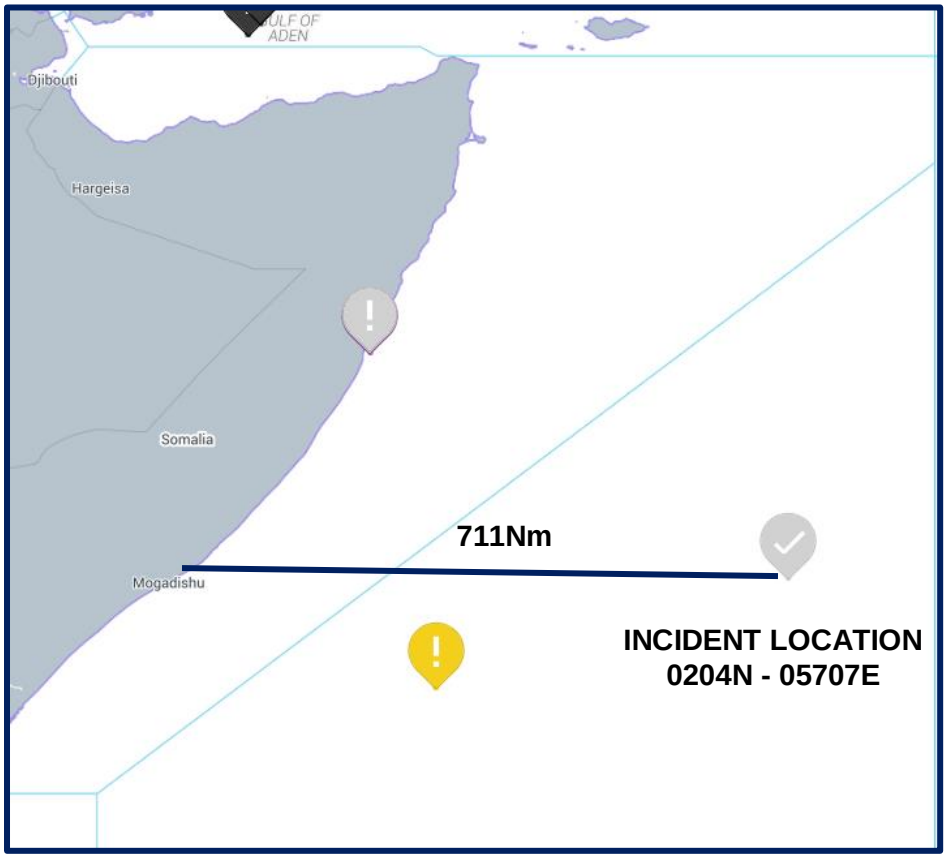
# MV HELLAS APHRODITE INCIDENT REPORT.

## Summary

On Thursday 06 November 2025, at approximately 0730 UTC, MSCIO received a report that MV HELLAS APHRODITE had been attacked by a skiff in position 02°07N 057°10E. The skiff, assessed to have been launched from a dhow, approached the vessel's stern and opened fire with small arms and RPG.

The attackers succeeded in boarding the vessel. The crew (24 pax) secured themselves in the citadel as the boarding occurred. Once on board, the attackers attempted to access the citadel without success.



## Response Actions

- MSCIO established a caution area around the incident position, issued a warning on the MSCIO website and contacted vessels, both registered and unregistered, transiting the vicinity, recommending them to avoid the area

- EUNAVFOR ATALANTA deployed a naval asset to investigate and support. The pirates left the vessel after failing to breach the citadel and returned to their mother ship. On Friday, 07 November 2025, at 1230UTC, ATALANTA special operations forces boarded the vessel, liberated the crew and collected evidence of the boarding that will support the legal finish if the pirates are eventually captured.

- Once the vessel and crew are safe, ATALANTA assets will proceed to intercept the PAG's mother ship.

## Current Threat

- The Pirate Action Group (PAG) remains active in the area. A separate approach by a skiff to another merchant vessel has been reported in the vicinity.

- In view of the modus operandi and pattern of movement it is **HIGHLY LIKELY** that the same PAG is responsible for several events that have occurred between 02 and 06 November in the area.

- The group has demonstrated operational mobility, willingness to attack and the capability to operate beyond 600 NM from shore. This marks the most significant sequence of pirate activity in the region since the attack on MV BASILISK on 23 May 2024.

**MV HELLAS APHRODITE**

## EUNAVFOR OP. ATALANTA Assessment

Find the Threat Assessment for Piracy as per Figure 1.

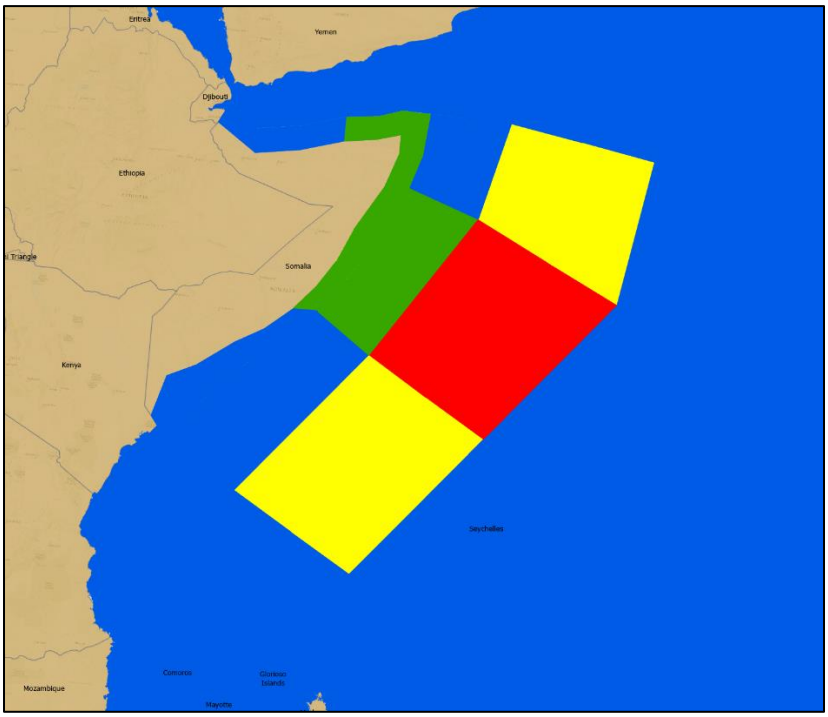



*Figure 1.* ***Piracy threat assessment Map***

| THREAT ASSESSMENT | BENIGN | LOW | MODERATE | SUBSTANTIAL | SEVERE | CRITICAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| YARDSTICK | An attack is **HIGHLY UNLIKELY** (10% – 20%) | An attack is **UNLIKELY** (>25% – 35%) | An attack is a **REALISTIC POSSIBILITY** (40% – <50%) | An attack is **LIKELY / PROBABLE** (55% – <75%) | An attack is **HIGHLY LIKELY** (80% – 90%) | An attack is **ALMOST CERTAIN** (>95%) |

**Recommendations to Shipping**

- Avoid the incident area until further notice.
- Maintain heightened vigilance when transiting the Western Indian Ocean and Somali Basin.
- Always follow BMP Maritime Security guidance.
- Report suspicious activity and incidents immediately.
- Register with MSCIO when entering the Voluntary Reporting Area.
- Report incidents to UKMTO as per BMP MS.
- When safe and without risking crew or vessel, gather factual evidence including logs, photographs, radar and video.
- CSOs should incorporate current threat information and pattern of life analysis in voyage risk assessments.