

Minutes of the

**MEETING OF THE EAF-NANSEN PROJECT REGIONAL STEERING
COMMITTEE FOR THE SOUTH WEST INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES
COMMISSION AREA**

Mombasa, Kenya, 26 September 2009



THE EAF-NANSEN PROJECT

FAO started the implementation of the project “Strengthening the Knowledge Base for and Implementing an Ecosystem Approach to Marine Fisheries in Developing Countries (EAF-Nansen GCP/INT/003/NOR)” in December 2006 with funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). The EAF-Nansen project is a follow-up to earlier projects/programmes in a partnership involving FAO, Norad and the Institute of Marine Research (IMR), Bergen, Norway on assessment and management of marine fishery resources in developing countries. The project works in partnership with governments and also Global Environment Facility (GEF)-supported Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) projects and other projects that have the potential to contribute to some components of the EAF-Nansen project.

The EAF-Nansen project offers an opportunity to coastal countries in sub-Saharan Africa, working in partnership with the project, to receive technical support from FAO for the development of national and regional frameworks for the implementation of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management and to acquire additional knowledge on their marine ecosystems for their use in planning and monitoring. The project contributes to building the capacity of national fisheries management administrations in ecological risk assessment methods to identify critical management issues and in the preparation, operationalization and tracking the progress of implementation of fisheries management plans consistent with the ecosystem approach to fisheries.

STRENGTHENING THE KNOWLEDGE BASE FOR AND
IMPLEMENTING AN ECOSYSTEM APPROACH TO
MARINE FISHERIES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
(EAF-NANSEN GCP/INT/003/NOR)

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This is the minutes of the meeting of the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission area Regional Steering Committee (SWIOFC RSC) for the EAF-Nansen project. The SWIOFC RSC is one of the regional steering committees for the EAF-Nansen project (Strengthening the Knowledge Base for and Implementing an Ecosystem Approach to Marine Fisheries in Developing Countries). The meeting was held in Mombasa, Kenya on 26th September 2009. The report captures the discussions at the meeting, the decisions taken and the recommendations made. It was prepared by the EAF-Nansen project management unit in Rome and circulated to all the participants for comments and confirmation.

FAO EAF-Nansen Project

Minutes of the Meeting of the EAF-Nansen Project Regional Steering Committee for the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission Area. Mombasa, Kenya, 26 September 2009.

FAO EAF-Nansen Project Report. No. 9. Rome, FAO 2010. 16p.

ABSTRACT

The first meeting of the EAF-Nansen project Regional Steering Committee for the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) area was held at the Sai Rock Hotel in Mombasa, Kenya on 26th September 2009. The meeting was attended by representatives from Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, and the United Republic of Tanzania. Representatives of the African Union Strategic Partnership for the Fisheries Investment Fund, the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME) project, the UNEP/Nairobi Convention secretariat, and the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP) also attended the meeting. Dr. Hussain Rasheed Hassan, Minister of State for Fisheries and Agriculture of the Republic of Maldives was elected Chair.

In an introductory statement, the Secretary of SWIOFC reminded participants that the decision taken by the Commission to adopt the EAF-Nansen Regional Steering Committee and Regional Task Group as subsidiary bodies of the Commission is in response to proposals made by the SWIOFC Scientific Committee at its third Session held in Maputo, Mozambique in September 2008.

The meeting was started with an overview of the EAF-Nansen project by the Project Coordinator who also elaborated on the basic principles of the ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF). Activities and achievements under each component of the project were presented and discussed. Also presented were the project management structure, ecosystem survey activities under the project, the mid-term review of the EAF-Nansen project and the work plan for 2010.

The recommendations compiled in the course of the meeting were discussed and adopted by the Committee.

