

FROM THE EDITOR :

The month of October kicked off with the organization of a Workshop on Final Meeting of the Regional Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) Working Group at the Regional Coordination Unit held from 3 - 7 October, 2005. The Opening Ceremony of the Workshop was graced by the presence of the Minister of Harbour and Railways, Prof. Christopher Ameyaw-Akumfi who made a heart warming speech of support. Prof. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah, Deputy Director-General, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research chaired the occasion.

The main objectives of this Workshop were for the participants to review and further update the TDA documents, review and finalize the set of developed Indicators (process, stress reduction and environmental status), finally review the Log Frame Matrix and to fill any identified Gaps in the TDA document.

Following the TDA/SAP Workshop was a Workshop on Validation of Results from the GCLME/FAO/IMR Joint Assessment Survey which was organized at the Regional Coordination Unit, Accra from 10 - 14 October. The Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Ghana, Mr. Daniel Dugan honoured both the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Workshop with his presence. During the 5 - day Workshop, the participants analyzed the data collected by the Fish Trawl Cruise (4 - 19 July 2005) and processed by the Plankton and Benthos Working Group (12 - 16 September, 2005).

Between 9 - 12 October, the Environment Officer, Dr. Jacques Abe was on a mission to Dakar, Senegal on behalf of the Regional Director to participate in

Final Meeting of the Regional TDA/SAP Working Group: Accra, 03 - 07 October, 2005.



At the Opening Ceremony of the TDA/SAP Workshop is The Minister of Harbour and Railways, Prof. Christopher Ameyaw-Akumfi, To his right are the Regional Director, GCLME, Prof. Chidi Ibe and the Deputy Dir. Gen. CSIR, Prof. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah who chaired the occasion.

L-R: Mr. Germain Kombo of Congo, Prof. Sikirou Adam and Mr. Rojer Djiman of Benin. Behind them is Dr. Jacques Abe, GCLME Environment Officer.



L-R: In spite of the busy schedule, the participants squeezed out time to mark the birthdays of the Chair of the TDA/SAP Working Group, Prof. Babajide Alo (5th from left) and Mr. Akin Awobamise of the Fed. Min. of Env. Nigeria (3rd from left). (1st on the right).

the 1st Meeting of the Canary Current LME project from 10 - 12 October, 2005. The Meeting was held in Saly, 85 KM from Dakar. GCLME project was invited to assist the CCLME in writing its TDA document by sharing with them its experiences in the process of producing the GCLME TDA document.

The Environment Officer, Dr. Jacques Abe continued his mission to Guinea Bissau between 16 - 23 October to represent the Regional Director in participation of the launching of the GCLME project. He was welcomed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities, Mr. Soares Sambu, The Minister of Energy and Natural Resources in charge of Environment, Mr. Rui Araujo Gomes and the Representative of International Union of Conservation of Nature, Mr. Nelson Dias.

The Regional Director, GCLME, Prof. Chidi Ibe was on mission to Lagos and Rivers State of Nigeria from 13 - 16 October. He inspected the boat of the Nigerian Institute of Oceanography in Lagos and that of Honeywell Fisheries Ltd in Port - Harcourt in preparation of the proposed Sea Based Training on Pollution Monitoring.

The Public Awareness and Participation Advisor, Ms. Selina Yawson, embarked on a mission to Benin, from 16-21 October, 2005, where she met the Director General of the Agence Beninoise pour l'Environnement, Mr. Marcel Baglo, the GCLME National Director Mr. Theophile Worou and the National Programme Assistant, Mr. Roger Djiman for discussions on activities and preparations to initiate the National Demonstration Project on Marine Protected Areas to be established in Benin.

Ms. Yawson also had deliberations with Madame Amélie Gbaguidi, a researcher of the Centre de Recherches Halieutiques et Oceanologiques, on Artisanal Fisheries Projects for possible replication in the GCLME region.

Finally, she called on the FAO, Sustainable Fisheries

Workshop on Validation of Results from the GCLME/FAO/IMR Joint Fishery Assessment Survey: 10 - 14 October, 2005.



At the Opening Ceremony L-R: the Reg. Dir. GCLME, Prof. Chidi Ibe, Dep. Dir. of Fisheries, MFR Div. Tema, Ghana, Mr. Samuel Quaatey and the Dep. Minister for Fisheries, Mr. Daniel Dugan.



R-L: Mr. Jens-Otto Krakstad of the IMR, Norway, Mr. Ibrahim Turay of the MFMR, Sierra Leone and Mr. Akambi B. Williams of NIOMR, Lagos, Nigeria.



