

The Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) 6th Meeting of the Parties
01-05 July 2019

Pearle Beach Resort & Spa conference centre, Flic en Flac, Mauritius

MoP6-INFO-05 Rev1

Joint Commission of the Extended Continental Shelf Mascarene Plateau
Region

Relates to agenda item: 15

Proposal ☐ Working Document ☐ Information Paper ☒ Other Document ☐

SIOFA Secretariat

Abstract

In an email to HoDs dated 26th February 2019 I forward communication received from Mauritius regarding the Mauritius & Seychelles Joint Management Area that extends into the SIOFA Area and a copy the confirmation/response letter from the Secretariat (Annex I).

At the Fifth Meeting of the Parties which took place 25-29 June 2018 in Thailand, Mauritius reiterated its claim for historical rights on the Saya de Malha Bank and stated that the Secretariat would be informed of the progress on the legal evaluation undertaken by Mauritius (MoP5 Report, Para 781).

It is not understood if the communication received from Mauritius is the legal evaluation referred to at MoP5. A further response was provided by Mr Dr Badal 8 April 2019 (Annex II)



Executive Secretary
Mr Jonathan Lansley
APSOI/SIOFA
C/O DAAF
Batiment B
Parc de la Providence
97489 Saint-Denis de La Réunion

Dr M. Rezah Badal
Co-ordinator (Joint Management area)
2nd Floor, Belmont House, Intendance Street
Port Louis
Republic of Mauritius

26 February 2019

Dear Dr M. Rezah Badal,

Ref: Joint Management Area Mauritius & Seychelles

Thank you for your communication dated 18 Feb 2019 (attached), I acknowledge receipt of this letter.

SIOFA Secretariat will transmit this letter to Contracting Parties for their consideration without delay.

At the Fifth Meeting of the Parties which took place 25-29 June 2018 in Thailand, Mauritius reiterated its claim for historical rights on the Saya de Malha Bank and stated that the Secretariat would be informed of the progress on the legal evaluation undertaken by Mauritius (MoP5 Report, Para 78¹).

Please confirm if this letter is the legal evaluation of Mauritius discussed at MoP5.

Kind regards

Executive Secretary

Jonathan LANSLEY

Cc: Tim Costelloe, SIOFA Acting Chairperson
SIOFA MoP Heads of Delegation

¹ <http://apsoi.org/sites/default/files/documents/meetings/MoP5%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>

From: [mzadministration](#)
To: [jon@siofa.org](#); [mcs@siofa.org](#); [t.costelloe@mmr.gov.ck](#)
Cc: ["Rezah Badal"](#); [jkoonjul@yahoo.com](#); ["Philippe Michaud"](#)
Subject: Mauritius/Seychelles_Established of the Joint Management Area
Date: 18 February 2019 16:05:51
Attachments: [Letter_Mauritius-Seychelles_Established of the Joint Management Area.pdf](#)
[JMA_A4_SubmittedMag.pdf](#)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to the establishment of the Extended Continental Shelf/Joint Management Area between Mauritius and Seychelles, the Joint Commission wishes to apprise the SIOFA of this new jurisdiction.

2. Please find enclosed a letter addressed to that effect from JMA Co-ordinator.

Thank you and Regards,

Dr M. Rezah BADAL

Co-ordinator

(Joint Management Area)

2nd Floor, Belmont House, Intendance Street

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JOINT COMMISSION OF THE EXTENDED CONTINENTAL SHELF MASCARENE PLATEAU REGION

18 February 2019

The Executive Secretary
Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA/APSOI)
C/O DAAF, Batiment B
Parc de la Providence
97489 Saint Denis Cedex
La Réunion

Dear Sir/Madam

MAURITIUS-SEYCHELLES ESTABLISHED OF THE JOINT MANAGEMENT AREA

I have the honor to inform you that in March 2011, the United Nations Commission on the limits of the Continental Shelf conferred upon the Republic of Seychelles and the Republic of Mauritius an extended continental shelf covering an area of 396 000 km². The two countries have subsequently signed two treaties in March 2012 establishing the joint exercise of their sovereign rights on and to sustainably manage the natural resources of that area.

2. The outer limits of the said extended continental shelf also known as the Mauritius-Seychelles Joint Management Area (JMA) are depicted in the attached map and have also been published in the Law of the Sea Bulletin No. 79 of 2013, pages 25-52.

3. The treaties also provide for the area to be managed by a Joint Commission comprising of officials from both countries.

4. It has come to the attention of the Joint Commission that in the publications of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Secretariat, the area under the management of the Joint Commission continues to be depicted as an area managed under SIOFA.

5. The Joint Commission would therefore highly appreciate it if the necessary steps could be taken to correctly depict the outer limits of the Mauritius-Seychelles Joint Management Area (JMA) in all future documents published the SIOFA and for a corrigendum to that effect to be issued with regard to publications made after March 2011.

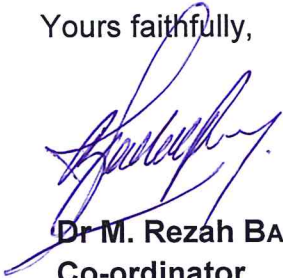
.../cont'd

6. It also follows that SIOFA can no longer devise any policy or implement any project in the Mauritius Seychelles Joint Management Area.

7. I should be grateful if you could kindly bring the above to the attention of the SIOFA members and acknowledge receipt of this letter.

