

# CONTACT GROUP

## ON PIRACY OFF THE COAST OF SOMALIA

مجموعة الاتصال الخاصة بالقرصنة في قبالة السواحل الصومالية • Groupe de contact sur la piraterie au large de la Somalie  
Grupo de Contacto sobre la Piratería frente a costas de Somalia • 打击索马里海域海盗联络组  
Контактная группа по борьбе с пиратством у берегов Сомали



# The Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS)

# **The Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS)**

***The Contact Group on piracy is unique. It is a laboratory for innovative multilateral governance to address complex international issues. The great thing is that it is delivering.***

*--Maciej Popowski, Deputy Secretary General EEAS,  
EU Chairman of the Contact Group,*

## Establishment

- Established January 2009 pursuant to UNSC Resolution 1851
- “Encourages all States and regional organizations fighting piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia to establish an international cooperation mechanism to act as a common point of contact between and among states, regional and international organizations on all aspects of combating piracy and armed robbery at sea off Somalia coast; ...”

## Characteristics

- not part of the UN-system
- open to any country or organization that contributes to anti-piracy efforts or is directly affected by it
- 60+ countries and 20+ organizations
- Governments, Mili NGO's, International Organizations, private sector
- Rotating Chair: 2011: Turkey, Singapore, Netherlands; 2012: UAE, Spain, India; 2013: USA; since Jan 2014: EU

## Mission

- Bring together all stakeholders affected by Somali piracy: public and private actors, civil and military (i.e. states, regional and international organisations, shipping industry and civil society)
- Foster closer international cooperation to address the scourge of piracy off the coast of Somalia

## CGPCS supports and brings together

- the military
- the shipping industry
- seafarers organisation
- law enforcement agencies and the judiciary
- capacity building programmes in the region
- nations and organisations

= multi-stakeholder community

## Original Structure

- WG 1: military cooperation and capacity building (UK)
- WG 2: legal issues (Denmark)
- WG 3: cooperation with shipping industry (Korea)
- WG 4: public diplomacy and advocacy (Egypt)
- WG 5: disrupting financial flow and piracy networks (Italy)
  
