



# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

## FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

### CHIEF DIRECTORATE

### MONITORING CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS)

*fisheries crime, SA's experiences / challenges*



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## CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE / COMBATTING FISHERIES CRIME IN AN INTEGRATED MULTI AGENCY APPROACH

- DAFF, Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS)
- Compliance, Fisheries Protection Vessels and M&S
- South African Police Services SAPS / DPCI
- The State Security Agency
- South African Revenue Services SARS
- TRAFFIC, The Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network
- SANParks
- Border Control Operational and Coordinating Committee BCOCC and PECC of the BMA
- National Prosecution Authority NPA
- Department of Justice DoJ
- International: NOAA, AFMA, INTERPOL, AFCD, HK Customs Maritime Command



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## SUCCESSSES / MONITORING CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE / PARTNERS

- Consignment in 2001 of 2844 kg Patagonian ToothFish, 16189 kg SCRL Tails, 1 661. 5 kg WCRL Tails
- second container in USA
- In SA / Plea Agreement between the State / The Hout Bay Fishing Industries
- SCRL 193 559,21kg; Hake 912 818, 78kg; WCRL 598 008kg Over harvested by 18 vessels
- 14 FCO's corrupted and R 424 247, 00 paid
- Fines of R 8 450 000, 00 and R19 000 000,
- In 2004 the defendants sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, supervised release and forfeiture of \$ USD13 300, 000
- In June 2013 restitution costs awarded to the South African Government to the amount of R 294 000 000, Success story.



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## Identification, Intercepting and return of consignments 3, 4, 5 and 6 illegally harvested and exported marine resources

- Illicit export of Inshore resources went undetected until September 2006
- Case Initiated MCS and DPCI; Searching of Cold storage in Cape Town
- A total of 72449 abalone and 140 boxes of pilchards found
- Four consignments of abalone were still en-route to Malaysia and Singapore and destined for Hong Kong
- Consignment 3 and 4 contained 100 093 Units of abalone
- Containers 5 and 6 were returned and 45 539 Units of abalone were found also illegally exported to the Far East and packed as South African pilchards.
- SA Value R11M / Case currently in Cape Town High court



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## Identification, Intercepting and return of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> reefer consignment containing illegally harvested / exported SA Marine Resources

- Abalone syndicate identified during July 2010
- 37 516 units of abalone valued at R5 Million were recovered
- Investigations indicated two consecutive consignments destined for Hong Kong
- Successful interception and return
- Container 7 contained 23 tons of polypropylene pellets and 28 764 units of dried abalone
- Container 8 contained also 23 tons of polypropylene pellets and 26 876 units of dried abalone



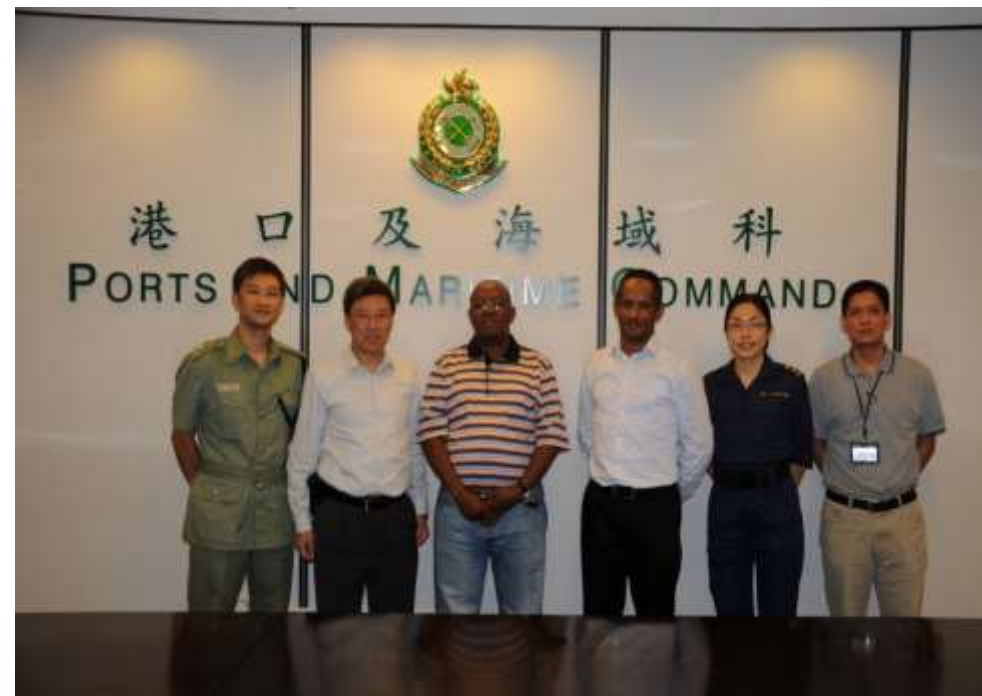
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## Identification, Intercepting and return of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> reefer containers with illegally harvested / exported SA marine resources

