

Management of shared stocks in the Benguela Current

**Seminar on management of shared stocks
Sub regional fisheries commission**

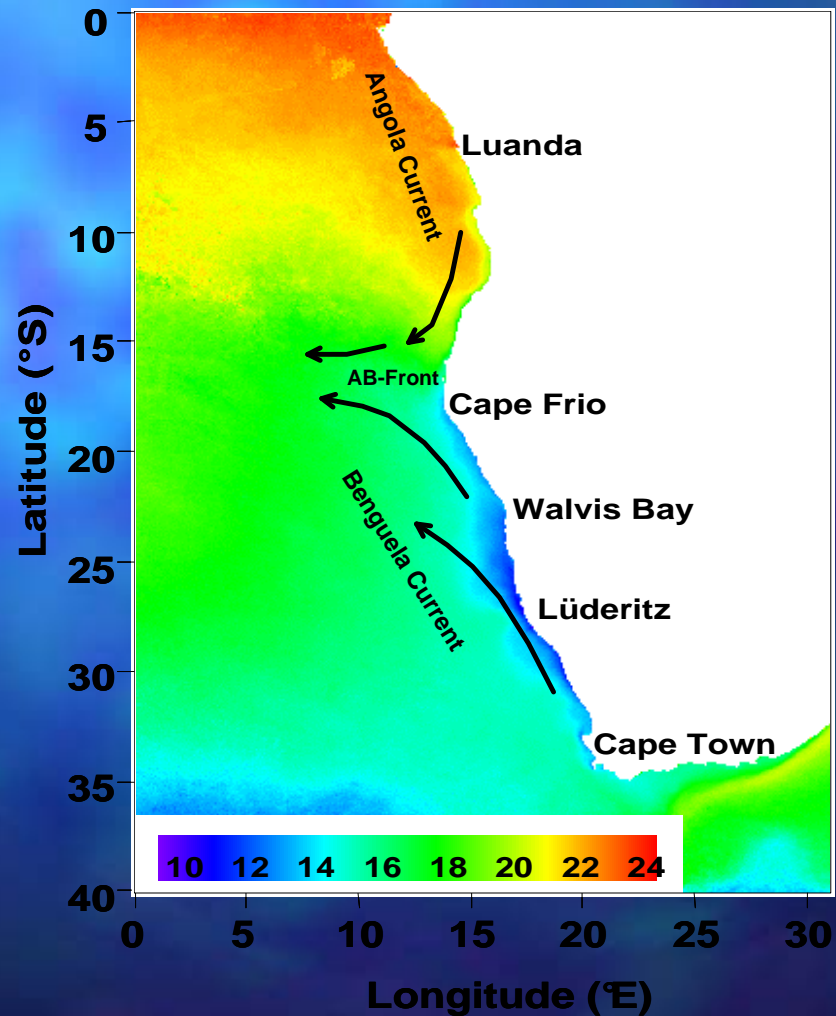
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Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources

