



Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Islands Region

2003 – 2007
Electronic Version

Vision

*Our people proudly honour our natural heritage and cultural identity
The waters of our streams, lagoons and ocean are bountiful and crystal clear
Our mountains are wild, our forests pristine and our beaches unspoiled
Our societies are vibrant and diverse*

*We have equitable relationships with our global partners and our economies thrive
Our cultures and traditions are widely appreciated and
The products of our creativity and labour are especially prized
Islands of Life... Pure Pacific*

Mission

*To protect and conserve the rich natural and cultural heritage
of the Pacific Islands forever
for the benefit of the people of the Pacific and the World*

1. Statement from the Hon. Norman George, Chair of the Conference

Kia Orana,

It was a great honour for the Cook Islands to host the 7th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. It was a privilege for me to be the Chair of the Conference.

Several strands of discussion emerged during the conference – the need to mainstream nature conservation in all our activities, the reinforcement of the association of people with the land and its resources, and significantly, the importance of our ocean which connects us all as one people of the Pacific.

These strands can be woven into a very strong rope.

Conference participants, especially community leaders, spoke with passion during plenary sessions, workshops and other gatherings. They presented many compelling stories. They tabled many challenges.

When they left the conference participants took a draft copy of this Action Strategy with them. Since then a group has worked to edit that draft, to refine it, to remain true to the spirit of the conference. I believe this final Action Strategy fairly reflects the calls made at the Conference.

*Our conference image was: **Islands of Life....Pure Pacific.***

*Our theme was: **Mainstreaming Nature Conservation***

Our challenge is: to implement this strategy. We have long term goals. We have five year objectives. We have achievable targets to reach before our next conference.

The Roundtable mechanism was charged by the Conference with promoting, facilitating and monitoring the implementation of the strategy. The Roundtable will report back to the next conference on progress.

I look forward to governments and organisations signing up to this strategy, to committing to achieve the targets, so that at the next conference real progress can be reported.



Hon. Norman George
Chairman
Seventh Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas

30 October 2002

2. Introduction

Over 312 participants from governments, Pacific and international organizations, and, community groups met in Rarotonga, Cook Islands from July 13 – 18th for the 7th Conference on Nature Conservation. Participants recognized that conservation can only be achieved when conservation values are mainstreamed in society, they must “become part of everyone’s decisions” including government, private enterprise and the community as a whole.

Despite the achievements of the past two decades conservation still faces huge challenges at regional, national and community level (See Annex 1 Brief History). Conservationists are realizing the best way forward is to take conservation beyond the traditional players. Making conservation issues and options relevant and viable in all development activities is the next big step. The Pacific region offers a unique opportunity to make this happen.

Mainstreaming conservation is the new direction in this strategy. The mainstreaming approach recognizes that a successful conservation strategy will improve quality of life through a vibrant economy, a prosperous society and a healthy environment.

Mainstreaming is defined as; *making conservation everyone’s responsibility. It makes conservation part of all aspects of managing the economy and society. It integrates conservation into all activities of individuals, government, private enterprise and civil society at local, national, regional and international levels.*

An effective conservation strategy must involve all sectors in development through strong partnerships between conservationists and Governments, private sector and civil society. There must be participation from all levels of society.

This new action strategy accommodates the three pillars of sustainable development and addresses all sectors in development:

- ENVIRONMENT - Biodiversity and the natural environment
- ECONOMY – Economic activity
- SOCIETY – People, their cultures, traditions, social situations and attitudes.

Environment, Economy and Society provide broad 30 year goals for the action strategy. These goals are overall ideals to achieve over the long term. Achievable 5 year objectives and targets have been identified within these 30 year goals at national and regional levels. The targets are estimates of the collective efforts required of all parties. They provide measurable, achievable and inspirational targets for the action strategy that can be easily communicated beyond the conservation community.

The conference recommended an expanded Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation as the mechanism to oversee implementation and monitoring of the action strategy during the next 5 years (See Annex 3). The roundtable enhances the effectiveness of the conference’s strategy by providing an opportunity to identify gaps, update activities and share experiences in the period between conferences. Coordination of the implementation of the action strategy is the responsibility of the Roundtable and SPREP through the Action Strategy Coordinator.

