



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Initiative B3: Exploiting the Broader Research Opportunities Presented by Offshore Oil And Gas Exploration

Towards the Establishment of the South African Marine Research and Exploration Forum (SAMREF)

Thursday 23 July 2015

The context

An in-principle agreement was reached in the Oil and Gas lab of Operation Phakisa that oil and gas exploration activities provide platforms which could promote South Africa's knowledge of its marine living natural resources, marine environment and ocean-related renewable energy resources.

B3: “Exploiting the Broader Research Opportunities Presented by Offshore Oil and Gas Exploration”

What are the opportunities?

Research initiatives on ocean-going platforms that would not otherwise be feasible (because the platforms are absent)

Coordinated collection of marine and oceanic data (e.g., on marine renewable energies, long-term climate change variables, etc.)

What is needed to realise B3 purpose?

Brokerage service to match availability of ocean-going platforms with research needs

Agreement on research data of joint interest to the public and private sector

Protocols on access to and standards for such data

Moving forward ...

- Form interim steering committee from working group
- Finalise ToRs for interim steering committee (by working group) and convene interim steering committee
- Formulate draft ToRs for SAMREF (include provision for steering committee and secretariat)
- Interim steering committee to finalise ToRs in consultation with stakeholders (ahead of launch)
- Organise launch
- Exploit existing opportunities (already)