

SPREP

Working papers

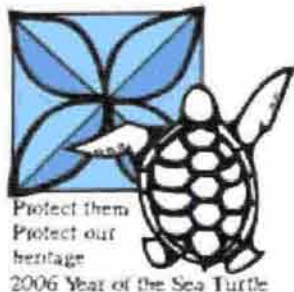
17th SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia
11-15 September 2006

PROE

363-709582c

Secrétariat du
Programme régional
océanien de l'environnement



Secretariat of the
Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

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SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

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Agenda Item 1: Official Opening

Agenda Item 2: Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Agenda Item 3: Adoption of Agenda and Working Procedures

Agenda Item 4: Action Taken on Matters Arising from Sixteenth SPREP Meeting

Agenda Item 5: Performance Review/Overview of Developments in 2005

5.1 Presentation of Annual Report for 2005 and Director's Overview of Progress since the Sixteenth SPREP Meeting

5.2 Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Report on the 2005 Annual Work Programme and Budget

5.3 Financial Reports

5.3.1 Report on Members' Contributions

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Agenda Item 6: Staff Remuneration – Triennial Reviews

6.1 Triennial CROP Remuneration Review on Professional Staff

6.2 Triennial Remuneration Review on Support Staff

Agenda Item 7: Regional Conventions

7.1 Report of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the SPREP (Noumea) Convention

7.2 Report of the Joint Conference of the Parties of the Noumea and Apia Conventions

7.3 Report of the Conference of the Parties of the Waigani Convention

Agenda Item 8: 2007 Work Programme and Budget

- 8.1 Island Ecosystems Programme Issues
 - 8.1.1(a) *Final Status Report on International Waters Project*
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 - 8.1.2 *Invasive Species: Developments and Update*
 - 8.1.3 *Island Biodiversity: Update on Regional Progress*
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- 8.2 Pacific Futures Programme Issues
 - 8.2.1 *Regional Strategy on Shipping Related Introduced Marine Pests (IMP)*
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 - 8.2.3 *Pacific Islands Renewable Energy Project (PIREP)*
 - 8.2.4 *Regional Strategy for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol in the Pacific Region*
 - 8.2.5 *Activities in relation to financing for regional environmental projects from the Global Environment Facility (GEF)*
- 8.3 Regional Collaboration: Greater Engagement of Territories in SPREP Activities
- 8.4 Country Profiles as a Means for Members National Reporting under SPREP Action Plan (2005 – 2009)
- 8.5 Consideration and Approval of Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2007 and Indicative Budgets for 2008 and 2009

Agenda Item 9: Institutional Matters

- 9.1 Status of Ratifications of the Agreement Establishing SPREP (AES)
- 9.2 Performance Management and Development of Post of Director – A Paper by Australia
- 9.3 Report by the Director of Staff Appointments Beyond 6 Years
- 9.4 Appointment of Auditors

Agenda Item 10: Regional Cooperation

- 10.1 Report of the CROP Heads Meeting

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Agenda Item 16: Close



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia
11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 2: Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Purpose of Paper

1. The "*Rules of Procedure of the SPREP Meeting*" (Rules 8.1 and 8.2), provides that where the Meeting is hosted by the Secretariat, the Chair shall rotate alphabetically, and where the Meeting is not hosted by the Secretariat, the Chair shall be provided by the host country.
2. Accordingly, the **Chair** of the Seventeenth SPREP Meeting shall be **New Caledonia**, the host country.
3. Rule 8.3 also provide that the Vice-Chair shall rotate alphabetically whether or not the Meeting is hosted by the Secretariat. The Vice-Chair of the Sixteenth SPREP Meeting was Niue. Under the principle of alphabetical rotation, therefore, **Northern Mariana Islands** should be appointed **Vice-Chair** of the Seventeenth SPREP Meeting.

Recommendation

4. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **confirm** the Representative of **New Caledonia** as **Chair**; and
 - **confirm** the Representative of **Northern Marianas** as **Vice-Chair**.
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SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting*Noumea, New Caledonia*11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 3: Adoption of Agenda and Working Procedures**Agenda**

1. The Revised Provisional Agenda appears in the Working Paper documentation as 17SM/Officials/Provisional Agenda/Rev.1.

Hours of Work

2. Suggested hours of work for the Meeting are contained in the attached (17SM/Officials/WP.3/Att.1).

Sub-committees

3. A Report Drafting Committee would need to be appointed to assist with the preparation of the report of the Meeting. While the membership of the Committee is open-ended it should comprise a core of 5 or 6 members at least one of which should be from a French speaking member. The Vice-Chair would chair the Report Drafting Committee.

Recommendation

4. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **consider** and **adopt** the Provisional Agenda;
 - **agree** on hours of work; and
 - **appoint** an open-ended Report Drafting Committee.
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SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

**Agenda Item 4: Action Taken on Decisions Made by
Sixteenth SPREP Meeting**

Purpose of Paper

- To report on action taken on the decisions of the 16th SPREP Meeting as outlined below.

Agenda Topic	Report Paragraph Number	Matters Arising	Action Taken
Item 7.1.1: <i>Island Biodiversity Programme of Work</i>	223	<p>The Meeting:</p> <p>(i) Endorsed the approach of the Secretariat in supporting the ongoing development of the IBPOW and in its strategy to support its implementation;</p> <p>(ii) Noted the upcoming CBD Pacific preparatory meeting and COP meeting as opportunities for Pacific input to further the IBPOW;</p> <p>(iii) Recognised that biodiversity is a fundamental underpinning of island well-being, productive lifestyles and livelihoods, and that the rate of loss of species in the Pacific is currently among the highest in the world; and</p> <p>(iv) Commended the proposed new IBPOW, recognising the important contribution it will make to support the Pacific region's goal of significantly reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity.</p>	<p>The Secretariat organised a regional preparatory meeting, produced a draft Pacific brief and led by the Director attended COP8 of CBD to provide support to the very high level and effective representation by the region.</p> <p>The IBPOW took on board many recommendations from PICs and has now been formally incorporated by the CBD Secretariat and efforts both by Pacific islands Parties and the SPREP Secretariat should now focus on having the IBPOW effectively implemented.</p> <p>This issue will again be addressed more substantively in a later agenda items and at the Ministers Segment.</p>
Item 7.1.4: <i>SPREP/Convention for Migratory Species Secretariat collaboration to Assist PICTs on Marine Mammals</i>	269	<p>The Meeting:</p> <p>(i) Endorsed the joint SPREP/CMS process to date towards the development of a CMS MoU for the Conservation of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific Islands Region;</p>	<p>Provided advise to the CMS Secretariat on comments received towards finalization of the MoU.</p>

Agenda Topic	Report Paragraph Number	Matters Arising	Action Taken
		<p>(ii) Agreed to forward official comments on the MoU no later than the 30 October 2005 deadline;</p> <p>(iii) Directed the Secretariat to progress regional arrangements for dugongs and marine turtles including under the auspices of the CMS; and</p> <p>(vi) Noted progress for the Year of the Sea Turtle 2006.</p>	<p>Facilitated timely receipt of comments from members. All official comments received from members and other organizations promptly forwarded to the CMS Secretariat.</p> <p>Ensured participation of all SPREP dugong range states and territories in the Second Meeting on the MoU for Dugong Conservation and Management under CMS, 15-18 May 2006, Bangkok, Thailand.</p> <p>Collaboration with Australia and CMS Secretariat to conduct first meeting to negotiate a turtle conservation arrangement under CMS in the Pacific.</p> <p>Secured funding to assist members to participate in this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year of the Sea Turtle (YOST) Campaign regional Coordinating Committee established and Campaign Plan finalized; • Secured funding for YOST activities; • Year of the Sea Turtle campaign successfully launched as planned on 1 March 2006; • Developed/produced/distributed YOST campaign material; • Assistance provided for national launches; • Secured short-term intern position as campaign coordinator.
<p>Item: 7.2.1: <i>Climate Change Issues</i></p>	<p>303</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <p>(i) Endorsed the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006–2015 to be forwarded to the Pacific Forum Leaders in 2005;</p> <p>(ii) Endorsed the Regional Meteorological Directors Meeting's Alofi Statement 2005 for the Secretariat to bring to the attention of the Pacific Forum Leaders in 2005;</p>	<p>The Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006 – 2015 had been endorsed by the Pacific Forum Leaders in 2005.</p> <p>The Alofi Statement was submitted by SPREP for consideration at the Pacific Forum Leaders.</p>

Agenda Topic	Report Paragraph Number	Matters Arising	Action Taken
		<p>(iii) Noted with appreciation the effective partnership between SPREP, UNDP, GEF and the PICs on sourcing funds for regional greenhouse gas mitigation activities and request a continued partnership to source more funds for more regional and national greenhouse gas mitigation activities;</p> <p>(iv) Noted the work done by the Secretariat to progress Second National Communications;</p> <p>(v) Endorsed the need for adaptation for local communities to be further continued and request other development partners to assist with the continuation of adaptation implementation;</p> <p>(vi) Endorsed the need for effective Pacific islands representation to the 12 Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol and the proposed preparatory workshop being planned by the Secretariat in this regard; and</p> <p>(vii) Agreed with the need for the work of the Secretariat to complete the current phase of the Pacific ODS Project and request participating countries to establish and implement ODS regulations within the extended timeframe.</p>	<p>The PIGGAREP Project Document (US\$5.224 million) was completed and submitted for the final endorsement of the CEO of the GEF Secretariat.</p> <p>Assistance was provided to RMI to draft their US\$1 million Operational Programme 6 (OP6) Medium Size Project (MSP). Proposal has been submitted to the GEF Secretariat.</p> <p>A concept paper was drafted for a OP 5 MSP for the Solomon Is.</p> <p>Current discussions are underway to draft a proposal for Tonga to be funded under the European Union's Energy Initiative.</p> <p>Countries were assisted to carry out their Stocktaking and Proposal Development for their Second National Communication.</p> <p>The CIDA/SPREP CBDAMPIC Project has been successfully completed and a follow-up adaptation implementation project is currently being developed collaboratively with UNDP.</p> <p>The Preparatory Workshop for the 11th UNFCCC COP had been carried out and PIC representatives were well equipped to negotiate critical issues for PICs at the COP.</p> <p>FSM – Regulations approval in process to Congress via President.</p> <p>Kiribati – ODS Bill is dependent on the Environment Bill which is expected to be passed at end of 2006.</p> <p>Palau - Ozone Layer protection Regulations established in 2005.</p>

Agenda Topic	Report Paragraph Number	Matters Arising	Action Taken
			<p>Solomon Islands – Move to repositioning the existing draft of the ODS regulations under the Work and Safety Act to the Customs and Excise Act.</p> <p>Tonga – Draft Bill completed. Is still pending approval by Parliament.</p> <p>Tuvalu – Drafting of Bill is still in process with the Attorney Generals Office.</p> <p>Vanuatu – Current reports indicate a lack of information on the exact status of this progress since 2004. Attempts to make contact have been made.</p> <p>Cook Islands (new member) – Active consultation in process.</p> <p>Niue (new member) – first draft completed.</p> <p>Nauru (new member) – active consultation in process.</p>
<p>Item 7.2.2: <i>Strategy for Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries and Territories</i></p>	333	<p>The Meeting:</p> <p>(i) Endorsed the draft Strategy for Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries and Territories; and</p> <p>(ii) Committed itself and all Members to fully support and participate in implementing the activities contained in the strategy</p>	<p>2 Senior waste officers from each SPREP member were sponsored by JICA and NZAID to Apia to draft the implementation Waste Action Plan. All members attended with the exception of CNMI, Guam, New Caledonia and French Polynesia. Observers from JICA, NZ, WHO and IH (Aust NGO) also assisted in production of the Waste Action Plan.</p> <p>Waste Action Plan, and guidelines on Asbestos (as requested by Niue) and other waste issues have been distributed. These have also been made available through the SPREP waste website.</p> <p>Country visits to follow up have commenced – with country visits to Tuvalu and Tonga. More are now being planned.</p>

Agenda Topic	Report Paragraph Number	Matters Arising	Action Taken
Item 7.2.3: <i>Increasing Integration of Pacific Island Territories into the Work Programme of the Secretariat</i>	340	The Meeting: (i) Noted the report of the Meeting with the territories; (ii) Urged the Secretariat to pursue efforts in promoting greater involvement of the Pacific island territories in the work programme of SPREP; and (iii) Requested the Secretariat to report to the next SPREP meeting on the steps undertaken to address the identified opportunities and mechanisms for greater involvement and participation of the Pacific island territories into the work programme of SPREP.	The Secretariat has redoubled its efforts to involve as much as possible Pacific island territories across the range of its work programmes and a detailed paper will be tabled under a separate agenda item.
Item 7.4: <i>Consideration and Approval of Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2006 and Indicative Budgets for 2007 and 2008</i>	352	The representative of Samoa commended the improvements in the budget and suggested an extra column be added to the schedule on page 3 to allow the Secretariat to report the current year's financial out turn as well as a projection to the year's end.	This has now been incorporated into the proposed 2007 Work Programme and Budget.
	357	The Secretariat also took on board the suggestion by Samoa to improve page three of the work programme and budget; and will work towards including this in future budgets.	
Item 8.2: <i>Proposed Procedures for Reappointment of Incumbent Directors in the Future</i>	387	The Chair thanked Australia for the comments. He conceded that it is good to take stock of issues and look at evaluation at a regular basis, especially in situations that are difficult to appraise. He suggested taking on board comments by Australia and asked the Meeting to consider setting up a working group to develop a process for evaluating the work of the Director. The process would be submitted to the next SPREP meeting for consideration by Members.	Australia has advised that it would table an information paper on this at the 17 th SPREP Meeting.
	388	The Meeting agreed: (i) To establish a working group facilitated through email by Australia and a core group comprising Samoa, Tonga, FSM, French Polynesia and any other interested Members to allow consideration of a system for evaluating the Director's performance and to report to the 17 th SPREP Meeting; and (ii) That on the second year of the Director's first term, the Members evaluate his/her performance and decide on whether to offer a second term or advertise the post.	

Agenda Topic	Report Paragraph Number	Matters Arising	Action Taken
Item 10: Items Proposed by Members <i>Members' Reporting on National Activities under SPREP Action Plan (NZ)</i>	413	The Chair proposed that the next SPREP Meeting would be a forum to discuss a mechanism for developing and presenting Members' reports and decide on a theme for the 18 th SPREP Meeting.	The Secretariat will prepare a short background paper on this for the 17 th SPREP Meeting.
	415	The Meeting endorsed the proposal for the next meeting.	
<i>Future of the Apia Convention (Australia)</i>	418	The representative of Australia proposed that the Apia Convention be examined. He said that, although innovative when first introduced, the issues it covers are now also covered by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) with the GEF as the main financial mechanism. In the lead-up to the 17 th SPREP meeting, Members were requested to indicate or confirm their support for a review of the Apia Convention. If the Convention was considered no longer relevant, then the Parties might support its folding and focus instead on supporting SPREP's work programmes.	This matter will be addressed at the biennial Meeting of the Parties to the Apia Convention scheduled to meet prior to the 17 th SPREP Meeting and its report will be available to the SPREP Meeting.
	421	The Chair summarised that, given the small number of parties to the Convention and the fact that many of the issues are covered through the CBD, there may no longer be a reason to keep it working. He encouraged Members to consider this issue in the lead-up to the next Conference of the Parties in 2006.	
<i>GEF Position in SPREP (Niue)</i>	434	The Director responded that following from the GEF-OPS 3 review and the request from its Members for a GEF position within the Secretariat, the Secretariat has been in consultation with bi-lateral donors. The Director reported that the GEF has responded positively in support of this position. The Secretariat is currently awaiting feedback from the GEF and the donors and hopes this might come into fruition early in 2006.	Negotiations are continuing with the GEF and Ausaid and NZaid which have indicated a willingness to fund the GEF post. Members will be kept informed of developments. Positive progress had been made.

