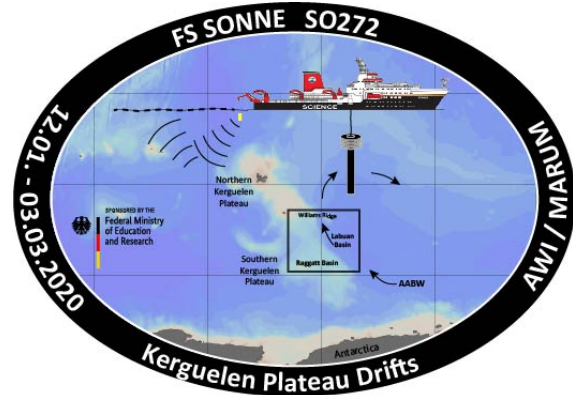
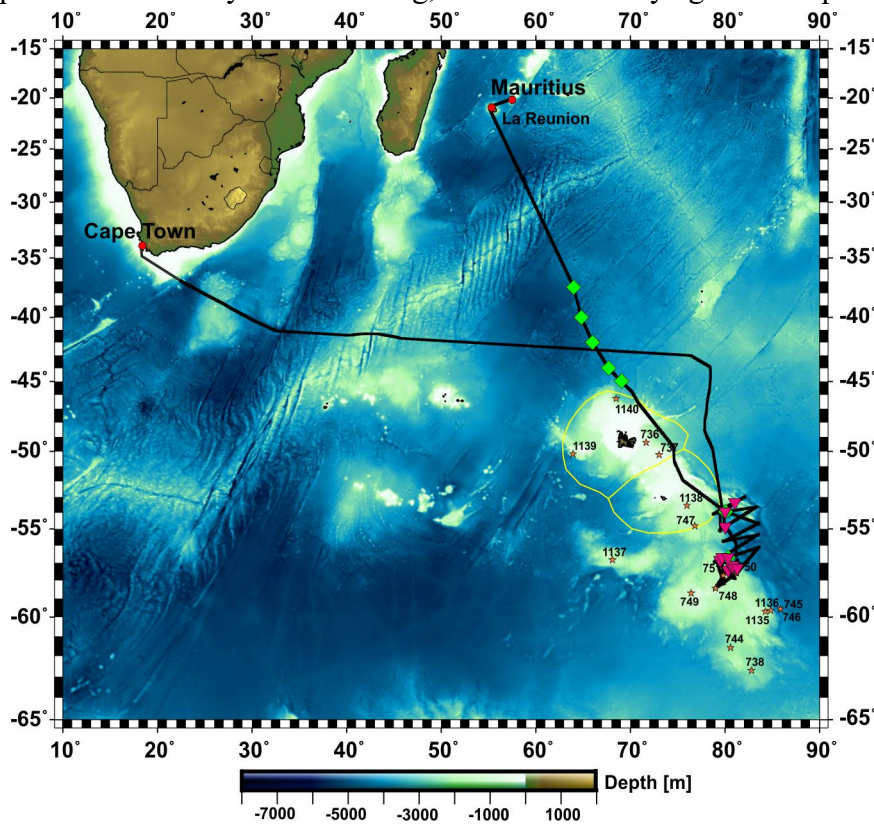


**Expedition So 272  
Post Louis – Cape Town**

**Weekly report No 7  
24. February – 4. March 2020**



Our cruise to the Kerguelen Plateau will be over soon. Already on late morning of February 17 we finished the seismic profiling and geological sampling in that area and started our transit to Cape Town. The way has been long, and continuously against the prevailing winds, currents and



waves. This slowed us down significantly. On Saturday evening we also stopped the bathymetric and Paraosound™ recordings. With this the scientific programme of cruise So 272 has found its end. The gear has been disassembled and maintained, we have cleaned up, stowed the containers. Our experiment has been extremely successful. We collected about 4000 km of high resolution high quality

seismic reflection data, where up to now only few reconnaissance surveys have been undertaken. We collected geological material at 11 locations. These data are supplemented ideally by Parasound and bathymetric data. This way we have collected material to answer the raised questions about origin and development of this plateau and its role as an obstacle for the deep circulation in late Cretaceous times and the Tertiary.

This successful cruise was only made possible by the extraordinary support of Captain Meyer and his crew. On deck we got excellent help during deployment, securing and retrieval of our equipment, the engineers made sure that the vessel moved, we had water and heating, and the boys on the bridge always kept us on course. On top of this the kitchen and service spoiled us with excellent food and made our life on board extremely comfortable. We want to thank them all.

Last but not least, both scientific teams prepared the cruise extremely well and operated and maintained the equipment here on board successfully. Thanks to them as well.



We send home cheerful greetings.

Southern Indian Ocean, February 23 2020, 42° 12.21' S / 57° 35.8' E

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<https://www.awi.de/en/science/geosciences/geophysics/research-focus/gateways-of-the-southern-ocean.html> under *Southern Indian Ocean circulation is archived in Kerguelen Plateau structures*

<https://www.awi.de/forschung/geowissenschaften/geophysik/expeditionen.html>