INTRODUCTION

1. The first meeting of the EAF-Nansen project Regional Steering Committee for the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission area was held at the Sai Rock Hotel in Mombasa, Kenya on 26 September 2009. The meeting was attended by representatives from Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, and the United Republic of Tanzania. It was expected that each country would be represented by the Director of Fisheries and the national focal point of the EAF-Nansen project. Representatives of the African Union Strategic Partnership for the Fisheries Investment Fund, the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME) project, the UNEP/Nairobi Convention secretariat, and the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP) also attended the meeting. The list of participants is shown in Appendix B.
2. Earlier in the week, the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) had accepted proposal to establish a Steering Committee and a Working Group for the EAF-Nansen project as subsidiary bodies of the Commission and the Scientific Committee of the Commission (SWIOFC-SC) respectively and under terms and conditions as shown in Appendix C.
3. Dr. Hussain Rasheed Hassan, Minister of State for Fisheries and Agriculture of the Republic of Maldives was elected chair. In his acceptance statement, the chair pledged to do his best even though he is new to the project.
4. The chairman asked all participants to introduce themselves and the Agenda for the meeting (Appendix A) was adopted without any changes.
5. In short introductory statements the principal partners in the region (ASCLME project, the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP), the UNEP/WIOLab project and the AU (African Union) Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund) expressed sincere gratitude for including them in the Steering Committee and recognised the contribution that the project is making to the understanding and management of fishery resources in the WIO region. The following were noted:
 - The Secretary of SWIOFC reminded participants that the decision taken by the SWIOFC to adopt the EAF-Nansen Regional Steering Committee and Regional Task Group as subsidiary bodies of the Commission is in response to proposals made by the SWIOFC-Scientific Committee at its third Session held in Maputo, Mozambique in September 2008. He said the objective is to avoid establishment of another steering committee for a project operating in the South West Indian Ocean area. and he outlined the benefits that this will bring to both the project, the Commission and the region as a whole;
 - The South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP) noted that their association with the EAF-Nansen project is helping the fisheries management aspects of the SWIOFP;
 - The ASCLME noted their extreme satisfaction with the collaboration and support that it is receiving from the EAF-Nansen project, in particular in the work that the R/V Dr Fridtjof Nansen is doing in partnership with the ASCLME project;
 - The African Union Commission underscored the possible complementarities between its Strategic Partnership for Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund project and the

EAF-Nansen project and the convergence that a collaboration will bring to the countries of the region;

- The UNEP Nairobi Convention Secretariat commended SWIOFC, SWIOFP and the EAF-Nansen project for the effective partnership that they are helping to nurture in the region which is bringing out all the possible synergies in the work of various related projects in the region. It was noted in particular that holding the Commission meeting and the steering committee meetings of the two projects back-to-back has saved a lot of time and money.

REPORT ON PROJECT ACTIVITIES (SINCE PROJECT INCEPTION)

6. The Project Coordinator gave a brief overview of the activities that have been undertaken under each output of the project since the inception of the project in December 2006.
7. The Coordinator started by reminding the members that EAF is one of emerging approaches to manage natural resources in a holistic way and that a number of international and regional fisheries-related instruments have established provisions that embrace the principles of ecosystem approach to fisheries. He gave the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, 1995, UNCED and its Agenda 21, 1992 and the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (LOSC) as examples of such instruments. He said that the LOSC obliges coastal States to take into consideration the interdependence of fish stocks, as well as the effects of their fishing activities on species associated with or dependent on harvested species. He said that EAF was more explicitly addressed in the Reykjavik Declaration adopted at the Reykjavik Conference on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem in October 2001 and reminded members about the WSSD implementation plan that calls for an ecosystem approach to be implemented by 2010 and the FAO COFI (Committee on Fisheries) endorsement (in 2003) of EAF as the appropriate framework for fisheries management
8. He then went over the basic principles of the ecosystem approach to fisheries as including
 - Maintaining ecosystem integrity;
 - Improving human well-being and equity;
 - Applying the precautionary approach and developing adaptive management systems;
 - Ensuring compatibility of management measures (across jurisdictions);
 - Broadening stakeholder participation and promoting sectoral integration;
 - Improving research to better understand ecosystems and to recognise that conservation and management decisions should be based on the best available knowledge.
9. He then recalled the immediate and long-term objectives of the project and briefly explained the components and outputs as shown in the below.

