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## MSP Technical Working Group 12

Tuesday 22 October 2019

8:30 AM – Noon

Location: Savoy Hotel, Beau Vallon, Mahe

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### Minutes

#### Meeting Objectives:

- Review MSP Zoning Design 5.40 areas for discussion
- Review and revise draft MSP Allowable Activities tables and Management Considerations

#### Member Attendance:

Angelique Pouponneau- SeyCCAT – Finance & Implementation TWG  
Aurelie Duhec- ICS- Observer  
Barney Dillarstone- SeyCCAT intern – Observer  
Betty Victor – Adaptation Fund Project –Energy & Infrastructure TWG  
Chris Mason-Parker – Global Vision International - Marine Ecology TWG  
Claude Nicol- ASFA – Marine Ecology TWG  
Daig Romain- GoS-UNDP-GEF PA Project- Finance & Implementation TWG  
Elke Talma – PCU – Marine Ecology TWG  
Emmanuel Chassot- independent fisheries expert- Fisheries TWG  
Errol Renaud- SEC- Energy & infrastructure TWG  
Gilberte Gendron- Seychelles National Parks Authority- Marine Ecology TWG  
Isabelle Ravinia - Seychelles National Parks Authority- Marine Ecology TWG  
Jamshed Pardiwalla – Allied Agencies & Neptune Fisheries – Fisheries TWG  
Jan Robinson – SWIOFISH3 – Fisheries TWG  
Jeanne Mortimer- ICS/Turtle Action Group – Terrestrial Ecology TWG  
Jean-Luc Mondon – PetroSeychelles – Energy & infrastructure TWG  
John Nevill- Independent Consultant- Fisheries TWG  
Lindsay Chong-Seng- Plant Conservation Action Group- Terrestrial Ecology TWG  
Mariliana Leotta- GIF- Marine Ecology TWG  
Michelle Murray- Financing & Implementation TWG  
Patrick Samson – PetroSeychelles- Chair Energy & Infrastructure TWG  
Peter Brinn- GCCA+ CA- Energy & Infrastructure TWG  
Pierre-Andre Adam- ICS- Marine Ecology TWG  
Rachel Bristol- Consultant for OIP – Observer  
Richard Baxter – Consultant- Observer  
Rodney Govinden – SFA- Fisheries TWG rep  
Sabrena Lawrence- SWIOFISH3- Fisheries TWG  
Sophie Morel- MEECC- Tourism TWG  
Wilna Accouche- Green Islands Foundation – Fisheries TWG  
Vania Robert- Seychelles Conservation & Climate Adaptation Trust– Finance & Implementation TWG

#### MSP Core Team

Helena Sims- MSP Project Manager, TNC Africa

Joanna Smith- MSP Science & Process lead, TNC Canada

**Minutes;**

Agenda Item #	Agenda Item	Comment/Advice	Action_Response (with initials)
1.0	Opening	The MSP core team opened the technical working group meeting #12 and welcomed all participants to the meeting.	
1.1	Agenda Review	The agenda was reviewed and adopted without any changes	See Annex I for adopted agenda.
1.2	Review minutes from TWG11	A review of the minutes of the last meeting 11 held on 23 July 2019 followed. The minutes were approved without any further changes.	
1.3	Action items discussed during minutes review.	2.2. It was pointed out that important feeding areas for Birds (Such as sooty terns) should be identified for Zone 1.	
1.4	Participant package components	A review of the composition of the participant package was carried out	See annex II of the participant package list of documents.
1.5	Roundtable updates from TWG members	There was a roundtable of introductions of all members present.	
		PCU- The GEF 7 concept is being developed and to be finalized in 2020.	
		ICS- The ICS and OIP is developing nomination files for four areas (Desroches, Poivre, Alphonse and Farquhar) with assistance from a consultant.	
		SEYCCAT- A project on seagrass mapping including ground truthing is being developed to determine the Blue Carbon contribution of these areas. Project to start in 2020.	
		PA Finance – The final report and a briefing note on the financing of the marine protection (30%) areas has been finalised and shared with the MSP Committees and TWGs.	
		Adaptation project: An integrated shoreline management plan for North East Point is being finalised and a first draft will be available in November 2019.	
		GCCA+: The Seychelles National Climate Change policy is being validated this week.	
		PetroSeychelles: 2 agreements have been signed with Saharan resources. A regional seismic survey is being planned (An EIA is ongoing) to	