Recommendation

2. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **note** the actions taken by the Secretariat on decisions taking by the 16th SPREP Meeting.



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting*Noumea, New Caledonia*11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 5.1: Presentation of the Director's Annual Report for 2005 and Overview of Progress since the Sixteenth SPREP Meeting**Purpose of the Paper**

1. To table the Director's Annual Report for 2005 and to present his Overview of progress since the Sixteenth SPREP Meeting.

Comment

2. The Annual Report for 2005 is attached. The Director will verbally present his Overview, a copy of which will be distributed immediately following his presentation. As well as providing an overview on progress, the Director's presentation is also intended to alert Members to emerging issues and trends and to raise matters on which he and the Secretariat will need further direction and advice.

Recommendation

3. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **comment** as necessary on the issues raised by the Director in his Overview;
 - **provide** any necessary advice and direction to the Secretariat; and
 - **adopt** the 2005 Annual Report.
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SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

**Agenda Item 5.2: Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Report (PMER)
on the 2005 Work Programme and Budget****Purpose of Paper**

1. To present to the Meeting the Secretariat's internal monitoring and evaluation of its work programme performance for 2005.

Background

2. The SPREP Meeting (SM) Rules of Procedure require that the Secretariat include in the SM agenda "a review by the Secretariat of progress with the implementation of the SPREP work programme..." The Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Report however does not only serve to meet this requirement but it also enables the Secretariat itself particularly its Executive and Managers to identify areas where it would need to improve as well as emerging issues and challenges. This experience guides the formulation of work programmes and budgets for ensuing years.

3. The report provides details of what had been achieved under each programme and each output and performance indicator set for those outputs comprising the Secretariat's work programme for the year 2005. These outputs and performance indicators are drawn from the Secretariat's Strategic Programmes approved by the 2004 SPREP Meeting in Tahiti. The Strategic Programmes represent the Secretariat's contribution to achieving the Outcomes of the Region's Action Plan for Managing the Environment of the Pacific Islands Region (2005 – 2009) also approved in Tahiti. The performance monitoring and evaluation report is contained in Attachment 1.

3. This evaluation is useful for management, members and donors. The Secretariat's intention is that with available funding in the future this internal assessment would be supplemented with independent evaluations of aspects of its work on a rolling basis.

Recommendation

4. The Meeting is invited to:
- review and comment as necessary on the report



Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Report

On the

2005 Work Programme and Budget

PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION REPORT ON THE 2005 WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET

Introduction

The Secretariat's Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Report (PMER), submitted annually to the members and the SPREP Meeting (SM) is in fulfilment of the Director's obligations under the SM Rules of Procedure to provide the SM a review by the Secretariat of progress with the implementation of the SPREP work programme. The Secretariat is also providing separate reports on the financial performance and accounts of the Secretariat for the 2005 financial year and the Director's Annual Report to the SM on the overall Secretariat achievements, prospects and challenges in its 2005 operations.

As was done in the presentation of the 2004 PMER at last year's SM, following requests by the members, the Secretariat's programme staff will again make short Powerpoint presentations to introduce the various programme focal areas ahead of detailed examination and discussion of the overall PMER document.

The 2005 work programme and budget was the first to be presented to reflect the priorities of the new Action Plan (2005 - 2009), the Strategic Programmes (2004 - 2013) and to match the new format and presentation of the annual work programme and budget under the new programmatic structure.

Broad Assessment of 2005 Achievements

Again SPREP made significant progress in 2005 towards improving the environment of the Pacific islands region. Working at the community, national, regional and international levels, SPREP staff were able to move work forward and produce clear results and achievements in the key focal areas of natural resources management, pollution control, response to climate change, economic development and in capacity building, training, environment education and awareness. Working in collaboration with island members, collaborating institutions and donor partners, the Secretariat has been able to place SPREP at the centre of environmental activities in the region and to raise its profile.

The achievements are detailed in the document and will be introduced by the staff members who implemented them. The staff will speak to the document and address any issues raised.

A Note on Interpreting Budget and Expenditure Figures

The preparation of the 2005 work programme and budget began in early 2004, was circulated to members in July and approved in September for implementation the following year. Although formulation was based on the best information available at the time, many of the assumptions and circumstances judged best at the time the programme was put together would have changed by January 2005 - some 9 months after formulation.

The financial assumption taken by the Secretariat, particularly on membership contributions was that these would be available at the start of the financial year for programme funding at the timeframe envisaged during budget preparation. More often than not, however, for various reasons this would turn out to be too optimistic an assumption.

Within this context in mind, readers would note that while the total approved work programme and budget totalled USD7,603,204, actual funds received from all sources came to USD7,332,545, and actual total expenditure for 2005 was USD7,224,369.

In terms therefore of approved budget resources and receipts for the year 2005 operations, the Secretariat, in delivering its work activities to the PICTs, and to maintain the Secretariat and programme support, expended 92% of approved resources. In terms of actual receipts for the year 2005, the Secretariat expended 99% of the resources actually made available.

Total Approved Budget USD7,603,204	Total Actual Expenditure USD7,224,369	Rate of Spending against budget 95%
Total Actual receipts USD7,332,545		Rate of Spending against receipts 99%

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

1. ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Programme Goal: Pacific Islands countries and territories able to manage island resources and ocean ecosystems in a sustainable that supports life and livelihoods.

SPREP's direction in the Islands Ecosystems Programme (IEP) reflects a fundamental commitment to sustaining the livelihoods of island peoples through effective terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystem conservation and management. The Programme focuses on developing the capacities of the peoples of the Pacific islands to enable them to sustainably manage and conserve the ecosystems and resources of their islands. The programme also focuses efforts to protect priority threatened species, and to protect Pacific island countries and territories (PICTs) from invasive alien species. SPREP's focus in this programme is to address the issues of ecosystem conservation, the sustainable management of natural resources and the protection of priority threatened species from the threats of human-induced impacts, and invasive species. These issues require action at the community, national, regional and international levels. During 2005 the Island Ecosystems Programme provided advice, technical assistance, information and support to build island capacities to help PICTs address these issues and needs.

Progress in achieving the programme goal in 2005 included:

- establishment of new programme officer positions to assist PICTs: Island Biodiversity, Invasive Species and Coral Reef Management to strengthen support to Members;
- further strengthening of the NBSAP process with national agencies and the Roundtable for Nature Conservation;
- a wide range of coastal ecosystem and resource management initiatives implemented under the International Waters Project in a number of countries;
- improved outcomes for turtle conservation in the region through development of the regional turtle database, nesting surveys and tagging initiatives;
- Memorandum of Cooperation signed between SPREP and the Convention on Migratory Species;
- environment agency staff in 11 Member countries trained in National Capacity Self-Assessment methodologies;
- government officials and representatives from environment agencies in 8 countries trained to develop UN Convention to Combat Desertification National Action Plans;

- draft training kit in Project Cycle Management developed for use by environment agency staff;
- *Education and Communication for a Sustainable Pacific: a Guiding Framework (2005-2007)* completed with SPREP Member support;
- facilitated the first Pacific cross-sectoral Education for Sustainable Development dialogue;
- communication strategies prepared or underway for 13 pilot projects under the International Waters Project; and
- continued implementation of the Pacific Environmental Information Network (PEIN) project, including support for establishment of environmental information centres in 4 countries, and technical advice to 3 Members in drafting of information policies.

A disappointment was the delay in the signing of the agreement, and therefore projected start-up, of the SPREP component of the Coral Reef Initiative of the South Pacific (CRISP). This is now anticipated to happen in 2006. The Secretariat is also aware that the verifiable indicators established for 1.1.1 and the first indicator for 1.1.2 (under Terrestrial Ecosystems Management 1.1) are difficult to assess, and rely mostly on action taken by Members themselves. As a result, SPREP has no outcomes to report against 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 (first indicator). However, following the 16th SPREP Meeting and taking note of Members' comments that SPREP should improve delivery in this area, the Secretariat has changed the previous Avifauna Conservation & Invasive Species Officer position into two dedicated positions of Invasive Species Officer and Island Biodiversity Officer, the latter with a specific focus on terrestrial ecosystem issues to complement the work done in the coastal and marine component.

Comparative Financial Analysis:

Total Budget	Actual Expenditures	Rate of spending
US\$3,158,416	USD2,256,893	71%

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Component: 1.1 – Terrestrial ecosystems management

Objective: Promote and support the sustainable management and conservation of terrestrial ecosystems

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)	
Programme Component: 1.1 – Terrestrial ecosystems management				
1.1.1 Key terrestrial ecosystems conserved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing conservation areas, special management areas and protected areas effectively managed New conservation areas, special management areas and protected areas established Community-based management programmes in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See comments in introduction. New position to focus on island biodiversity and terrestrial ecosystem issues developed and advertised – to be filled in 2006. 	Budget	Actual
			Personnel Costs	20,598
			Operating Costs	67,977
			Capital Costs	4,526
			Sub Total	93,101
The expenditure of this output to be read together with output 2.1.1				
1.1.2 Increased use of sustainable approaches in the management of natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model sites demonstrating the benefits of sustainable resource management established Increased awareness at national and local level of need and mechanisms for sustainable resource management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding proposal developed and funds secured to support representatives from Palau, FSM, Samoa, Tuvalu, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu to participate in the Pacific Islands Community-based Conservation Course (PICCC). Funding and support generously provided by UNEP, AusAID FSPi and USP. Four PICCC participants set up model sites in FSM, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea. Implemented the PICCC in collaboration with USP and FSPi – providing training for 14 participants from 8 countries. All participants are currently implementing conservation initiatives Funding sourced and network facilitated to enable National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Coordinators to meet together to identify key issues and priorities for implementing NBSAPs – particularly focussed on ability to monitor and evaluate the work undertaken. NBSAP Working Group meeting identified key issues and priorities for implementing NBSAPs. 	Budget	Actual
			Personnel Costs	20,630
			Operating Costs	32,206
			Capital Costs	3,671
			Sub Total	56,507
Additional donor funds were obtained in the year for activity implementation				

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Component: 1.2 – Coastal and marine ecosystems

Objective: Promote and support the sustainable management and conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)															
<p>Programme Component: 1.2 – Coastal and marine ecosystem management</p> <p>1.2.1 Key coastal and marine ecosystems conserved.</p>	<p>1.2 – Coastal and marine ecosystem management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key threatened coastal and marine ecosystems identified and regional and national strategies to conserve them developed, supported and implemented. Existing marine conservation areas, special management areas and protected areas effectively managed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 Members assisted to verify national capacity to respond to and manage mangrove responses to climate change and sea level rise. Strategies and plans to conserve threatened coastal ecosystems in Niue, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Yap (FSM) implemented under the IWP Support provided to members to develop and implement wetlands awareness activities including World Wetlands Day. CRISP-UNEP project document finalised SPREP based post on coral reefs management negotiated with France to strengthen support to countries Enhanced awareness of SPREP plans, strategies and activities by CRISP partners at the 2005 CRISP inception workshop Funding still pending on signature by CRISP-United Nations Fund, hence planned in country activities for 2005 did not commence. Management plans have been developed for MPAs in Niue, Solomon Islands and Yap under the IWP. National Task Forces (NTFs) have been established for four MPAs under the IWP to coordinate MPA activities including policy development. 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Personnel Costs</th> <th>Budget</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>197,258</td> <td>197,258</td> <td>214,795</td> </tr> <tr> <td>629,599</td> <td>629,599</td> <td>442,003</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7,218</td> <td>7,218</td> <td>1,084</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td>834,075</td> <td>657,881</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Increase in personnel costs due to terminal payments to departing IWP staff Decrease in operating costs due to ICSPAN/CRISP funds \$113,732 not materialising and scheduling of IWP grants</p>	Personnel Costs	Budget	Actual	197,258	197,258	214,795	629,599	629,599	442,003	7,218	7,218	1,084	Sub Total	834,075	657,881
Personnel Costs	Budget	Actual																
197,258	197,258	214,795																
629,599	629,599	442,003																
7,218	7,218	1,084																
Sub Total	834,075	657,881																

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)										
<p>1.2.2. Integrated coastal management enhanced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New marine conservation areas, special management areas and protected areas established • Community-based natural resource management programmes in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a result of successful pilots in selected communities, several communities outside MPAs in Niue and Yap have expressed interest in replicating MPA work in their communities. • All countries participating in the IWP have, or are in the process of documenting the root causes for coastal and marine resource issues and have developed plans to address them. • The Niue pilot project under the IWP has introduced Temporary Closed Areas, the equivalent of traditional <i>tapu</i> areas as a means to ensure the sustainable harvesting of resources within the MPA. • Student from Solomon Islands completing postgraduate studies in marine science at UPNG through IWP grant. Her research is looking at how beche-de-mer can be sustainably harvested using traditional management systems. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">115,764</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">605,718</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6,218</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">727,700</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="font-size: small;">Ddrop in operating costs due to unsecured funds of \$152,152 not being available and IWP grants rescheduling to meet funding requirements</p>	Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	115,764	Operating Costs	605,718	Capital Costs	6,218	Sub Total	727,700
Budget	Actual												
Personnel Costs	115,764												
Operating Costs	605,718												
Capital Costs	6,218												
Sub Total	727,700												

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National and regional integrated coastal management (ICM) policy assisted Alternative and/or supplementary livelihoods for coastal people established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A technical workshop on socio economic assessment and monitoring for community based management conducted with assistance of NOAA resulted in a proposal for in country assistance and training for coastal managers. 7 Members assisted in updating regional and national wetland management and conservation priorities. National and regional consultative mechanisms for coastal and marine policy and institutional coordination have been established under IWP. SPREP Annual report on implementation of PIROP presented to the 16th SPREP Meeting. Baseline assessments and monitoring arrangements to determine action to address the root cause for marine and coastal resource issues in Niue and Yap have been implemented through IWP. Initial reports on governance and institutional issues relating to ICWM have been completed for IWP pilot projects in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Planned integrated coastal management related activities on governance and economic evaluation not commenced due to delay in CRISP funding. Advice provided to Fiji and Solomon Islands on the Assessment of the financial viability of coral farming in Fiji and Solomon Islands leading to a better understanding of factors affecting alternative livelihoods ventures in community-based initiatives. Advice provided to Government of Fiji on methodology for establishing a quota for coral trade to ensure their compliance to CITES Assessment of ecological and economic sustainability of coral harvesting for betel nut lime production progressed in PNG. 	

