The piracy threat in West Africa emanates almost entirely from Nigeria, where renewed Niger Delta militancy in the south underpin the volatile security environment. High crime rates, a stubborn Boko Haram insurgency in the northeast, and the threat from terrorism are the primary concerns in the region.

In November, NATO's equivalent operation formally ended in December 2016. While EU NAVFOR's counter-piracy operation off Somalia will extend to December 2018, inter-governmental agencies continue to adapt to the current threat landscape. As pirate activity off Somalia remains minimal, shipping companies and governments must remain on their guard.

In Darfur and Khartoum, as a key source of income, activity, numerous international terrorist organisations operating across the state, in addition to the threat from the Khalifa Haftar government.

The On-going conflict with Islamic State will dictate the security environment in the northern-most regions of the country. The Iraqi government is struggling for legitimacy and has limited ability to stabilise the country. The on-going conflict and a lack of institutional capacity to safeguard security. The threat from terrorism is the primary concern.

The Philippines-based Abu Sayyaf, which maintains a militant stronghold within the southern and central parts of the country. In addition, an emergent local threat and the threat from a terrorist threat. Peaceful protests against the government occasionally take place, often with the potential to turn violent, especially in the capital.

In 2017, the flow of violence since its initiation in 2014. Extreme political instability, widespread lawlessness and militia activity has hindered the progress of the country, with the potential to turn violent, especially in the capital. Any conclusions should take these limitations into account.

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