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		link Madagascar to Seychelles & also to look at the bathymetry of the Amirantes Trench. There has also been an application from another company which is now undergoing due diligence.	
2.10	Zoning Design 5.40	The revised zoning design 5.40 was presented to the MSP SC members. The design presented does not include the deep water areas (1.6% remaining) which will be presented separately.	
2.11	Zoning Design 5.40 - Group 1	<p>The areas with high agreement were summarised to the EC. These areas have high agreement and should not need any further revisions at this point;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amirantes to Fortune Bank* (Zone 2)</li> <li>Desroches OIP Area (Zone 2)</li> <li>Poivre OIP Area (Zone 2)</li> <li>Alphonse OIP Area (Zone 2)</li> <li>Farquhar Group (Zone 2)</li> <li>Farquhar OIP Area (Zone 2)</li> <li>Cosmoledo and Astove (Zone 2)</li> <li>Aldabra Group (Zone 1)</li> </ul> <p>There were no objections from the TWG for the group 1 areas proposed.</p>	
2.12	Zoning Design 5.40 - Group 2	<p>The areas with medium to high support were presented. These areas will need further discussions and/or revisions in the next round of meetings. Discussions were held for each of the areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bird Island (Zone 1)</li> <li>Denis Island (Zone 2)</li> <li>D'Arros (Zone 1)</li> <li>D'Arros to Poivre (Zone 1)</li> <li>Amirantes South (Zone 1)</li> <li>Assumption Atoll (Zone 2)</li> <li>Deepwater Scenarios for 1.6% (Zone 1):</li> <li>Coco de Mer &amp; Mascarene Ridge N (v5.1), scenario 5.41</li> <li>Mascarene Ridge N only (v5.2), scenario 5.42</li> <li>Aldabra Group extension option 1, scenario 5.43</li> <li>Aldabra Group extension option 2, scenario 5.44</li> </ul>	
2.13	Bird island (Z1)	There was a query on whether the distance that birds go to feed has been considered in the Zone 1 boundary.	Areas outside the Z1 are a Z2. If there are any special considerations for these areas they

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			need to be noted in the management considerations. JS.
2.14	Amirantes: Sea cucumber fishery effort	An analysis of the 2003-2012 SFA sea cucumber data was presented to the SC including the annual mean in the Amirantes areas being proposed.	
2.15	D'Arros (Z1)	The main reason for not including St Joseph as a Z1 was questioned.	Catch and release is not allowable in a Z1 and the area is high value to tourism. JS.
2.16	Amirantes South (Z1)	There was a query on the impact of removing fuel subsidy on the effort of sea cucumber	
		It was pointed out that research in last 2 years shows a difference of effort for the sea cucumber fishery.	Updated sea cucumber fishery data has been requested from SFA. JS.
		It was proposed that an MRAG report of 2017 can be shared that shows the reduction of catch in last years.	JR
		It was pointed out that the SFA are planning to do a Fisheries independent stock assessment of sea cucumber for the Amirantes & Mahe plateau.	
2.17	Assomption (Z2)	The options and rationale for proposing Assomption as a Z2 were presented which included a change in the Z2 boundary proposal from the SC17 to (i) North or (ii) West.	
		The potential for aquaculture in Assomption was questioned by the TWG including the cost for such an activity in island which is so remote.	
		It was re-iterated by the TWG that the MSP process is what is being questioned if Assomption is changed from a Z1 to a Z2 and the potential impact on the credibility of the MSP process as the area has already been gazetted. It was added that changing the zone of the area may bring into question other areas that are gazetted in milestone 1 and milestone 2.	The MSP Core Team re-iterated that there is a i. Disclaimer on MSP documents - subject to change upon revision. ii. It is milestone 3 that focuses on shallow water. JS.
		A query was made as to why Assomption was gazetted in milestone 1 and not excluded as the other shallow water areas were as interim Z2 areas.	Reference was again made to the disclaimer- subject to change upon revision. JS. The territorial sea boundary of Assomption also includes Aldabra which was gazetted as

