

# IORA Blue Economy Core Group Workshop on “Promoting Fisheries & Aquaculture and Maritime Safety & Security Cooperation in Indian Ocean”

## ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

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### 1. Introduction

The Blue Economy Core Group Workshop, hosted by the Human Sciences Research Council in partnership with the Durban University of Technology will be held in Durban, South Africa, on 4 and 5 May 2015.

### 2. Venue of the Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Coastlands Umhlanga

Hotel: [http://www.coastlands.co.za/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=5](http://www.coastlands.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=5) .

Address: 329 Umhlanga Rocks Drive, Durban, 4000

Phone: 031 514 6500

### 3. Registration

The Registration can be accessed at <http://www.iora.net/blue-economy-core-group-workshop-4-5-may-2015.aspx> on IORA website. The deadline for registration is 24 April 2015.

### 4. Hospitality

Full hospitality will be extended to one expert participant from Member States. Hospitality will cover air tickets, hotel accommodation (3 nights), transport to and from the airport, and selected meals. Hospitality extended to government delegates will exclude international travel.

All other costs will be the private responsibility of participants and will need to be settled with the hotel before checking out.

### 5. Transportation

Airport transfers will be provided between King Shaka International Airport and the Coastlands Umhlanga Hotel.

In view of convenience, all delegates are recommended to stay at the venue of the meeting. Those staying at any other locations will be responsible for their own transportation to the meeting and other official functions.

### 6. Attire

Business attire is suggested for the meeting.

### 7. Accommodation

Participants will be accommodated at the Coastlands Umhlanga. Check-in is on 3 May 2015 and check-out on 6 May 2015. See the link below for details of the hotel:

[http://www.coastlands.co.za/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=5](http://www.coastlands.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=5)

### 8. Contact details:

8.1 Human Sciences Research Council

Name: Ms Nicola Kruyshaar

Email: [nkruyshaar@hsrc.ac.za](mailto:nkruyshaar@hsrc.ac.za)

Tel.: +27 12 302 2528

## 8.2 Coastlands Umhlanga

Address: 329 Umhlanga Rocks Drive, Durban, 4000

Phone: 031 514 6500

Contact detail for hotel accommodation is available on:

[http://www.coastlands.co.za/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=5](http://www.coastlands.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=5)

## 9. Other Information

### 9.1 Entry Visa Procedures

All delegates are advised to contact their local/accredited South African Embassies or High Commission for their visa application.

### 9.2 Weather Information

#### **Durban May temperatures**

Low Temperature

15°C (59°F)

High Temperature

25°C (77°F)

For more up to date weather forecasts, please follow the link below

<http://www.accuweather.com/en/za/durban>

### 9.3 Interesting Places

#### **9.3.1 Explore the Indian District**

Two waves of Indian emigration—one of indentured servants under British rule beginning in 1860 and the second by traders in the 1880s onward—helped make South Africa's most multicultural city home to the highest concentration of Indians outside India. Take a guided walking tour of the district around Dr Yusuf Dadoo (Grey) and Bertha Mkhize (Victoria) Streets to immerse your senses in the city's Indian heritage and history. Tourism KwaZulu-Natal's "[Oriental Walk-About](#)" includes stops at the Zulu Muti (traditional medicine) Market and the Victoria Street Market (the Vic), where dealers in traditional kurtas and saris hawk incense, ornately embroidered fabrics, and aromatic spices.

#### **9.3.2 Voyage to the Bottom of uShaka Sea World**

One of the world's largest aquariums, [uShaka Marine World](#), is the centerpiece of the 40-acre complex encompassing the Wet and Wild Water Park and the Village Walk Shopping Center. The aquarium's [animal encounters](#) promote sustainable use of the marine environment. Sign up for the Ocean Walker experience to don a tethered breathing helmet and walk slowly across the bottom of the Open Ocean Exhibit, home to rays and assorted pelagic fish that include tuna, dorado (mahi-mahi), and sardines. Or step into a clear, enclosed cylinder and drop into the large shark tank as part of the Shark Dive Experience. No diving experience required (ages 12 and up).