Publication of the Action Strategy

The action strategy will exist in two formats. This format (the eVersion) is the core strategy and contains key strategic directions, targets and a small amount of additional material to provide some context. It is abbreviated for ease of electronic circulation and to allow immediate use by governments, agencies and conservation organizations.

A published document (the pVersion) will be produced which contains additional explanatory material, illustrative material, maps and tables. The pVersion will be more attractive and informative and is useful for communicating the strategy to a broader audience. This is unlikely to be available until some time in 2003

How to Use the Action Strategy

The action strategy has been developed through a consultative process involving a wide range of stakeholders and organizations. It can be used in a variety of ways. It provides:

- a. A regional consensus on priorities for actions to promote the mainstreaming of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- b. Guidance to international, regional, national and local communities, organizations and governments in development, review and implementation of their individual plans and programmes.
- c. A framework for regional and national coordination of actions.
- d. A framework for regional and international institutions to use in integrating their work.
- e. Guidance to donor communities when allocating resources (financial and capacity).
- f. Guidance to communities seeking resources on priorities for funding.

3. Goals, Objectives and Targets

30-Year ENVIRONMENT Goal

The biodiversity and natural environment of the Pacific region are conserved.

Building on the Pacific experience with community-based approaches to resource management, all sectors will be engaged in new partnerships. Supportive legislation, policies and plans at the national level will be needed to ensure the effective mainstreaming of sustainable resource management. Coordinated and systematic monitoring of critical ecosystems and species will be required to identify trends and achievement of conservation priorities.

5-Year Objectives		5-Year Targets
1.1	Establish and strengthen conservation networks and partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ 1.1.1 Establish at least 5 nationwide networks and 1 regional network of conservation areas→ 1.1.2 Expand three national networks to include partnerships that address environmental, economic and social interests in the region→ 1.1.3 Establish at least 40 national and 20 regional sectoral and multi-sectoral partnerships to fund and implement conservation activities.
1.2	Increase the number of areas under effective conservation management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ 1.2.1 Place at least 5% of coastal and terrestrial areas under effective community-based conservation management in all Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs).
1.3	Bring each PICT's priority invasive species under effective control, and prevent new introductions of marine and terrestrial alien invasive species and regulate genetically modified organisms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ 1.3.1 Implement improved port quarantine regulations and practices on 70% of islands and PICTs→ 1.3.2 Implement national awareness programs of existing invasive species and threats in all PICTs→ 1.3.3 Implement pilot eradication and control pilot programs for selected priority species in at least 5 PICTs→ 1.3.4 Develop and implement marine and terrestrial invasive species management plans in at least 10 PICTs→ 1.3.5 Establish a regional mechanism for coordinating the monitoring of invasive species.→ 1.3.6 Establish national biosafety frameworks in at least 10 PICTs→ 1.3.7 Implement national awareness programs on genetically modified organisms in all PICTs

1.4	Safeguard and restore threatened species of ecological and cultural significance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 1.4.1 <i>Declare at least 20 million square kilometers of Pacific Island Countries' EEZs to be whale sanctuaries</i> → 1.4.2 <i>Enact and enforce legislation for protection of rare, threatened or endangered marine and terrestrial species in all PICTs</i> → 1.4.3 <i>Initiate national actions to safeguard and restore at least 2 rare, threatened, endangered or culturally significant species in 10 PICTs</i> → 1.4.4 <i>Commence restoration of viable populations of regionally significant rare, threatened and endangered species.</i> → 1.4.5 <i>Identify and document regionally significant threats to species and associated habitats</i> → 1.4.6 <i>Publish a Red Data list of rare, threatened and endangered species and habitats in the region</i>
1.5	Safeguard and restore threatened areas of ecological and cultural significance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 1.5.1 <i>Identify and map ecosystems and habitats that are threatened and /or culturally significant in at least 10 PICTs</i> → 1.5.2 <i>Develop and implement plans for the restoration of at least one threatened ecosystem of cultural significance in at least 5 PICTs</i>
1.6	Address the impacts of climate change on the natural environment and biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 1.6.1 <i>Prepare adaptation and contingency plans to address impacts of climate change on society and biodiversity in all PICTs</i> → 1.6.2 <i>Integrate impacts of climate change on biodiversity in national and community conservation plans in all PICTs.</i>
1.7	Improve knowledge and understanding of the state of Pacific's natural environment and biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 1.7.1 <i>Develop standardized and practical biological indicators and monitoring methods for all major ecosystems and resource systems including coral reefs, forests and mangroves</i> → 1.7.2 <i>Initiate and maintain an on-going monitoring programme targeting the level of use and the health of key natural resource systems and biodiversity values at the regional level</i> → 1.7.3 <i>Compile and distribute widely regular state of the environment and biodiversity reports for the Pacific region.</i> → 1.7.4 <i>Identify research needs in all PICTs to address gaps in knowledge in key areas of biodiversity conservation.</i> → 1.7.5 <i>Document and disseminate lessons learned from the experiences from all major regional and conservation initiatives.</i> → 1.7.6 <i>Develop a map of the region using the eco-regional approach to show areas of high conservation value</i>