NAMIBIA

Dakar, April 15 - 17

Benguela Current: Geographical location



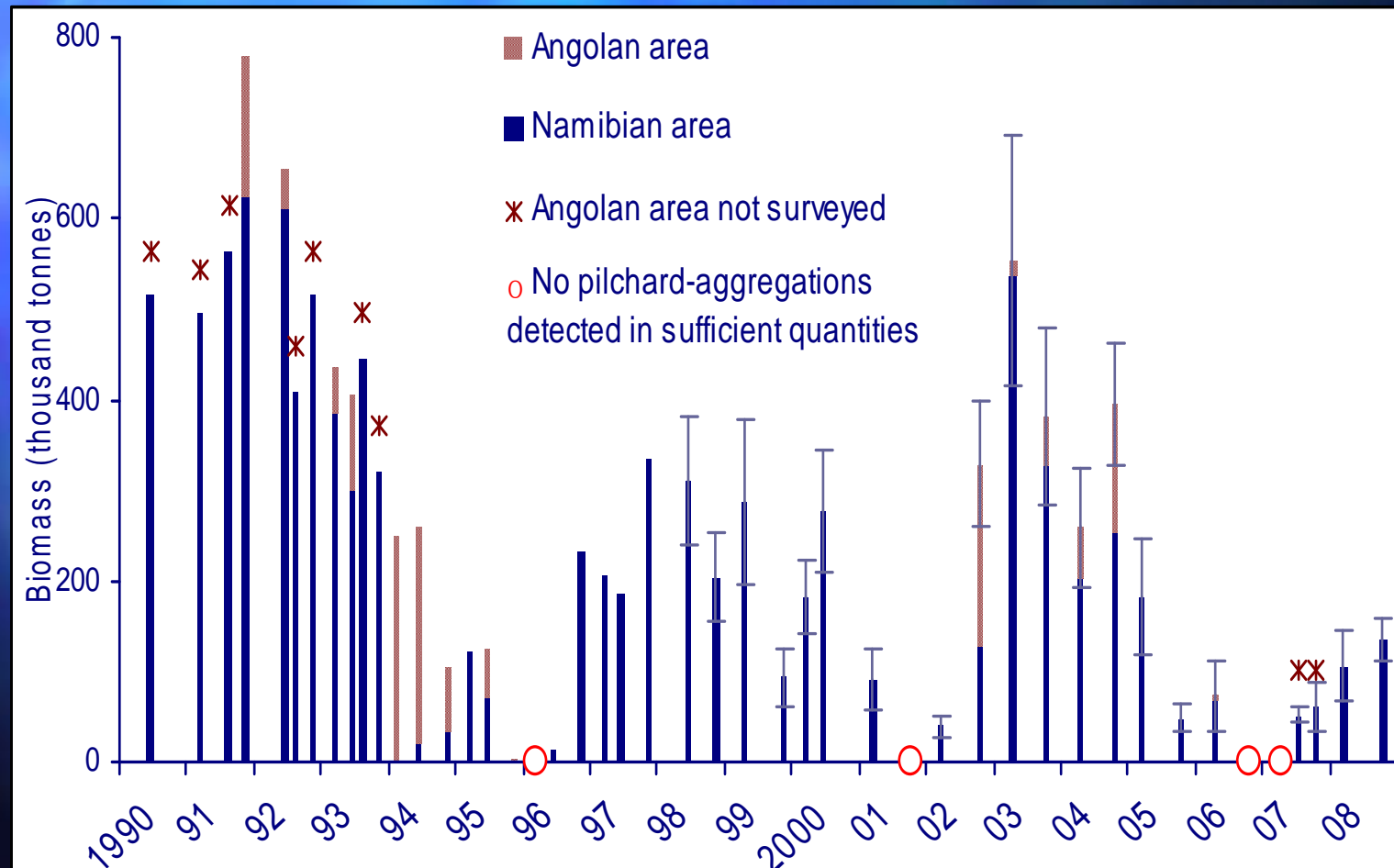
Benguela Current

- The Benguela Current Upwelling System is one of the four major eastern ocean boundary current regions of the world oceans.
- This Current is situated on the southwestern shelf of Africa, covering the coasts of Angola, Namibia and South Africa.
- The other currents are: California Current system, the Peru Upwelling system and the Northwestern African Upwelling System.
- The Benguela Current is unique: a cold water system bounded by two warm water regimes (Angola Current up north and Agulhas retroflexion area in the south).
- In common with other upwelling systems, the Benguela Current is dominated by a wind driven coastal upwelling system.
- Such coastal upwelling, results in high primary productivity which supports large commercial fisheries.
- Some of the major fish species in the Benguela, such as Hake, Horse Mackerel and Pilchard are transboundary along the coasts of Angola, Namibia and SA.