Component 1: EAF Policy and Management

- Policies formulated consistent with EAF principles at national and regional levels.
- Revised management plans that include EAF considerations developed

Component 2: Ecosystem Assessment & Monitoring

- Procedures and methods for assessment and monitoring of key ecosystem properties established, including the development of standardized data collections, sampling methods and appropriate set of scientific indicators

Component 3: Capacity Building

- Increased capacity at scientific and management level in partner countries on EAF approaches

Component 4: Support to Regional Research Vessels

- Advice on use of national or regional vessels for EAF related research including coordinated regional coverage by local or other vessels

Component 5: Planning & Dissemination

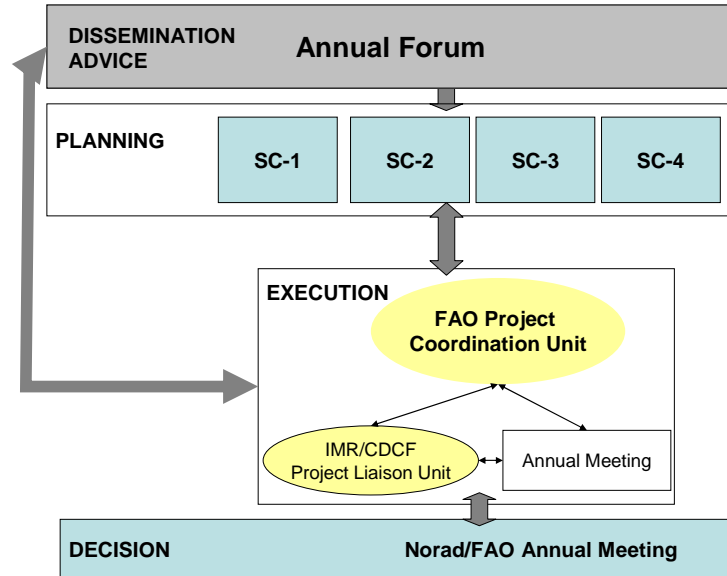
- Project planning and dissemination of information

10. Under outputs 1 and 2, he noted the familiarization and ecological risk assessment methodology workshops that have been organised including those held in Durban, South Africa in June 2008 and in Mombasa in January 2009. He said that the objectives of the workshops were: to (a) introduce participants to concepts and principles relevant to the implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and (b) to present to the partners the EAF-Nansen project, its scope and objectives and to identify overall activities to be carried out with the view to facilitating key processes and activities for the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries in the region. It was noted that participants of the workshops have been introduced to the ecological risk assessment methodology which includes issue identification and prioritization - the necessary inputs for the preparation of fisheries management plans - and also the concept and preparation of the EAF-Baseline reports.
11. It was noted that a desk study on available instruments relevant to EAF in Africa including case studies is being undertaken in collaboration with the Development Law Service (LEGN) of FAO. The objective of the study is to guide the development or amendment of country legislation relating to EAF and enable the EAF-Nansen project to assist countries to incorporate the EAF concept in relevant national legislations.
12. Under output 3, it was noted that 17 surveys with a total of 555 survey days were carried out in 2007 and 2008 in collaboration with the BENEFIT programme (the operated in Angola, Namibia and South Africa), the GEF-assisted LME projects and other partners and 300 survey days are planned for 2009. The 116-day ASCLME survey in 2008 and the SWIOFP/ASCLME survey which was underway at the time of the meeting and which was to be followed by the IUCN/ASCLME/ZSL Seamounts survey were also mentioned.
13. The Coordinator noted that over 250 national scientists had participated in the surveys and that the results of the surveys have been documented in the cruise reports produced by the IMR Cruise Leaders assisted by the local scientists who participated in the surveys. Post-survey meetings have been organised at which results of the surveys were presented to national authorities (managers, scientists and politicians). In addition, a survey data analysis workshop was held in Accra, Ghana in December 2008 and a similar one is scheduled for 3-12 November 2009 for countries in the SWIOFC region.
14. An Expert Meeting for the development of GIS activities in the EAF-Nansen project was held in Rome, from 30 September to 2 October 2008 in order to assess the potential of GIS as a key tool for facilitating implementation of the EAF.

