

international maritime law , shipping law and marine environmental law, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and financi

VIII Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation

OP116. Notes the adoption by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization on 9 December 2021 of resolution A.1170(32), proclaiming an International Day of Women in Maritime, to be observed on 18 May every year;

OP120. Welcomes ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization relating to the safety of fishers and fishing vessels, and underlines the need for continued work in that area, and notes the revised terms of reference for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Maritime Organization and International Labour Organization Joint Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters

OP130. Urges all States, in cooperation with the-

VIII Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation

OP 143. Remains concerned about piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, with crew members kidnapped, but welcomes the decline in incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea in that region,⁷⁰ notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolutions 2018 (2011) of 31 October 2011 (2012) of 29 February 2012 and 2634 (2022) of 31 May 2022 and the statement by the President of the Council of 25 April 2016,⁷¹ supports the efforts to address this problem at the global and regional level including the adoption of resolution MSC.489(103) on recommended actions to address piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Guinea, by the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization at its 103rd session,⁷² recalls the primary role of States in the region to counter the threat and address the underlying causes of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, welcomes adoption in Yaoundé on 25 June 2013 of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy, Armed Robbery against Ships and Illicit Maritime Activity in West and Central Africa, and calls upon States in the region to continue to strengthen implementation of the Code of Conduct as soon as possible and consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

OP 151. Recognizes the importance of enhancing international cooperation at all levels to fight transnational organized criminal activities, including illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, within the scope of the United Nations instruments against illicit drug trafficking, as well as the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms and criminal activities at sea

Western Africa and Central and Southern Africa

- x Piracy and armed robbery against ships continued to decrease overall in the Gulf of Guinea compared to its peak level in 2021, and despite a slight uptick in the first quarter of 2024. The United Nations continues to support regional cooperation mechanisms as well as the Gulf of Guinea States to address and prevent piracy and armed robbery at sea.
- x On 18 April 2024, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Africa attended the fourth annual meeting of the Senior Officials of the Interregional Coordination Centre (ICC) for maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea held at the ECOWAS Commission in Abuja. During the meeting, three action plans were endorsed; (i) the evaluation of the 2013 Yaoundé Architecture, (ii) the revision of the Yaoundé Code of Conduct and (iii) the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Yaoundé process. These documents were developed in 2023, with the support of UNOCA, UNOWAS, UNODC and the G7++ Group of Friends of the Gulf of Guinea. UNOWAS, UNOCA and UNODC continue to support the implementation of these action plans.

Central and Southern Africa

- x Between September 2023 and May 2024, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) zone of the Gulf of Guinea recorded six incidents, including illegal boarding, thefts and abduction:
 - o In Angola, the Interregional Coordination Centre on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea (ICC) reported an illegal boarding of a Denmark-flagged supply ship in the Luanda anchorage on 4 September 2023. Crew members sounded the alarm, and the boarded men escaped.
 - o Subsequently, three separate incidents were reported in Angola in January 2024.

On 3 January, a robbery was reported by a firefighting vessel at the Luanda anchorage, where three unidentified people stole two breathing

Pacific

- x In March 2023, DPPA, in partnership with the Pacific Islands Forum member States who maintain a permanent mission at the United Nations headquarters, held an exchange session for Pacific Ambassadors on the implications of climate change related sea level rise. The Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum also provided an update to Member States on regional initiatives relating to the preservation of maritime boundaries in the Pacific region. Member States shared views on ongoing work in this area and future priorities for small island developing States (SIDS). This event formed part of a wider series of ongoing discussions on different aspects of climate related security risks in SIDS.