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Programme Component: 1.3 – Species of Special Interest

Objective: Promote and foster conservation of island biodiversity

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)																	
<p>Programme Component:</p> <p>1.3.1 Threatened species managed and conserved</p>	<p>1.3 – Species of Special Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing regional bird conservation strategy supported, and implemented • Data and documentation on Regional summary of threatened species status, distribution and key threats available and used. • Key endangered species recovery plans developed, supported and implemented • Key sites supporting aggregations of threatened species/ecosystems identified and major threats identified and addressed • Regional and national action plans for dugongs, cetaceans (whales and dolphins) and turtles developed, supported and implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional bird working group formed in the partnership to review regional bird conservation status. • Charter developed to guide the work of the Bird Conservation Working Group. • Turtle tags provided to Guam, PNG, FSM, CMNI, Palau, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, and Fiji. • Regional Turtle Database developed, tested and training provided. • Regional turtle tagging data updated. • Management planning for the sustainable harvesting of beche-de-mer in Marovo Lagoon in the Solomon Islands commenced. • Supported production of turtle conservation video for Vanuatu. • 16th SPREP Meeting endorsed Year of the Sea Turtle campaign for 2006. • Regional Coordinating Committee for the Year of the Sea Turtle campaign established and Campaign Plan drafted and funding for the campaign secured. • Sea turtle nesting surveys supported in Papua New Guinea and Samoa. • Promoted participation of all SPREP dugong range states and territories in the First Meeting on the MoU for Dugong Conservation and Management under CMS, Bangkok, Thailand, in August 2005. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Personnel Costs</td> <td style="width: 50%;">28,727</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Budget</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Actual</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td>36,000</td> <td></td> <td>42,187</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td>99,617</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td>64,727</td> <td></td> <td>144,936</td> </tr> </table>	Personnel Costs	28,727	Budget	Actual	Operating Costs	36,000		42,187	Capital Costs	0		99,617	Sub Total	64,727		144,936	<p>Increase in both personnel and operating costs due to additional donor support for Marine Species Officer and other projects as well as the costs of this output to be read with next output 1.3.2.</p>
Personnel Costs	28,727	Budget	Actual																	
Operating Costs	36,000		42,187																	
Capital Costs	0		99,617																	
Sub Total	64,727		144,936																	

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)															
<p>1.3.2 Threat posed by invasive species reduced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional invasive species, strategy revised, supported and implemented • National invasive species programmes and strategies developed and implemented • Tools and techniques to address key Pacific invasive species developed and shared • Regional and national capacity to prevent, quickly respond to, control and eradicate invasive species strengthened • Regional Strategy on Shipping Related Invasive Marine Species formulated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasives strategy revision moved to 2007 in sync with the Regional Action Strategy for Nature Conservation review process. • Proposal prepared and submitted to the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF), using Regional Natural Heritage Programme funds, for eradication of rats on Nu'utele Island, Samoa. • Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) established and PILN Coordinator hired. • Proposal for GEF PDF-B 'Pacific Invasive Species Management' completed and submitted to UNDP/GEF. • Established post to focus specifically on Invasive Species to strengthen support to Members – position is under recruitment. • Draft <i>Regional Strategy on Shipping-Related Introduced Marine Pests in the Pacific Islands</i> (SRIMP-PAC) completed for review. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Budget</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Actual</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">89,832</td> <td style="text-align: center;">92,810</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">618,380</td> <td style="text-align: center;">73,137</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">199</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">712,212</td> <td style="text-align: center;">166,146</td> </tr> </table> <p>Large drop in operating cost due to expected \$474,000 from GEF Invasives Species Project not being finalised in 2005</p>		Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	89,832	92,810	Operating Costs	618,380	73,137	Capital Costs	4,000	199	Sub Total	712,212	166,146
	Budget	Actual																
Personnel Costs	89,832	92,810																
Operating Costs	618,380	73,137																
Capital Costs	4,000	199																
Sub Total	712,212	166,146																
<p>1.3.3 Effective management of migratory populations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional mechanisms and action plans developed for key localities or species • Key migratory species habitat identified and included in management agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional workshop of the Working Group conducted to finalize the MoU text and Action Plan for the conservation of cetaceans and their habitats in the Pacific Islands region under the auspices of CMS. Progress noted by 2005 SPREP Meeting. • Cetacean MoU drafted and circulated jointly by SPREP and CMS to Members and partners for comments, and MoU progress noted by the 16th SPREP Meeting in 2005. • Discussion initiated for a Pacific MoU under CMS for the conservation of sea turtles. • Memorandum of Cooperation signed between SPREP and CMS on policy compatibility, institutional cooperation, exchange of experience and information, coordination of programmes of work, joint conservation action; and consultation, reporting and further guidance on new areas of co-operation and action. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Budget</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Actual</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">23,894</td> <td style="text-align: center;">31,920</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3,500</td> <td style="text-align: center;">99,831</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1,860</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27,394</td> <td style="text-align: center;">133,611</td> </tr> </table> <p>Increased costs due to additional donor support to MSO and other additional funds for Year of Sea Turtle.</p>		Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	23,894	31,920	Operating Costs	3,500	99,831	Capital Costs	0	1,860	Sub Total	27,394	133,611
	Budget	Actual																
Personnel Costs	23,894	31,920																
Operating Costs	3,500	99,831																
Capital Costs	0	1,860																
Sub Total	27,394	133,611																

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Programme Component: 1.4 – People and Institutions

Objective: Equip people and institutions of Pacific island countries and territories with capacity to manage their own environmental development

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)										
<p>Programme Component: 1.4.1 Human resource development (HRD) strategies in environment departments developed and implementation supported.</p>	<p>1.4 – People and Institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment departments implementing national HRD strategies and training plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Volunteer placed in Kiribati Environment Department to support staff plan and implement communication and awareness raising initiatives ▪ Equipment provided to Solomon Island Environment Department to support implementation of training and awareness raising activities ▪ Environment department staff in 11 Member Countries trained in methodology to conduct capacity self-assessments and initiating the NCSA process. This training was also provided to other government officers, national stakeholder representatives. A total of 105 people benefited and most are actively involved in the NCSA process. ▪ Environment department officer in Samoa trained in community-based conservation. This training was also made available to other government officers and NGO field staff from Palau, FSM, Samoa, PNG, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tuvalu and Kiribati. ▪ Draft training kit in Project Cycle Management developed for use by Environment Department staff ▪ Support provided to SPREP programme officers in planning and implementing training and consultation activities in solid waste management, wetlands management, turtle conservation and invasive species. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">78,901</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">154,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">233,401</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Lower than budget expenditure due to 3 recipient countries not being ready for implementation and funds rescheduled to following year</p>	Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	78,901	Operating Costs	154,500	Capital Costs	0	Sub Total	233,401
Budget	Actual												
Personnel Costs	78,901												
Operating Costs	154,500												
Capital Costs	0												
Sub Total	233,401												

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)										
<p>1.4.2 Regional and national environmental education, communications and awareness strategies developed and implementation supported.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Countries effectively participating in the education and awareness regional strategy ▪ Countries implementing national education and awareness strategies based on the regional educational strategy ▪ Environmental/sustainable development issues integrated into national school curricula ▪ Countries participating in regional environmental communication strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Education and Communication for a Sustainable Pacific: A Guiding Framework (2005-2007)</i> finalised with education contacts from SPREP's members. ▪ Funding sourced for education and communication initiatives in 2006 as part of <i>Guiding Framework</i>. ▪ Facilitated online network with SPREP education contacts. ▪ Provided support and advice to members to develop education campaigns as part of the Year of Action Against Waste. ▪ Coordinated the Pacific's first cross-sectoral workshop to discuss Education and Sustainable Development and environmental communications. ▪ Communication strategies prepared or underway for 13 pilot projects under the IWP. ▪ Provided education and communication support to members including coordination of World Environment Day celebrations. ▪ Developed e-newsletter "Learning Grounds" for education and communication contacts in Pacific ▪ Developed communication campaign for 2006 Pacific Year of the Sea Turtle. ▪ Developed "Island Life" communication campaign to support SPREP's island biodiversity work ▪ Supported Roundtable for Nature Conservation as Chair of Communication Working Group. ▪ Undertook SPREP corporate communications activities such as development of fact sheets, seeking support for web site maintenance, and provided media support. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td>76,355</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td>98,263</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td>174,618</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Increased expenditure due to additional donor funds being obtained during the year for work implementation</p>	Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	76,355	Operating Costs	98,263	Capital Costs	0	Sub Total	174,618
Budget	Actual												
Personnel Costs	76,355												
Operating Costs	98,263												
Capital Costs	0												
Sub Total	174,618												

ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)																													
<p>1.4.3 Regional and national environmental knowledge management capacity, clearinghouses and information strategies developed and implementation supported.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Countries effectively implementing integrated national clearinghouses ▪ Countries operating effective environmental information resource centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations with ISP providers in the design and creation of an integrated national clearinghouse completed in 2 countries. • Procurement and installation of equipment and software required in establishment of environmental information centres in 4 member countries. • Completed technical assessments of 2 new Pacific ACP states: Palau and Republic of Marshall Islands. • Physical establishment of national networks undertaken based on recommendations of assessments. • Provided technical advice and support to 3 member countries in drafting of information policies. • Supported member countries in the development and compilation of national environmental bibliographies, through NBSAP. • Provided information management technical advice and support to Community Based Project in Samoa funded through the GEF Small Grants Programme. • Developed draft regional clearinghouse model for internal trial. • Supported regional issues and mechanisms especially in the area of information dissemination and repackaging. 	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td>133,976</td> <td>Actual</td> <td>85,005</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td>220,287</td> <td></td> <td>59,311</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td>3,000</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td>357,263</td> <td></td> <td>144,316</td> </tr> </table> <p>Less than expected expenditure due to late receipt of EU funds (\$161,667) and UNDESA pledged support (\$50,000) not forthcoming. Also unsecured funds not secured</p>	Personnel Costs	133,976	Actual	85,005	Operating Costs	220,287		59,311	Capital Costs	3,000		0	Sub Total	357,263		144,316	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td>791,030</td> <td>787,535</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td>2,346,950</td> <td>1,437,884</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td>20,436</td> <td>31,474</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>3,158,416</td> <td>2,256,893</td> </tr> </table>	Personnel Costs	791,030	787,535	Operating Costs	2,346,950	1,437,884	Capital Costs	20,436	31,474	TOTAL	3,158,416	2,256,893
Personnel Costs	133,976	Actual	85,005																													
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TOTAL ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME																																

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

2. PACIFIC FUTURES

Programme Goal: Pacific island countries and territories able to plan and respond to threats and pressures on island and ocean systems.

As the name suggests, the Pacific Futures Programme focuses on securing a healthy Pacific islands environment for present and future generations. Given the diversity that the goal represents, considerable thought has gone into what not to do as much as what to concentrate on. The Programme works in two broad areas.

Firstly, it addresses key medium/long-term threats and pressures on the Pacific environment; climate change and pollution/waste management. The work in climate change assists in building the capacity of island members to plan and respond effectively to climate change, variability, sea level rise and its adverse impacts. It also looks at reducing the Pacific's contribution to greenhouse gases through expanding renewable energy which has additional benefits in energy security and fuel import costs.

Pollution is one of the major threats to sustainable development in the Pacific islands region. The transboundary nature of much marine pollution requires a coordinated and comprehensive approach. Increasing quantities of solid waste, and the lack of capacity to manage the range of pollutants are of immediate concern for SPREP members. Increasingly, these issues have economic and social impacts as well as environmental.

Most of the Programme's resources have been focussed on these priority issues during 2005, resulting in some major achievements by SPREP and its Members:

- Managed the impacts of climate change through pilot projects to demonstrate adaptation and the adoption by the SPREP members of the revised Framework for Action on Climate Change;
- Prepared for the expansion of renewable energy through identification of barriers and implementation issues for the reduction of greenhouse gases through the completion of the Pacific Islands Renewable Energy Project;

- Reduced significant pollution risk by removing the legacy volumes of persistent toxic wastes through the POP's in PIC's project;
- Co-ordinated regional waste management by adoption by SPREP Members of the Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy, development of the Action Plan for Implementation and raised awareness through the Year of Action Against Waste;
- Demonstrated cost-effective waste disposal through the transformation of an open dump to a world-class demonstration sanitary semi-aerobic landfill;
- Reduced disaster risk through the facilitation of improved weather monitoring and climate observation across the region;
- Protected our atmosphere by co-ordinating the significant reduction of the Pacific's ozone depleting substances;
- Reduced the impact from oil spills through facilitating the ongoing implementation of PACPOL and Amendment to marine pollution Protocols under the Noumea Convention;
- Reduced the threat to natural resources through the development of a Regional Strategy on Shipping Related Marine Invasive Species.

The second major area of focus involves supporting members to improve environmental governance through; building institutional capacity for environmental assessments; developing means for environmental monitoring, reporting and priority setting, and supporting environmental aspects of sustainable development. The aim is to develop processes to monitor trends, emerging threats or identify competing policies, which threaten sustainable development. Ideally, simple but systematic reporting systems will be designed with Pacific islands and tailored to suit key issues and indicators. This will contribute to reducing the burden of reporting by PICs to numerous international agreements.

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

This work is supported by improving the region's participation in major multilateral environmental agreements (MEA's). This aims to raise the international profile of Pacific issues, and direct support of international donor/funding agencies (such as the GEF) towards addressing priority issues in the region.

During 2005 support has been provided for member countries' participation in a number of international conventions including the UN Convention on Biodiversity, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, UN Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD), and many others.

However, effective participation requires a great deal of preparation at country and regional level; and being Party to international agreements brings with it obligations to report and take action to ensure compliance. SPREP works to provide support to countries to meet these obligations and participate effectively in international negotiations.

To support SPREP members, the Secretariat promotes coordination at the national and regional level, provides technical and legal advice to countries, assists in preparing conference briefing papers, identifying synergies among agreements and related international processes, and coordinating pre-conference consultations to determine regional positions. This component also addresses the need to strengthen regional legal frameworks such as the Apia, Noumea and Waigani Conventions. This component will also accommodate the development of partnerships for better collaboration, coordination and leveraging of resources through Pacific Type II Initiatives, CROP working groups and other regional mechanisms.

This work area slowed during 2005 due to the loss of staff; all three specialist staff assigned to these areas departed SPREP during the year. Despite this, significant progress was made in:

- Assisting countries developing National Sustainable Development Strategies (focussing on mainstreaming environmental issues into national plans)
- Contributing to major global negotiations in support of Small Island Developing States at the Mauritius International Meeting
- Working with CROP agencies to develop relevant environmental indicators to cover the Millennium Development Goals for the region
- Promoting and incorporating environmental issues into the Pacific Plan

More extensive discussion of Programme goals and priorities appears in the Programme Introduction to 2007 Work Programme and Budget.