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			a Z1 in milestone 1. HS.
		Concerns were raised on the sensitivities around Assumption in the past year and risk management for the MSP.	
		It was pointed out that there has been discussions in the past to look at the extension of the Aldabra WHS to include Assumption and Cosmoledo and Astove.	
		There was a query on why the proposed activities were not raised in milestone 1 or during the development of the Outer Islands Development Plan as IDC sits on the Executive & Steering Committee.	The plan was approved after milestone 1 areas were gazetted. AD.
		There was a concern that the key stakeholders who would proposed the areas as a Z2 were not present in the TWG12 meeting.	
Coffee break			
2.18	Deep water areas	Petroseychelles expressed that they were agreeable to both Aldabra options proposed.	
		There were queries on whether the fishing of Ruby snapper by semi-industrial fisheries as per their licences is allowable (reference to coco-de-mer).	Considered as a potential future activity. JS
		There was a query on which option has the highest biodiversity value.	V5.43 and 5.44 both have good representation. Different displacement for Industrial Purse seine and Industrial Longline for each option. JS.
		There were no objections from the TWG to the two Aldabra options proposed.	
2.20	Allowable Activity Tables and Management Considerations for Zone 1 and Zone 2 areas [break out groups]	There were breakout groups to review the allowable activity tables for Zone 1 and zone 2. Question to address: 1. Do the allowable activities tables look ok for the zone areas? 2. Are there any new area-specific revisions? 3. New General management conditions? 4. New area-based management conditions?	
3.10	Group reporting and plenary discussion	Each group gave a summary of the discussions per area proposed. They are summarised below.	Scanned copies of the group notes available in dropbox folder. HS.
3.11	Group 1	D'Arros to Poivre- there was a concern on displacement of artisanal fishing (hook & line).	

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		<p>Amirantes South – Although compromise for African Banks, there was still concern of displacement artisanal fishing (hook &amp; line).</p> <p>Assomption – query of intent for Z2 with respect to developments on the island.</p> <p>Discussion on whether catch and release is allowable in a zone 1.</p> <p>PetroSeychelles – there was a query from the group discussions on the allowable distance from the high water mark for seismic surveys for scientific purposes- proximity to private islands? For oil exploration seismic surveys they don't go close to the island.</p>	
3.12	Group 2	<p>Allowable activities for zone 1:</p> <p>subsistence fishing C12,</p> <p>Bunkering at sea C1, 4, 5</p> <p>Ferries &amp; transport add C4</p> <p>cruise ship &amp; recreation add C5</p> <p>bioprospecting C1</p> <p>Science research &amp; monitoring C1 C1 – should be compatible with the area's management plan.</p>	
3.13	Group 3	<p>Allowable activities for Zone 1:</p> <p>There was agreement in the group to keep the same conditions as milestone 2 for Z1 and Z2.</p> <p>There were queries pertaining to the definition of subsistence fishing and whether it would include the guests in small hotels and cruise ships?</p>	
3.14	Group 4	<p>Allowable activities in a Z1</p> <p>Bunkering at sea should not be allowable- normally outside the EEZ boundary. Definitely should not be in Z1.</p> <p>Commercial shipping – remove c8</p> <p>Cruise ships. Add C16- carrying capacity to determine negative impact.</p> <p>Floating structures – how are these different to floating solar and why are they not conditional?</p>	
3.15	Group 5	Allowable activities in a Z1	

