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**THE 8th WORKSHOP**

**OF THE HYDROZOAN SOCIETY**

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**Submission form**

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Title of the contribution: **Beaching of calycophoran siphonophores (Hydrozoa, Cnidaria) in the area of Algeciras Bay, Gibraltar Strait**

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 Oral contribution X Poster contribution

 Date: February 17th, 2015 Signature: Elena G.

Beaching of calycophoran siphonophores (Hydrozoa, Cnidaria) in the area of Algeciras Bay, Gibraltar Strait

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Large amount of the calycophoran siphonophore *Abylopsis tetragona* (Otto, 1823) were found beached on November 21st and 22nd, 2014 in the area of Algeciras Bay (South coast of Spain) after two days of a strong easterly winds storm. This bay is located at the eastern part of the Strait of Gibraltar (SW Mediterranean) with a bathymetry characterized by a central canyon that reaches its maximum depth (about 450 m) and width at the mouth of the bay. More than 700 estimated individuals of *A. tetragona* were detected on the sandy beach of Getares, situated right at the mouth of the bay and facing southeast. Possibly, being this event the first reported mass stranding of a epipelagic calicophoran siphonophore. This case is a good example of citizen science and jellyfish scientific knowledge outreach in schools, thanks to that we received the warning of the event and collaborate in the obtaining of the event’s samples and data.