30-Year ECONOMY Goal

Nature conservation and sustainable resource use are integral parts of all island economies.

Making conservation and sustainable resource an economic development priority in Pacific economies is essential for a long term, sustainable future. This requires effective partnerships between private sector, community groups, NGOs and governments and the development of new and innovative financial mechanisms. To enable this Pacific Governments need to adopt new approaches to economic management and decision making

	5-Year Objectives	5-Year Targets
2.1	Develop multi sector partnerships for sustainable resource use and management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ 2.1.1 Launch, strengthen or maintain at least one effective multi-sector partnership to promote sustainable use and good governance of a selected natural resource in each PICT→ 2.1.2 Establish a mechanism for high level private enterprise involvement in conservation at the regional level.→ 2.1.3 Foster multi-sector teams to improve decision making in conservation planning and management in all PICTs
2.2	Develop and enforce integrated environmental, economic and social planning, policy and legal frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ 2.2.1 Implement NBSAPS or their equivalent through a national co-ordination mechanism in all PICTs→ 2.2.2 Integrate NBSAPs into the development plans of at least 5 PICTs→ 2.2.3 Ensure integrated environmental, social, and economic assessment legislation and policies are in place and applied in all PICTs.→ 2.2.4 Determine sustainable harvest rates of critical commercial resources and ensure these are not exceeded in at least 5 PICTs→ 2.2.5 Promote effective compliance and enforcement of conservation legislation, instruments and authorities in all PICTs→ 2.2.6 Facilitate preparation of legislative, regulatory, economic and moral suasion instruments for sustainable development of each major resource sector – fishing, forestry, agriculture, mining and tourism – in 5 PICTs→ 2.2.7 Develop mechanisms for equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources and are operating effectively in at least 5 PICTs→ 2.2.8 Enact intellectual property rights legislation which recognizes traditional rights and ownership systems in at least 5 PICTs

2.3	Foster economic instruments that create incentives for conservation and remove those that with negative impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 2.3.1 <i>Implement incentives for environmentally friendly technology and practices in at least 5 PICTs</i> → 2.3.2 <i>Establish economic incentives to encourage conservation initiatives by private businesses and communities in at least 5 PICTs</i> → 2.3.3 <i>Remove incentives that encourage unsustainable resource harvesting or irreversible resource degradation in at least 5 PICTs</i> → 2.3.4 <i>Direct a portion of natural resource rents to conservation initiatives in at least 10 PICTs</i>
2.4	Strengthen resource and environmental valuation for effective decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 2.4.1 <i>Complete environmental valuations for selected natural resources in at least 5 PICTs</i> → 2.4.2 <i>Implement environmental service charges to users of at least 3 natural resources in at least 5 PICTs</i> → 2.4.3 <i>Incorporate natural resource accounting into national accounting systems in at least 5 PICTs</i> → 2.4.4 <i>Train at least 1 person in natural resource and environmental economics in all PICTs</i> → 2.4.5 <i>Incorporate the use of environmental valuation information in key economic development decisions in at least 5 PICTs</i>
2.5	Engage business in environmentally sound practices and support for conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 2.5.1 <i>Achieve accreditation under ISO standards for at least 20 key businesses in the region</i> → 2.5.2 <i>Achieve adoption of socially responsible codes of Practice by at least one lead industry in each PICTs</i> → 2.5.3 <i>Achieve certification of commercial forestry and fisheries operations in at least 5 PICTs</i>
2.6	Create sustainable financial mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 2.6.1 <i>Assist community income-generating activities through national marketing and financial structures in at least 10 PICTs</i> → 2.6.2 <i>Operate at least 1 self-financing conservation project in 5 PICTs</i> → 2.6.3 <i>Operate at least 1 viable national or regional long-term financial mechanism for environmental projects</i> → 2.6.4 <i>Increase government funding for conservation by 10% in at least 5 PICTs</i> → 2.6.5 <i>Incorporate national conservation funding plans in all PICT NBSAPs or equivalent.</i>
2.7	Promote sustainable livelihoods to eradicate poverty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → 2.7.1 <i>Demonstrate revenue generation from sustainable use of resources by 20 local communities in the region</i> → 2.7.2 <i>Document and disseminate the contribution of 20 community conservation projects to the basic needs and livelihood of the communities in the region.</i>