Comparative Financial Analysis:

Total Budget	Actual Expenditures	Rate of spending
US\$2,902,237	USD3,401,874	117%

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Component: 2.1 – Managing multilateral environmental agreements and regional coordination mechanisms
Objective: Increase PICTs capacity to manage MEAs and other relevant regional mechanisms and international agreements

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)															
<p>Programme Component: 2.1 – Multilateral environmental, international agreements and regional coordination mechanisms</p> <p>2.1.1 Management of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and relevant international agreements /regional coordination mechanisms by PICTs supported and improved.</p>	<p>2.1 – Multilateral environmental, international agreements and regional coordination mechanisms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated systems to negotiate, ratify and implement MEAs effectively operating in PICTs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided regional support for Pacific Island Country representatives at significant conferences/meetings of multilateral environmental agreements including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for negotiations provided to members at Ramsar CoP9, UNFCCC CoP 11, UNCCD CoP 7. Support provided to members for the completion of national reports to Ramsar CoP9. Preparatory meetings for member countries to organise for Ramsar CoP 9 and UNFCCC CoP 11 Regional input and backup to countries in meeting MEA reporting obligations provided including National Communications under the Climate Change Convention, National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans under the Convention on Biodiversity, National Action Programmes on land degradation under the UN Convention to Combat Desertification Developed partnership with UNEP to provide training in selected PICs to improve negotiation skills conducted negotiations training workshop for PIC representatives to UNFCCC Conference of Parties in association with UNEP Provided legal and technical input into the development of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Conservation of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific islands region. 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Personnel Costs</th> <th>Budget</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>183,971</td> <td>183,971</td> <td>117,984</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td>181,596</td> <td>495,302</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td>1,167</td> <td>7,508</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td>366,734</td> <td>620,794</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Lower salary costs due to early departure of 2 officers Higher expenditure due to sizeable additional project funding received from donors such as NZXXB, UNOPS, UNCCD, etc. This output to be taken together with output 1.1.1</p>	Personnel Costs	Budget	Actual	183,971	183,971	117,984	Operating Costs	181,596	495,302	Capital Costs	1,167	7,508	Sub Total	366,734	620,794
Personnel Costs	Budget	Actual																
183,971	183,971	117,984																
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PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated systems to ensure inter-linkages and synergies between MEAs and relevant international agreements strengthened in PICTs. • Incorporation of Pacific environmental priorities into international agreements and coordination mechanisms negotiations facilitated. • Develop and support partnerships which provide new and improved collaboration, coordination, effective implementation as well as leveraging and use of resources. • Integrated regional strategies implemented and supported. (e.g. Pacific Plan, Regional Sustainable Development Strategy, PIROF and Action Strategy for Nature Conservation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued partnership with UNU regarding their MEAs interlinkages project, which aims to identify linkages between different MEAs and simplify reporting and compliance • Concept of a national regulatory framework for the synergistic implementation of the 3 chemical conventions (Basel, Stockholm, Rotterdam) developed and was trialled in Tonga. • Consultation with PICs in relation to third Overall Performance Review of the Global Environment Facility (OPS3) was undertaken and key elements of PIC's position included in final report for OPS3 • Advocated on behalf of PICs in GEF processes (GEF Council and Constituency meetings) need to improve Pacific countries' access to GEF funds • Developed a proposal on Access and Benefit Sharing for submission to the GEF in partnership with UNU-IAS. • Provided environmental input to regional strategies, for example, the Pacific Plan • Developed regional initiatives through Climate Change Framework, Waste Management Strategy (see outputs 2.3 and 2.4) • Facilitated adoption of PIROP-ISA as WSSD Type II partnership initiative at the Mauritius International Meeting. • Contributed to the development of the CROP Marine Sector Working Group rapid assessment of the status of ocean and coastal management in the Pacific region, including priorities for national implementation • Established a regional support mechanism for NCSAs and implemented 3 sub-regional training sessions. 	

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)															
<p>2.1.2 Implementation of the Apia, Noumea and Waigani Conventions supported.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PICs fulfil reporting and other obligations under the Apia, Noumea and Waigani Conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisted countries before and during SBSTTA 10 of CBD to incorporate Pacific island priorities and issues into Island Biodiversity Programme of Work recommendation to COP 8 of the CBD. Developed and implemented a strategy with country representatives for the Island Biodiversity Programme of Work to ensure Pacific consultation, donor prioritisation and broad engagement in its development and implementation (Mauritius side event, Roundtable meeting, Forum, SPREP and SPC meetings, GEF Council etc) Secured funding for and engaged a Monitoring and evaluation consultant to develop indicators for reporting on progress on the regional Action Strategy for Nature Conservation. Strengthened a new partnership to progress conservation and climate change activities through the development of an MOU between SPREP and the World Council of Churches. Enabled the Roundtable for Nature Conservation to adopt a new tool for monitoring progress – the Pacific Protected Areas Database. Identified six new partners to focus on implementing the regional Action Strategy for Nature Conservation. Drafted amendments to the Protocols to the SPREP Convention and convened a Conference of Plenipotentiaries which adopted in principle the resulting Protocols. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;"></th> <th style="width: 20%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">48,151</td> <td style="text-align: right;">49,288</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">98,851</td> <td style="text-align: right;">24,641</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,167</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">148,169</td> <td style="text-align: right;">73,929</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Lower operating expenditure due unsecured funds not coming on stream - this output also to be taken together with 2.1.3.</p>		Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	48,151	49,288	Operating Costs	98,851	24,641	Capital Costs	1,167	0	Sub Total	148,169	73,929
	Budget	Actual																
Personnel Costs	48,151	49,288																
Operating Costs	98,851	24,641																
Capital Costs	1,167	0																
Sub Total	148,169	73,929																

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)										
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waigani/Basel regional training center established • PICs ratify the Apia, Noumea and Waigani Conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waigani/Basel regional training centre in operation • Developed a project proposal to deal with e-waste in the region and submitted it to the Secretariat of the Basel Convention for funding • No new ratifications were received for the three Conventions • Appropriate material has been collated for production of a Concept Paper on the Apia Convention which deals with the revitalisation of that Convention. 											
2.1.3 Development of PIC national environmental legislation to meet MEAs obligations supported.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countries enacting national legislations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided advice to two countries on environmental laws. Made available Model Law on protection of Traditional Ecological Knowledge to 9 countries. Provided website links to MEAs and environmental laws of SPREP member countries to assist them with drafting of laws. • Provided environmental legislative reviews for 6 countries. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">48,164</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">62,202</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,166</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">111,532</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Some of higher operating expenditure due to miscoding (\$70,000) but also to be taken together with output 2.1.2</p>	Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	48,164	Operating Costs	62,202	Capital Costs	1,166	Sub Total	111,532
Budget	Actual												
Personnel Costs	48,164												
Operating Costs	62,202												
Capital Costs	1,166												
Sub Total	111,532												

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Component: 2.2 – Environment monitoring and reporting

Objective: Improve means to monitor and report on environmental performance and socio economic pressures on the environment

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)										
Programme Component: 2.2 – Environment monitoring and reporting 2.2.1 National & regional capacity for State of Environment (SOE) reporting enhanced.	2.2 – Environment monitoring and reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key environment and sustainable development indicators used by PICTs to show trends and pressures on the environment • Integrated information systems used by PICTs to assist SOE & environmental planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with CROP agencies on developing indicators to track progress against International/Millennium Development Goals. • Assisted Tonga Environment department to secure funding for development of SOE. • No significant work carried out for this indicator during 2005 because of unexpected departure of staff working on this area. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">28,365</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">166,819</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">195,184</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Lower expenditure due to early departure of implementing officer	Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	28,365	Operating Costs	166,819	Capital Costs	0	Sub Total	195,184
Budget	Actual												
Personnel Costs	28,365												
Operating Costs	166,819												
Capital Costs	0												
Sub Total	195,184												

Component: 2.3 – Climate change, climate variability, sea level rise and atmosphere

Objective: Improve PICTs understanding of and strengthen their capacity to respond to climate change, climate variability and sea level rise

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)										
Programme Component: 2.3 – Climate change, climate variability, sea level rise and atmosphere 2.3.1 National meteorological and climatological capacities strengthened.	2.3 – Climate change, climate variability, sea level rise and atmosphere <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Meteorological implementation plans supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No work carried out for this indicator during 2005 due to unsecured human and financial resources • SPREP continued to facilitate weather forecaster training for the WMO-NOAA International Pacific Training Desk in collaboration with, and hosted by, the NOAA National Weather Service Pacific Region Headquarters (PRH). Six PICT weather forecasters were trained in 2005. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">78,833</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">129,280</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">208,193</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Lower expenditure due to implementing post being vacant for most of year	Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	78,833	Operating Costs	129,280	Capital Costs	80	Sub Total	208,193
Budget	Actual												
Personnel Costs	78,833												
Operating Costs	129,280												
Capital Costs	80												
Sub Total	208,193												

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)															
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pacific Island -Global Climate Observation Systems project (PI-GCOS) made operational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PI-GCOS partners undertook actions on the PI-GCOS Implementation Plan, ranging from restoration and support of 4 PICT Global Upper Air Network (GUAN) and 9 PICT Global Surface Network (GSN) stations through equipment and calibration by GCOS Technical Support Project (TSP), to the successful implementation of the AusAID funded Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) Enhanced Applications of Climate Predictions (EACP) project in 9 PICs. ▪ PI-GCOS also successfully undertook the trial of high-quality tipping bucket rain-gauges in 4 PICs, presenting its results at the 10th RMSD in Niue and the 86th American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting, and developing plans to expand the PI-GCO Instrument Plan to at least 6 PICs. • SPREP provided support for Phase 2 of the APN Training Institute on Climate and Extreme Events in Apia, Samoa, in collaboration with USP, NIWA, and the East-West Center. • The 10th Regional Meteorological Directors (RMSD) Meeting was successfully held at the kind hosting of the Government of Niue. The RMSD produced the Alofi Statement that was approved by the 16th SPREP meeting for submission to the Pacific Islands Forum meeting in late 2005. 																
2.3.2 Climate information consolidated and available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional Clearinghouse mechanism of climate issues relevant to Pacific region further developed with links to national, regional and global initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted preliminary discussions with the University of Hawaii and other interested stakeholders on developing a joint clearing house mechanism for climate change issues. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;"></th> <th style="width: 20%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15,847</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9,058</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10,528</td> <td style="text-align: right;">101,708</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">80</td> <td style="text-align: right;">126</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">26,455</td> <td style="text-align: right;">110,891</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>This output should be read together with output 2.3.3. Higher expenditure due to significant additional donor support becoming available and greater CIDA disbursements.</p>		Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	15,847	9,058	Operating Costs	10,528	101,708	Capital Costs	80	126	Sub Total	26,455	110,891
	Budget	Actual																
Personnel Costs	15,847	9,058																
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PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)												
			Budget	Actual											
2.3.3 Measures to adapt to the impacts of climate change strengthened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pilot adaptation projects in PICTs instituted ▪ Proposal for Capacity Building for Climate Change Adaptation finalised and implemented ▪ Vulnerability and Adaptation Initiative-Pilot projects commenced ▪ Regional adaptation financing facility established ▪ Assistance to Second National Communications provided ▪ Climate Change Roundtable operational 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successfully conducted Government of Canada funded pilot projects on adaptation implementation in four countries (Cook, Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu). • conducted consultation with all PICTs to prepare a regional adaptation project building on the success of the Canadian project. Vulnerability and Adaptation Initiatives form part of the GEF proposal being developed. • The Regional Adaptation Facility to be established with Ausaid seed funds now being implemented via an alternative means. • Assisted PICTs carry out Second NATCOM stocktaking and proposal development. • The Climate Change Roundtable had met in Madang, PNG and prepared a revised climate change framework that was presented and adopted by the 16th SPREP meeting and Forum Leaders. 	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td>58,144</td> <td>95,787</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td>96,828</td> <td>430,458</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td>80</td> <td>145</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td>155,052</td> <td>526,390</td> </tr> </table>	Personnel Costs	58,144	95,787	Operating Costs	96,828	430,458	Capital Costs	80	145	Sub Total	155,052	526,390
Personnel Costs	58,144	95,787													
Operating Costs	96,828	430,458													
Capital Costs	80	145													
Sub Total	155,052	526,390													
2.3.4 Mitigation options promoted and response measures strengthened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National and regional assessments on the removal of barriers to the adoption of renewable energy completed and adopted ▪ Technology needs Assessments developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed assessment of the key energy issues, barriers to the development of renewable energy to mitigate climate change, and capacity development needs for removing the barriers for 15 PICTs. • Completed a regional synthesis of the 15 national reports. • Completed the GEF Council-approved PIGGAREP (US\$5.225 million) which was based on the completed PIREP studies above. • Completed regional reports on appropriate financing mechanisms for renewable energy in 15 PICTs, a report on demonstration programme showcasing the business angle of renewable energy and a report on a regional renewable energy technology support programme. • Discussions initiated with Japan on the funding and conduct of the technology needs assessment 	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td>48,548</td> <td>81,435</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td>130,528</td> <td>53,833</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td>80</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td>179,156</td> <td>135,268</td> </tr> </table> <p>Higher personnel expenditure due to project being extended and lower operating expenses due to project manager completing most of consultancies himself.</p>	Personnel Costs	48,548	81,435	Operating Costs	130,528	53,833	Capital Costs	80	0	Sub Total	179,156	135,268
Personnel Costs	48,548	81,435													
Operating Costs	130,528	53,833													
Capital Costs	80	0													
Sub Total	179,156	135,268													

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)	
2.3.5 Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) phase out supported.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional strategy to eliminate ozone depleting substances implemented ▪ Phase out CFC by end of 2005 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted Palau to establish the ODS regulations and facilitated the first customs training under the Regional Strategy in Marshall Islands • Drafted work plans for Cook Islands, Nauru and Niue under the Regional ODS Strategy • Facilitated country support for a regional ODS network • Conducted a national consultation workshop on implementing ODS Regulations in Kiribati • Provided timely and effective technical assistance to countries and continued work on ODS regulations in countries. • Reported zero consumption of CFCs in 5 countries 	Budget	Actual
			Personnel Costs	46,403
			Operating Costs	143,850
			Capital Costs	1,588
			Sub Total	191,841
			Lower expenditure due to delayed implementation of post-regulation training for customs officers	

Component: 2.4 – Waste Management and Pollution Control

Objective: Assist and enhance the PIC capabilities to manage and respond to marine pollution, hazardous waste, solid waste, sewerage and other land-based sources of pollution

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)	
2.4.1 Control of marine pollution by PICTs supported.	<p style="text-align: center;">Programme Component: 2.4 – Waste management and pollution control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pacific Islands Regional Marine Spill Contingency Plan (PACPLAN) managed and in operational readiness on country request ▪ National Marine spill contingency plans (NATPLANS) formulated for remaining 3 countries (Niue, Nauru and Solomon Islands) ▪ Regional marine Spill Equipment Strategy tabled at 16SM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PACPLAN in force and in operational readiness. No country requests to activate in 2005. • NATPLANS formulated for Niue and Solomon Islands. Nauru still outstanding. • Regional equipment strategy completed. Implementation of recommendations will be at country level. Equipment purchases made in five countries 	Budget	Actual
			Personnel Costs	72,129
			Operating Costs	89,362
			Capital Costs	86
			Sub Total	161,577
			Lower expenditure than budget due output manager being able to engage expert colleagues from Australia and NZ Maritime authorities and US Coast Guard to provide assistance rather than consultants. Funds saved reprogrammed to 2006	

