skiffs towards open waters to identify potential larger vessels to be captured. As a result of the unsuccessful actions, and after having taken crew’s belongings, the FV was abandoned by pirates. On 23 Feb 25 the FV was spotted sailing in the Gulf of Aden and was boarded by EUNAVFOR ATALANTA assets. ATALANTA boarding team could see no damage on the crew (Figures 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8). Finally, and according to ship’s owner statement, a ransom was paid.



Figure 1. Waypoints of hijacked Fishing Vessel "SAYTUUN-2" during the capture (From 15 to 22 Feb).



Figure 2. Image of Fishing Vessel "SAYTUUN-2", which was hijacked.



Figure 3. Image of Fishing Vessel "SAYTUUN-2", which was hijacked.



Figure 4. Image of Fishing Vessel "SAYTUUN-2" after released.



Figure 5. Image of Fishing Vessel "SAYTUUN-2" after released.



Figure 6. Image of Fishing Vessel "SAYTUUN-2" after released.



Figure 7. Image of Fishing Vessel "SAYTUUN-2" after released.



Figure 8. Image of Fishing Vessel "SAYTUUN-2" after released.

7. **Assessment.** Although this case has already ended up, it should not be discarded that similar organised piracy incidents might take place in the area to capture larger vessels.
8. **Recommendations.** Vessels are requested to remain vigilant and to adhere to BMP5 when transiting the Western Indian Ocean and the Somali waters. While these waters are routinely patrolled by CMF, EUNAVFOR ATALANTA and other warships, the timely and comprehensive reporting of incidents and suspicious activity remains crucial to allow for a rapid incident response. We request that, where possible, and without endangering the vessel or crew, vessels obtain and report as much factual detail as possible of incidents

and suspicious activity, to include logs, photographs, video, and radar footage. CSO's and masters are strongly recommended to register their vessels with MSCIO when entering the Voluntary Reporting Area and to report any incidents to UKMTO in accordance with BMP5. This will enable a more rapid response to incidents and allow CMF and EUNAVFOR ATALANTA to monitor activity, enabling the most effective allocation of resources. CSOs are recommended to gather information on known Pattern of Life and Maritime Domain Awareness along the intended route and ports of call when conducting risk assessments for their fleets.

9. **Publication.**

- a. Produced by CMF and EUNAVFOR.
- b. Published by MSCIO.

10. **Feedback.** Enquiries about the content of this bulletin should be directed to CMF and EUNAVFOR;

- (1) **CMF:**
- (2) **Tel:** 00973 1785 7009 // 00973 1785 4799
- (3) **Website:** www.combinedmaritimeforces.com
- (4) **Email:** combinedmaritimeforces@gmail.com

EUNAVFOR ATALANTA:

- (5) **Tel:** 0033 (0) 298 220 220 // 0033 298 220 170.
- (6) **Website:** www.mscio.eu
- (7) **Email:** postmaster@mscio.eu