

## APPENDICES

Advisory review of the EIA for offshore exploration in Blocks 16 and 19,  
Inhambane and Sofala Provinces, Mozambique

(Appendices 1-2)

## APPENDIX 1

### Advisory review of the EIA for offshore exploration in Blocks 16 and 19, Inhambane and Sofala Provinces, Mozambique

**Van:** Inacio Bucuane [mailto:inacio.bucuane@micoa.gov.mz]

**Verzonden:** donderdag 24 augustus 2006 12:55

**Aan:** Reinoud Post

**Onderwerp:** relatório de estudo do impacto ambiental de Pesquisa de Hidrocarbonetos Offshore, nos Blocos 16 & 19 nas Províncias de Inhambane e Sofala

Caro Post,

Envio-lhe o relatório em anexo para a apreciação e comentários.

Com os melhores cumprimentos.

Inácio Bucuane

## APPENDIX 2

### Project information

#### **Proposed activity:**

On the first of July 2005, the government of Mozambique awarded to Sasol and Hidrocarbonetos de Moçambique (ENH) a concession of 25 years to explore the maritime blocs 16 and 19 on hydrocarbons (oil and gas) and to harvest these products if any of the would be found. Blocks 16 and 19 are located closely to the Bazaruto Archipelago. This archipelago has been declared national maritime park in 1971 with the objective to protect its natural beauty and exquisite and unique biodiversity.

The conservation of the park is already under stress of forces that aim to extend the existing and establish new tourism facilities in the park. Equally, extending presence of tourist from the main land threatens park conservation. The actual management plan of the park (Plano de Maneio, Parque Nacional do Arquipélago de Bazaruto) prohibits further growth of tourism in the park.

This situation is further complicated by conflicts between the tourist sector and the fishery sector in and around the park and by illegal fishing by boat coming from third countries. In addition, the 3000 strong local population in the park is, on a daily basis, living the (mostly negative) consequences of strict conservation.

In June 2005, MICOA decided to suspend decision making on approval of tourism development projects in the park until the Park Management Plan for Bazaruto would be revised. This would give time to consider the compatibility of the various viewpoints and the mid and long term objectives of park management with the planning of construction initiatives, their specific size, characteristics and impacts. This decision is in line with the intention of the Ministry of Tourism to revise the Management Plan for the Bazaruto Archipelago National Park.

Simultaneously, Sasol and ENH presented to the Government of Mozambique its intention to practice its concession rights and initiate exploration activities for oil and gas.

Aware of the confluence of economic interests in the same area and considering that hydrocarbon prospecting and exploration activities may have a negative influence on ecosystems/marine ecology as well as environmental impacts on Bazaruto Archipelago National Park as a whole and, in addition, on tourism and fishery developments, it was recommended that in relation to the concession agreement mentioned above, the investors (i.c. Sasol and ENH), in order to secure sustainable development, should realise a Strategic Environmental Assessment oriented by MICOA.

Although the NCEA, on request of MICOA has drafted guidelines for the proposed SEA, it has become clear that Sasol would and will not do this SEA. Instead, Sasol presented in November 2005 draft guidelines for the present EIA for seismic surveys, exploration well drilling and well testing in blocks 16 and 19<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> for the NCEA's review of these draft guidelines see <http://www.commissiener.nl/ncea/pdfs/adv/a59rr.pdf>

**Categories:** DAC – CRS code: 32262 Oil and Gas

**Project numbers:** Netherlands Commission for EA (NCEA): 059

**Procedural information:**

Request for advice on guidelines for SEA for concession granting for blocks 16 and 19	: 5 <sup>th</sup> of May 2005
Site visit in Mozambique	: 13 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> of September 2005
Telephonic request to review draft guidelines for EIA for the permitting of exploration activities in blocks 16 and 19	: 31 <sup>st</sup> of March 2006
Advisory review of draft guidelines submitted	: 12 <sup>th</sup> of April 2006
Request for advice on review of the EIA for the permitting of exploration activities in blocks 16 and 19	: 24 <sup>th</sup> of August 2006
Advisory review of EIA submitted	: 29 <sup>th</sup> of September 2006

**Important details:**

On arrival of NCEA in Maputo (September 2005) it became clear that the government of Mozambique had awarded the concession to Sasol without the requirement to do an SEA and that Sasol had initiated an EIA, in agreement with the Mozambican EIA regulation of 29 September 2004.

In February 2006, MICOA informed the NCEA that no SEA would be done for a development plan for the Bazaruto área. MICOA and the NCEA agreed to extract from the draft guidelines for the SEA a set of generic guidelines for EIAs for oil and gas exploration to be used by MICOA for future exploration projects.

In addition, MICOA and the NCEA agreed that NCEA would advise on review of the draft guidelines developed by ERM/Consultec for the EIA for the exploration of hydrocarbons in the blocks 16 and 19 near the archipelago of Bazaruto. In its advisory review, the NCEA concluded that the draft guidelines were of sufficient quality. The NCEA recommended MICOA to be prepared for the possibility of early drilling activities (as announced by Sasol and ENH). Also, NCEA recommended integrated planning with Strategic Environmental Assessment for the zone of Bazaruto.

In September 2006 the NCEA reviewed the EIA report, published in July 2006, and observed that according to its opinion:

- ◆ the peer review that was included in the EIA was of good quality and that the NCEA agreed with most of its findings and conclusions,
- ◆ the information in the EIA report was insufficient for licensing exploration activities in the shallow water prospect,
- ◆ if and when the Oil Spill Response Plan, Cyclone Contingency Plan, Safety Plan, Monitoring Plan and Compensation Plan are available, reviewed and approved, Sasol and ENHs' commitments to these plans and the EMP are clarified and the implications for the project of the International Conventions and Agreement to which Mozambique is party, are clarified, the information

contained in the EIA is sufficient to license the exploration activities in the deep water prospect.

In addition, NCEA reiterated its support for making a sustainable development plan for the area (4 coastal districts in Inhambane<sup>2</sup>) using Strategic Environmental Assessment.

**Composition of the working group of the NCEA:**

Mr. Klaas Jan Beek (Chairman)

Mr. Maarten Jan Brolsma

Mr. Rolf Bak

Mr. Chris Brown

**Technical Secretary:**

Mr. Reinoud Post

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<sup>2</sup> Machanga, Govuro, Inhassoro and Vilanculo districts