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)																		
<p>2.4.2 Management of hazardous substances and waste in PICTs supported.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Workshops on shipping-related marine pollution held in 5 countries ▪ Guidelines for the environmental management of ports developed and published ▪ Regional Strategy on shipping-related invasive marine species tabled at 16SM ▪ Approval by the FSM of their National Strategy to address marine pollution from WWII wrecks ▪ Amendments to Noumea Convention Protocols tabled at Plenipotentiary Meeting ▪ Guidelines for proper chemical management development and distributed with associated in country training ▪ Persistent organic pollutants (POPs) removed from 13 countries [Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, RMI, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu]. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Workshops completed for 5 countries ▪ Guidelines for the environmental management of ports developed, approved by APP and with them for publication. ▪ Draft Regional Strategy for shipping-related invasive marine species completed undergoing lead up consultation process prior to tabling at 17SM. ▪ No request from FSM for national Strategy on marine pollution from WWII wrecks. ▪ Plenipotentiary Meeting was convened and amendments endorsed for approval at 2006 Plenipotentiary Meeting. ▪ All appropriate technical publications and information on hazardous substances and waste management has been collated and are being translated into guidelines. ▪ Audited the collection and packaging work of the POPs waste in 6 countries, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. POPs waste from 4 countries were shipped to Australia with waste from 2 countries destroyed (certificates of destruction issued for these wastes). ▪ Assisted with the preparation of the Waigani and Basel Conventions paperwork for the trans-boundary movement of the remaining 8 countries were in their final stages of approval by the Australia Government – the POPs waste in all remaining 8 countries are envisaged to be shipped to Australia for destruction by the end of 2006. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 80%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">23,153</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">76,033</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">99,186</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">26,287</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">69,628</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,225</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">98,140</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	23,153	Operating Costs	76,033	Capital Costs	0	Sub Total	99,186		26,287		69,628		2,225		98,140
Budget	Actual																				
Personnel Costs	23,153																				
Operating Costs	76,033																				
Capital Costs	0																				
Sub Total	99,186																				
	26,287																				
	69,628																				
	2,225																				
	98,140																				

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)	
			Budget	Actual
2.4.3 National Implementation Plans (NIPs) for Stockholm Convention produced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stockholm Convention NIPs developed/completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided technical advice and assistance to Kiribati, RMI and Vanuatu • Of the 12 countries in the region who were completing their NIPs, Samoa had completed its NIP while Fiji, Niue and PNG were in advanced stages of their NIP developments. The remaining 7 PICs were all progressing well in their NIP development. • Successfully organised and conducted the Pacific Regional Consultation meeting for Best Available Techniques and Best Environmental Practices (BAT/BEP) in Wellington, New Zealand as part of the preparations for the Pacific Parties to the Stockholm Convention COP1. From this meeting a Pacific position paper was developed and forwarded to the Experts Group on BAT/BEP. 	Personnel Costs 23,153 Operating Costs 76,034 Capital Costs 0 Sub Total 99,187	48,199 40,794 0 88,993
2.4.4 Management of solid and liquid waste in PICTs supported.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National personnel trained on management of solid waste ▪ Landfill facilities and management in PICTs improved in Vanuatu and Samoa (pilot projects)* 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • successfully conducted in collaboration with JICA and WHO, the 5th Municipal Solid Waste Management Training workshop in Okinawa. Participants from 11 PICs participated in this training workshop – this training programme has made a big difference and impact in the way many countries now manage their waste. ▪ Undertook country visit to Vanuatu in early 2005 and initial discussions about the upgrading of the leachate treatment facility were held. Plans are currently being worked on for the upgrading of the facility to take place. ▪ completed the 2nd phase of the upgrading of the Tafaigata landfill in Samoa and handed over a fully functional leachate treatment facility. 	Personnel Costs 107,010 Operating Costs 473,894 Capital Costs 4,564 Sub Total 585,468	120,281 774,705 2,940 897,926

This output to be read together with 2.4.4. These outputs received significant additional donor funds mainly from NZXXB. Also higher disbursements by IWP

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional guidelines on improved waste disposal plans developed and distributed to 14 PICs ▪ At least one community in each of the six countries participating in the IWP documenting the root causes for local waste concerns and implementing agreed action to address those concerns including recycling ▪ At least four countries participating in the IWP completing an assessment of options (including livelihood options) for addressing root causes for waste concerns ▪ At least four countries participant in completing an institutional legislative and policy review focussed on waste management ▪ Regional Waste Management Strategy (RWMS) developed and circulated to 14 PICs ▪ The regional campaign on the Year of Action Against Waste (YOAAW) launched regionally and in the 14 PICs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regional guidelines were developed and will be circulated in 2006. • IWP pilot communities in Tonga, Fiji, Kiribati, PNG, Tuvalu, Marshall Islands completed root cause analysis and piloted local solutions such as composting organic and pig waste, user-pays rubbish collection and disposal, composting toilets, and local landfill management. • A cost benefit analysis of wastewater options for Funafuti was initiated in Tuvalu in late 2005 and completed in early 2006. An economic analysis of the Green-bag Scheme in South Tarawa was also commissioned in 2005 and completed in early 2006. The Fiji IWP initiated the countries first Liquid Waste management Strategy in 2005. • Institutional, legislative and policy reviews focussed on waste management were completed in Tonga, Fiji and Kiribati. Economic valuation of waste, and cost-benefit studies, were also carried out in Tonga, Cook Islands Fiji, Palau, and Kiribati. • The RWMS developed through an extensive consultative process was presented and adopted at the 16SM. • Prioritised the Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy into the Implementation Action Plan through a regional training workshop in association with JICA • The Year of Action Against Waste campaign was successfully launched regionally and nationally in Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu at various times throughout the year. 	

PACIFIC FUTURES PROGRAMME

Component: 2.5 – Environmental policy and planning

Objective: Provide tools to improve the means to respond to pressures, emerging threats and opportunities through integrated assessment and planning processes

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)	
Programme Component: 2.5 – Environmental policy and planning				
2.5.1 EIA and strategic environmental planning tools and mechanisms used by PICTs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion, awareness and training in EIA and integrated systems for planning provided ▪ Framework for assessing linkages between trade, investment and environmental implications provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No significant work carried out for this indicator during 2005 because of unexpected early departure of staff working on this area. • Input provided into Mauritius International Meeting and Pacific Plan processes to integrate environmental aspects into (sustainable) development plans and strategies 	Budget	Actual
			Personnel Costs	18,706
			Operating Costs	3,641
			Capital Costs	0
			Sub Total	22,347
This output to be read together with 2.5.2 lower than budget expenditure due to 2 staff responsible departing early and posts vacant for most of year				
2.5.2 Implementation of national sustainable development strategies to mainstream environment into national planning processes supported.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National sustainable development strategies implemented ▪ National natural resource management and climate related plans incorporated into national sustainable development strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided support to PICTs developing national sustainable development strategies. Note the leadership role on this work has now shifted to the Forum Secretariat as a result of Leaders review of the Forum • Technical advice provided to countries on key environmental issues (biodiversity/natural resource management; pollution/waste; climate change) for inclusion in national sustainable development strategies. 	Budget	Actual
			Personnel Costs	41,717
			Operating Costs	13,149
			Capital Costs	0
			Sub Total	54,866
TOTAL PACIFIC FUTURE PROGRAMME				
			Budget	Actual
			Personnel Costs	861,580
			Operating Costs	2,511,165
			Capital Costs	29,129
			TOTAL	3,401,874

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

3. EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

Programme Goal: To ensure that effective policies and services are in place to support delivery of Secretariat strategic programmes and an efficient and effective organisation

The main function of the Executive management and Corporate Support sections of the Secretariat is both to provide leadership, vision and direction as well as to enable the efficient and effective delivery of the Secretariat's two Programmes. The support services include executive leadership and direction, corporate policy and planning, member and donor liaison, information and communication including publications and IT, financial services and advice, human resource development and assessment, infrastructure and asset management and general administration services.

Summary of Main Achievements 2005:

The Executive Management and Corporate Services focused in 2005 on delivery and performance of outputs shown in the matrix to support the effective delivery and implementation of outputs grouped under the two programmes. The SPREP Executive provided strategic direction to the Secretariat's work programme, coordinated, facilitated, managed and monitored the overall implementation of the two new programmes, and the 2005 Secretariat Annual Work Programme and Budget.

The main focus of support and assistance to Pacific Island countries (PICs) were:

- Policy, planning and institutional strengthening of Members to enable them to more effectively implement and undertake environmental management and protection activities at the national level.
- Integration and mainstreaming of the Secretariat's annual work programme with the SPREP members' efforts in policy, planning and institutional strengthening at the national level.
- Project proposal development and management involved liaison with donors and international financial institutions.

Key Achievements:

- Successfully arranged and supported the conduct of the 16th annual SPREP Meeting.
- Obtained clean audit of 2004 Accounts and Financial Statements
- was able to have both Governments of the United States and Palau ratify and accede respectively to the SPREP Agreement leaving one more ratification to bring the SPREP Agreement to full ratification
- Maintained active and high profile participation and involvement in international and regional meetings in support of PICTs.
- Continued review, updating and improvement of procedures and processes on personnel, staff recruitment, administration, finance and asset management to enhance efficiency and achieve economics and ensure uniformity and consistency of application across the organization.
- Continued visits to a number of member countries for consultations on their needs and priorities
- provided information and negotiating briefs for conferences and negotiations; regional collaboration and cooperation on policy development; guidelines development to support and promote effective PICTs participation.

Comparative Financial Analysis:

Total Budget	Actual Expenditures	Rate of spending
US\$1,542,551	USD1,565,602	101%

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)										
Component 3.1: Executive Management													
Objective: To provide improved performance through leadership and vision													
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPREP Meetings properly serviced. • Consultation with members. • Donor Liaison maintained and improved. • Regional Coordination and International coordination enhanced. • Secretariat managed in efficient and effective manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting arrangements and documents completed in a timely manner. • Timely, appropriate and clear responses and feedback on policy and work programme implementation issues. • Multi-year funding strategies developed and other funding opportunities identified. • Effective representation at annual Council Meetings of CROP Agencies and CROP working Groups. • Secretariat functioning effectively. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting papers for the 16SM produced and distributed to members on schedule • travel arrangements for 6 participants from small island countries to the 16SM completed in timely fashion. • Successfully conducted the 16SM held in Apia including all support and logistical arrangements. • Provided members through meetings, country visits, workshops and correspondence all required information on secretariat work and policies and addressed all queries raised. • Agreement already reach with one key donor on multiyear funding and close to agreement with another. Work continues with other donors. • Executive continued to place priority on attendance and providing SPREP input into CROP Heads meetings and Governing bodies of regional sister agencies. • Secretariat was able to meet all its obligations and work in timely and effective manner. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">277,420</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">60,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">337,420</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The expenditure of this component should be read together with 3.4. Convening 16SM cost additional expenditure also higher cost of insurances</p>	Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	277,420	Operating Costs	60,000	Capital Costs	0	Sub Total	337,420
Budget	Actual												
Personnel Costs	277,420												
Operating Costs	60,000												
Capital Costs	0												
Sub Total	337,420												

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)															
<p>Component 3.2: Information and Communication</p> <p>Objective: To provide secure and useable information and communication systems</p>																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate and programme databases managed. • Archive system developed and maintained. • Access to Library services provided, maintained and facilitated. • Publications, awareness and education materials produced and distributed. • ICT services support for the Secretariat provided. • ICT risk management process developed and maintained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved business systems through use of database application and data management system. • Increased availability of Corporate historical information online. • Systems working appropriately and user support/helpdesk service provided according to agreed standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided training for staff for the Events Database as part of the KDM • Provided support for the KDM modules EDA & POD through training and maintaining the database • Provided support through the SPREP web site administration • Archive system operating successfully with approximately 150 new archival material available electronically • Approximately 100 new online publications posted on IRC collection • 1,500 downloadable file requests serviced and actioned successfully • 1,543 requests for SPREP publications received and mailed within 5 day return timeframe • 177 direct email information requests actioned successfully within a 2 day return timeframe • 1,231 public visits to the IRC serviced and actioned successfully • Formal reports and publicity produced as required, to a high standard; website regularly updated • Assisted the Finance annual rollover • Provided support to member countries through procurement and helpdesk through some projects • Setup and supported IT logistics for the 16th SPREP meeting as well as workshops/trainings at the headquarters 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;">Personnel Costs</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>273,978</td> <td>273,978</td> <td>223,096</td> </tr> <tr> <td>91,400</td> <td>91,400</td> <td>67,477</td> </tr> <tr> <td>42,500</td> <td>42,500</td> <td>3,456</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td>407,878</td> <td>294,029</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Lower expenditure due to post of IT manager and EPO being vacant for most of year</p>	Personnel Costs	Budget	Actual	273,978	273,978	223,096	91,400	91,400	67,477	42,500	42,500	3,456	Sub Total	407,878	294,029
Personnel Costs	Budget	Actual																
273,978	273,978	223,096																
91,400	91,400	67,477																
42,500	42,500	3,456																
Sub Total	407,878	294,029																

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)										
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benchmark and cost clearly defined for ICT main services. Secured ICT systems audited. Recommendations provided to Management timely on ICT related issues. Overall cost of communication and system downtime minimized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamlined periodic IT equipment bulk orders Antivirus updates automatically deployed weekly for all network users and servers Monitored firewall logs for any external attacks Provided weekly reports on ICT helpdesk and support Provided periodic reports to all staff for IT equipment replacement. Provided support for whole network systems and applications and PABX infrastructure with 3% downtime overall 											
Component 3.3: Finance													
Objective: To provide transparent, accountable and timely financial information and reporting													
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurate and timely financial statement presented to SPREP Meeting. Accurate and timely financial management reports provided to donors. Accurate and timely management financial reports provided to directorate and programmes. Integrated financial risk management processes provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unqualified audit opinion, annual accounts, budget reports produced Donor Reports produced Preparation of timely management, financial and audit reports Financial Regulations, policies and procedures properly and effectively applied Risk management plan endorsed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtained an unqualified audit report on the 2004 annual accounts for the 16th SPREP Meeting 2006 budget prepared for the 16th SPREP Meeting and subsequently approved at the 16th SPREP Meeting Provided timely financial reports to donors in accordance with their requirements Prepared and disseminated financial and budget reports required by Management and Project Officers on a monthly basis Provided professional financial services to all areas of the organisation Accounting systems and processes continuously reviewed and monitored to ensure adherence to financial regulations, policies and procedures. Financial management risks identified and appropriate steps were taken on board to safeguard assets of the organisation Planned and managed investment of surplus funds at premium interest rates at secured bank short-term deposits. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Budget</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">188,331</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">44,300</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">232,631</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Higher expenditure due largely to accounting for foreign exchange loss of \$64,000</p>	Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	188,331	Operating Costs	44,300	Capital Costs	0	Sub Total	232,631
Budget	Actual												
Personnel Costs	188,331												
Operating Costs	44,300												
Capital Costs	0												
Sub Total	232,631												

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

Output	Verifiable Indicators Corresponding to Output	2005 Achievements	Annual Budget vs Actual Expenditure as at 31 December 2005 per Key output (US\$)															
Component 3.4: Administration																		
Objective: To ensure effective staff resource management and administration systems																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment, induction and welfare of staff managed. • Staff Performance management systems in place. • Secretariat's infrastructure and assets managed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated staff regulations policies, and manual provided and continually updated. • Yearly review of performance system and duty statements. • Assets and property maintained and relevant databases updated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed and monitored the application of Staff Regulations. • Maintained current and adequate Staff insurance cover in accordance with staff rules. • Provided efficient and timely administration services to initiate timely annual staff performances reviews. • Monitored employment conditions, applied and updated terms and conditions in accordance with staff rules. • Maintained and regularly updated Staff files and leave records. • Followed recruitment and contract completion process, and arranged work permits for expatriate staff. • Effectively improved and maintained all Secretariat's properties & equipments. • Effectively maintained and secure all assets, buildings and grounds and obtained adequate insurance cover. • Maintained the asset register and inventory of all goods and supplies. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;"></th> <th style="width: 20%;">Budget</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">181,922</td> <td style="text-align: right;">124,316</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operating Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">348,700</td> <td style="text-align: right;">203,172</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">34,000</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sub Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">564,662</td> <td style="text-align: right;">327,488</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(expenditure here to be read together with 3.1)</p>		Budget	Actual	Personnel Costs	181,922	124,316	Operating Costs	348,700	203,172	Capital Costs	34,000	0	Sub Total	564,662	327,488
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	Budget	Actual																
Personnel Costs	921,651	853,781																
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TOTAL	1,542,551	1,565,602																



Agenda Item 5.3.1 : Report on Members' Contributions

Purpose of Paper

1. To report to the Meeting on the receipt of Members' contributions.

Background

2. Financial Regulation 14 requires the Director to submit to each SPREP Meeting a report on the receipt of Members' contributions. This report provides an update on the status of Members' contributions received in 2006, (up to 30 June) as well as sharing the status of members' contributions as at the end of 2005.