Please accept, dear Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

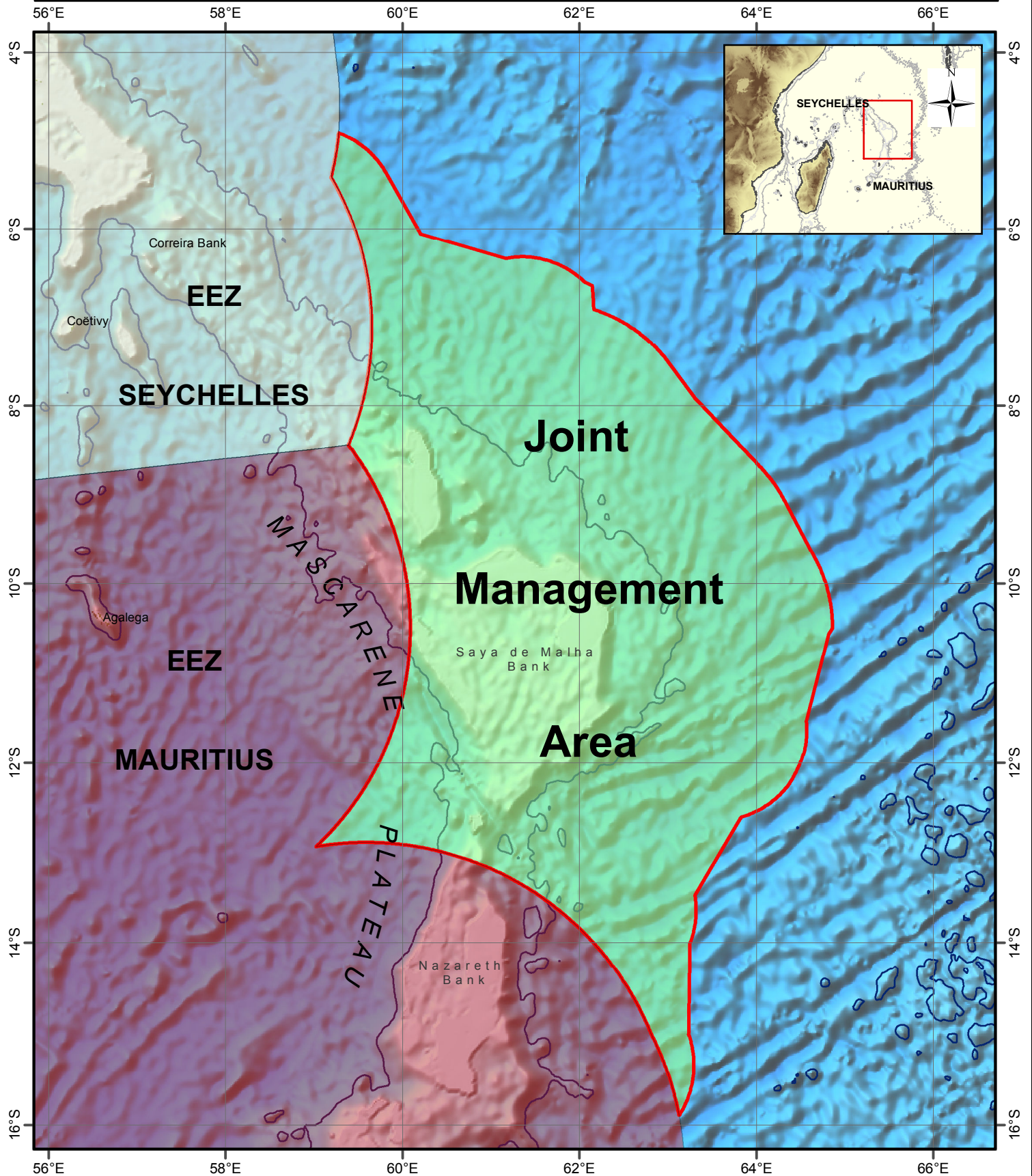
Yours faithfully,



Dr M. Rezah BADAL
Co-ordinator
(Joint Management Area)

JOINT MANAGEMENT AREA


ANNEX I




Scale: 1:6,500,000 (Designed for A4 paper)


Datum: WGS84 Projection: Mercator

Kilometers
0 25 50 100 150 200 250

 2500 m Isobath

 Joint Management Area

 Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of Mauritius

 Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of Seychelles



**JOINT COMMISSION OF THE EXTENDED CONTINENTAL SHELF
MASCARENE PLATEAU REGION**

08 April 2019

**Mr Jonathan Lansley
Executive Secretary
Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA/APSOI)
C/O DAAF, Batiment B
Parc de la Providence
97489 Saint Denis Cedex
La Réunion**

Dear Sir,

**MAURITIUS-SEYCHELLES
ESTABLISHED OF THE JOINT MANAGEMENT AREA**

I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 26 February 2019 informing the Joint Commission that the content of the letter dated 18 February 2019 has been circulated to all members States of SIOFA.

2. I shall be grateful if you could inform me of the action taken by SIOFA to effect the necessary changes in all SIOFA documents as well as on SIOFA's website to reflect the geographical boundaries of the JMA upon which Mauritius and Seychelles exercise a joint jurisdiction.

3. With regard to the second part of the letter, I wish to inform you that the JMA is not concerned with the matter.

4. You may, therefore, wish to address the query to the relevant Mauritian Focal Point of SIOFA.

Yours faithfully,

**Dr M. Rezah BADAL
for Co-ordinator
Joint Management Area**