PUBLIC NOTICE:

30 March 2017

UPDATE ON THE FISHING RIGHTS ALLOCATION PROCESS (FRAP2015/16): WEST COAST ROCK LOBSTER (NEARSHORE AND OFFSHORE) AND ABALONE FISHING SECTORS.

The Department has assessed and evaluated all 637 West Coast Rock Lobster (Offshore) application forms submitted in terms of section 18 of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998) as amended (“the MLRA”). Further, the Department has begun with the assessment and evaluation of the West Coast Rock Lobster (Nearshore) application forms and as such, the Department has so far assessed and evaluated the application forms received for the Zones A, B and C. The Department has commenced with the assessment and evaluation of Zones D and F.

The Deputy Director-General: Fisheries Management, in her capacity as the Delegated Authority ("the Delegated Authority") for the 2015/16 Fishing Rights Allocation Process, envisages that she will announce her provisional decisions on the allocation of rights and quantum in the West Coast Rock Lobster (Nearshore and Offshore) fishing sectors on/or before 30 April 2017.

Following the announcement of the Delegated Authority’s provisional decisions on the allocation of rights and quantum in the West Coast Rock Lobster (Nearshore and Offshore) fishing sectors, interested and/or affected parties will be provided an opportunity to comment on the provisional decisions. Due to a substantial number of
applications received in the West Coast Rock Lobster (Nearshore and Offshore) fishing sectors, the comment period will therefore be open for a period of 30 days.

Taking into consideration the projected high volume of comments to be received, the Delegated Authority further anticipate to announce her final decisions on the allocation of rights and quantum in the West Coast Rock Lobster (Nearshore and Offshore) fishing sectors on/or before 31 July 2017. Given the nature and volume of application forms received in respect of West Coast Rock Lobster (nearshore and offshore) sectors, it was not feasible to finalise the allocation process in the West Coast Rock Lobster fishing sector in accordance with the times stipulated in the previous Public Notice dated 1 March 2017. Consequently, timeframes stipulated in the previous Public Notice insofar as the Abalone fishing is concerned will also be affected. It is now envisaged that the provisional lists will be announced on/or before 31 May 2017.

For all FRAP Enquiries

The Call Centre number is 021 402 3727 (FRAP)

An anonymous tip-off line has been set up to deter fraudulent and unethical practices, the tip-off line is 0800 203 785