**FORUM**: General Assembly 1st Committee

**QUESTION OF**: Combating piracy in the Gulf of Guinea

**SUBMITTED BY**: Malaysia

Co-Submitters: Lesotho, Paraguay, San Marino, Haiti, Lebanon, Kenya, Colombia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Somalia, Rwanda, Mauritania, Lithuania, Croatia, Antigua&Barbuda

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 1st COMMITTEE,

*Regretting that*, Nigeria remains one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking 156 out of 187 countries in terms of human development, despite oil revenues of US$52 billion in 2011,

*Noting* *that* Nigeria contains half the population of the region (Gulf of Guinea), and contributes more than half of the regional GDP,

*Bearing in mind that* in 2011 22 attacks took place off the coast of Benin, a country that had been mostly unaffected by the continual piracy around Lagos, just a few kilometers away,

*Further noting that* has been an issue for the past years in Africa, in the west coast, as well as in the east coast differing in the nature of piracy on both sides,

*Approving* the aim of the piracy in the Gulf of Guinea is the economic interest in the oil reserves as 10% of all oil reserves worldwide are situated in the west African coast, so pirates are primary not politically motivated,

*Affirming* that most piratic attacks result from the state´s unstable government because they will face limited consequences for their actions,

*Keeping in mind* the several attempts to solve this issue such as the UN Security Council Resolution 2018 from October, 2011,

*Emphasizing* that pirates operate an economical relationship with the Movement for the emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) which in return to their contribution of goods receive weapons and military equipment,

*Taking into consideration* that piracy networks often collaborate with terrorist groups such as the Boko Haram in Nigeria,

*Concerned* of the fact, that an inter-governmental organization, the Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC) has been established in 2001,

*Regretting* that 19% of the global piracy attacks in 2014 were located in the Gulf of Guinea,

*Viewing with appreciation* that the Gulf of Guinea Commission was established by the Treaty signed in Libreville, Gabon, on 3 July 2001 by Angola, Congo, Gabon, Nigeria and Sao Tome and Principe,

