

**Table S1.** Core locations and sampling details

Core	Longitude (°W)	Latitude (°N)	Water depth (m)	Sampling depth (cm)	Age	Location	References Age models
GeoB 4223-2	12°28 W	29°01 N	775	1	0.45	off Agadir Canyon	<i>Freudenthal et al, 2002</i>
				43	4.33		
				131	11.60		
GIK 12379-1	18°75 W	23°14 N	2136	1	1.58	off Cape Barbas	<i>Sarnthein et al, 1994</i>
				46	5.04		
				116	13.20		
GeoB 7920-2	18°34 W	20°45 N	2278	8	0.82	off Cape Blanc	<i>Tjallingii et al, 2008</i>
				58	5.31		
				173	12.34		
GIK 13588-3	17°15 W	19°38 N	1000	1	1.38	off Banc d'Arguin	<i>Diester-Haaf, 1981</i>
				49	5.08		
				157	12.43		
GeoB 9508-5	17°57 W	15°30 N	2834	8	0.99	off Senegal	<i>Mulitza et al, 2008</i>
				48	4.69		
				123	11.83		