

*An occasional newsletter to update members of SWIOFP on current developments.*

SWIOFP continues to forge ahead and this newsflash provides a brief update on recent progress.

**Administration**

- For some time it had been recognised that the activities of this Pdf-B phase were rather ambitious, especially considering the multi-national nature of the programme. It is thus with satisfaction that we can report an extension of this phase until February 2005. This means that some of the theme activities will be re-scheduled accordingly.
- The next plenary session has been scheduled for 17 and 18 March 2004. This will be a most important meeting and invitations have already been issued to the country focal points. At this meeting there will be presentations on progress made and this will be followed by a plenary session that will seek official endorsement for future activities in SWIOFP. A draft agenda will be mailed shortly.

**Programme development**

A draft of the proceedings of the second Theme Working Group, dealing with data management, has just been completed by KMFRI in Mombasa and will be issued shortly. This document sets out important guidelines relating to the acquisition and management of information that will underpin SWIOFP. There are tentative plans to schedule some of the other tasks in association with the March plenary session.

There has been good news from the team dealing with the Somali-Agulhas LME programme. After successful workshops and planning activities, a Pdf B proposal was submitted to the GEF via UNDP. This has now been approved with the release of funds. Several conditions were specified, one of which was the imperative need for SWIOFP and the LME programme to integrate their activities as closely as possible

**Updated Table of Activities**

INTERIM PROGRESS			
<i>Task</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
Secretarial support.	Appoint	Achieved	Completed
<i>Science Plan</i> workshop	Workshop in Cape Town- MCM	Achieved	Completed
<i>Data Management</i> workshop	KMFRI- Mombasa	Achieved.	Completed
<i>Data Management</i>	KMFRI- Circulate	Underway	Delayed until

proceedings	minutes- feedback from partners		January 2004
<i>Procurement Workshop</i>	TAFIRI- Dar es Salaam	Final plan to be confirmed	Date to be confirmed
<i>Plenary SWIOFP meeting</i>	Arrange and prepare	Underway	17-18 Dec. 2004 Maputo
Create SWIOFP Website	Design and host, Compile content- send out for review	Achieved	Completed
Interface with other WIO programmes, including LME	Document other programmes; circulate- establish links.	Ongoing.	Ongoing
Negotiate Pdf-B extension to end 2004	Secretariat to expedite	Achieved	Completed
Project status report	Secretariat	Underway	End January 2004
Final project vision document submitted to GEF	Compile draft; circulate	Basic framework being designed	End December 2004

### Events and activities

The SWIOFP website has been well received and thanks are due to those who contributed to its content. We are still eager to receive your comments and improvements. At this stage the main content of the website is being translated into French and Portuguese, which will further enhance our regional collaboration.

The SWOFP secretariat extends best wishes to all for the Festive Season and looks forward to continued good cooperation in 2004.



Ana Paula Baloi  
 Instituto Nacional de Investigação Pesqueira (IIP)  
 SWIOFP coordinator  
 Maputo, Mozambique  
 Tel: + 258 1 490536 / 490307 / 499963  
 Fax + 258 1 492112  
 Email: [swiofp@moziip.org](mailto:swiofp@moziip.org)  
 Web: [www.swiofp.org](http://www.swiofp.org)

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