

## SEYCHELLES MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING (MSP) INITIATIVE

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### **MSP Phase 2 Milestone 2 Open Workshop Mahe**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018

09:00 AM-12:00 PM

Location: Mahe

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### **Minutes**

#### **Meeting Objectives:**

An invitation to the public to learn more about the marine spatial plan and provide input into the zones being proposed for Milestone #2.

#### **Present:**

Vesna Rackick- Citizen of Seychelles

Alvania Lawen- Student

Albert Napier- Seychelles Seafarers Transport Association

#### **MSP Core Team:**

Helena Sims- MSP Project Manager, TNC Africa- MSP Core Team

Joanna Smith- MSP Science and Process Lead, TNC Canada- MSP Core Team

Vania Robert- MSP Executive Admin Assistant

#### **Minutes;**

| Agenda Item Number | Agenda Item   | Notes/Comments/Advice   | Action_Response (with initials for who provides response)  |
|--------------------|---|---|--|
| 1                  | Opening   | Welcome by MSP Core Team.   |  |
| 2                  | Brief overview of the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan Initiative | An overview of the MSP was provide to participants and included; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The objectives of the MSP</li> <li>- The Governance Structure of the MSP</li> <li>- MSP Milestones</li> <li>- The zoning framework</li> </ul> |  |
| 3                  | Summary of stakeholder input received Feb-Oct 2018              | A summary of stakeholder input received in the last round of stakeholder consultations was provided to workshop attendees.  |  |
| 4                  | Presentation on proposed new MSP zones to reach Milestone #2    | Stakeholders present were introduced to the proposed MSP areas to complete milestone 2 of the MSP. There was also a review of the participant package that was provided.  |  |
| 5                  | Discussion, Input, Question & Answers                           | Following the presentations and information provided, the floor was open to all for questions, input and clarifications.  |  |
|                    |   | Clarification was sought regarding the Area 13 and the boundaries that inform what is protected.  | MSP core team clarified the map, areas gazetted in Feb 2018, Interim Zone 2 areas and the proposed areas for milestone 2. JS.  |
|                    |   | A clarification on the definition on zone 1 was sought.   | Reference was made to the allowable activities table with a caveat that it is a living document subject to change. Stakeholders were informed that the boundaries are gazetted but the allowable activities are being discussed. These conditions will be reflected in management plans and regulations for respective areas that will be drafted by 2020. |

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|  | Concerns were raised as to the benefits of closing such large marine areas with no extraction allowed.   | The benefits of protecting high Biodiversity areas, sensitive areas, source populations, species dependencies and the spill over effects were described. JS., HS.  |
|  | Concerns were raised as to the management of the Ruby Snapper ( <i>Etellis</i> sp.) and that there has been mention in the past that the best management approach is not a complete closure but sustainable harvesting.  | It was pointed out the area 16, Coco-de-mer seamount has been proposed primarily to address the management of <i>Etellis</i> populations at this seamount, following discussions with local fishermen. HS.   |
|  | There were discussions on the issues of waste due to by-catch. It was pointed out that there are approximately 40 purse seiners fishing in Seychelles EEZ and that often the target is species of high value and others are discarded. Questions were raised as to whether the MSP is addressing these issues? | The MSP team is considering reduction of by-catch through defining sustainable fisheries in Z2 and Z3. JS.   |
|  | Concerns were raised as to how these areas will be enforced and managed.   | MSP is working on the MSP Governance framework, costing of implementation and options for management. JS.  |
|  | A query was raised regarding industrial fishery vessels that use flags of convenience and change the name of their vessels and flags as and when required.   | The MSP team is aware of these challenges and has been meeting with the RCOC and NISCC to investigate mechanisms to address these. The MSP team is also working with tuna experts to develop criteria for sustainability, one being by-catch management and electronic monitoring systems to be piloted on boats and supply vessels. JS. |
|  | Concerns were raised on the recent grounding of the Diamond Ace fishing vessel on the reef of the Ste. Anne Marine Park.   |  |
|  | It was pointed out that in the piracy years coordination with other countries was very good and the Reflec3 was set up for monitoring of the EEZ. A query was raised as to what has happened to these monitoring platforms since the drop in the threat of piracy.   | These platforms continue to exist through the RCOC and NISCC at the same building. HS.   |