1. Approves the importance of the strengthening of the Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC) as several Member States are not part of this convention such as Benin, Togo, Ghana and the Ivory Coast even though they are located in the Gulf and are also affected by the issue of piracy through several attacks in this region, through establishing a working group further elucidated in Operative Clause 2;
2. Strongly urges the GGC, the Member States not part of the convention (see Clause 1) representatives of industries (e.g. oil and gas) and private investors such as, but not limited to the Royal Dutch Shell, to cooperate with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as, The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and The World Bank, The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), The European Union (EU), Interpol, The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), International Maritime Organization (IMO), especially the States of the Economic Community of the West African States (ECOWAS), the Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) by proclaiming the creation of a working group which would include government officials of each relevant nation in the Gulf of Guinea and each relevant NGO in order to:
   1. facilitate and strengthen the cooperation between these organs so that the process of creating a sustainable economy and safer society will be quicker, easier and more effective by:
      1. convening for a meeting four times per year, to evaluate their program by exchanging ideas with other organs (e.g. NGOs) to debate about significant problems caused by piracy in the region regarding security, economy, and any further relevant issues,
      2. establishing committees where certain NGOs and relevant nation leaders will concentrate on one specific topic, e.g. security, economy, in the affected region, so that the process of finding solutions on issues can be discussed profoundly and with more detail,
      3. creating a main council of experts of the NGOs who should double check the reports or solutions on the issues so that there will be no flaws when sending them to the United Nations,
   2. write an annual improvement plan and rating the responses on the crisis in the affected region during the previous year;
3. Strongly encourages all member states to globally and respectfully raise the significance of the issue of sea traffic in the Gulf of Guinea, which mainly affects the global energy supply as a consequence of threatening the political situation and spread of political regimes, which may lead to corruption in long-term, with the help of media attention through means such as raising awareness in newspapers, radios, television, and campaigns by NGOs in order to:
   1. start global and respectful participation of the international community in the issue, further elaborated on in clause 4,
   2. raising awareness amongst the global society, with the result of ending the constant attacks of pirates in the waters of the Gulf of Guinea;
4. Asks the international community and the aforementioned organs in the working group to lead an international operation, highly considerate of the sovereignty of the Member States in the Gulf, especially countries having natural resources such as the Niger River Delta in Nigeria which is a fundamental oil and gas source for this region by:
   1. giving the relevant littoral states any deployable military and law enforcement training in cooperation with Interpol and the NATO, which is elucidated in clause 5, that could help troops to resist the high intensity warfare that is practiced in the region in order to react, avoid and detect pirate attacks in advance,
   2. distributing military equipment such as armour and weapons to the relevant states with the help of The United States Institute of Peace, the NATO, The African Union, Interpol, Law enforcement agencies and UN personnel so that the protection and safety of troops can be marginally guaranteed at the minimum level and pirate attacks can be mitigated more easily,
   3. improving the quality of ships as most of the ships in the region suffer from a lack of appropriate security measures,
   4. deploying well-trained and well-equipped UN troops and international navy patrols to support the current deployed troops in order to having larger forces present in the Gulf of Guinea with the consequence of having a better-protected sea and land,
   5. encouraging contracts with legal security companies that function according to international laws such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) to aid the goal of reaching a safer sea;
5. Endorses the introduction of an obligatory, free of charge training program for military’s defense skills and especially law enforcement training in the Gulf of Guinea, in association with such as, but not limited to the NATO, Interpol, the ECOWAS, GGC, the IMF, World Bank , structured and divided into the following parts:
   1. a theoretical part composed out of elements such as, but not limited to:
      1. medical skills training and education into the diving medicine,
      2. the appropriate usage of land and underwater explosives,
      3. the introduction into the piracy motivation and connections such as the Boko Haram in this region,
   2. a practical part containing following elements:
6. physical and psychological conditioning,
7. the usage of specific weapons,
8. simulation centers to challenge the troops and other volunteers;
9. Strongly requests the establishment of a mission called the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Gulf of Guinea in order to strengthen peace, the economy and society within the vulnerable countries in the Gulf with the help of relevant member states and organizations such as but not limited to UNICEF, the African Union, the IMF and the World Bank by:
   1. investing in the local industries, such as the mining industry, so that more work opportunities will be created and mining industries will be able to have access to its resources such as copper, limestone, diamonds and make the Country less dependent on the fishing and gas industry,
   2. improving the infrastructure by constructing adequate houses, sustainable and clean sewer systems so that water supply, schools and other public facilities are improved, which should be accorded to international guidelines, with the help of such as, but not limited to:
      1. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),
      2. The World Health Organization (WHO),
      3. The New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD),
   3. recommending that, if possible, all transports of goods, export and import, will be safeguarded and supervised by UN peacekeeping forces and private security companies in order to avoid the reduction of the oil supply and thus avoid the raise of the oil price and ensure that local industries can sell their goods abroad by:
      1. setting up safe passages and zones in order to provide safe routes and areas where goods can be transported without the immediate support of United Nations military assistance,
      2. providing military assistance to goods leaving the secured areas,
      3. preventing the spread of rebel forces by increasing the size of the safe passages and zones in cooperation with military bases,
      4. monitoring the imports and exports especially in ports leading to safer abroad transportation,
   4. assisting communities with regional and national development strategies to build resilience and to resist criminal or violent activities;
10. Recommends the UN, together with the aforementioned mission, to control the political system of the littoral countries that no piracy groups will have the ability to influence political leaders through funding and that newer, uninvolved politicians and high-level politicians will require an equal share of money from the UN in order to strengthen the positive influence of politicians on the society, reach a greater political and social stability and maintain equal opportunities in elections;
11. Wishes to remain actively seized on the matter.