**FCO Maritime Security Programme Strategy (2014-2016)**

The publication of the UK National Strategy for Maritime Security on 13 May 2014 and the EU Maritime Security Strategy, agreed on 24 June 2014, provide the strategic context for FCO work on maritime security including our programmes. The programme budget is £1.6 million for FY 2014-15 and £1.6 million FY 2015-16. The allocation and prioritisation of funding will focus on the development and implementation of further measures to support the delivery of Objective 1 (to promote a secure international maritime domain and uphold international maritime norms) and Objective 2 (to develop the maritime governance capacity and capabilities of states in areas of strategic maritime importance) of the NSMS. These represent the areas in which diplomatic engagement and programmes can have the greatest effect and impact.

The Maritime Security Programme for the period 2014-2016 will focus targeted resources in East and West Africa that are areas of strategic maritime importance to UK prosperity and security, which would benefit from HMG assistance in line with NSMS Objectives 1 and 2. Programmes outside East and West Africa will also be considered if they deliver NSMS objectives.

East Africa

Objective: Deliver the FCO’s input into the international response to transnational maritime crime, which aims to maintain piracy at pre-2007 levels whilst maritime policing, judicial and penal capacity, and maritime domain awareness, is built in the region, so that maritime insecurity does not proliferate ahead of the withdrawal of international naval forces.

Sub Objectives:

1. Increased capability of maritime law enforcement institutions resulting in effective local policing of Somali and wider regional maritime domains.
2. Continue to develop Somalia’s leadership on maritime security efforts, including counter-piracy, to improve institutional capacity and governance.
3. Somali judicial and penal capacity improved to allow the prosecution and detention of suspected pirates consistent with international law.
4. Influence the region to develop and promote maritime domain awareness resulting in increased understanding of maritime crime and the threat to sea-lanes of communication.
5. Broaden support to judiciaries to develop and enact legislation to increase the regional ability to tackle a range of maritime criminal acts, including prosecution and incarceration.

West and Central Africa

Objective: Support states and regional bodies with the implementation of the 2013 Yaoundé Code of Conduct Concerning Repression of Piracy, Armed Robbery Against Ships and Illicit Maritime Activity in West and Central Africa.

Sub Objectives:

1. Increase capacity of regional authorities to secure their territorial waters, resulting in fewer incidents of maritime crime as reported by the International Maritime Bureau.
2. Support the establishment and development of regional information sharing centres, to improve the ability to track maritime crime across borders.
3. Maritime security legislation in ECOWAS and ECCAS member states updated to facilitate the prosecution of acts of maritime crime.

Rest of World

Objective:  To inform and monitor global trends on maritime security. To help promote a secure international maritime domain and uphold international maritime norms, including freedom of navigation, and the peaceful resolution of disputes based upon international law.

Sub Objectives:

1. Influence regional maritime security bodies to share best practice with those affected by piracy and enhance awareness of the problem and solutions.
2. Develop and enhance awareness of maritime crime to ensure rules based good governance at sea.
3. Capacity-building to assist littoral states in potential maritime flashpoint regions to help reduce tensions and uphold international maritime norms.
4. Encourage greater involvement in maritime security from nations demonstrating an interest.