15. Under outputs 4 and 5, the Coordinator noted that the project has supported a number of stock assessment workshops and Working Group meetings mainly in the CECAF area and outlined plans to provide similar support to SWIOFC.
16. On the capacity building component of the project (output 6) it was mentioned that a Trainers' workshop was held in February 2009 in Rome and that the project is exploring possible formal training options with universities in Africa.
17. On project planning, dissemination and communication (output 6) mention was made of the Annual Tripartite (FAO, Norad, IMR) meetings and also the Annual Forum. The Annual Forum is for progress reporting, dissemination of experiences, identification of best practices and discussion of strategies. The first forum was held in Rome on 16th December 2008. It was reported that a Communication Strategy for the project has been prepared, a project website (www.eaf-nansen.org) is up and running and a project newsletter is under preparation.
18. The Coordinator informed the members that earlier in the year the project asked all National Task Groups (NTG) to prepare a concept note that will define the nature of national engagement under the project. He said that the first step in applying the ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) is to ensure that the country is adequately prepared to undertake this process and is realistic about what it can deliver and when. It is therefore essential to define the scope of work, the activities to be carried out, and the type of issues to deal with and also to identify the types of agencies or groups to be involved in the process. The concept note is meant to capture these ideas.
19. He said that some countries in the region have not sent their concept note neither have they responded to the reminders sent on these. He also noted that based on comments sent by the project coordination unit on the concept notes, each NTG has been asked to further develop the concept note into a small project that can be supported by the EAF-Nansen project. The project is providing an amount of US\$5 000 to each NTG to facilitate this work.
20. Concluding his presentation, the Coordinator informed the Committee about the following projects that the EAF-Nansen project is preparing with the Benguela Current Commission, and will be assisting the Commission to implement on top of the ecosystem surveys with R/V Dr Fridtjof Nansen:
 - Provide guidance on institutional arrangements which support an ecosystem approach to fisheries;
 - A strategy to develop and integrate the human dimension of an ecosystem approach to fisheries in the region; and
 - Implementing a process which allows the review (auditing) and tracking of EAF
21. He asked if such projects could be replicated in the South West Indian Ocean region in collaboration with the SWIOFP and ASCLME projects and the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission.
22. In the short discussions that followed the presentation, members commended the project for the modest achievements made. The ASCLME reiterated their satisfaction with the support that it is receiving from the EAF-Nansen project and noted the wealth of data and information that had been collected during the ASCLME/EAF-Nansen cruises made in 2008.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND ROLES

23. The Project Coordinator introduced this agenda item. He said that under institutional arrangement for the project, the project management structure is shown in the figure below with provision for a regional steering committee (RSC) for each of the four operational areas of the project namely; the Canary Current LME area, the Guinea Current LME area, the Benguela Current LME area and the Agulhas and Somali Currents LME area (referred to in this report as the South West Indian Ocean area).



24. He said that each RSC is to have representatives of fisheries research and management institutions in the partner countries in the region, as well as IMR (Institute of Marine Research in Norway), FAO and representatives of the LME Programmes and other partner programmes/ projects operating in the area.
25. The RSC is responsible for assessing the project progress and formulating recommendations to the project management regarding requirements, priorities and work-plans for project implementation in the respective region. The Coordinator noted that the regional steering committees are now being operationalised.
26. An Advisory Group has been put together to play the role of a global “Steering Committee” to assess the project progress across regions, and to advise the project management to ensure effective implementation of the project.
27. An EAF Regional Task Group (RTG) has been established in each of the four operational regions of the project. Each RTG is composed of 1 member (and an alternate) from each country and representatives from relevant regional projects and Sub-regional Fisheries Commissions/Committees where applicable. The RTG is a forum for learning and exchange of ideas and advice in relation to EAF in a given region.
28. The project is facilitating the establishment of an EAF National Task Group in each participating country. The NTG is to assist in implementation of the project and not be totally responsible for it since EAF is a fisheries management issue that the Fisheries

Department is responsible for. The Coordinator took members through the terms of reference of the regional and national task groups.

29. The Members expressed satisfaction with the clarification given, especially the role of the national task groups and pledged to facilitate the establishment and functioning of the NTGs.
30. The need for coordination of the national focal points of the various projects was emphasised. Madagascar reported, for example, that it had decided to use the same committee as focal group for the ASCLME, SWIOFP and EAF-Nansen projects.