Members' Contributions received in 2005 and 2006 (to 30 June 2006)

3. Attached for members' information is a statement, which shows the amounts due from respective members as at 30 June 2006. Total contributions outstanding as at 30 June 2006 is USD\$754,358, made up of USD\$324,210 unpaid as at the end of 2005 for that year and prior years and USD\$430,148 for 2006 contributions.
4. As the table indicate, a total of USD\$929,845 was received by the Secretariat in 2005 leaving a balance USD\$324,210 of unpaid contribution as at 31 December 2005.
5. Contributions due for 2006, is \$935,572 and so far this year, (as at 30 June 2006), the Secretariat has received only US\$505,424 in respect of 2006 and prior years unpaid contributions.

Outstanding Contributions:

6. Other than members with small adjusting balances, the following member countries are in arrears as at 10 July 2006 for both 2006 and prior years contributions:

Member Country	2005 and prior year liabilities	2006 contributions payable	Payments to 30-Jun-06	Balance as at 30-Jun-06
American Samoa	0	10,184	(5,092)	5,092
Cook Islands	0	10,184		10,184
FSM	2,625	10,184	(2,625)	10,184
Fiji	0	20,360	(11,146)	9,214
French Polynesia	0	20,360		20,360
Guam	0	20,360		20,360
Kiribati	31	10,184		10,215
Marshall Islands	10,184	10,184		20,368
Nauru	128,051	10,184		138,235
New Caledonia	1,189	20,360		21,549
Niue	10,185	10,184		20,369
Nth Marianas	37,112	10,184		47,296
Palau	10,185	10,184	-	20,369
Papua New Guinea	20,708	20,360		41,068
Samoa	0	20,360		20,360
Solomon Islands	83,763	20,360		104,123
Tokelau	0	10,184		10,184
Tonga	0	10,184		10,184
USA	(1,213)	186,787		185,574
Wallis & Futuna	18,999	10,184		29,183

Recommendation

7. The Meeting is invited to:

- **consider** the report and **address** the substantial arrears problem;
- **note** the status of debts relating to member contributions; and
- **commit** itself collectively and individually to paying current contributions and arrears in full in 2006

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

MEMBER'S CONTRIBUTION SCHEDULE

MEMBER COUNTRY	Payments Received as at 31-Dec-03	Balance as at 31-Dec-03	2004 Cont Payable	Payments Received as at 31-Dec-04	Balance as at 31-Dec-04	2005 Cont Payable	Payments Received as at 31-Dec-05	Balance as at 31-Dec-05	2006 Cont Payable	Payments Received as at 30-Jun-06	Balance as at 30-Jun-06
American Samoa	(14,513)	(2,899)	10,184	(7,284)	0	10,184	(10,184)	0	10,184	(5,092)	5,092
Australia	(153,468)	(1)	185,106	(185,106)	(0)	185,106	(185,106)	0	185,106	(185,106)	0
Cook Islands	(8,438)	0	10,184	(10,184)	(0)	10,184	(10,184)	0	10,184		10,184
Federated States of Micronesia	-	3,638	10,184	(11,062)	2,760	10,184	(10,320)	2,625	10,184	(2,625)	10,184
Fiji	(35,762)	2,851	20,360	(23,211)	0	20,360	(20,360)	0	20,360	(11,146)	9,214
France	(147,847)	(334)	134,202	(133,868)	0	134,202	(134,202)	0	134,202	(134,202)	0
French Polynesia	(11,435)	14,645	20,360	(25,742)	9,263	20,360	(29,623)	(0)	20,360		20,360
Guam	(16,817)	62	20,360	(20,422)	(0)	20,360	(20,360)	0	20,360		20,360
Kiribati	(8,382)	30	10,184	(10,184)	30	10,184	(10,184)	31	10,184		10,215
Marshall Islands	(8,438)	0	10,184	(10,184)	(0)	10,184	-	10,184	10,184		20,368
Nauru	-	107,682	10,184	(45,036)	117,866	10,184	-	128,051	10,184		138,235
New Caledonia	(90,963)	21,140	20,360	(134,202)	(3,537)	20,360	(15,634)	1,189	20,360	(134,202)	21,549
New Zealand	(16,824)	(81)	10,184	(134,202)	10,104	134,202	(134,202)	0	134,202		0
Niue	-	16,743	10,184		26,927	10,184	(10,103)	10,185	10,184		20,369
Northern Mariana Islands	-	0	10,184		10,183	10,184	(10,183)	37,112	10,184		47,296
Palau	(8,439)	(1)	10,184		20,359	10,184	(20,011)	10,185	10,184		20,369
Papua New Guinea	(16,881)	(1)	20,360		20,359	20,360	(20,011)	20,708	20,360		41,068
Samoa	(16,881)	(1)	20,360	(20,360)	0	20,360	(20,360)	(0)	20,360		20,360
Solomon Islands	-	83,693	20,360		104,053	20,360	(40,650)	83,763	20,360		104,123
Tokelau	(8,411)	0	10,184	(10,184)	(0)	10,184	(10,184)	0	10,184		10,184
Tonga	(11,182)	(0)	10,184	(10,184)	(0)	10,184	(10,184)	(0)	10,184		10,184
Tuvalu	(8,412)	0	10,184	(9,534)	651	10,184	(10,835)	0	10,184	(10,337)	(153)
United States of America	(154,280)	(0)	186,787	(186,787)	(0)	186,787	(188,000)	(1,213)	186,787		185,574
Vanuatu	(15,454)	30,339	20,360	(39,690)	11,010	20,360	(28,977)	2,392	20,360	(22,714)	38
Wallis & Futuna Islands	(7,788)	192	10,184	(1,562)	8,814	10,184	-	18,999	10,184		29,183
Total	(\$760,614)	\$277,703	\$935,572	(\$894,787)	\$318,483	\$935,572	(\$929,845)	\$324,210	\$935,572	(\$505,424)	\$754,358

Note 1 - There were two agreed increases to the members contributions. They are as follows:

- A. Determined at the 11th SPREP Meeting for 2001 contributions 35.318%
- B. Determined at the 12th SPREP Meeting for 2002 contributions 9.913%
- C. Determined at the 14th SPREP Meeting for 2004 contributions 21.070%



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting*Noumea, New Caledonia*

11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 5.3.2: Audited Annual Accounts for 2005**Purpose of Paper**

1. To present the Audited Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2005.

Background

2. Financial Regulation 27(e) requires the Director to submit audited financial statements to the SPREP Meeting, while Regulations 30-32 prescribes the manner in which the financial statements are to be presented and audited. Financial Regulation 33 requires the Director to circulate to each SPREP Meeting, the Auditors Report on the financial operations of SPREP, together with such remarks as the Director may wish to offer, prior to the SPREP Meeting.

3. The audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2005 have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Regulations and comprise the following documents:

- Audit Opinion
- Balance Sheet
- Income and Expenditure Statement
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Notes and Supporting Papers to the Accounts
- Auditors' Report to Management

4. The auditors' report provide a clean and unqualified opinion of the Secretariat's financial operations.

Recommendation

5. The Meeting is invited to:

- **review and adopt** the audited Financial Statements and Auditors' Report.
-



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AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (SPREP)

We have audited the financial statements of SPREP as set out on pages 3 to 11, for the year ended 31 December 2005. The financial statements provide information on the financial performance of the organisation, and its financial position as at 31 December 2005.

Management responsibilities

The management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that comply with generally accepted accounting practice, and that gives a true and fair view of the financial position of SPREP as at 31 December 2005, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date.

Auditors responsibilities

It is our responsibility to express an independent opinion on the financial statements presented by management, and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts, and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- The significant estimates and judgements made by management in the preparation of the financial statements; and
- Whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the organisation, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations, which we considered necessary to provide us with sufficient evidence, to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud and error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Specific reporting requirements

In accordance with the specific audit reporting requirements of SPREP's Financial Regulation 32 (a) to (f), we report as follows:

- (a) extent and character of examination is as explained in the section above under the heading "Basis of Opinion"
- (b) matters affecting the completeness and accuracy of the accounts, refer to our report to management, which is attached, titled Management report.
- (c) the accuracy or otherwise of the supplies and equipment records as determined by stocktaking and examination of the records. The fixed assets register has been completed following the physical count of all SPREP assets carried out in August 2005.
- (d) financial procedures of SPREP including internal controls and adherence to draft financial procedures are satisfactory. The Draft Financial Rules and Procedures Manual (DFRPM), Administration Manual and Desk Files are currently being revised by the organization and should be completed by the end of 2006.
- (e) the adequacy of insurance cover for the buildings, stores, furniture, equipment and other property of SPREP. Insurance cover for buildings, furniture, equipment and other property is adequate.
- (f) Other matters, the matters raised in our report to management have been addressed.


We also examined on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts of funds received by the Organization from NZAID and AUSAID. We confirm that funds were spent in accordance with the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) signed between the respective parties.

Unqualified Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) as of 31 December 2005, and of the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and in accordance with the SPREP Financial Regulations as amended.

Our audit was completed on 26 April 2006 and our opinion is expressed as at that date.

Apia, Samoa


Certified Public Accountants

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005

2004		2005	Notes
\$		\$	
<u>4,620,716</u>	NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
	Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>4,683,707</u>	3
<u>4,620,716</u>	Total Non-Current Assets	<u>4,683,707</u>	
	CURRENT ASSETS		
791,543	Cash at Bank and on Hand	540,486	4
5,464,877	Bank Term Deposits	3,751,694	5
<u>123,172</u>	Accounts Receivables	<u>86,203</u>	6
<u>6,379,592</u>	Total Current Assets	<u>4,378,383</u>	
<u>\$11,000,308</u>	TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$9,062,090</u>	
	REPRESENTED BY:		
	FUNDS AND RESERVES		
501,425	Reserve Fund	501,425	7
4,591,313	Capital Reserve	4,591,313	8
<u>799,892</u>	Exchange Variation Reserve	<u>583,468</u>	9
<u>5,892,630</u>	Total Funds and Reserves	<u>5,676,206</u>	
	NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		
<u>70,805</u>	Deferred Income	<u>70,805</u>	10
<u>70,805</u>		<u>70,805</u>	
	CURRENT LIABILITIES		
1,810,935	Advance Funding	-	11
722,001	Creditors and Accruals	702,966	12
<u>2,503,937</u>	Programme & Core Funds	<u>2,612,113</u>	13
<u>5,036,873</u>		<u>3,315,079</u>	
<u>\$11,000,308</u>		<u>\$9,062,090</u>	

The balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements, which form an integral part of the financial statements.


Asterio Takesy
Director

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

2004 Actual \$	CORE FUNDS INCOME	2005 Actual \$	Notes
1,036,202	Members Contribution	929,846	
282,062	Programme Management Charge	386,946	
16,761	Exchange Gain	-	
267,761	Interest	290,873	
-	Gain on sale of Fixed Assets	1,863	
125,593	Other income	50,627	14
665,126	Donor Funds	98,777	
2,393,505	TOTAL INCOME	1,758,932	
	EXPENDITURE		
(1,748,750)	Executive Management & Corporate Support	(1,646,064)	15/16
(1,748,750)	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(1,646,064)	
644,755	EXCESS OF INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	112,868	
124,697	Executive Mgt & Corp Support funds from prior years	500,339	
(269,113)	Programme Funds held under Exec Mgt & Corp Support	-	
500,339	Funds to be carried forward	613,207	
6,052,231	PROGRAMME FUNDS	5,573,613	
	Funds received during the year		
	EXPENDITURE		
(6,087,685)	Programme Implementation	(5,578,305)	15/16
(6,087,685)	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(5,578,305)	
(35,454)	Excess of expenditure over funds received	(4,692)	
1,769,939	Programme funds brought forward from prior year	2,003,598	
1,734,485	Programme funds brought forward from prior year	1,998,906	
269,113		-	
2,003,598	Programme Funds at year end	1,998,906	
500,339	Core Funds at year end	613,207	
\$2,503,937	TOTAL FUNDS TO BE CARRIED FORWARD	\$2,612,113	

The income and expenditure statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to financial statement, which form an integral part of the financial statements.

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

2004 \$	CASH FLOWS FROM/(TO) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2005 \$
	INFLOWS	
8,528,292	Donor Funds	5,672,390
1,036,202	Members Contributions	929,846
282,062	Program Management Charge	386,946
255,075	Interest receipts	298,994
<u>142,354</u>	Miscellaneous receipts	<u>134,163</u>
10,243,985		7,422,339
	OUTFLOWS	
(2,372,879)	Salaries and related costs	(2,528,789)
<u>(5,334,082)</u>	Other operating expenses	<u>(6,694,288)</u>
<u>2,537,024</u>	Net Cash Flows provided to Operating Activities	<u>(1,800,738)</u>
	CASH FLOWS FROM/(TO) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
	INFLOWS	
-	Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment	17,486
	OUTFLOWS	
<u>(54,687)</u>	Purchase of property, plant and equipment	<u>(180,988)</u>
(54,687)	Net Cash Flows provided to Investing Activities	(163,502)
2,482,337	Net (Decrease)/Increase in cash held	(1,964,240)
<u>3,774,083</u>	Cash at beginning of the year	<u>6,256,420</u>
<u>\$6,256,420</u>	Cash and cash equivalents at year end	<u>\$4,292,180</u>
	Represented By:	
791,543	Cash on hand and at banks	540,486
<u>5,464,877</u>	Term deposits	<u>3,751,694</u>
<u>\$6,256,420</u>	Cash at end of year	<u>\$4,292,180</u>

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following summary of significant accounting policies is given in order to assist in understanding

(a) **Accounting System**

- (i) The financial statements are prepared on the basis of historical costs and do not take into account current valuation of non-current assets.
- (ii) The concepts of the accrual method and going concern basis of accounting are applied.
- (iii) The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the accounting standards and disclosure requirements of the International Accounting Standards, except where stated otherwise.
- (iv) All amount shown in the financial statements are expressed in US dollars.

- (b) The Secretariat has adopted a fund accounting system, as considerable part of its annual fund, comprises of aid funds for specified projects and programmes.

The identification of funds is maintained throughout the accounting system thus providing the control necessary to ensure that each fund is used only for the purpose, which it is received.

(c) **Depreciation**

Fixed Assets are not being depreciated as from 2003 to coincide with the Fund Accounting policy and to recognise the fact that to replace and maintain the fixed assets expenditure, provisions are included in the annual budget.

(d) **Comparative Figures**

The 2004 audited Income and Expenditure have been reclassified to conform to the changes in presentation of accounts into programmes in the current financial year as per 2005 financial regulations. The 2004 Income and Expenditure had been presented in functions; Project Implementation, Project Management and Primary Function.