- Plenary Session



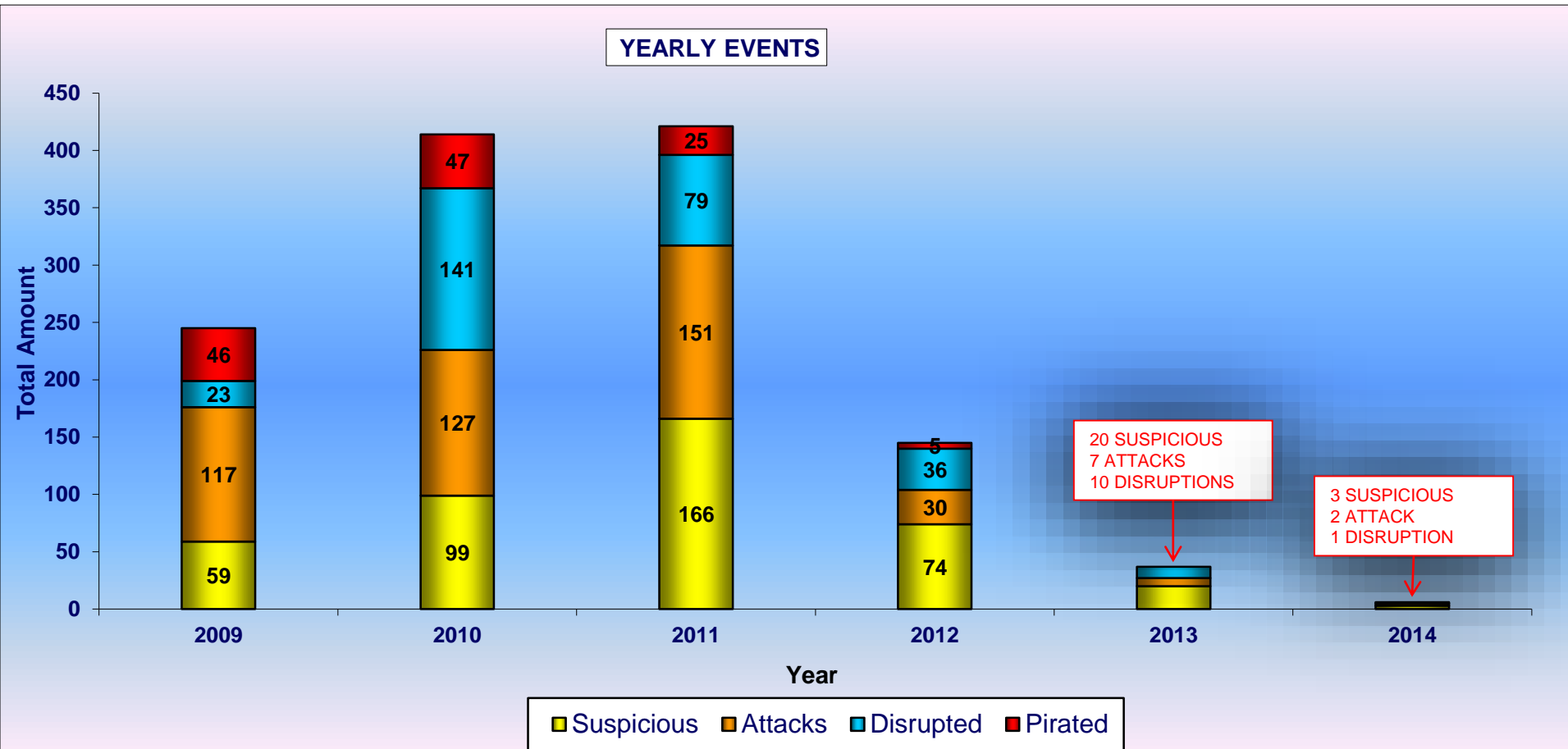
## Current Structure

- WG 'Capacity Building': co-chairs UK and Indian Ocean Commission
- WG 'Operations': co-chairs Japan, Seychelles and UAE
- Legal Forum of the CGPCS: co-chairs Portugal and Mauritius
- Plenary Session

## The Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia

- supporting countries in the region
- capacity building for investigations and prosecution
- capacity building for detention and imprisonment
- fostering international cooperation
- transfer of convicted pirates to prisons in Somalia
- Invested approx. 18 million US\$

# Yearly Piracy Events Tracker



## EU Chairmanship (since Jan 2014)

- First ever organisation to lead CGPCS
- EU Chair is EEAS DSG Maciej Popowski, supported by CSDP Partnerships Division
- CGPCS Corporate Communications responsibility of the Chair

## Priorities EU Chairmanship

- 1) 'zero / zero': zero ships and zero sea farers in the hands of Somali pirates
- 2) Reform the CGPCS: make it more efficient and increase regional participation
- 3) Document lessons learned by CGPCS

## Why does the Contact Group work so well ?

- no rules; no procedures
- no lengthy meetings
- no negotiated texts or resolutions
- **'shared strategic narrative' (a common objective)**
- **getting the job done**

= innovative multi-stakeholder governance model

## Does the CGPCS weaken the UN system?

No, it does not. The Contact Group mechanism is complementary to the UN-system. The CGPCS provides thematic focus and facilitates the delivery of concrete action on the ground.

The UN remains the single source of international legitimacy. The UNSC provided the CGPCS its legitimacy through UNSCR 1851.

The UNSG provides an annual report on the state of Somali piracy to the General Assembly.

## Will the CGPCS remain forever?

The CGPCS has been created for a specific purpose and for a specific objective to be achieved, namely to eradicate Somali based piracy.

Once this objective has been achieved, the CGPCS stakeholders will decide whether to maintain the purpose and function of the CGPCS. For example by transferring them to an international or regional organisation.



## Websites

**[www.lessonsfrompiracy.net](http://www.lessonsfrompiracy.net)**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F79ZydiQolk&feature=youtu.be>**



Thank you