

Ministry for Fisheries and Marine Resources

MARINE RESOURCES ACT, 2000

... provide for the conservation of the marine ecosystem and the responsible utilization, conservation, protection and promotion of marine resources on a sustainable basis;...

- two companies were in an advance stage of obtaining licences to mine phosphate
- MFMR scientists evaluated the submitted EIA of NMP
- Rejected EIA for the lack of *in situ* data
- MFMR concerns were backed by independent external reviewers

- Cabinet endorsed an 18-month moratorium on deep-sea phosphate mining activities offshore Namibia
- "there must be solid proof that these mining activities will not impact the environment negatively"

- "MFMR will now have to go back to the drawing board to conduct a scoping study, and determine the terms of reference for a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study"
- "MFMR indeed needs to exploit resources and develop Namibia, but this must be done in the spirit of the co-existence of mining and fishing at the same time"

- BCC scoping report for SEA completed, includes Terms of Reference for the SEA
- Make use of the findings of the BCC SEA scoping study