DR FRIDTJOF NANSEN SURVEYS

31. Introducing this agenda item, Tore Stromme, Research Coordinator of the EAF-Nansen project traced the history of the Nansen programme and recalled the surveys conducted in the South West Indian ocean in the late 1970s/early 1980s. He said that there has not been any comprehensive survey in Kenyan and Tanzanian waters since the last Nansen surveys and that fisheries managers in these countries still quote the results from those surveys. On the other hand there have been surveys in Mozambican waters through bi-lateral fisheries cooperation between Mozambique and Norway including an ecosystem survey in 2007.
32. Mr Stromme noted that the surveys that have been started in the South West Indian Ocean region with the ASCLME and SWIOFP projects are helping to update the baselines established nearly 30 years ago.
33. He mentioned the security situation in the region arising from the operation of Somali pirates and the effect on the planned surveys. He regretted the inability of the EAF-Nansen project to authorise the use of the vessel above Latitude 10° S, which virtually includes all the waters of Somalia, Kenya and Tanzania. He further regretted the effect that this decision has had on the field work of the SWIOFP and ASCLME projects.
34. Mr Stromme advised the partners in the region to always submit their requests for vessel time early since Norad always wants to have the plan for the vessel in good time.
35. In the discussions that followed, the RSC members wanted to know whether FAO shares the information on the piracy situation with the partners. It was noted that the decision taken not to deploy the R/V Dr Fridtjof Nansen in the waters of Kenya and Tanzania had been discussed in the SWIOFP meeting earlier in the week and in June. Some members considered this a lost opportunity to update information on resource status in the region. It was specifically mentioned that even though the regional projects (ASCLME and SWIOFP) may find other vessels to do the work, there was a question as to whether these can deliver results of the same scientific quality.
36. Another issue was on how countries respond to the requests to put scientists on board the vessel for surveys. ASCLME noted that this has not been the best.
37. FAO explained that the cost of the vessel's operations is shared between the EAF-Nansen project and requesting partner and that access to the vessel and the cost to partners are determined by a minimum set of conditions. The conditions include the nature of work to be done, the geographical location, the possibility for capacity building and local ownership.

WORK PLAN FOR 2009/10

38. Introducing the agenda item, Kyriakos Kourkouliotis, Operations Officer of the EAF-Nansen project recalled the duration of the project, the total budget, contributions by Norad and the partners (FAO and LME projects) and the funding gap that exists in the project. He reminded the RSC members that the total budget covers vessel operations and implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries at both national and regional levels. He said that the latter involves incorporating ecosystem consideration into management, policy formulation, capacity building, GIS, information dissemination, etc. He said that so far support to countries, have been in the areas of bringing scientists and managers to meetings and workshop and informed members that the next steps will be through the concept notes that NTGs are preparing and are expected to develop these into small projects that the EAF-Nansen project can fund.
39. Mr Kourkouliotis said that since funds for in-country activities are limited, there is no specific budgetary allocation to each country and that disbursement is demand driven. He explained that the project has been designed with strong linkages to the existing relevant GEF projects and funding of activities is therefore considered incremental.
40. He explained the procedure to access funding from the project for the work of the NTGs. He also explained the nature and essence of the Letter of Agreement (LoA) required by FAO, the guidelines for the use of the funds and the technical and financial reporting expected from the countries. He further explained that the USD5 000 that the project is now working to transfer to the countries is only to facilitate the work of the NTG and should not be seen as the only funding from the project to the country.
41. Mr Kourkouliotis ended by saying that the work programme for the coming year is therefore a composite of the work programme of each NTG and the activities that will be undertaken at regional level by the project coordination unit.
42. In the discussions that followed the Committee members sought clarification on a number of things including what the USD5 000 can be used for, the procedure to follow to access financial and technical support for the preparation of fishery management plans, etc. It was suggested that demonstration of policy change should be an important factor to consider in giving financial support to the countries.
43. There was a lengthy discussion on the issue of fishery management plans. It was recommended that the project organises a workshop on the preparation of management plans and SWIOFP offered to support this kind of workshop.

MID-TERM REVIEW

44. Introducing the agenda item, the Project Coordinator informed the meeting that an internal mid term review (MTR) of the EAF-Nansen project (GCP/INT/003/NOR) was carried out in June/July to provide an assessment of the implementation status of the project, to make recommendations for changes in overall design and orientation, to make recommendations for the work plan for the remainder of the project (2009 – 2011), and to provide elements in the process for discussing possible continuation of the project.

