

Country: **The Republic of Ghana**

Committee: **Disarmament & International Security Committee (DISEC)**

Topic: **Addressing Threats to Merchant Shipping: The Rise of Weaponized Drones and Terrorism at Sea**

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Background

Military drones have been the main talking point in the last few years of warfare. Drones don't require a pilot, they are small in size and fast enough to be a threat. They changed a lot in modern warfare. Military drones were mainly used in the Ukraine-Russian war and by Hamas. Ukrainians used military drones but Hamas has made a revelation that would change everything. They realized that the best drones to use were not the ones made for warfare but rather the commercial ones that you can buy on online retailers. They were fast, small and most importantly cheap. This revelation spread around the Arabic world and reached the ears of terrorist organizations like the Houthis, ISIS and Hezbollah. They were able to turn these basic drones into lethal weapons by adding some explosive modifications. Using them to send political messages by blowing up merchant ships.

Ghana's Relation

70% of Ghana's trades happen by sea, this terrorism and piracy against merchant ships have a big effect on Ghana's economy and supplies since many of these cargo ships are bringing in essential supplies like food. Most importantly are oil tankers that pass through the Gulf of Guinea, Nigerian pirates raid these tankers and steal the oil while justifying it by saying it's stolen from them, these oils are turned into blood money to fund terrorism in West and Central Africa. Ghana has collaborated with its neighbouring countries that share a shore to the Gulf of Guinea as well as the UN because they are concerned with more funds going to these malicious organizations.

Ghana has applied policies that enforce maritime security by making high speed boats to patrol areas and counting piracy as a first-degree felony thus making the punishment harder. Ghana has also cracked down on money laundering by making a stronger oversight system that detects suspicious cases and laws that punish accordingly.

Suggested Solution

The Republic of Ghana urges the United Nations to apply solutions on the frontline scale. Countries need to fund EMP based weapons, both vehicles that have them and hand held weapons to attack the drones. This is because trying to regulate drone sales by investigating the buyer's connection and ties will be an invasion of privacy and leave us with a similar situation like the patriot act.

Our next best option is to improve our anti-technology more than they can keep up with. Things like the Leonidas weapon which is an EMP based cannon that can disarm and completely disable drones and drone missiles. Once this technology is done testing and ready to deploy they should be put on merchant ships, this will eliminate all drone attack threats.