30 -Year SOCIETY Goal

Pacific peoples, their governments, and institutions are leading activities for the sustainable and equitable use of natural resources in the Pacific region

Pacific peoples, their cultures, values and attitudes, provide the platform for successful conservation. Pacific institutions, organizations and communities require the capacity to implement conservation and sustainable use of resources as part of their activities. This demands effective legislation and policies to encourage active participation in conservation and to ensure equitable distribution of its benefits.

	5-Year Objectives	5-Year Targets
3.1	Empower local people, communities and institutions to effectively participate in decision making and action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ 3.1.1 Increase the number of tertiary trained graduates in conservation and environment sciences employed in all PICTs→ 3.1.2 Provide further training and skill development for all conservation officers in identified priority areas in all PICTs→ 3.1.3 Achieve the appointment of women to at least 25% of the senior nature conservation roles in all PICTs.→ 3.1.4 Introduce and implement an environmental education component in primary and secondary school programmes in all PICTs.→ 3.1.5 Establish and support at least one peer learning network to promote rapid dissemination of new skills and tools in the region
3.2	Recognize and integrate customary structures and processes in natural resource and environmental governance systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ 3.2.1 Integrate traditional village councils and chiefly systems into national and local authority decision making in 10 PICTs→ 3.2.2 Integrate traditional knowledge and management practices that promote sustainable use of resources in management plans conservation areas in at least 10 PICTs→ 3.2.3 Recognise community based conservation approaches in national conservation and development plans in at least 10 PICTs→ 3.2.4 Translate significant local, national and regional conservation documents into local languages in all PICTs
3.3	Safeguard and strengthen traditional knowledge and practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ 3.3.1 Document and disseminate traditional knowledge, practices and innovations in 5 PICTs→ 3.3.2 Establish effective mechanisms and regulations in at least 5 PICTs to recognise and protect customary land tenure, traditional knowledge, practices and innovations→ 3.3.3 Empower traditional knowledge holders to promote, facilitate and regulate access to and use of traditional knowledge in 10 PICTs

		→ <i>3.3.4 Create national regimes for regulating access to genetic resources in 5 PICTs</i>
3.4	Raise awareness and promote conservation values	→ <i>3.4.1 Implement at least 2 new regional awareness campaigns targeting 2 key regional conservation issues</i>
		→ <i>3.4.2 Establish national information storage and clearinghouse mechanisms for biodiversity in at least 5 PICTs</i>
		→ <i>3.4.3 Establish and maintain a regional mechanism for information sharing on nature conservation</i>
		→ <i>3.4.4 Develop skills and capacity for accessing and using information in all PICTs</i>
		→ <i>3.4.5 Communicate conservation and sustainable resource use principles effectively to targeted audiences in 5 non conservation sectors</i>
		→ <i>3.4.6 Implement a regional programme to involve Pacific Island media in conservation and environment activities</i>
		→ <i>3.4.7 Conduct at least one training or awareness seminar on nature conservation for key decision makers (including community and church leaders, parliamentarians, leaders of industry) in all PICTs</i>

Annex 1: Brief History and Background

The emergence of the first regional strategy reflected the need to give expression to regional issues requiring coordinated regional actions. At the time, the regional players were limited to a few organizations, with SPREP, UNEP's Regional Seas Programme and IUCN the major ones. Interest in nature conservation was also narrowly focused on protected areas establishment and management. Inevitably, SPREP's prominence in coordinating regional actions and promoting the strategy led to the misconception that it was a SPREP strategy and new players who later entered the region felt no ownership of it.

