

SOUTH **W**EST **I**NDIAN **O**CEAN **F**ISHERIES **P**ROGRAMME
(SWIOFP)

NEWSFLASH 7: FEBRUARY 2004

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

There has been considerable SWIOFP activity over the past month and this newsflash provides a brief update on recent progress.

Administration

- The administration of SWIOFP continues to be directed from the Instituto Nacional de Investigacao Pesqueira (IIP) in Maputo. Their liaison with the World Bank as well as regional focal points is pivotal to project success.
- A major next milestone is the Plenary meeting in Maputo. This was originally scheduled for 17 and 18 March 2004 but has been slightly delayed to 25 and 26 March 2004. The agenda for this meeting is in preparation. All delegates are strongly urged to attend this meeting as it will be important in finalising plans for a long-term SWIOFP project.

Project activities.

Proceedings of the 2nd Theme Working Group, dealing with data management, have been reviewed and will be available for distribution by the end of February 04.

The 3rd Theme Working Group, responsible for Operations and Procurement, held its meeting on 11 and 12 February near Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. Facilitated by the Tanzanian Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI), the meeting was held at the historic coastal town of Bagamoyo. While attendance from some countries was a little disappointing, the meeting nevertheless produced a number of strategic approaches towards procurement issues for SWIOFP. Some of the key points are listed-

- The SWIOFP project received endorsement from several senior government individuals, including Dr Manual Tsaviri, Director of Wildlife as well as the governor of the Bagamoyo district.
- The following countries were represented: Tanzania, Mozambique, Kenya, South Africa and France, as well as the UNDP Large Marine Ecosystem Project. Allan Robertson, a research vessel specialist, also contributed to the meeting.
- Due consideration was given to the results of the Science Plan and the Data management meetings. Accordingly, each country presented information on their disposition towards procurement, especially in the light of available resources such as ships.

- The South African and French delegations presented details of potential research vessels, with an indication of individual capacity, operational cost and procurement procedures.
- Procurement strategies were developed in terms of four components:
 - Generic issues
 - Human resource development
 - Research vessels
 - Equipment
- A number of generic procurement procedures were identified:
 - Procurement should follow the shortest possible chain
 - There should be minimum government encumbrances
 - The process should be credible and transparent
 - Users need to define needs and create specifications
 - There should be a central procurement body
 - Ownership of goods must be clarified.
- It was concluded that any data collecting should as far as possible be undertaken in conjunction with other programmes, such as the LME project, SADC and the International Ship Operators Meeting (ISOM).
- The workshop proceedings were recorded by Dr. R. Tamatamah and will be circulated after review and editing. Prof. POJ Bwathondi, and Drs JDR Bayona and B. Ngatunga contributed to the success of this Theme Workshop.

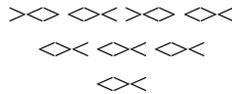
Updated Table of Activities

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> proceedings	KMFRI- Circulate minutes- feedback from partners	Achieved	Completed
<i>Procurement Workshop</i>	TAFIRI- Dar es Salaam	Achieved	Final record circulated by mid March 04
<i>Legal, project management and related theme workshops</i>	Need final planning	Preliminary stage only	July 2004
<i>Plenary</i> SWIOFP meeting	Arrange and prepare	Underway	25-26 Mar. 04 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 feb 05	Secretariat to expedite	Achieved	Completed
Project status report	Secretariat	Draft completed	Completed
Final project vision document submitted to GEF	Compile draft; circulate	Basic framework being designed	End December 2004; early 2005

Events and related activities

A growing number of other projects and activities are seeking contact with SWIOFP, which is a positive trend considering the collaborative nature of the intended project

A particular highlight that should interest SWIOFP participants was a conference arranged by the Royal Society of London in January 04. The theme revolved around oceanography, ecology and fisheries of the West Indian Ocean and was thus of direct relevance to SWIOFP. The presentations were outstanding and it was enormously revealing and encouraging to note how much new and excellent information is available about WIO oceanography, much of it derived from remote sensing. The proceedings will be published in the Transactions of the Royal Society.



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