

PREFACE Milestone Report

Milestone#: MS08

Milestone name: 3rd year maintenance of the PREFACE PIRATA buoy

WP#: WP3

Lead beneficiary: IRD

Delivery date from annex I: 31.10.2015

Milestone achieved: YES

Comments:

This milestone concerns the maintenance and servicing of an ATLAS buoy at 6°S-8°E, off Congo (the South-Eastern Extension of PIRATA, *i.e.* the PIRATA SEE). This PIRATA SEE has first been tested during a one-year experience (June 2006-June 2007), deployed during French coupled AMMA/EGEE & PIRATA cruises. This 1st buoy has been funded by the BCLME (South Africa, Namibia, Angola). A 2nd buoy, needed for the maintenance of this particular site, has been purchased in 2014 with PREFACE funding, and the PIRATA SEE - PREFACE buoy has been deployed in June 2013 during the PIRATA FR23 cruise (ATLAS system provided in advance by NOAA/PMEL). The PIRATA SEE - PREFACE Atlas buoy has been successfully replaced in May 2014 during the PIRATA FR24 cruise (see Periodic Report no. 1, **MS04**), and on March, 31 2015 during the PIRATA FR25 cruise (see Periodic Report no. 1, **MS06**).

This PIRATA SEE - PREFACE Atlas buoy has been also successfully serviced during the PIRATA FR26 cruise (March 7th – April 13rd, 2016), and replaced on March 31st 2016 at its nominal position (6°S-8°E).

This ATLAS system is fully equipped and data (real time and delayed time) available for free to the whole community (see website: <http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/pirata/6s8e.html>).

MS08 contributes to the WP3 objectives 1 and 2, and to tasks:

- 3.1: Determine seasonal and interannual variability of heat and freshwater budgets in the upwelling regions of Benguela, Northwest Africa as well as in the Gulf of Guinea;
- 3.3: Determine strength of near-inertial waves and near-inertial energy flux in the mixed layer of the tropical Atlantic.