Subsequent strategies sought to overcome these issues in a variety of ways. The 1993-1997 Action Strategy came from 5th Conference in Tonga which unanimously endorsed the concept of community-based conservation areas. The action strategy, at least in terms of this new approach, became driven by an idea that was widely and unanimously endorsed. Many different stakeholders identified with the idea and the strategy.

The strength of one idea however did not avert other criticisms. There were concerns the strategies were over-prescriptive and presenting wish-lists rather than the critical priorities needing urgent action. They also lacked monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

The prominence given to the environment by the Earth Summit, Agenda 21, the Barbados Plan of Action and the Convention on Biological Diversity coincided with the entrance into the region of other regional and international players. With limited involvement in the action strategy process, most of these organisations and funding agencies felt no allegiance to, nor ownership of, the 1993-1997 action strategy.

The process for developing the *1998 – 2002 Action Strategy* reflected a serious attempt at addressing these matters. The 6th Conference in Pohnpei was the launching pad. The Action Strategy Review Committee of national and regional representatives worked the outcomes of the conference into the regional planning process. The Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation emerged out of this Conference in response to the need to promote implementation of the regional actions of the strategy.

Seeking to overcome concerns about the lack of regional ownership, the action strategy went through a formal signing-up ceremony wherein many regional and international organizations, and the Chairman of the SPREP Meeting (on behalf of Pacific Island Countries) signed the document to formalize their commitment to promoting its implementation. If an organisation was undertaking work (or was committed to undertaking work) which advanced specific action in the strategy this was noted in the document.

The success of the Roundtable process in getting regional players involved in the development and monitoring of the action strategy shifted perception of the strategy from it being SPREP driven to it being regionally driven. Concerns about the lack of national and local community input were frequently raised. Other issues such as monitoring implementation were also still not quite resolved, despite the Roundtable's best efforts.

This was the context leading into the 7th Conference. The design of the Conference reflected a conscious attempt to put emphasis on the review and update of the action strategy, and to seize the opportunity to engage all delegates in a truly participatory multi-stakeholder planning exercise. Local community engagement and participation were to be critical to the conference's success.

Achievements, Threats, Challenges and Opportunities

Despite their imperfections, the Action Strategies have provided guidance, direction and the framework for coordination amongst regional players. There were many notable achievements that clearly flowed from the priorities and focus promoted by the Action Strategies. Some of these include the significant increase in the total area of ecosystems brought under conservation management and the shift to community-based conservation areas. The coming together of regional implementers and funders in the Roundtable process to coordinate their work and to build partnerships is another achievement. Recently the vision of a region-wide whale sanctuary moved closer to being realized with the declaration by five Pacific Island countries of their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ's) as whale sanctuaries. National capacities to deal with environment issues have also grown immensely with 22 national agencies now established and dealing directly with environmental issues amongst PICs where there were none 20 years ago.

Achievements

- 10.9 km² of EEZ for whale sanctuaries
- 232 protected areas covering 25,500 km²
- 13 national conservation agencies in 13 PICs
- 13 PICs undertaking NBSAP exercises

The other side of the ledger however remains gloomy. Threats facing the region's natural heritage remain. If anything they are increasing in numbers and intensities. Climate change, over-harvesting of natural resources, the proliferation of invasive species, high population growth, natural disasters and unsustainable development continue to place biodiversity under intense pressure.

Lack of institutional capacity (especially at national level), limited infrastructure development, lack of coordination and integration of environment and conservation activities, limited economic alternatives, lack of political support and good governance, and limited funds pose major challenges to environmental management and conservation in the region. Making the environment and conservation a national and regional priority is also a great challenge, because they have not traditionally been part of the economic equation in PIC's development plans. Addressing basic needs such as alleviating poverty, food security and earning money for survival are often a more immediate priority.

