



**Industry Releasable Threat Bulletin (IRTB) 053**  
**UPDATE Number 2 : Issued: 5 May 2026**  
**Latest IRTA 16 Dec 25**



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

1. **Foreword.** This Industry Releasable Threat Bulletin (IRTB) has been written in coordination between 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. In this case there are two subsequent events that occurred between 01 and 02 May 2026.
3. **Incident.**  
Event 1 – MV NEW VENTURE – Suspicious Approach.  
Event 2 – MV EUREKA – Armed Robbery at Sea
4. **Date.**  
Event 1 – 01 May 2026  
Event 2 – 02 May 2026
5. **Location.**  
Event 1 - The incident took place in psn 012-59N 048-39E.  
Event 2 – The incident took place in psn 013-49N 048-28E.
6. **Incident Description**  
  
Event 1 - On 01 May 2026 in position 12°59'N 048°39'E, a skiff carrying 7 persons, heavily armed, was sighted within the IRTC. The skiff aggressively approached the vessel, closing up to 10 meters and demonstrating intent to board. The vessel activated PAST on board and the skiff sailed away.

Event 2 – On 02 May 2026 in position 13°49'N 048°28'E, while MV EUREKA was at anchorage off Qana Port, Shabwa, Yemen, armed individuals boarded the vessel and took control. Currently the MV is sailing close to the coast of Somalia under the control of the hijackers.

## 7. Vessel's Details

Event 1 - Bulk Carrier "NEW VENTURE", Liberia flagged (IMO 9497622)



Figure 1. MV NEW VENTURE

Event 2 – Oil Products Tanker "EUREKA", Togo flagged (IMO 1022823)



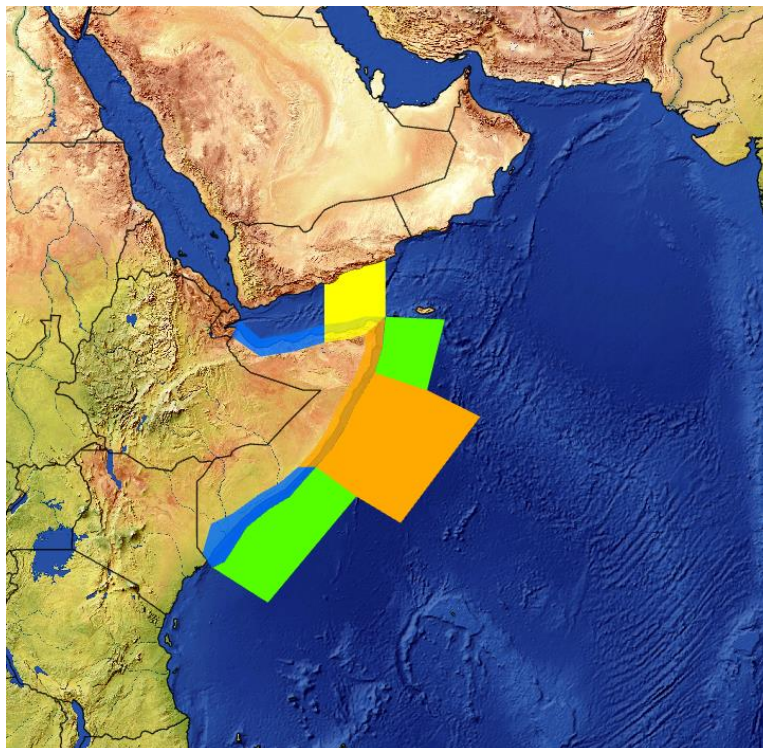
Figure 2. MV EUREKA

8. **Assessment.** It is HIGHLY LIKELY that both events are related and attributed to the same PAG originated from Somalia. It is HIGHLY LIKELY that this PAG will not try to

perform further attacks to other MVs as now managed to hijack MV EUREKA. As the weather is still favorable for PAG activities, the TA for piracy is as described on para 10.

9. **Recommendations.** Vessels are requested to remain vigilant and to adhere to BMP – Maritime Security 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 details 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 BMP Maritime Security. 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 Situation Awareness along the intended route and ports of call when conducting risk assessments for their fleets.

10. **Threat Assessment for Piracy**



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

11. **Publication.**

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

12. **Feedback.** Enquiries about the content of this bulletin should be directed to EUNAVFOR ATALANTA;

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