

BRANCH FISHERIES MANAGEMENT
**SALDANHA BAY AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT ZONE (ADZ)
 CONSULTATIVE FORUM (CF)**

Record of Meeting

Date	5 February 2019
Time	18h00 – 20h00
Venue	Dial Rock Hall, Saldanha
Chairperson	Errol Cerff
Secretary	Erik Botha

Documents referred to in the Record can be found using the following link:
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1f6GeSFBf9gNuFWvi9Okd9OhJtVyyyZW>

NO.	AGENDA ITEM	ACTION
1	Welcome and introductions The Chairman welcomed all present. Attendees were given the opportunity to introduce themselves.	
2	Finalization of agenda The Chairman proposed changes to the order in which the presentations would be made. No objections were noted, and the proposed changes were adopted.	
3	New Matters arising	
3.1	Progress update on the ADZ Michelle Pretorius from DAFF gave a presentation regarding the progress with, and current state of the ADZ. This presentation can be viewed by following link at the top of the first page of this record. The following questions were raised after the presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inge Frost: Have any changes been made to either the Molopong or Southern Cross EMPs since the granting of the EA? Michelle Pretorius responded that DAFF and the AMC working group had scrutinized the EMPs and requested certain updates. This was done in order to ensure alignment of the EMPs with the ADZ EMP. She added that the EMPs are not final and that an amendment process is in place whereby the EMPs can be changed, pending the results of the regular compulsory audits. Inge Frost: Is the Molapong ECO a different person from the ADZ ECO? The Chairman responded that Christine Rabie (also from Ecosense) has been appointed as the Molapong ECO. Krijn Resoort from Molapong added that Christine was selected on the basis of her extensive experience in both freshwater and marine aquaculture projects. It was also noted that each finfish operator would be required to appoint their own independent ECO once operations commence. 	

3.2	<p>Adoption of ToR for the CF</p> <p>The Chairman discussed the issue around the confidentiality stipulations contained in the ToRs. Certain CF members raised concerns over this during the course of the previous meeting. However, no formal submissions in this regard had been made to the Secretariat. It was resolved that CF members have until the end of the week (8th February 2019) to comment on, or request changes to the ToRs, failing which they will be adopted as they currently read. The following questions were raised regarding the ToRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inge Frost: Could the frequency of the meetings be increased? The Chairman commented that the frequency of the CF meetings is stipulated in the ADZ EMP. He undertook to issue the communication register to all stakeholders in the event of any issue occurring between meetings so that all stakeholders are kept informed. However, it remains possible to convene ad hoc meeting should the need arise. • Inge Frost: Does the fact that the ECO also chairs the CF meeting not constitute a conflict of interest? The ECO needs to be a demonstrably independent individual with no direct or indirect interests in any of the authorised activities. As such, the ECO is also a suitable candidate to chair the CF in a non-partisan manner. 	CF members to review ToRs
3.3	<p>Presentation on the Operation Phakisa Oceans Economy initiative</p> <p>Andera Bernatzeder from DAFF gave a presentation regards the Operation Phakisa Oceans Economy initiative. This presentation can be viewed by following link at the top of the first page of this record.</p> <p>The following questions were raised after the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Kruger raised concern over hearsay that finfish farming has not been successful in other parts of the world. He enquired whether DAFF had considered lesson learnt from similar initiatives? Andrea Bernatzeder responded that DAFF had conducted extensive feasibility studies and also engaged with various international agencies during the course of the planning phase of the project. She also noted that it is imperative to ensure that studies are conducted within the unique context of each operation, taking cognizance of project specific details such as species, habitat and local standards. 	
3.4	<p>Sampling plan and baseline study</p> <p>Andera Bernatzeder gave a brief update on the progress with the sampling plan and baseline study.</p> <p>She noted that the draft plan had been circulated for comment by the AMC. In addition, DAFF commissioned a third party review by Futurefish Pvt. Ltd. who found it to be in order, barring some concern over the high cost of implementing the monitoring. Andrea commented that DAFF will incur this expense for the moment in the interest of adhering to the precautionary principle enshrined in NEMA.</p> <p>Regarding the benthic baseline survey. CapMarine has commenced with the process of collecting samples from Outer Bay North and are moving into Big Bay (in collaboration with Dr Probin). DAFF will analyse the samples.</p> <p>The following comment was made after the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Kruger noted that the Saldanha Water Quality Trust had made extensive inputs in to the monitoring planning process and need to be kept informed of the progress and results thereof. 	
3.5	<p>Environmental Officer report back</p> <p>The ADZ ECO explained that since no operators have actually commenced farming under the new approvals, he is using the time to refine the monthly site visit checklists to ensure that all data required by the ADZ EA and EMP are collected and verified. Once this checklist has been finalized it will be distributed to all stakeholders for information. In the interim on the summary report is being completed and an example was shown to</p>	ADZ ECO

	<p>the CF members.</p> <p>The CF will be notified when operations commence.</p>	
4	Discussion	
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inge Frost observed that the attendance had dropped sharply from the last meeting and queried why this could be happening. The Chairman responded that this is not unusual for public forums of this nature. A short discussion followed on means by which the attendance and representivity of the forum could be improved. 	
4.2	<p>Correspondence received</p> <p>The Chairman briefly touched on the roll out and conclusion of the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seaweed wash-up (the full record of this issue was not included in the version of the Communication Register and must be updated before it is circulated again) Video of seals in finfish cages Buoys washed up on beach Damage to Buoy on finfish cage 	Chairman
4.3	<p>Identifying markings on floating infrastructure</p> <p>There is a need to mark farm infrastructure, especially buoys so that in the event of any coming loose, the owner can be identified. There are a number of complications to marking buoys as biofouling is an ongoing issue. A discussion was held with DAFF staff and the operators and each is to submit their plans for marking their buoys. Once these are finalized they will be forwarded to the CF members for information.</p>	
4.4	<p>Registration forms outstanding</p> <p>The Chairman reminded all those who have not yet completed and submitted a registration form to do so urgently. A request was made that the Secretariat include the blank registration form, as well as the list of registered parties with the record of the meeting for distribution to the CF. The list can be found at the link at the top of the first page of this record.</p>	Secretariat
6.	<p>Way forward</p> <p>No items were raised</p>	
7.	<p>Closure and date of next meetings</p> <p>The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 19:20.</p> <p>The dates for the upcoming meetings are: 6 May 2019 6 Aug 2019 6 Nov 2019</p>	