45. The meeting was informed that FAO found the mid-term review report well written and addressing the key issues of the project. It was noted that the project has raised significant high level awareness of EAF concepts in the target countries but there has been variable progress on integrating the EAF into fisheries management and environmental policy, marine, fisheries and environmental law. It was also noted that given vessel and human resources, the project has to elaborate detailed criteria for deciding the priorities for engagement, including country need and commitment, the social and economic importance of marine ecosystems and the threats to and fragility of the marine ecosystem.
46. The Regional Steering Committee urged FAO to implement as much of the mid-term review recommendations as possible.
47. Some members noted that “ecosystem” has been used as the mother of many things and urged FAO to explain the EAF concept as clearly as possible to the countries. They agreed to the suggestion by the project coordination team that to publicise and advocate a popular understanding of the EAF approach, a competition be held across the SWIO region for the most succinct and meaningful explanation of EAF in a single sentence.

TRAINING & FELLOWSHIPS

48. The meeting was informed that the capacity building component of the project is still not fully developed but training and capacity building have been undertaken with activities in connection with the *R/V Dr Fridtjof Nansen* surveys and the workshops/meetings organised on ecological risk assessment and elaboration of fishery management plans. The Project Coordinator briefed the meeting on planned capacity building programmes including a formal course at the University of Ghana, Accra. The RSC lauded these initiatives and recommended that some university staff members from the WIO region be sponsored to participate in the course in Ghana with a view to starting a similar course in the region.
49. The Coordinator informed members that the Advisory Group has asked the project to distinguish between short term and longer term courses and training programmes and that the EAF-Nansen project should not be expected to fill the vacuum for all kinds of fisheries training as is perhaps perceived by the participating countries.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

50. The Coordinator of the African Union Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund project, Nancy Gitonga, explained the nature of the fund and how countries can take advantage of the opportunities that it offers. She encouraged countries to seize the opportunity that the various projects in the region are offering and the possibility of packaging the various contributions as co-financing necessary to access bigger funding from the Investment Fund for country-level projects.
51. She also informed the meeting about the African Fisheries Ministers conference scheduled to take place in Banjul, The Gambia in December 2009. She said that in the past the AU did not give fisheries the importance that it deserves and was happy to note the change that is coming. She also encouraged the Fisheries Directors present to work hard to get their ministers to attend the Banjul meeting.

DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

52. FAO recalled the positive comments made earlier by members on the merits of holding the 4th Session of the SWIOFC, the regional meetings and Steering Committee meeting of SWIOFP and the EAF-Nansen project RSC meeting back-to-back. Since the 5th Session of the SWIOFC will be in two years time (2011), the meeting was informed that the next EAF-Nansen project RSC meeting will be held back-to-back with the next Steering Committee meeting of the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP). The venue and date of the meetings will be decided in consultation with the SWIOFP management and communicated to members in due course.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

53. FAO presented a set of recommendations compiled in the course of the meeting for consideration by the members. After discussions the following recommendations were arrived at.
54. The EAF Nansen Project Regional Steering Committee (RSC) for the South West Indian Ocean area:
- Noted and generally agreed with the mid-term review findings and recommendations as presented to it in the working document and expressed its appreciation to the reviewers;
 - Appreciated the support provided by Norad through FAO and noted that the assistance is helping the countries in achieving the MDG goals and WSSD targets relevant to the fisheries sector. In this regard the RSC:
 - Strongly urges the fisheries management agencies to harness the links between the national task force and the national reporting mechanism for fisheries management
 - Calls for a mechanism to assist countries gauge their programme performance in embracing the EAF at national level
 - Welcomed the decision of the SWIOFC and the EAF-Nansen project to collaborate in the organisation of two working groups on fishery resources noting that they will assist in follow-up training and use of data from the RV Dr Fridtjof Nansen surveys.
 - Proposed that there should be at least one regional training workshop in 2010 on the development of management plans incorporating the EAF approach. The workshop should include specific case studies of existing management plans in the SWIO countries, presenting how these were developed and what would be required for them to include the EAF approach. The training workshop should also include model management plans from outside the region that have included the EAF approach.
 - Recalled that, similar to the training under taken by FAO-DANIDA in the 1980s, training on the EAF approach should be over an extended period in order to make a significant impact in the region. It therefore agrees entirely with the findings of the mid-term review on this matter.
 - Proposed that to publicise and advocate a popular understanding of the EAF approach, a competition be held across the SWIO region for the most succinct and meaningful explanation of EAF in a single sentence.
 - Sought the support of the project to encourage the development of a course on EAF in one or a few Universities in the SWIO region. This could initially take the form of a study tour of select University staff from the region to the University of Ghana, Legon where such a course is being established.

