



TENTH WIOMSA SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), the Institute of Marine Science (IMS) and the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries (DASF) [both of the University of Dar es Salaam] and the Tanzania Fisheries Institute (TAFIRI) are pleased to announce the Tenth WIOMSA Scientific Symposium which will be held in Dar es Salaam on the 30 October – 4 November 2017.

WIOMSA is a regional professional, non-profit, membership organization, established in 1993. It is dedicated to promoting the educational, scientific and technological development of all aspects of marine sciences throughout the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region. WIOMSA has a particular interest in linking the knowledge that emerges from research to the management and governance issues that affect marine and coastal ecosystems.

The Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS) of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) was established in 1978 and is one of the oldest and most famed marine sciences institutions in the Western Indian Ocean. IMS has reputable infrastructure/facilities and marine scientists with specialities in a wide range of marine science disciplines. The two aspects have enabled IMS to excel in teaching, research and public services/consultancy. They have also strengthened IMS collaborations with other marine scientists and institutions nationally, regionally and globally. IMS is one of the key stakeholders of WIOMSA, which played a significant role in the establishment and early years of its growth (in the 1990s), including housing the Association in IMS premises.

Department of Aquatic Science and Fisheries Technology (DASFT) is one of seven teaching departments in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Fisheries Technology (CoAF) in the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM). The Department comprises 21 academic staff who are Ph.D. holders, 10 technical staff and 3 administrative staff. The breadth and scope of DASFT encompasses programmes for undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, non-degree programmes, research and public services in basic and applied aquatic sciences with emphasis on fisheries and aquaculture.

Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI) is a national parastatal organization which was established in 1980. The institute is mandated to promote, conduct and coordinate fisheries research as well as dissemination of fisheries information to government agencies, public institutions and private firms engaged in the fishing industry. TAFIRI also provides expert scientific and technical advice to the government and other stakeholders on marine and freshwater fisheries, aquaculture and the protection of the aquatic environment.

SYMPOSIUM DATES: Monday, 30th October – Saturday, 4th November 2017.

The week is divided into the following components:

- The Tenth WIOMSA Scientific Symposium – 30th October to 1st November 2017. This component will include: keynote presentations, oral and poster presentations.
- Specially convened sessions and roundtable discussions - 2nd November 2017
- WIOMSA General Assembly – 3rd November 2017
- Excursions and tours to different places of interest – 4th November 2017.

SYMPOSIUM VENUE: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

SYMPOSIUM OBJECTIVES:

The Symposium will bring together practitioners, academics, researchers and students to share knowledge, experience and solutions to the challenges experienced in our coastal and marine environment. The specific objectives of the symposium are to:

- Present current knowledge on disciplines related to the theme of the symposium;
- Provide a forum for discussion and exchange of information and experiences on coastal and marine science issues in the western Indian Ocean region;
- Promote interaction among social and natural scientists in order to strengthen multi- and trans-disciplinary research for sustainable management of the coastal and marine environment;
- Identify gaps and priority research areas for improved management of the coastal and marine environment of the western Indian Ocean region.

Contributions from all relevant scientific disciplines are welcome at this multidisciplinary symposium.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS:

Abstracts are invited on any topic related to the coastal and marine environment of the WIO region. Priority will be given to multi-/trans-/interdisciplinary abstracts. Abstracts must be in English as that will be the official language of the symposium. The abstract should not exceed 300 words. Submitted abstracts must contain the following information: title, name(s) of author(s), affiliations, postal and e-mail addresses. It should also clearly state the preferred mode of presentation (oral or poster). Abstracts must be in Times New Roman, 12-point font, single-spaced with justified alignment.

Abstracts should provide a brief statement of the problem, the methodology, the results and the conclusion. The abstract should be submitted in plain text only without the inclusion of tables, graphs, images, etc.

All abstracts will be reviewed for merit and relevance. Abstracts must be received by WIOMSA by no later than 28th April 2017. Confirmation of acceptance for oral or poster presentations will be communicated to authors by 15th July 2017. Abstracts should be submitted via online via <http://abstract.wiomsa.org/>.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

A limited number of travel grants will be provided to participants from the region whose abstracts have been accepted. Students from the region, whose abstracts have been accepted, will be given special consideration. Applications for the travel grants should indicate details of the support required and should be submitted by 31st July 2017 to secretary@wiomsa.org.

REGISTRATION FEES:

A registration fee of US\$ 200 for non WIOMSA members, US \$ 150 for WIOMSA members and US\$ 100 for students will be charged to help cover some of the costs of the symposium.

EXHIBITIONS:

Space will be available for exhibits by organizations, programmes, projects and commercial companies. Please contact the WIOMSA secretariat (secretary@wiomsa.org) for more details.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Deadline for submission of abstracts	28 April 2017
Notification of abstracts acceptance	15 July 2017
Deadline for application of travel grants	31 July 2017
Deadline for confirmation by institutions wishing to participate in the exhibition opportunities	31 August 2017