(e) **Foreign Currency Transactions**

All foreign currency transactions during 2005 have been brought to account using the bank exchange rate in effect at the date of the transaction. Realised exchange gain/losses on term deposits matured during the year have been taken to the statement of income and expenditure. Foreign currency monetary items at balance date are translated at the closing exchange rate existing at that date.

Unrealised exchange gains and losses, arising on translation of monetary items at balance sheet date are taken to the Exchange Variation Reserve to accommodate future losses or gains due to fluctuation of rates in the foreign currency market. The decrease in the exchange variation reserve in 2005-year was due to the weakening of various currencies used for operations against the United States currency.

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

(f) Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised in the accounts using the cash basis concept of interest income. Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis.

(g) Donor Funds

Donations from Aid Agencies are usually for specified purposes. These funds are separately identified in the accounting system and expenditure recorded against each fund. Donor Funds, which are applied to capital items of programmes are charged to expenditure at time of acquisition and are brought into the accounts as fixed assets at the completion of programmes and are valued at their carrying value.

(h) Commitment Accounting

The Secretariat operates a system of commitment accounting for its non-salary expenditure. Expenditure is recognised when purchase orders are placed and charged against the appropriate code.

(i) Donor Funded Assets

Assets acquired by programmes during the year are not included in SPREP's balance sheet as the ownership of these assets remains with the donor. The treatment at this level is to expense these assets in the Income Statement as the disbursement is incurred. At the completion of these programmes, donors generally donate these assets to SPREP, at which time the assets will be included on the Balance Sheet at their carrying value.

(j) Capital Funds

Capital Funds of \$52,867 has been amalgamated with Reserve Funds under the heading Reserve Funds.

NOTE 2. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICY

There have been no significant changes in the Accounting Policies

NOTES 3. NON-CURRENT ASSETS - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

WDV 31-Dec-04	Description	Cost/Valuation				
		31-Dec-04	Addition	Disposal	Adj	31-Dec-05
4,007,361	Property	4,270,428	-		(47,687)	4,222,741
92,068	Computer Equip	132,627	53,534			186,161
442,602	Equipment	511,243	39,860			551,103
32,730	Furniture	125,734	337			126,071
45,955	Vehicles	62,246	32,570	(24,668)		70,148
\$4,620,716		\$5,102,278	\$126,301	(\$24,668)	(\$47,687)	\$5,156,224

Description	Accumulated Depreciation				WDV 31-Dec-05
	1-Jan-04	Depn	Disposal	31-Dec-05	
Property	(263,067)			(263,067)	3,959,674
Computer Equip	(40,559)			(40,559)	145,602
Equipment	(68,641)			(68,641)	482,462
Furniture	(93,004)			(93,004)	33,067
Vehicles	(16,291)		9,045	(7,246)	62,902
	(\$481,562)	\$0	\$9,045	(\$472,517)	\$4,683,707

Fixed assets are not being depreciated in 2005 in accordance with the Secretariat policy adopted in 2003. Assets are shown at the balance sheet at their written down value at 31 December 2002 while assets purchased since 2003 are recorded at their historical value.

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

2004		2005
NOTE 4.	CASH AT BANK AND ON HAND	
	Local Currency	
6,097	ANZ - SAT Account	57,060
12,285	WBC - Int Waters SAT Account	31,244
28	WBC - EU PEIN SAT Account	96,172
187	Petty Cash	181
<u>18,597</u>		<u>184,657</u>
	Foreign Currency	
49,395	ANZ - USD Account	26,707
23,683	ANZ - AUD Account	22,894
29,175	ANZ - NZD Account	2,808
316,912	WBC - USD Account	(9,131)
189,722	WBC - Int Waters USD Account	217,651
116,036	WBC - Int Maritime Org Account	46,229
48,023	WBC - NZD Call Account	48,671
<u>772,946</u>		<u>355,829</u>
<u>\$791,543</u>	Closing Balances as at 31 December 2005	<u>\$540,486</u>
NOTE 5.	BANK TERM DEPOSITS	
	Local Currency	
1,758,858	WBC - SAT Account	798,476
1,136,359	SCB - SAT Account	936,827
948,355	NBS - SAT Account	398,187
<u>3,843,572</u>		<u>2,133,490</u>
	Foreign Currency	
778,345	WBC - AUD Account	767,096
842,960	WBC - NZD Account	851,108
<u>1,621,305</u>		<u>1,618,204</u>
<u>\$5,464,877</u>	Close Balance as at 31 December 2005	<u>\$3,751,694</u>
NOTE 6.	ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	
2,076	Debtors	1,996
314	Staff Accounts	279
10,517	Other	-
72,030	Accrued Interest	63,909
18,907	Withholding tax	-
117	Interbank	934
19,211	Prepayments	19,085
<u>\$123,172</u>	Closing Balance as at 31 December 2005	<u>\$86,203</u>

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005**

2004		2005
NOTE 7.	RESERVE FUND	
448,558	Opening balances as at 1 January 2005	448,558
52,867	Add: Capital Funds balance	52,867
<u>\$501,425</u>	Closing balance as at 31 December 2005	<u>\$501,425</u>
<p>The General Reserve Fund represents the sum total of accumulated results arising from Primary Function and Project Management activities for the purpose of covering the organisation in cases of emergencies or unforeseen circumstances and unexpected budget shortfalls.</p>		
NOTE 8.	CAPITAL RESERVE	
	Capital Reserve is represented by the following capital donations:	
1,870,480	SPREP Complex by Donor Governments	1,870,480
2,370,833	Training and Education Centre Project by Japan	2,370,833
350,000	Information Resource Centre by European Union	350,000
<u>\$4,591,313</u>	Closing Balance as at 31 December 2005	<u>\$4,591,313</u>
NOTE 9.	EXCHANGE VARIATION RESERVE	
593,374	Opening Balances as at 1 January 2005	799,892
206,518	Less: Exchange difference arising from translation	(216,424)
<u>\$799,892</u>	Closing Balances as at 31 December 2005	<u>\$583,468</u>
NOTE 10.	DEFERRED INCOME LIABILITY	
88,506	Represents Deferred Income and Assets acquired through Donor Funds	88,506
(17,701)	Less: Accumulated Amortisation	(17,701)
<u>\$70,805</u>	Closing Balances as at 31 December 2005	<u>\$70,805</u>
NOTE 11.	ADVANCE FUNDING	
763,035	Australia Funding towards 2005 program strategy	-
1,047,900	New Zealand Funding towards 2005 program strategy	-
<u>\$1,810,935</u>	Closing Balances as at 31 December 2005	<u>-</u>
NOTE 12.	CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS	
143,799	Provision for Leave Entitlement	129,822
136,662	Provision for Repatriation	124,472
366,343	Trade Creditors	423,548
-	Payroll Creditors	274
75,197	Other Creditors and Accruals	24,850
<u>\$722,001</u>	Closing Balance as at 31 December 2005	<u>\$702,966</u>

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

NOTE 13 DONOR FUNDS & OTHERS

DETAILS	Balance 1-Jan-05	Income	Expenses	Other Adjs	Balance 31-Dec-05
Asian Development Bank	(13,153)	8,645	-	-	(4,508)
AusAID Extra Budget	255,209	865,181	(851,093)	6,380	275,677
AusAID Extra Extra Budget	29,362	34,898	(51,721)	5,229	17,768
BioNet	10,016	-	(10,016)	-	-
Canadian International Development Agency	478,755	25,282	(479,404)	-	24,633
Commonwealth Secretariat	8,932	-	-	-	8,932
Department of International Development	10,166	-	(2,083)	53	8,136
European Union	-	139,491	(49,766)	-	89,725
Government of Denmark	2,227	-	-	(2,227)	-
Government of France	247,623	-	(67,339)	-	180,284
Government of Japan	2,455	189,376	(126,431)	(3,550)	61,850
Government of the United Kingdom	8,806	-	-	-	8,806
International Maritime Organisation	87,015	72,243	(113,049)	-	46,209
John D & Catherine T MacArthur Foundation	20,387	-	(9)	-	20,378
Multiple Donors	428,952	550,411	(702,011)	(30,468)	246,884
Netherlands Red Cross Society	7,746	-	-	-	7,746
NZ Aid PIE	105,577	5,078	(81,327)	(1,408)	27,920
NZ Aid Extra Budget	49,206	628,833	(663,302)	933	15,670
NZAid Extra Extra Budget	11,053	684,180	(475,029)	7,008	227,212
Pacific Development & Conservation Trust	7,704	-	(784)	-	6,920
People's Republic of China	-	160,000	-	-	160,000
Other Funds (include core)	432,617	1,500,828	(1,185,917)	12,655	760,183
Ramsar Secretariat	11,503	33,805	(40,476)	-	4,832
The Nature Conservancy	-	45,122	(18,756)	-	26,366
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification	1,592	-	-	-	1,592
United Nations Development Program	131,689	1,661,326	(1,638,539)	-	154,476
United Nations Environment Program	73,574	535,939	(425,117)	(4,272)	180,124
United Nations Tech Co-Op Activities (part of UNDESA)	(6,540)	-	(14,128)	-	(20,668)
UN Economics & Social Commission for Asia & the Pacific (UNESCAP)	3,146	-	-	3,500	6,646
UN Office of Project Services	-	49,689	(45,586)	-	4,103
US Additional Member Contributions	3,482	-	-	(905)	2,577
US Dept of Energy/Los Alamos University	4,801	-	-	-	4,801
US Fish & Wildlife Atmospheric Administration	14,943	-	(318)	-	14,625
US National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration	64,455	102,654	(116,947)	(28,013)	22,149
US Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council	10,637	74,649	(65,221)	-	20,065
	\$2,503,937	\$7,367,630	(\$7,224,369)	(\$35,085)	\$2,612,113

Core funds income/expenditure	1,758,932	1,646,064
Programme funds income/expenditure	5,573,613	5,578,305
	<u>7,332,545</u>	<u>\$7,224,369</u>
Income as per above schedule	7,367,630	
Less other credit/debit adjustments	(35,085)	
As per income statement	<u>7,332,545</u>	

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

2004		2005
NOTE 14.	OTHER INCOME	
3,471	Insurance Recovery	350
1,730	Publication Sale	535
17,589	Rental income	33,545
66,107	Miscellaneous	4,251
18,859	Prior Year adjustments	2,544
10,950	Commission	3,252
6,887	Travel & Other Recoveries	6,150
<u>\$125,593</u>	Total	<u>\$50,627</u>
NOTE 15.	EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	
		Personnel Cost Operating Costs Total
3,248,357	Island Ecosystem Programme	784,107 2,118,922 2,903,029
2,796,179	Pacific Futures Programme	751,045 1,886,511 2,637,556
134,881	Core - Programme Funds	- 37,720 37,720
1,657,018	Executive Mgt & Corp Support	967,744 678,320 1,646,064
<u>\$7,836,435</u>	Total	<u>\$2,502,896 \$4,721,473 \$7,224,369</u>
NOTE 16.	ACTUAL VS BUDGET EXPENDITURES	
		Personnel Cost Operating Cost Capital Costs
		Budget Actual Budget Actual Budget Actual
3,248,357	Island Ecosystem Programme	791,030 784,107 2,346,950 2,084,940 20,436 33,982
2,796,179	Pacific Futures Programme	882,498 751,045 2,006,900 1,856,435 12,839 30,076
134,881	Core - Prog Funds	- - - 37,720 - -
1,657,018	Executive Mgt & Corp Support	921,651 967,744 544,400 498,604 76,500 179,716
<u>\$7,836,435</u>	Total	<u>\$2,595,179 \$2,502,896 \$4,898,250 \$4,477,699 \$109,775 \$243,774</u>
NOTE 17.	CONTINGENT LIABILITIES	
The Secretariat has no contingent liabilities as at 31 December 2005.		
NOTE 18.	CAPITAL COMMITMENTS	
The Secretariat has no commitments with respect to capital expenditure.		



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia
11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 8.1.1(a) : Final Status Report on International Waters Project

Purpose of Paper

1. This paper provides a Status Report for the International Waters Project (IWP) that is implementing the Strategic Action Programme (the SAP) for the International Waters of the Pacific Small Island Developing States. This is the final status report on the IWP to the SPREP Meeting before it concludes in December 2006. As such the report includes not only activities in 2005 but also work carried out to June 2006.

Background

2. Thirteen SPREP Members are participating in this Project¹. It is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and executed by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). It commenced in February 2000.

3. The IWP was originally envisaged as a 5-year Project. However, implementation did not commence until July 2000. This delay resulted in a decision to extend the life of the Project for another two years. The IWP is now scheduled for completion in December 2006.

4. The IWP had two components. The Oceanic Fisheries Management (OFM) component focused on the management and conservation of tuna stocks in the western central Pacific and was executed by the Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA). This component was completed in June 2005. This Status Report is confined to the Integrated Coastal and Waste Management (ICWM) component of the Programme, which is implemented through SPREP.

5. The ICWM component supports pilot activities at both the community and national levels to address the root causes for environmental concerns relating to the protection of freshwater, securing sustainable coastal fisheries and/or managing community wastes.

¹ Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Status

The main achievements and highlights of the ICWM component at the community, national and regional/international levels for 2005 and to June 2006 are summarized below:

At the Community Level

- There is an increased awareness in all participating communities about the adverse impacts of human activities on the environment and natural resources;
- IWP host communities in Tonga, Fiji, Kiribati and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) continue to be actively involved in waste recycling activities;
- IWP host communities are actively participating in ecological surveys and water quality monitoring in RMI, PNG, Niue, Tonga, Samoa and Vanuatu;
- Community-based management plans have been prepared with village inputs for the sustainable management of a marine protected area in Niue and beach de mer in the Solomon Islands;
- Neighboring communities to IWP pilot project sites in Fiji, Tonga, Niue and FSM have expressed interest in replicating the work of the IWP pilots. This suggests that IWP work is continuing to address the needs and concerns of these island communities;
- Waste collection systems have been established for pilot communities in PNG, Palau, Fiji and Kiribati and composting of organic wastes is on the increase;
- Interest in compost toilets as a substitute to 'drop toilets' on the sea or poorly constructed flush toilets that are contributing to water pollution in rural communities is also increasing in PNG, Fiji and Palau;
- Traditional methods to regulate resource use (e.g. taboo areas) by local communities have been revived to ensure the sustainable harvesting of land and marine resources such as land crabs in Crab Bay, Vanuatu.

At the National Level

- In Fiji, data collection for the economic analysis of rural waste management is continuing. A draft National Liquid Waste Management Strategy has been prepared with the assistance of the Institute of Applied Science of the University of the South Pacific (USP), and pilot socio-economic surveys have been conducted in two rural settlements at the project site. A cloth bag project to replace plastic shopping bags has started and about 90% of households in project site are composting their green wastes.