- Decided that there should be a standing agenda item in its subsequent meetings where the Regional Task Group Chair would provide a review of project EAF activities, issues and constraints, based on his/her regular communication with the National Task Groups.
 - Noted with appreciation the publicity and sensitization initiatives that are proposed by the project for 2010 but also wished to emphasise that primary stakeholders (such as fishers and their communities) should also be involved.
 - Reminded focal points of the need for synergy between EAF-Nansen, SWIOFP, and ASCLME at the national level and that they should seek to communicate regularly as focal points of these 3 regional projects. They should also inform the Regional Task Group Chair and the EAF-Nansen Project Coordinator on how this synergy could be enhanced, if it is not already in existence
 - Wished to bring to the attention of FAO and the EAF-Nansen project that the AU Ministerial Meeting due to take place in Banjul, the Gambia in December 2009, is an important opportunity to sensitise Minister's of Fisheries to EAF and thus advance the approach in Africa.
55. The meeting was closed with the Chairman expressing his appreciation to FAO for the support being extended to the region through the EAF-Nansen project. He also thanked the members for their contributions.

**APPENDIX A
PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Registration |
| 9:00 -10:30 | Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening and administrative arrangements • Election of Chair, Vice Chair & Rapporteurs • Agenda • Introduction to the EAF-Nansen project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update on activities ○ Project management structure and roles |
| 10:30-11:00 | Coffee Break |
| 11:00-13:00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Fridtjof Nansen surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Surveys in the Western Indian Ocean Region ○ Survey plan for 2009/10 • Work Plan for 2009/10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In-country activities (Project Concept Notes) ○ Finance and administration issues |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch |
| 14:00 -16:00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-Term Review • Training & Fellowships • AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AU Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund ○ Africa Fisheries Ministers’ Conference • Conclusions and Recommendations |
| 16:00-16.30 | Coffee Break |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THE END |

**APPENDIX B
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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APPENDIX C
TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT A STEERING
COMMITTEE AND A WORKING GROUP FOR THE EAF-NANSEN PROJECT AS
SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE SWIOFC

The terms and conditions will be as follows:

- SWIOFC to establish the EAF-Nansen Project Regional Steering Committee as an *ad hoc* committee in accordance with article 6.3 of the Statutes of the Commission and rule X of its Rules of Procedure, for the duration of the EAF-Nansen Project.
- The membership of the Committee shall consist of Comoros, France, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and Tanzania and other institutions/projects that are collaborating with the EAF-Nansen project in the South Western Indian Ocean region (including the ASCLME project, SWIOFP, the UNEP Joint Implementation Unit of the Nairobi and Abidjan Convention, etc)
- Any cost involved in the operation of the Committee, including any incremental cost to the Commission, shall be borne by the EAF-Nansen Project.
- The Committee shall report to the Commission at the regular Sessions of the Commission.
- The Chairman of the Committee shall be determined at its first session according to the Rules of Procedure.
- The Secretary of the Regional Steering Committee shall be the EAF Coordinator of the EAF-Nansen Project, working in close collaboration with the Secretary of the Commission.
- English and French shall be the working languages of the Committee.

Also at their said meeting in Maputo, the Scientific Committee of the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission proposed to adopt the EAF-Nansen Project Regional Task Group as an *ad hoc* Working Group under the Committee.

Membership of the *ad hoc* Working Group (EAF-Regional Task Group) shall consist of persons nominated by Comoros, France, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and Tanzania and other institutions/projects that are collaborating with the EAF-Nansen project in the South Western Indian Ocean region.

Any cost involved in the operation of the *ad hoc* Working Group, including any incremental cost to the Commission and/or its Scientific Committee, shall be borne by the EAF-Nansen Project.

