

ABNJ Workshop

SEAFO

**(Experiences, Priorities and Opportunities in the
South East Atlantic)**

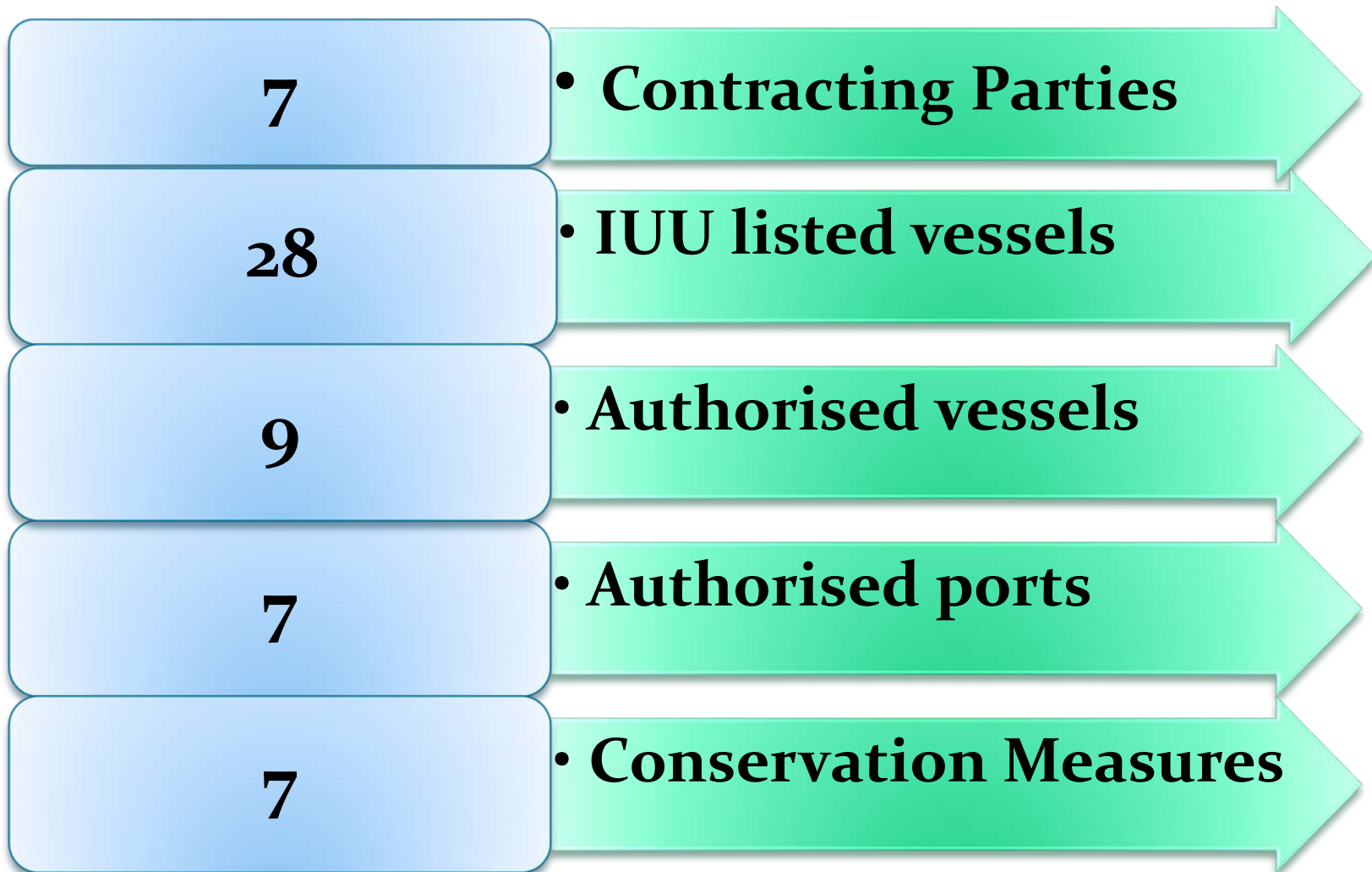
History

- **SEAFO is the first post UNFSA , RFMO for straddling and discrete stocks**
- **Convention came into force in April 2003**
- **Secretariat based in Swakopmund, Namibia**
- **Membership open to all States and regional economic integration organisations who have participated in SEAFO negotiations or whose vessels fish for stocks covered by the Convention**
- **C-Parties: Angola, EU, Japan, Korea, SA, Namibia and Norway**

Objective

- **SEAFO Convention is to ensure long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Convention Area**

SEAFO PROFILE



Measures in place to protect VMEs

- **11 Area Closures (Adopted 2006, updated 2010)**
- **Adopted SEAFO Fishing Footprint in 2010 (reference period 1987 – Jul 2011)**
- **Exploratory Fishing Protocol for New Fishing Areas is in place**
- **Gear specific areas added to existing fishing area**
- **Coral / Sponge By-catch Thresholds**
- **VME Encounter Protocols (Move-On Rules)**



Measures in place to protect the ecosystem

- Reduce incidental by-catch of seabirds, ban deep sea sharks catches, reduce incidental mortality of sea turtles in fishing operations
- Banning of gillnets
- TAC's for five species in place