Threats

- Over harvesting of natural resources
- Invasive species
- High population growth
- Natural disasters
- Climate change

However, new opportunities for environmental management and conservation work exist, thanks to support from the concerned global community. The identification and establishment of alternative resource uses, including promotion of market based alternatives with environmentally friendly or sustainable development business enterprises, and other innovations offer additional opportunities. Existing environment and conservation international conventions, effective private sector participation, and community based initiatives through effective participation and utilization of local authorities and churches are other options available.

Development of this Action Strategy

The 7th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas established two Committees on its first day – the Resolutions Committee and the Action Strategy Review Committee.

The Action Strategy Review Committee met during the Conference. It took the material prepared by the workshops, plenary sessions and presented papers and commenced revising the action strategy. On the

final day of the conference it was able to present a draft of the revised action strategy to participants for their consideration in plenary session. It also presented a proposed plan for finalising the action strategy.

Conference participants were invited (as part of the plan) to provide any additional feedback to the Committee chair over the following month.

After receiving feedback the Chair called together a sub-committee to finalise the action strategy. The sub-committee met for one week in August 2002 and one week on October 2002. As they worked, members of the subcommittee sent draft material to the full committee for comment to ensure they were reflecting the calls of the conference. It is from this work that this Action Strategy 2003 -2007 has emerged. It reflects the calls of the 7th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas.

Annex 2 – Mainstreaming Points

BRINGING PEOPLE ON BOARD – Mainstreaming your conservation concerns.....

1. **Be effective communicators** –
 - Target your audience - recognize the needs of who you are addressing (politicians, policy makers, community leaders, student)
 - match your conservation message to their needs
 - communicate value – make sure your conservation objectives add value to their objectives
 - Information strategy - capture the right information and get it to your target audience at the right time
2. **Build your platform** – recognize who needs to be on board – it could be a small group of leaders, a whole community or people throughout the nation.
 - **Identify champions** or key movers and shakers – people who influence other people and can make a difference.
 - **Build strategic partnerships** beyond your traditional alliances – look at churches, private enterprises, Government departments, etc.
3. **Be Innovative**
 - Look for new ways to address old issues
 - **Embrace the market** - Investigate market incentives for achieving your objectives or selling your conservation “product”.
4. **Remember its not all or nothing** – sometimes the best strategy is a viable alternative that reduces negative impacts instead of a total zero option that is likely to be rejected.

Tipping Points are the reaffirmation of the potential for change and the power of intelligent action. Look at the world around you. It may seem like an immovable, implacable place. It is not. With the slightest push – in just the right place it can be tipped

Malcolm Gladwell

Annex 3 – Pacific Islands Roundtable Resolution

Resolution 7 – The Pacific Island Roundtable for Nature Conservation

The 7th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas:

Recognising that the Pacific Island Roundtable for Nature Conservation is a coalition of conservation organizations and donor agencies launched at the 6th Pacific Island Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in Pohnpei in 1997;

Noting that the Roundtable has played a valuable role in promoting and implementing the *Action Strategy* and increasing collaboration for nature conservation over the last five years;

Noting further that the Roundtable has developed useful tools for coordination of conservation activities in the region, including the Inventory, Monitoring Matrix, and 12 Working Groups;

Recognising that Roundtable members represent international and regional organisations that implement or fund Action Strategy activities toward more than one goal or in two or more countries;

Further recognising that the voluntary membership of the Roundtable is a great strength that should continue;

Commending the commitment of the Roundtable members to provide a more inclusive approach to their work.

Now therefore resolve as follows:

- The Pacific Island Roundtable for Nature Conservation is maintained as a mechanism for promoting, facilitating and monitoring the implementation of *Action Strategy*.
- The Roundtable adopts mechanisms for making its membership more inclusive for meaningful participation of regional and national bodies.
- The Roundtable's mandate for the next five years is to *increase effective conservation action in the Pacific islands by*:
 - Fostering greater coordination and collaboration among national, regional and international organizations;
 - Identifying critical gaps in the *Action Strategy* and developing new conservation activities in the region;
 - Communicating and linking with countries through NBSAPs or alternative processes to promote implementation and monitoring of the *Action Strategy*;
 - Strengthening linkages with CROP agencies to promote multi-sectoral mainstreaming at the regional level;
 - Strengthening linkages with regional and national NGOs for more effective coordination;

The Roundtable reports to the 8th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas on the implementation of the Action Strategy