

# GCLME NEWSLETTER



Third Edition  
July, 2005

ANGOLA - BENIN - CAMEROON - CONGO - CÔTE D'IVOIRE - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - EQUATORIAL GUINEA - GABON - GHANA - GUINEA - GUINEA BISSAU - LIBERIA - NIGERIA - SAO TOME & PRINCEPE - SIERRA LEONE - TOGO

## FROM THE EDITOR :

Our readers would receive within the next week, in rapid succession, the July and August Editions of the GCLME Newsletter. The delay was deliberate – to ensure that the Newsletters did not arrive while our readers were “on the road” and therefore, “a little distracted”. Moreso, as we distribute them electronically - and most people avoid emails during vacations.

July and August are usually quiet months. This is the time that our development partners mostly in Europe and America take their holidays. And our part of the world has fairly the same disposition.

So it was little we wonder that after the pomp and pageantry of the launching of the first Region - wide Fish Trawl Survey in early June, 2005 and the impressive exhibition of the GCLME Project at the International Waters Conference in far away Brazil 20 – 25 June, 2005 (visitors to our stand included the GEF Chief Executive, Dr. Len Good, the Senior Special Adviser, Dr. Al Duda and the Executive Director of UNEP, Prof. Dr. Klaus Topfer), the pace slowed down in July.

WELL, NOT QUITE!

Though there were no Workshops organised by the project in July, the project continued with its rhythm of activities and missions.



*Dr. Chika Ukwe, Industrial Officer and GCLME Project Manager, UNIDO, at the GCLME Stand during the IW Conference, Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, 20-25 June, 2005.*

*GEF's Dr. Al Duda with UNIDO's Dr. Chika Ukwe at the GCLME Stand.*



*L-R: Mrs Good, Dr Len Good (GEF), Dr Chika Ukwe (UNIDO) and Mr. Nik Sekhran, (UNDP/GEF).*



*GCLME Men : L-R : Dr. Vladimir Mamaev (UNEP-GEF), Dr. Pablo Huidobro (UNIDO), Prof. Chidi Ibe (GCLME) and Dr. Chika Ukwe (UNIDO) at the IWC Plenary Session.*



On the heels of the Brazil conference, the GCLME Regional Director presented a well received paper at the 7th Consultative Workshop on LMEs in Paris, France 6-7 July, 2005.

UNIDO International Consultant, Dr Gboyega Ajao commenced a very important mission to document Physically Altered and Degraded Habitats (PADH) in Project countries.

Simultaneously, UNIDO International Expert, Dr. Sam Anurigwo began a mission to Project Countries for the assessment of the state of water quality and in particular, the status of nutrient loading in coastal and near-shore waters. Their missions would be concluded in August and the reports would be vital input to producing GIS - based maps on PADH and Pollution Hot Spots.

On 9 July, the Republic of Congo formally launched the GCLME Project at a Ceremony presided over by the Honourable Minister of Environment, Mr. Henry Djombo. This was followed by the Public Awareness Workshop organized on 16 July, 2005.

Still in Congo, high ranking functionaries of the Ministries of Fishery and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry welcomed the RV Fridtjof Nansen during a port call by the Trawl Survey Vessel to Point Noire on 15 July, 2005. The FAO Representative, Mr. Ahmadou Ouattara and the UNDP Representatives were present.



*L-R : At the launching of the GCLME Steering Committee in Congo are: UNDP Rep. in Congo, Aurelien Agbenonci, Min. for Transport, Mr. Mombo Mavounbou, Min. for Environment and Forestry, Mr Henri*

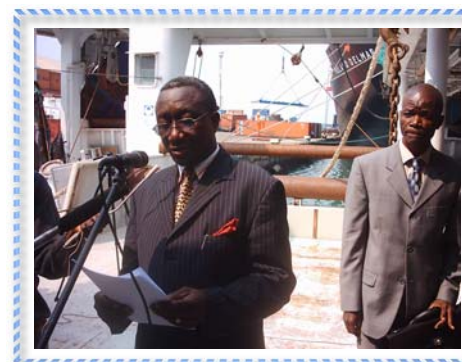
*Djombo and the Deputy Min. of Mines and Energy*



