WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGIONAL INITIATIVE IN MARINE SCIENCE AND EDUCATION (WIO – RISE) NETWORK

Inaugural Meeting of the Regional Initiative in Science and Education (RISE)
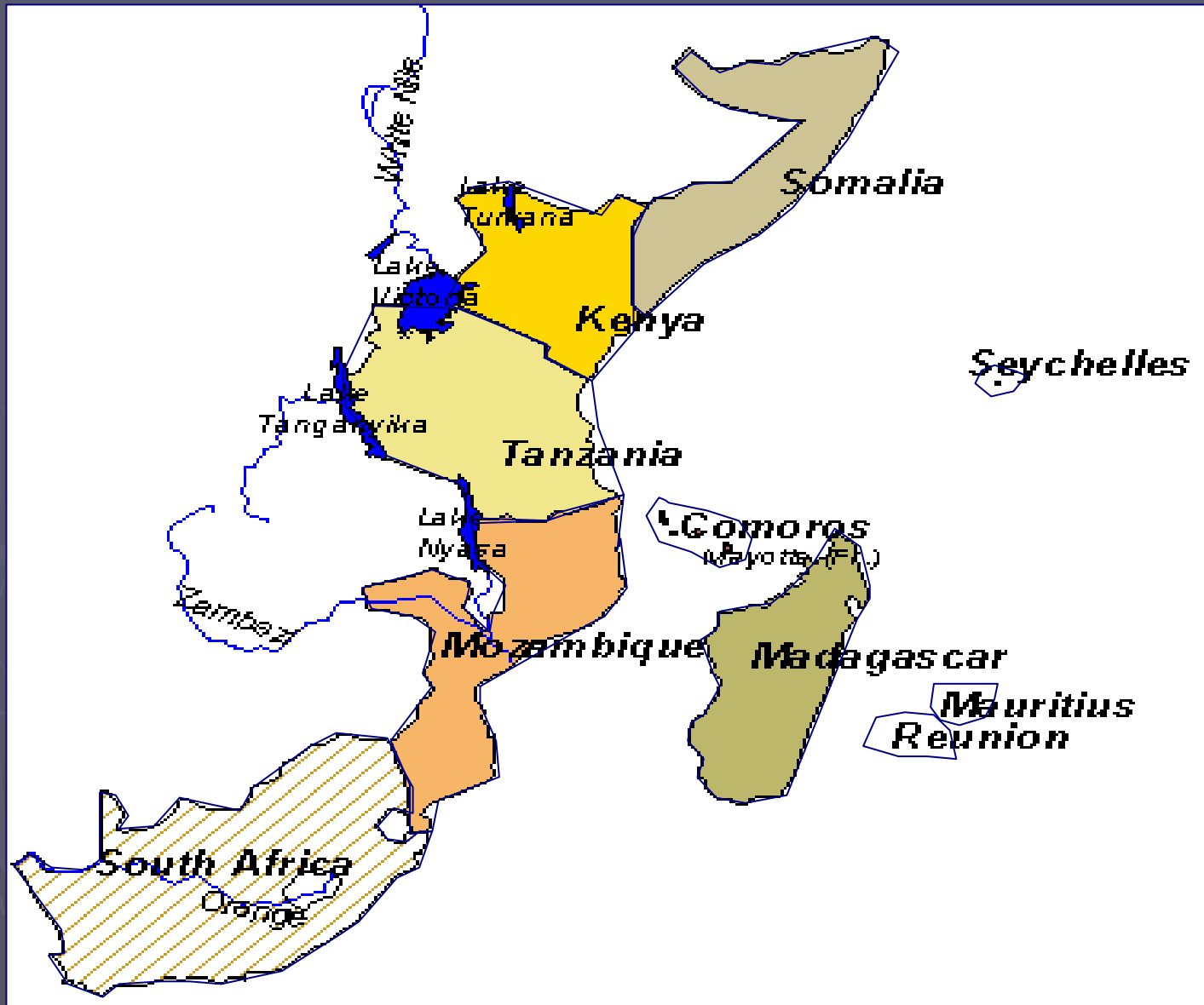
Nairobi,   6 – 7 October 2008

- ➤ **Academic Director and Principal Investigator:**

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- ➤ **Network Partners:**
  - Institute of Marine Sciences, University of Dar es Salaam, ZANZIBAR,   **TANZANIA**
  - School of Marine and Coastal Studies, Eduardo Mondlane University, C/O P.O. Box 128, Quelimane, **MOZAMBIQUE**
  - Oceanography Dept. University of Cape Town,Private Bag X3 Rondebosch 7701, **SOUTH AFRICA**

WIO – REGION COUNTRIES

1. BACKGROUND

- **In Eastern and Southern Africa, the marine environment consists of:**

    - **important ecosystems, high in biodiversity and productivity (such as coral reefs, sea grass beds and mangroves),**

    - **providing resources (LIVING AND NONLIVING) to support the livelihoods of over 20 million people along 10,000 km of coast.**

    While these populations are growing at 6% per year, the cultural diversity and ecosystems on which they depend are degrading due to local and global overexploitation, pollution and climate change, risking a loss in livelihoods and rise in poverty.

