



INTERGRATED MARINE SECURITY SOLUTIONS

Intelligence update, April 11, 2009

Nairobi - Somali elders and relatives of pirates holding a United States hostage on the high seas are planning a mediation mission to secure his release and safe passage home for the gang, a regional maritime group said on Saturday.

The group has travelled from inland Somalia to the coast and is preparing to travel by boat to where pirates are holding American Richard Phillips on a lifeboat, said Andrew Mwangura, of the East African Seafarers' Assistance Programme.

"They want to resolve this in the traditional Somali way of negotiations," he told Reuters.

"They are just looking to arrange safe passage for the pirates, no ransom. They are hoping for a letter of guarantee from the US navy." - Reuters