P. toothfish



Orange Roughy



Alfonsino



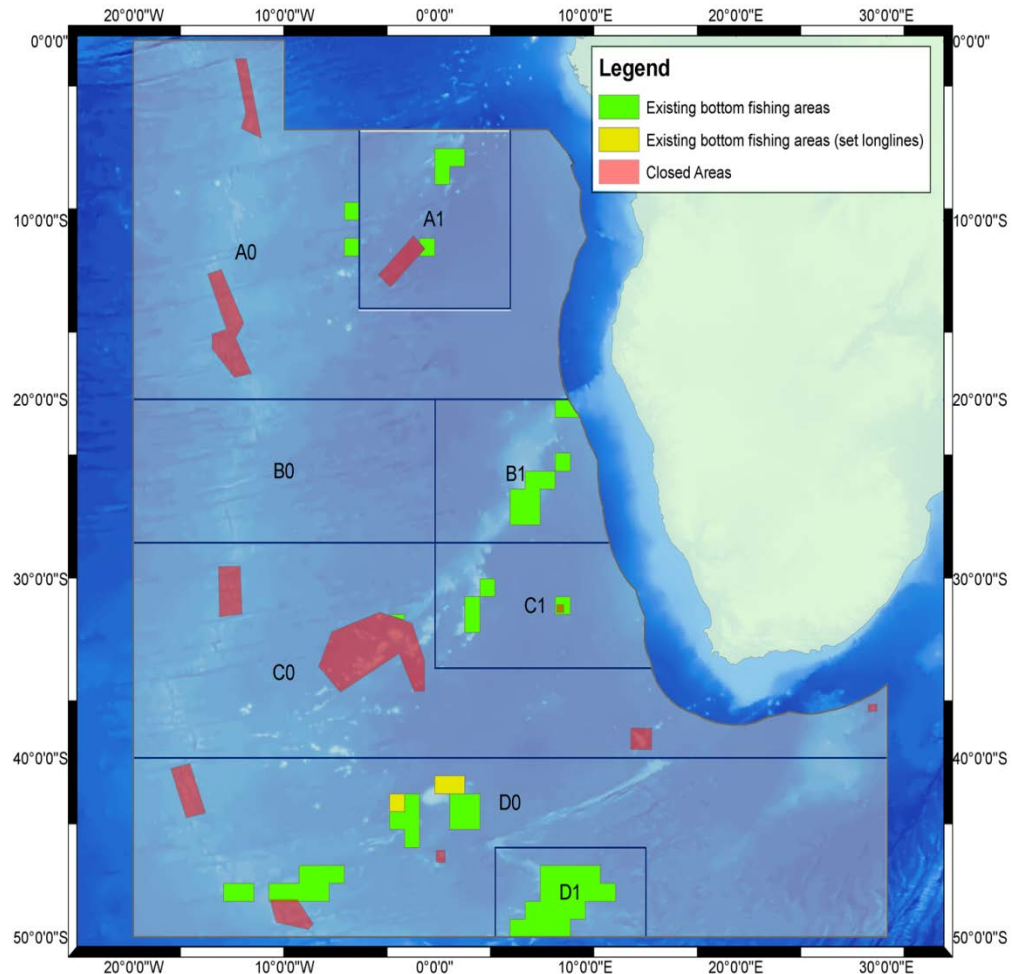
Boar fish



Crab

Closures profile

- Total SEAFO CA
15,872,819 sq km
- Closed area's (11)
~ 3.18%
- Fishing footprint
~ 3.26%
- Subject to
Exploratory
fisheries
~ 93.6%



Priorities

Data poor situation

- **Fishing pressure is very low**
- Parties are required to collect and exchange scientific, technical and statistical data (*CPs agreed to provide Logbook data - 2014*)
- Parties must provide info on fishing activities including fishing areas and fishing vessels in order to facilitate compilation of reliable catch and cpue information

Dr Fridjof Nansen Survey in the SEAFO CA

- 15 Jan – 12 Feb 2015
- Analyse occurrence and abundance of benthopelagic fish and sessile epibenthos, including indicators of VMEs, in selected ‘existing fishing areas’ and areas closed to fishing within the SEAFO CA.



Priorities

- **Conducting training of scientific observers
Training workshop in Korea presented by
Birdlife International 2013 & next training
workshop April 2015 in Namibia**
- **Established a Special Requirements Fund to
assist developing Contracting Parties with
capacity building to implement the
Convention**

Opportunities

- Establish networks to ensure continued collaboration, awareness building and exchange among stakeholders UN, FAO, CWP/FIRMS, RFMOS (NEAFC, NAFO, ICCAT, CCAMLR, SIOFA) & NAMMCO
 - Joint listing of IUU Vessels (NEAFC,NAFO,CCAMLR)
 - Promote the use of unified MCS protocols (e.g. VMS reporting frequency)
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- Develop improved tools and identification guides for vulnerable deep-sea species to be used on board deep-sea fishing vessels i.e. coral and sponges, turtle, sharks and fish ID guides
- Co-organize regional workshops to raise awareness and share information on issues related to vulnerable marine ecosystems and related management measures – FAO VME (March 2013/Feb 2015) and EBSAS (March 2013)

Thank you