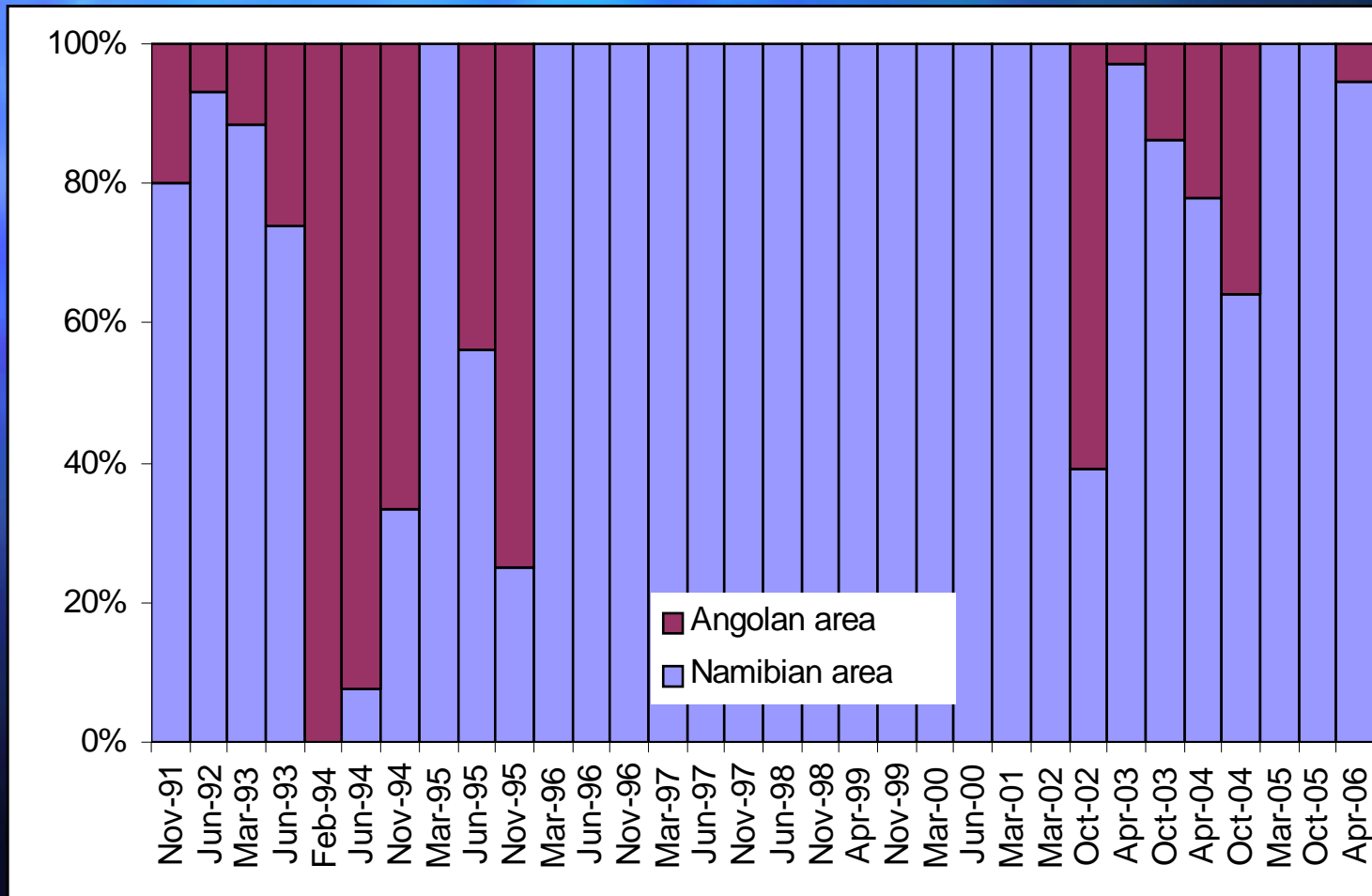
Shared Stocks Management

- The Benguela Current Commission (BCC) was established to assist the 3 countries in the region (Angola, Namibia and South Africa) in managing their shared stocks.
- Currently, joint biomass surveys for Pilchard are conducted by Angolan and Namibian scientists, using the Namibian Research Vessel *Welwitchia*.
- A joint Pelagic Working Group comprising of Angolan and Namibian scientists was also established to deal with issues related to shared Pelagic species, namely Pilchard and Horse Mackerel
- Joint surveys for hake recruitment and migration are also conducted for Namibia and South Africa, using the Norwegian Research Vessel *Dr Fridtjof Nansen*.

Pilchard survey biomass estimates, since 1990



Proportion of survey biomass estimates in Angola/Namibia



Way forward on the management of shared stocks

- Joint Management of shared stocks is currently being considered through BCC.
- Such joint management shall implement recommendations from the joint researches currently being undertaken.
- Recommendations from joint research include:
 - Harmonization of policies and legislations
 - setting of a joint TACs for shared stocks.
 - Joint monitoring and enforcement of regulations.
 - Regional capacity building.

**Thank
you**