

IOC/ODINAFRICA/GLOSS

TECHNICAL VISIT TO DAKAR

6-7 DECEMBER 2006

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1. Introduction

Dakar is the main port for Senegal and it is very busy.

2. Schedule

I participated to the Eastern Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (EAHC) workshop which took place during the period 6-8 December 2006 in Dakar. I managed to visit the Dakar tide gauge station.

3. Objectives

- Visit of the location of the old the tide gauge station
- Assess provision of the mains electricity power, telephone lines, security and systems future safety
- Take pictures of the site and collect any relevant information
- Location of geodetic survey bench marks near the tide gauge
- Contacts of port and research station staff associated with ODINAFRICA project



Figure 1: Map of Senegal and neighboring countries

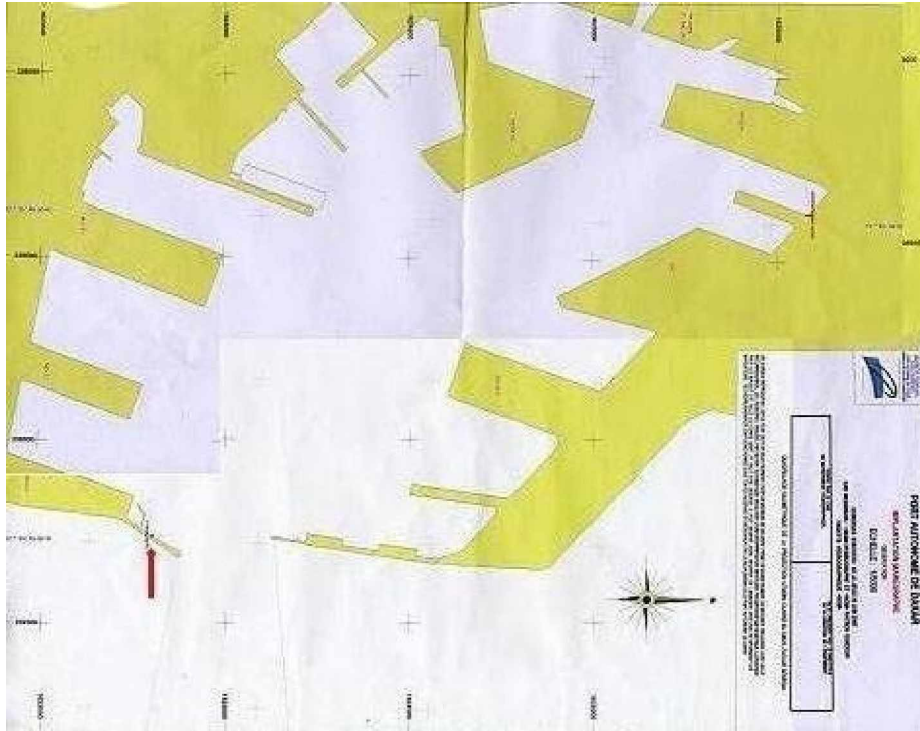


Figure 2: Location of the tide gauge site inside of the entrance of the Dakar port.



Figure 3: Location of the equipment of the old station equipment (NOAA)



Figure 4: Old tide gauge housing at Dakar port



Figure 5: A location of the bench mark near the tide gauge station



Figure 6: Hydrographic service office

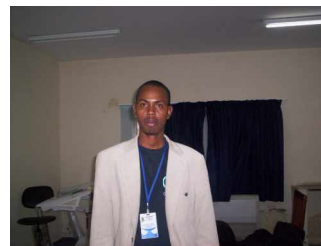
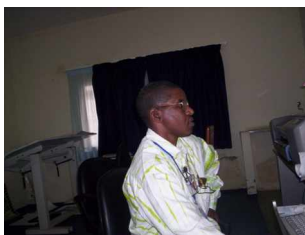


Figure 7: Hydrographic service staff [A. Dia (left), P. Thioye (right)]

4. Old tide gauge

There is operational tide gauge operated in Dakar port. The tide tables are provided by the SHOM. (Service Hydrographique et Océanographique de la Marine).

A tide gauge has been installed by NOAA. During my visit, I saw pictures of the equipment but the new staff has no document concerning this tide gauge. The housing of tide gauge is located in the entrance inside the Dakar port. This local seemed to be abandoned (figure 4).

A bench mark has been found near to the old tide gauge but it is located on the wall of a house which is being destroyed (figure 5).

The access of the port entrance has a good security however the house needs to be secured.

5. Conclusion

The proposed location at the port entrance inside the Dakar port is suitable for a radar gauge. However

- the tide gauge house needs to be repaired entirely.
- there is no electricity and telephone line.
- the security of the tide gauge house should be reinforced
- the bench mark near the tide gauge house is destroyed.

In spite of the difficulties, a good staff exists for the tide gauge management.

Researchers from Dakar University and Centre de Recherches Océanographiques De Dakar-Thiaroye are interested in the using sea level data. A staff of local technicians exists.

Contacts during the visit.

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Local technicians for the tide gauge maintenance.

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