



SFS/DM/SWIOFC/19/5 E

SOUTHWEST INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES COMMISSION

Tenth Session

Maldives, 1 to 3 October 2019

MATTERS REGARDING COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE SWIOFC AND THE SWIOFISH1 PROJECT: REPORT OF THE SWIOFISH1 STEERING COMMITTEE

The SWIOFish1 Regional Project Coordinator, Mr. D. Mauree, reported to the Steering Committee the progress made to date in the implementation of the SWIOFish1 Programme for 2019 that had been approved at the previous SWIOFish1 Steering Committee, held during the 9th SWIOFC Session, South Africa, 9-12 October 2018.

Members Countries noted the progress of work carried out during the period under review and thanked the Regional Coordinator for the support provided for the organization and delegates' attendance of the SWIOFC meetings held throughout the years, namely the 1st Working Group on Small Pelagic Fisheries, the 9th Session of the Scientific Committee, the 9th Session of the Working Party on Collaboration and Cooperation in Tuna Fisheries (WPCCTF), and the 10th SWIOFC Session.

The Regional Project Coordinator also presented the SWIOFish1 Financial report as at mid-September 2019. He underlined that during the period under review the project was able to disburse 71% of the total budget for programme activities.

The Regional Project Coordinator presented the Programme of Work and the Budget of the SWIOFish1 for 2020-YR5, that had been previously approved by the SWIOFC Bureau via virtual consultation. The SWIOFC Members approved the SWIOFish1 2020-YR5 Budget. Detailed explanatory notes for each element in the Budget were also provided.

Regarding the two requests of support that stemmed from the 9th WPCCTF meeting, i.e. a meeting of the MTC Task Force and a Ministerial Meeting to take a final decision about the possible establishment of the SWIO FFA, the Regional Project Coordinator informed that the former could be held back-to-back with the regional workshop to validate the report of the "Study on Tuna Fisheries Direct and Indirect Contribution to GDP and Wealth Distribution Patterns in the SWIOFC Member Countries", while the latter could be tentatively scheduled for March 2020.