

## Mozambique EAF National Task Group Starts Working

On 1 – 3 July, the Mozambique EAF National Task Group held its first meeting. The Task Group is made up of 13 members drawn from various government departments, academia and the fishing industry. The government departments are the National Directorate for Environmental Management (Ministry of Environment), the National Institute for Fisheries Research, the National Directorate of Fisheries Administration, National Institute for Development of Small Scale Fisheries (Ministry of Fisheries), and the Ministry of Science and Technology. Also included is a representative from the Department for Biological Sciences (University Eduardo Mondlane), WWF-Mozambique, Fishing Industry Association. The Chair of the Group is Dr Domingos Gove, Director of the National Institute for Fisheries Research who is also the EAF-Nansen project Regional Task Group member (Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem area) for Mozambique with Ms Claudia Tomas of the National Directorate of Fisheries Administration as the Alternate.



L-R: Ms Claudia Tomas, Ms Ivone Lichucha (Director, National Directorate of Fisheries Administration) and Dr Domingos Gove

Since the Task Group members had already been sensitised about the EAF-Nansen project they delved straight into productive work. The objectives of the meeting were given as follows:

- To formalise the creation of the NTG;
- To explain in detail the functions of the NTG in the implementation of the EAF-Nansen project;
- To introduce members to the principles of the ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF);
- To review the draft management plan for the Sofala Bank shallow water shrimp fishery to incorporate EAF;
- To initiate discussions on the management of the fishing effort for the Sofala Bank shallow water shrimp fishery; and

- To review and finalize Mozambique Project Concept Note and its development into a project proposal.

The meeting was also attended by Dr Kwame Koranteng, the EAF-Nansen Project Coordinator and Dr Dave Japp, FAO consultant. When the FAO Team paid a courtesy call on the Deputy Minister of the Department of International Cooperation (Ministry of Fisheries), Mr Victor Borgres, Dr Koranteng expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the meeting and commended the officials of IIP and DNAP for their cooperation, enthusiasm and hard work.