1. BACKGROUND cont'd

- The Commission for Africa has identified the need for Centres of Excellence in Science and Technology as priorities for sustainable development for Africa

- The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO urges governments to place the protection and preservation of the ocean and its resources at a high level of priority within their national programmes, and to cooperate in their national efforts to resolve ocean issues of mutual concern.

- The Pan-African Conference on Sustainable Integrated Coastal Management (PACSICOM), held in Maputo, Mozambique, in July 1998 recommended:

1.   BACKGROUND cont'd

► Formation of an Africa-wide network of national ocean data centres;

► Upgrading and expanding the present African network of stations for the monitoring sea-level rise;

► Creating a network of specialists trained in the use of data acquired by remote sensing from space satellites;

► Facilitating the further implementation of modern electronic communication systems such as Internet connections and data transfer mechanisms

► Training and education in marine sciences and technology and their application to sustainable development;

1. BACKGROUND cont'd

► **Carnegie-IAS Regional Initiative in Science and Education (RISE) has brought opportunities to REALISE PACSICOM (1998) RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. WIO-RISE NETWORK'S OBJECTIVES

► Main Objective:

To build scientific and technological capacity and to catalyze excellence in research and training in marine science in the Western Indian Ocean region for sustainable development, utilization of coastal and marine resources; and protection of the coastal and marine environment

2.   WIO-RISE NETWORK'S OBJECTIVES

► **Specific Objectives**:

- To provide graduate training and attract the best graduate students in the WIO -Region

- To provide specialized field and laboratory facilities to support research in marine sciences, education and technology;

- To provide opportunities to visiting faculty from outside the WIO-Region region thereby enhancing technology transfer;

- To provide research funding and opportunities for WIO-Regional faculty and students

- To enhance communication between the network nodes by upgrading internet connectivity and promoting ICT in teaching and learning

- Enhance regional collaboration in marine sciences and technology: education, research and development

3. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

3.1 Management

► There will **a Steering Committee (PSC)** and a Small Secretariat

3.2 Graduate Training

► Recruitment : MSc and PhD in (i) marine chemistry (marine natural products and bio-chemistry), (ii) Applied Mathematics/Physics and Computer Science and Applied Marine Science (Physical Oceanography, Ocean and Atmospheric Science). Students will be recruited from the WIO-Region countries, i.e. Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar, Mauritius, the Comoros and Seychelles. Women candidates with equal qualifications will be given priority.

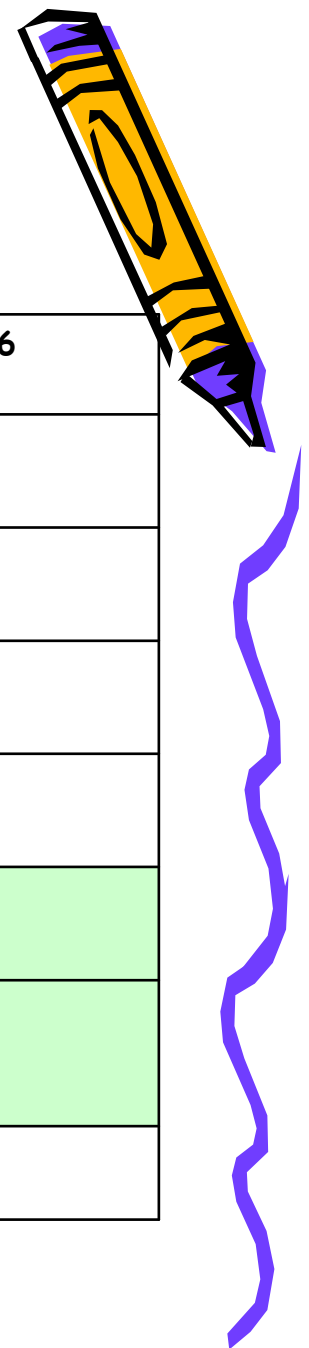3.2   Graduate Training
·   Intake numbers :

Table 1. Proposed intake population for the first 6 years

Category			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
MSc	Intake 1		5	5				
	Intake 2			5	5			
PhD	Intake 1		5	5	5			
	Intake 2			0	0	0		
	Intake 3 (MSc non-terminal)	3.1			5	5	5	
		3.2				5	5	5
TOTAL STUDENT POPULATION			10	15	15	10	10	5

3. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

3.3 OTHER COMPONENTS

➤ **Support for Travel and conferences** (visiting faculty and students)

➤ Research Fund

➤ **Grant to nodes:** Some funds will be allocated to support communication (internet connectivity and telephone, teleconferencing) literature, consumables (chemicals and computer accessories) and specialised computers

➤ **Salaries to faculty mentoring PhD students**: Faculty members will be compensated for part of their time for mentoring students. The amount will not exceed $1,000 per student. This is in accordance with UCT and UDSM regulations.

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