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		Bunkering at sea is prohibited	
		Same concern pertaining to C8 for commercial shipping and floating structures.	
3.16	Group 6 – Zone 1	Consideration of activities in deep water vs Coastal	
		IPS supply vessels should be C for deep water and X for coastal.	
		Query on why desalination land based is an X in milestone 1 and C in M2. It should be not applicable in deep water and C for coastal.	
		Dredging. Deep water not applicable. Coastal water should be C (for essential infrastructure – access)	
		Deep water thermal energy conversion is unrealistic	
		Query on what are floating structures.	
		Propose an X for jet skis in all zones.	
		Query on why tourism terrestrial has been removed but aquaculture land based and desalination land based have not. All activities have a potential impact on the ocean primarily through discharge.	
	Zone 2		
		Consideration of activities in deep water vs Coastal	
		FAD should be C for deep and X for coastal; by-catch impacts should be considered for the restrictions/conditions	
		Renewable Energy solar is not in deep areas, should be C in z3 and inner islands but X for all others	
		Non-renewable energy – prospecting should be an x for coastal zone and for deep water same as milestones 1 and 2.	
4.1	MSP next steps: Gazetting steps	The MSP Core team will submit a cabinet memorandum to propose areas to Cabinet to seek approval to proceed with preparation &	

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		submission of nomination file for the areas for protection. The nomination file will go on public review.	
4.2	MSP Implementation	The MSP core team has submitted comments on the revised legislation (Nature Reserves & Conservancy Bill) to MEECC for consideration.  The MSP Core team is working with MEECC and the SWIOFISH 3 project on the development of management frameworks/plans for the Z2 areas.  A FAD/EM workshop will be held in Q1 of 2020 together with SFA and MFAq and including industrial purse seine and longline.  An EM pilot project is ongoing with 2 industrial purse seine and 3 industrial longline vessels.	
		An extraordinary SC meeting will be held tomorrow.	
		Meeting adjourned at 1235hrs	

Minutes submitted by: Helena Sims on 15 Nov 2019

## Annex I: Meeting Agenda

### SEYCHELLES MARINE SPATIAL PLAN (MSP) INITIATIVE

## MSP Technical Working Group Meeting 12

Tuesday 22 October 2019

8:30 AM – Noon

Location: Savoy Hotel, Beau Vallon, Mahe

## Agenda

### Meeting Objectives:

- Review MSP Zoning Design 5.40 areas for discussion
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#	Time	Topic
	8:30	Registration
1	9:00	Workshop Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome and Agenda Review</li> <li>• Review of action items from minutes TWG #11</li> <li>• Roundtable sector updates from TWG members</li> </ul>



2	9:15	MSP Zoning Design: Milestone 3 a) Zoning Design 5.40 – areas for discussion b) Allowable Activity Tables and Management Considerations for Zone 1 and Zone 2 areas [break out groups]
	10:15	Coffee/Tea break
2	10:30	MSP Zoning Design: Milestone 3 • continued
3	11:00	Group reporting and plenary discussion
4	11:40	a) MSP next steps: Gazetting steps b) MSP Implementation
	12:00	Complimentary lunch provided

### **Annex II: List of documents provided for the meeting**

- 1-SEYMSP\_TWG12\_Agenda\_22Oct2019\_FINAL
- 2-SEYMSP\_TWG11\_Minutes\_23July2019
- 3-SEYMSP\_ZoneStats\_Map\_54\_v2\_20191009
- 4-SEYMSP\_ZoningDesign\_Revisions\_Map5.4\_v2\_20191009
- 5-SEYMSP\_ActivitiesTable\_Milestone3\_Map5.2\_GenMgmt\_20190716
- 6-SEYMSP\_ActivitiesTable\_Milestone3\_Map5.2\_Codes\_20190716
- 7-SEYMSP\_ActivitiesTable\_Milestone3\_Map5.2\_Zone1\_20190716
- 8-SEYMSP\_ActivitiesTable\_Milestone3\_Map5.2\_Zone2\_20190716
- 9-SEYMSP\_Milestone3\_v5.40\_maps\_binder\_20191009