L-R: at the Closing Ceremony of the Workshop are: Joanny Tape Gnahore from CRO, Abidjan, Dir. of Fisheries, Ghana, Mr. Alfred Tetebo, Ms Catherine Isebor of NIOMR, Nigeria who chaired the Working Group of the Workshop and Mr. Rojer Djiman from CRHOB, Benin.

Livelihoods Programme (SFLP), where she had a working session with team members to define the scope and prepare background documents for the upcoming GCLME Regional Workshop on Alternative Means of Livelihood.

Between 22 and 28 October, the Regional Director, Prof. Chidi Ibe undertook mission to Sao Tome e Principe to participate in the Launching Ceremony of the GCLME Project and in the Country's First Seminar on National Programme of Action on the Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment from Land - Based Activities. While he was on transit in Libreville, he utilized the opportunity to visit erosion sites in and around Libreville.

The GCLME ICT Specialist, Mr. Joshua Ndubuisi and the Editor, Miss Kelechi Ihemeje with the GCLME Consultant on GIS, Dr. Fofana Mamodou undertook a mission to Lagos, Nigeria to assess the Regional Center for Environmental Information and Management System at the University of Lagos, Nigeria. They were received by GCLME EIMS Expert, Dr. PC. Nwilo and his staff.

The team toured the and held discussions with the Expert on EIMS, Dr. P.C. Nwilo.

They observed that the Center has been equipped with a GTCO Calcomp Digitizing Table, A0 Scanner, HP Designjet 1055cm plus Plotter, Two HP Deskjet 5650 and Two HP Laserjet 1320 printers, 30 computers, Laptop, Projector and Projector Screen, Photocopier, Canon Powershot S2 IS digital Camera, A4 Scanner, 39 Mercury UPS, a Writing Board, a Server among others.

On request of the Team, there was a demonstration of the use of the equipment in the Center like the Digitizer, the Plotter and the A0 Scanner. The equipment were found to be working perfectly.

Inception Meeting in Guinea Bissau and Meeting of the Canary Current LME, Dakar, Senegal: 10 - 12 October, 2005.



Group picture of the participants at the Launching Ceremony of the GCLME Project in Guinea Bissau.

L-R: FAO Rep. M. Rui Fonseca, M. Rui Miranda who represented the UNDP Rep. and the Min. of Energy & Natural Resources in charge of Env., M. Rui Araujo Gomes, during the Opening Ceremony.



Regional Director's Mission to Sao Tome : 22 -28 Oct. 05



L-R at the Opening Ceremony of the Seminar on NPA in Sao Tome e Principe are: the Regional Director, the Minister of Environment, Engr. Deolindo Costa de Boa and the Director of Environment, Mr. Arlim Carvalho.

The Sao Tomean GCLME National Director and the Regional Director being briefed by the Director and a staff of the National Agricultural Laboratory. Upgrading the facilities of this Laboratory will be undertaken by the project.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN NOVEMBER, 2005:

- 9 - 10 November: Ghana National Workshop on National Programme of Action (NPA) of the Global Programme of Action for the protection of Marine Environment from land based Activities (LBA).

- 17 - 19 November: Mission to Benin by the GCLME Environment Officer, Dr. Jacques Abe: to participate in the Workshop on National Programme of Action (NPA) of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of Marine Environment from Land based Activities.

- 21 - 23 November: Mission to Togo by the GCLME Environment Officer: to participate in the Workshop on National Programme of Action (NPA) of the Global Programme of Action for the protection of Marine Environment from land based Activities (LBA).

- 15 - 25 November : Mission to Lagos, Owerri and Abuja, Nigeria by the Regional Director, Prof. Chidi Ibe for the following purposes:

-To meet with the Director, NIOMR, Lagos to plan the Ship based Training on Marine Pollution scheduled for early 2006.

-To meet with the Governor of Imo State on Assistance to the Regional Centre for Pollution Management, and;

- To meet with the New Nigerian Minister of Environment and the newly designated National GCLME Director in Abuja on National Project implementation.

Kelechi Ihemeje

In Search of a Vessel.



The Oceanographic Research Vessel of the Nigerian Institute for Oceanography (NIOMR) being targeted for use by the project..

L-R: Dr. Chika Ukwé, GCLME Project Manager, Prof. Chidi Ibe, GCLME Regional Director, Otunba Fadayomi and Dr. Benard Ezenwah, Director, Nigerian Institute of Oceanography during a visit to RV Sarkim Baka.



Mission to Lagos, Nigeria by GCLME Consultant on GIS, ICT Specialist and the Editor: 23 - 27 October, 2005



L-R: GCLME Consultant on GIS, Dr. Fofana Mamoudou and the coordinator of EIMS Center, Dr. P.C. Nwilo during the assessment of the Centre.

Partial view of the EIMS Centre Computer room.