### 9.3.3 Stroll or Bike the Golden Mile

Named for the golden sand beaches lining the coastal edge of the city's central business district, the popular "Mile" actually extends about four miles from Blue Lagoon south to Addington Beach and Durban Harbor. A wide, brick-paved promenade makes it easy to walk, jog, or bike the route, detouring out on the piers to watch surfers, kite boarders, and sand castle architects, or soak in the warm Indian Ocean breeze. Join eco-active outfitter [Bike & Saddle](#) for a guided morning cycle along the Mile. Fee includes bike and helmet rental, plus a breakfast pastry and coffee.

### 9.3.4 Learn About the "Durban System" at KwaMuhle Museum

Housed in the former headquarters of the city's Native Affairs Department (colonial-era architects of the "Durban System" racial segregation policies), the [KwaMuhle Museum](#) shares the story of Durban's past and present. Topics covered range from black migration and apartheid to ongoing "green street" (energy-saving retrofitting and indigenous tree planting) efforts in historic Cato Manor township. Photographs, government documents, videos, and personal testimonials illustrate how the Durban System provided the framework for the national apartheid policy. True to its name—*isiZulu* for "the place of the good one"—the museum celebrates the courage of the "ordinary" South Africans who challenged racist policies and won.

### 9.3.5 Walk Among "Living Fossils" at the Botanical Gardens

Founded in 1849, Africa's oldest surviving botanical gardens houses one of the world's top collections of "living fossil" plants. These pre-dinosaur cycads (seed-producing plants extending back 250 million years) face possible extinction in the wild. The Wood's Cycad species is named for founding [Durban Botanic Gardens](#) curator and botanist John Medley Wood, who, in 1895, discovered a single, surviving cycad plant in a Zululand forest. Walking through the Gardens's cycad forest is a bit like stepping onto the set of *Jurassic Park*. No dinosaurs here, but the pink-backed pelicans sitting in the trees do look eerily like pterodactyls.

### 9.3.6 Take a KwaZulu Natal Sharks Board Boat Tour

Beaches along the KwaZulu Natal coastline are the only ones in South Africa protected by shark safety gear (including nets and anchored drum lines), making shark attacks here rare. While the top priority of the [KZN Sharks Board](#) is protecting swimmers and surfers, the institute also works to educate the public about shark behavior and biology, as well as to reduce the environmental impact of safety measures (other marine life can get caught in the nets). Join a working Sharks Board crew on an early morning [boat tour](#) to see the safety system, learn about sharks, and likely encounter dolphins, turtles, and rays.

### 9.3.7 Hit the Beach

Comfortable sea temperatures averaging 70°F year-round, a subtropical climate, and 300-plus days of sunshine make any day in Durban a potential beach day. Each stretch of golden sand has its own identity: South Coast for world-class surfing, Addington Beach for families, Bay of Plenty for beach volleyball tournaments. The Golden Mile beaches closest to Durban's city center are the most convenient. For more blanket room, head north to the Umhlanga Coast to swim and kite board at [Umhlanga Rocks](#), or to hike the coastal forest boardwalk trail through [Umhlanga Lagoon Nature Reserve](#), home to vervet monkeys.

Follow the link below for more information:

<http://travel.nationalgeographic.com/travel/top-10/must-dos-durban>

#### 9.4 Electricity

- The **South African** electricity supply is 220/230 volts AC 50 HZ.
- Most plugs are 15 amp 3-prong or 5 amp 2-prong, with round pins. If an adaptor is called for, consider bringing one with you, although they can be purchased locally.
- US-made appliances may need a transformer.
- Most hotel rooms have 110 volt outlets for electric shavers and appliances.

#### 9.5 Banking

Please follow the link below for a list of banks in South Africa.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_banks\\_in\\_South\\_Africa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_banks_in_South_Africa)

#### 9.6 Time Zone

Local time = GMT + 2:00

Please follow the link below for more information.

<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/difference.html?p1=111>

#### 9.7 Currency

The currency of South Africa is Rand. The exchange rate is approximately 1 USD = R 12.24. this rate is subject to change.

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