



**GEOPOLITICAL AND SECURITY  
CONSEQUENCES OF A POSSIBLE  
“RE-ROUTING” OF THE MARITIME FRET**

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
SEMINAR PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY  
AGAINST SHIPPING**

**BRUSSELS 21st JANUARY 2009-01-20**

# **IF THE TRANSIT IS RE-ROUTED AND THE SUEZ CANAL AVOIDED**

Loss between 5 and 10 millions USD A DAY  
(at least: August 22, 2006: 14,5 millions USD)

**THE CANAL IS THE THIRD  
FOREIGN CURRENCIES SOURCE OF EGYPT**



## **POLITICO-SOCIAL IMPACT EXTREMELY WORRYING FOR EGYPT**

**The country is already in crisis:**

- **January 14 2009: Riots in ACHARQIA, ALGHARBIA, ALISMAILIA, AL BOUHAIRA AND DAHQALIA (gas bottles and oil)**
- **January 12, 2009: One people killed, 4 wounded in riots in DAHQALIA**
- **Since January 1st: Bread crisis in many cities**

**PRICE OF A GAZ BOTTLE: 3 EG. POUNDS IN DECEMBER,  
15 POUNDS ON JAN 5, 20 POUNDS ON JAN 15**

# **Political situation very difficult in EGYPT**

**WHO AFTER MOUBARAK?**



**Any significant social problem could have dramatic impact**

**Then the question is:**

**WHAT IF THE REGIME IS WEAKENED?**

## **SOCIO-ECONOMICAL RISK FOR OTHER COUNTRIES**

If the transit toward South-Western and Northern Europe avoid SUEZ, other countries could suffer and even be more economically marginalized:

- In the South: LIBYA, LEBANON
- In the South-East: What about MONTENEGRO, BULGARIA, ROUMANIA and EX SOVIET REPUBLIC?

## **THE RE-ROUTING WILL ALSO HAVE SECURITY IMPACT**

- **Doesn't avoid SOMALIA**
- **Nigeria**
- **Length of the way**

# **THE RE-ROUTING AVOIDS THE ADEN GULF, BUT NOT SOMALIA ITSELF**



**Pirates could go to 500 KM**

# **NIGERIA IS ANOTHER RISK**



**30 terrorists and piracy acts  
in the last quarter of 2008**

## LENGTH OF THE WAY

- **Between 17 and 26 additional days at sea**
- **More opportunities to attack for terrorists cells**
- **Sensitive points: TANZANIA, KENYA, MAURITANIA**





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