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|  |  | A query was raised as to whether we have allowable activities and management considerations for Zone 3.  | The MSP management considerations will apply to the entire EEZ but the specific allowable activities table (AAT) for zone 3 will be developed in the next years. JS.  |
|  |  | There was a discussion on the potential use of tidal energy in the future and whether this has been considered.  | This activity is described in the AAT and are described as not compatible in a Z1 and Conditional in a Z2.  |
|  |  | A query was raised as to where 'refueling' as an activity would be considered in the AAT.  | In ports/marinas/jetties. JS.   |
|  |  | A concern made was that 'international runways' were not included in the AAT.  | This activity would be above the high water mark and hence beyond the scope of the MSP. That said, the MSP core team is keeping track of terrestrial developments. J.S.   |
|  |  | A query was made as to how the MSP was initialised and whether it was by the Government, TNC or if it was a requirement for a debt trade-off.                    | Before the MSP and Debt Swap Seychelles had already committed to improve management of the oceans. GoS representatives were discussing debt swaps as a financial mechanism to support ocean conservation. Discussions started in 2010, the MSP was initiated in 2014 and the debt swap was finalised in 2016. JS. |
|  |  | The Paris Club's vested interest for the MSP and for reducing debt was questioned in the workshop.   | NatureVest (financial arm of TNC) and GoS negotiated the debt swap with the Paris Club. JS.   |
|  |  | Clarification was sought as to what happens in the areas gazetted before the implementation which starts in 2021 +. Reference was made to Area 13 in particular. | The 30% marine protection areas will be identified and gazetted and the AAT and management considerations for these areas will be developed. For area 13, management plans/regulations will be developed for these areas. Monitoring and enforcement plans will also be developed.                                |

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|                                     |  | There was a discussion on shipping lanes, impacts of large vessels and tankers in high biodiversity areas.  | From the onset of the MSP one directive from GoS was the there would be no targets to move shipping lanes. However, there are requests to create PSSA (particularly sensitive sea areas) around Aldabra in an attempt to move these lanes further west.         |
|                                     |  | There were discussions on the human and social aspects of the fisheries industry, working conditions on vessels, pensions and gratuity schemes for casual workers and how the government plans to address these challenges. | These conditions have been discussed and can be partially addressed by having vessel monitoring systems/requirements, observers on board. However the long-term economic security/economic resilience of workers in fisheries is yet to be fully addressed. JS. |
|                                     |  | There were discussions on the importance to balance equity aspects in the fisheries industry with respect to access rights of local fishermen vs. industrial foreign fleets.  | Area 6 zone 2 is essentially prioritising for the domestic fishery and was proposed based on feedback from artisanal fisheries. Capitalising the fishery is also important to consider when building the domestic fishery. JS.                                  |
|                                     |  | There were discussions on the delineation of the Seychelles archipelagic baseline and territorial sea.  | This is an ongoing exercise that needs to be finalised. JS.   |
| <i>Meeting adjourned at 1200hrs</i> |  |   |   |

*Minutes submitted by: Helena Sims on 17 October 2018*



## Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan initiative Public Workshop Agenda

The Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change (MEECC) with the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan Initiative (SMSP) is inviting the public to learn more about the marine spatial plan and provide input into the zones being proposed for Milestone #2.

What areas are important to you and what are your recommendations for improving ocean management in Seychelles? We want to hear from you!

### **Mahé**

*Date: Monday 15th October 2018*  
*Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM*  
*Location: Exiles Club Meeting Room*  
*at Cable & Wireless– Francis Rachel*  
*Street, Victoria, Mahé*

### **Pralin & La Digue**

*Date: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018*  
*Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM*  
*Location: Seychelles Pension Fund*  
*Complex, Grand Anse, Praslin*

### AGENDA

Brief overview of the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan Initiative  
Summary of stakeholder input received Feb-Oct 2018  
Presentation on proposed new MSP zones to reach Milestone #2  
Discussion, Input, Question & Answers

***Refreshments will be provided.***

For more information:  
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