ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL STOCK ASSESSMENT REVIEW WORKSHOP, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN, MONDAY 1 TO FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER 2014

Over Monday 1 to Friday 5 December the annual International Stock Assessment Workshop funded by the NRF and DAFF will be taking place at UCT (Mathematics Building Room M212).

This year the six scientists invited to comprise the Review Panel are Alistair Dunn (New Zealand), Jason Link (USA), Andre Punt (USA), Tony Smith (Australia - Chair), Gunnar Stefansson (Iceland) and Robin Waples (USA).

TOPICS
The topics to be covered are the following

1) South African and Namibian hake (primary topic) – a review of information on stock structure, leading on to the specification of joint assessment approaches intended to inform on the extent to which these hake populations may be shared between the two countries – a matter which is pertinent to their sound management
2) Sardine – a review of progress on multi-stock models for the South African sardine resource and their implications for management
3) Penguin-fishery interactions – a review of results of analyses related to an island closure feasibility study which is intended ultimately to lead to information on the potential benefits to penguins of closure to pelagic fishing of areas around islands with penguin breeding colonies.

SCHEDULE
Discussion will take place from 9 am to 5-30 pm each day, with 30 minutes breaks for tea at 10-30 am and 3-30 pm, and 90 minutes for lunch at 12-30 pm, except for the Thursday afternoon which will be reserved for the Panel to work on preparation of their report. A detailed schedule indicating which topics will be discussed at what times will be circulated shortly.

For the most part discussions will be at a fairly high technical level, but on the final day (Friday 5th) at 3-30 pm in room M304 of the UCT Mathematics Building, the international Review Panel will provide a summary of their recommendations at a level suitable for a lay audience, and open for questions from that audience. Dr Kim Prochazka, Director Resources Research, DAFF Fisheries Branch, will chair this session.

DOCUMENTATION AND ATTENDANCE
Likely commencing Monday 24 November, documents for background and for discussion at the event will be posted on the following website for prior download as they become available:

Attendees are asked to bring their own copies of documents to the meeting as those posted on the website will not be made available in other forms. However, for technical reasons, there may be some documents which cannot be made available in this way; these will be emailed to those who advise attendance as requested below, and a limited number of hard copies will be available during the event.

Because of the need to maintain a workshop type interaction, Chairs will limit discussion during each session primarily to panel members and selected key contributors seated at the central table. However others are welcome to attend any of the sessions, and their interventions will be entertained in the discussions to the extent that time permits.

Inter alia for catering purposes, and for provision of some documents as indicated above, we need to assess/document likely attendance. Could those wishing to attend part or all of the event please send an email to Di Loureiro dl.lapidoloureiro@uct.ac.za copied to doug.butterworth@uct.ac.za and Andrea Ross Gillespie MLLAND028@myuct.ac.za indicating the topics for which you wish to attend (this is not necessary if you wish to attend the final Friday lay summary session only).