- Information received AFCD Hong Kong and Customs
- Container 9 en-route to Hong Kong identified
- Container was successfully intercepted and returned to Cape Town harbour 3 July 2011
- Contained a total 206 duvets or comforters and hidden underneath was 78 cardboard boxes containing 42 619 units of dried abalone, SA value R4 800 000
- Co-operation with Hong Kong extended and Hong Kong visited during October 2011
- Plea of guilty by the accused in Hong Kong
- Container 10 returned to SA 2627.1kg of dried abalone
- International value R27 000 00



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## Identification, Intercepting the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> reefer consignments with illegally harvested / exported marine resources

- Abalone Processing Facility closed Down
- Joint investigations between Monitoring and Surveillance, SARS and DPCI
- A total of 7452 wet Abalone, 493 dried Abalone,.
- Three suspects were arrested
- Container 11 intercepted, containing abalone returned successfully from Singapore
- Negotiation with the Malaysian Authorities failed and communication at first excellent but later faded to none
- Royal Family intervened claiming ownership of container 12



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## Identification, Intercepting and prosecution of IUU Vessels and other Cases

- Bahari Nusantara 83, Bahari Nusantara 19, Bahari Nusantara 5, Bahari Nusantara 26, Bintang Samudra 11, Samudra Gilontas 231 and the Mahkota Abadi 15
- Human trafficking, forged identities, IUU fishing
- Case continues / Vessels Forfeited, fish and vessels auctioned to the benefit of the State;
- Samudera Pasific No. 8 and Berkat Menjala No. 23 absconded, subject to Interpol Purple Notices
- Case proceeding / excellent progress made
- Naham 4 Case finalized
- AFU forfeiture of Naham 4



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# Challenges

- Recent Media release
- SA economy loosing R4 Billion per annum as a result of Illegal fishing
- This is based on the demand for SA abalone and West Coast Rock Lobster mainly Eastern Markets
- UCT Study of abalone exports of 3000 tons
- TRAFFIC (The Wildlife trade Monitoring Network) / more than 2000 Tons illegally exported
- One Earth Foundation , The Fisheries Crime Group of the Indian Ocean Forum on Maritime Crime estimated that 18% of the total fish harvests within the Western Indian Ocean and 32% of the total catch in the Eastern Indian Ocean are either illegal or unreported
- Despite successes thousands on consignments with illegally harvested inshore SA marine resources reaches their destinies, undetected



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# Challenges

- Fisheries Crime Syndicates are well structured, are challenging and difficult to identify, operates without boundaries and no legitimate rules applies;
- To effectively Monitor and execute Surveillance within the South Africa EEZ and High Seas a major challenges
- To fully cooperated with the Global Enforcement Community to address IUU fishing and related activities within SA EEZ and the on High Seas; both in a reactive and proactive manner remains challenging and costly
- For all Flag States to fully cooperate and share of information;
- IUU vessel remaining on the High Seas for extending period
- Shift of focus on vulnerable inshore fisheries resources and sustainable utilization of offshore / high Seas Fish Resources,
- Multi agency and integrated global approach to address, the real issues
- Poverty / Unemployment



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An aerial photograph taken from a high altitude, likely from a helicopter, showing a tropical coastline. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, transitioning to a white sandy beach. The land is covered in lush green vegetation, with some roads and structures visible. The sky is filled with white, fluffy clouds. The perspective is from above, looking down at the landscape. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

*Thank You  
The Department of Agriculture, Forestry  
and Fisheries and Partners*