*During the Public Awareness Workshop in Congo are: Vice Minister of Transport, Deputy Minister of Forestry and Environment and Dr. Jacques Abe , Environment Officer, GCLME.*



*Dr. Ahmadou Ouattara, FAO Rep. in Congo making a speech at the Flag-In Ceremony of the Dr. Fridtjof Nansen in Pointe-Noire, Congo.*



*Dep. Min. Min. of Forestry and Environment and his Protocol Officer welcoming the Fridtjof Nansen to Pointe-Noire, Congo.*



Following an earlier visit of the Regional Director to the Honourable Minister of Ports and Railways, Prof. Christopher Ameyaw Akumfi on 6 July, 2005, the Regional Director was received by the Director General of the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority, Mr. Ben Owusu on 12 July, 2005 during which details of collaboration on Oil Spill Contingency planning and the installation of reception facilities in the sub region were discussed.

The Tilbury Environmental Group was later on 27 July, 2005 to show the Regional Director round the Reception facilities managed by his group at the Tema Port.

The Fisheries Officer, Dr. Theodore Djama was on mission to Guinea and Sierra Leone between 14 - 19 July, 2005 to check on the status of Project implementation. He was received in both countries by the Ministers responsible for Environment. In Guinea, the discussions centered on the terms for the use of the Fishing Vessel which had been pledged by Guinea for use in project implementation.

On his part, the Environment Officer, Dr. Jacques Abe undertook missions to Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo from 13 - 20 July, 2005 to confer with National Authorities on project implementation in both countries.



*The Minister for Ports and Railways, Ghana (left), Prof. Christopher Ameyaw Akumfi and the Regional Director, GCLME (right) during a discussion on collaboration on Oil Spill Contingency Planning and installation of Reception facilities in the sub region.*



*L-R: The Regional Director, Prof. Chidi Ibe having discussion with the Director General, Ghana Ports and Harbour Authority, Mr. Ben Owusu-Mensah in Tema on 12 July, 2005.*



*Standing before the TEG Waste Oil Recovery Plant are (from left): Mr. Harry Barnes-Dabban, of Ghana Ports and Harbour Authority; Mr. Godwin-Brown, Director of TEG Limited; Prof. Chidi Ibe, Regional Director, GCLME and Mr. Jim Westwater, Plant Engineer, TEG Limited.*

The Regional Director, while on a mission to Abuja, Nigeria, called on the Special Assistant to the Nigerian President on NEPAD and Director General of NEPAD, Nigeria, Her Excellency, Mrs. Chinyere Asika. Among the issues discussed were the invitation of the Regional Director to make a presentation at the NEPAD “Fish For All Conference” 22 – 26 August, 2005 and collaboration on the joint initiative on Alternative Livelihood for Coastal communities in Nigeria with planned extension to the other 15 Project Countries.

Between 21 and 23 July, 2005, the Regional Director was on mission to the Republic of Gabon where he was received by the Minister for Environment, Fisheries and Protection of Nature, Mr. Emile Doumba who appealed for urgent assistance from the Project to Gabon’s erosion and pollution problems.

SO, IT LOOKS LIKE JULY WAS NOT A QUIET MONTH AFTER ALL!

**Kelechi Ihemeje**



*The Tilbury Environmental Group Limited waste oil recovering plant at Tema Harbour.*



*Dr. Jacques Abé, Environment Officer, GCLME delivering the Regional Director's Speech during the Public Awareness Workshop in Congo.*

#### **The RD's Mission to Rep. of Gabon, 21-23 July, 2005**



*The Regional Director hosted a dinner to thank his “handlers” during his mission to Gabon. Clockwise, Mr. Jean Claude Matiba, Dianel (Diego) and Dr. Solange Loubamono, Deputy Director General of Environment, Gabon.*