- In Tonga, the IWP facilitated the drafting of the Water Resource Management Bill 2006, which is now ready for consideration by Cabinet. A Sustainability Strategy to guide project implementation towards the end of IWP support in December 2006 has been prepared and implemented. Discussions relating to the integration of IWP work on wastes to the National Waste Management Plan of Tonga are underway.
- In the Solomon Islands, new alternative livelihood initiatives focusing on seaweed farming and spat collection have been introduced to the communities of Chea. The demonstration was made by the Aquaculture Division of the Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources in conjunction with the IWP project. A mangrove replanting project at the Lagoon Lodge log pond was also successfully launched in collaboration with the Forestry Department to demonstrate to local people the importance of mangroves to marine and coastal environments.
- In Tuvalu, a cost benefit analysis of alternative sanitation systems for Funafuti has been completed and work on the National Integrated Water Resource Management Plan is continuing. A three months national environmental awareness campaign was facilitated by the project and has been approved by the National Task Force.
- In Kiribati, a trial use of biodegradable plastic bags was carried out and an assessment of their impact conducted. The Green Bag User Pay System (GUPS) was officially launched and IWP concepts such as the GUPS and the 'Banana Circle' composting system are being promoted for replication on South Tarawa. A premier screening of the IWP film "Solid Waste and Our Water" was arranged for the Minister and senior officials of the Department of Environment, Lands and Agriculture Development and a teenager RAP song competition to promote the use of the Green Bag was successfully organized.
- In Niue, Village Fisheries Management Plans have been prepared for the pilot villages of Makefu and North Alofi and the lessons learned during the preparation of the plans have been documented. Students from the Niue High School and Primary School designed as part of the IWP Awareness Program posters on the theme 'Sustainable Coastal Fisheries'. These posters are now displayed at the arrival terminal of the Niue airport as well as the local bank.
- In the Republic of Palau, 14 recycling bins have been set up in Chollei and a waste segregation center established in the city of Koror. Three composting sites have also been established in Chollei and composting toilets have been built at an all girls high school in the nearby village. As a result of the IWP work in Chollei, the Ngarchelong State Government has established, and is subsidizing, a regular rubbish collection system available to all households who now pay \$5 per month for this service.

- In Papua New Guinea, the IWP project helped start a waste collection and disposal system in the village of Barakau. Households were provided rubbish bins and now pay 1 kina (USD0.30) to a private collector to pick up their rubbish. Although there is still strong belief in sorcery in the area (which people blame for sickness and death), villagers are slowly realizing, through education and awareness work of the project, the link between indiscriminate waste disposal, environmental degradation and their health. The success of the IWP pilot project work on waste in Barakau has aroused interest in neighboring communities to manage their own waste problems in a similar manner.
- In Samoa, the participatory technique used to analyse problems and develop community management plans to implement low/no cost solutions to the problems affecting water quality and quantity is influencing the more traditional 'top-down' approaches of the past. Water quality and quantity monitoring programs are continuing and plans are underway for the conduct of an economic evaluation of the Apolima-tai catchment area.
- In the Cook Islands, meetings between the Court and the landowners to prepare for the endorsement of the Management Regime for the Takuvaine Water Catchment area are continuing. Community land rules for the improved management of the catchment have been set and are being enforced by the local residents themselves. Animals are no longer allowed to roam in the catchment area and there are plans to regulate the use of the area for tourist related activities.
- In the Republic of the Marshall Islands, a 'waste stream analysis' carried out in Jenrok resulted in a better understanding of the types and volume of waste being dumped into the landfill sites. In the pilot villages of Jenrok and Muro, all aluminum cans are now recycled, two households in Jenrok and one in Muro have started composting of green waste. The project plans to complement these initial initiatives with the building of compost toilets in both villages.
- In the Federated States of Micronesia, the IWP project has been working with the village of Rifkin to build capacity and local ownership of the Marine Protected Area. The villagers have developed their own MPA regulations and some young men have been trained in monitoring fish stocks. Five other municipalities on the island of Yap have expressed to the IWP project their desire to replicate the work of the project in their own communities and legislative changes to the Yap Fisheries Act are being investigated to ensure legal recognition of the Rifkin MPA and its local enforcement processes.

At the Regional and International Levels

- Notwithstanding the significant progress made by the IWP over the years, the departure via individual resignations of the entire technical team of staff responsible for managing the project from SPREP caused disruption to the operations of the project in late 2005 and early 2006. The Pacific Environment Consultants Ltd (PECL) was subcontracted in November 2005 to manage the IWP till the end in December 2006.
- Two regional workshops were organized to capture and document the issues, problems and lessons learned from the experience of 13 pilot projects supported by the IWP over the past few years. This document is a legacy of the IWP to be passed on for use by SPREP and other organizations in the Pacific region.
- In recognition of the progress made by the Pacific IWP on the development of communication strategies as a means to raise awareness and promote IWP results, the GEF/IW: Learn project sponsored the participation of National Coordinators from Kiribati, Tuvalu and the Cook Islands to a two-day stakeholders Communications Workshop to improve the communication planning tools available to all IWP projects world-wide. A range of photographs and stories from the Pacific IWP were submitted to IW: Learn for an international "traveling" exhibition on Water and Sanitation. The workshop was held in Vienna, Austria on 19-20 January 2006. The same group from the Pacific also attended the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands held on 23-25 January in Paris, France.
- National Coordinators from Vanuatu, Kiribati and the Cook Islands contributed towards the development of the Communications Guide "Communicating for Results: A Planning Guide and Resource Kit. Using Communications in GEF/UNDP International Waters Projects" which is being finalized by IW: Learn. The Guide is expected to be circulated at the end of May or early June 2006.
- The National Coordinator from Fiji was nominated by SOPAC to attend the World Water Forum in Mexico as a key representative of the Pacific Region. The National Coordinator assisted IW: Learn present an exhibition of display panels from Samoa, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea and Tonga.
- Five papers from the Pacific IWP have been completed, finalized and accepted for presentation at the World Congress on Communications for Development to be held in Rome, Italy from 25 – 27 October 2006. The papers are from Kiribati, Vanuatu, Fiji, Cook Islands and from the IWP Project Coordinating Unit (PCU).

- The IWP has been assisting SPREP's Waste Unit in the Pacific Futures Programme with a project to develop and produce a waste resource kit for use by individuals from governments, the community and others interested in improving solid waste management. The Kit is intended to perpetuate the work done by the IWP by capturing the practical lessons learned, suggesting opportunities for expansion and mainstreaming the pilot projects. IWP has also provided input to the development of SPREP's Communications Strategy.
- An article highlighting the global benefits derived from the Pacific IWP has been prepared and circulated widely. The article has been provided for publication by a number of regional magazines and is also available on the SPREP website.
- IWP work is gradually being incorporated into SPREP's work programme. Ecological baseline work, participatory approaches, watershed management, waste management and freshwater management now form an important part of SPREP's work programme. Of particular note is IWP's work on solid waste management. IWP made a significant contribution to the development and implementation of SPREP's Regional Solid Waste Master Plan and some National Coordinators provided communications materials for the "Year of Action Against Waste".

Looking Ahead

7. The ICWM component of the IWP is scheduled to conclude in December 2006. Hence support for pilot projects for the whole of 2006 has, and will continue to focus on those activities considered critical to the sustainability of the pilot projects after December 2006.

8. Key to the achievement of project sustainability is the preparation of strategies that will help achieve smooth transitions from IWP support for all projects. Exploring opportunities for integrating IWP work to ongoing and relevant initiatives at the local, national and regional levels is an important part of this process. At the time of writing, only Tonga has completed its strategy. Strategies for Palau, Tuvalu, FSM, PNG and Marshall Island are progressing while Fiji, Samoa and Solomon Islands will begin work on their strategies soon.

9. Documenting the experience of the IWP is crucial to the success of future GEF or other donor-funded initiatives of this nature in the Pacific. The project had made a significant investment in documenting lessons learned from its experience and this information should help the replication of IWP activities in other areas or the design and implementation of any new projects in future.

10. Despite the impressive results achieved especially at the local and national levels, the IWP was not able, nor was it designed, to provide solutions to all the issues and concerns affecting the sustainable management of wastes, watersheds, fisheries and marine protected areas in the Pacific region. It did not induce effective cross-regional learning or the sharing of lessons and best practices between lead agencies supporting the same focal area. It did not facilitate access by National Coordinators to expertise available in other CROP agencies nor did it provide adequate support for building the capacity of lead agencies to effectively lead project implementation.

11. Regardless of the shortcomings outlined above, there is much to celebrate from the work of the IWP. A number of IWP countries feel that the pilot projects have already achieved a lot. The sustainability of some areas of the work is already seemingly ensured. Many underlying problems experienced by the IWP have been related to lack of time and clarity about what the project was trying to achieve. Given more time, more focus and further support, the long term benefits of the IWP pilot projects could certainly grow.

Recommendation

12. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** the final status report of the IWP; and
- **propose** where necessary, mechanisms to enhance the sustainability of the Project at the National and regional levels post-December 2006.

1 June 2006



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 8.1.2 : Invasive Species - Developments and Update**Purpose of Paper**

1. To update the Meeting of efforts being undertaken in relation to invasive species in the region and complementary efforts to address the threats to island biodiversity as contained in the Island Biodiversity Programme of Work of the CBD and to propose the recognition of invasive species as one of the three key threats to island biodiversity and as having a major impact on economic development, people's lifestyles and livelihoods and general way of life. The IBPoW, identifies invasives as one of the most important issues for island biodiversity, which needs urgent, concerted and sustained action

Background*Preventing Invasive Species Management Programme (PISMP)*

2. Funding for the phase of work (PDF-B) to develop a GEF full sized project proposal is anticipated to arrive in 2006 through UNDP. This project plans to work with the 14 GEF-eligible countries on an individual basis to define their national needs to be able to better prevent the arrival of new invasive species and to deal with invasive species that they already have. The Government of France has given support to the inclusion of non-GEF eligible territories in this activity. The PDF-B will undertake national assessments, along with identifying priority regional needs (eg invasive species control method development, analysis of pathways and means of spread of invasive species, training programmes). The focus of this PDF-B phase is on consultation and priority identification rather than implementation which will take place in the next phase.

SPREP Preventing Invasive Species Course – rollout phase

3. This course was developed by SPREP with the funding assistance of the United States and New Zealand governments in 2002-3 and the second phase of the rollout of the course, was funded by US. It was designed to be customised to the needs of the recipient country and to work across all sectors with a role to prevent the introduction of invasive species. The course also provides opportunities for participants to consider the needs of their own sector and country and to make recommendations that are conveyed to their national governments.

4. The course has now been delivered to Niue, Vanuatu, Palau, American Samoa, Samoa, Tokelau, and twice in PNG (Port Moresby and Rabaul). The final course of this phase is currently being planned to be held in French Polynesia (delivered in French) in 2007. Unfortunately funds do not allow the course to be rolled out to any further countries at this stage (each customised course costs about \$25,000 USD) but work is being undertaken to source funds to continue this important work.

Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN)

5. This is a peer-learning network designed to build the skills of multi-agency teams in the Pacific to address the threats posed by invasive species. The aim is to empower effective invasive species management in countries through a participant-driven network that meets priority needs, rapidly shares skills and resources, provides links to technical expertise, increases information exchange and accelerates on-the-ground action. The network has been established at SPREP by eight partner organisations – The Nature Conservancy, SPREP, the Cooperative Islands Initiative on Invasive Species, IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group, Conservation International, the Palau Office of Environmental Response and Coordination, the University of the South Pacific, US Department of Agriculture Forest Service and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

6. The official launch of PILN and first annual meeting was held in May 2006 and hosted by Palau, involving 42 people from 11 countries. Members of the initial group of six founding teams from American Samoa, Guam, Niue, Palau, Pohnpei and Samoa participated. Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund grantees working on invasive species management demonstration projects from Palau, Samoa, FSM, the Cook Islands, Fiji, and French Polynesia, together with representatives of the eight partners and two close collaborators also participated. This meeting was able to analyse lessons learned in four key technical areas: public awareness, strategic planning, weed management and island restoration. The Meeting also developed action plans for a priority project by each team, identified capacity building needs, input into the revision of the regional invasive species strategy, and launched and evaluated the CD-ROM version of the Global Invasive Species Database.

7. Considerable momentum has now been generated, both among the meeting participants as a result of the week's activities and also more widely, due to the wide media coverage for the meeting, locally, regionally and internationally. PILN now has a new logo design and an unofficial motto, "Failure is not an option". The second group of founding teams (Fiji, Hawaii, Kiribati, Kosrae, Marshall Islands and New Caledonia) will be incorporated into the network early next year and the American Samoa Invasive Species Team has formally offered to host the PILN second annual meeting in August 2007. Lessons learned in technical areas will be reviewed and expanded and the draft Action Plans produced at the first meeting developed and revised.

8. PILN needs secure resourcing to continue, with approximately USD\$300,000 needed for the next two years.

Partnerships

Invasive Species Working Group (ISWG)

9. The Invasive Species Working Group under the Roundtable for Nature Conservation is responsible for monitoring implementation, identifying gaps and coming up with ways to deal with these in relation to the invasive species objectives of the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation. It also addresses implementation gaps and looks at ways to support PICT-level implementation. Organisations represented include intergovernmental organisations, donors, international and national NGOs, research agencies, invasive species programmes, and donor and local government departments.

10. Another partnership on invasives is focussed on invasives demonstration projects, called the Pacific Partnership of the Cooperative Islands initiative (PII).

11. The PII comprises a project coordination group in Auckland working on behalf of eight partner organisations – IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group, NZAID, SPREP, SPC, NZ Department of Conservation, Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy, Auckland University, the Global Invasive Species Program and IUCN Species Survival Commission. The PII is facilitating demonstration projects demonstrating well-planned scientifically and technically valid invasive species eradication, prevention and control methods.

12. To date key species being addressed under this programme include rats, ants and cane toads. For example, customising rat eradication approaches successfully and routinely used in New Zealand. PII and PILN are working very closely together as PILN provides the mechanism to upscale lessons learned from the demonstration projects.

The Regional Invasive Species Strategy

13. The present Regional Invasive Species Strategy was approved by the SPREP meeting in 2000. It was to have been reviewed in 2006 but has been deferred until the new Invasive Species Officer is on board hopefully before the end of the year.

14. Major gaps in the strategy, in particular the issue of marine invasive species will be addressed and included during the review and the development of an implementable strategy which is able to be regularly monitored and reviewed.

15. A Shipping-related Marine Invasive Species Strategy is being presented to this SPREP meeting for approval and will contribute to the wider regional invasive species strategy once that strategy is revised.

Next steps

16. Capacity in SPREP to deal with invasive species has improved with the new position of PILN Coordinator (partially funded) as well as refocussing the Invasive Species Officer position from being both bird conservation and invasives to only focus on invasive species.

17. A range of invasive species related activities are underway but suffer from lack of funding for implementation.

18. Invasive species are a cross-cutting issue with major impacts: international trade through trade barriers created by the presence of quarantine pests, agricultural development and food security, protected area management, conservation of endangered species, public health and ultimately poverty alleviation. For these reasons it is critical that invasive species be adequately prioritised, resourced and addressed.

Recommendation

19. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** current activities underway to deal with the issue of invasive species;
- **endorse** the need for effective national and regional coordination of invasive species work that is often dealt with at different levels and different sectors locally, nationally and regionally;
- **request** development partners to assist with activities which address this threat;
- **commend** the efforts of the partners and founding teams involved in the Pacific Invasives Learning Network and its innovative approach to building capacity to manage invasive species issues in the Pacific islands region; and
- **note** with appreciation the range of invasive species related partnerships in the Pacific islands region.



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting*Noumea, New Caledonia*11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 8.1.3 : Island Biodiversity - Update on Regional Progress**Purpose of Paper**

1. To advise the Meeting on the status of the Island Biodiversity Programme of Work (IBPoW) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), related issues of the CBD Eighth Conference of the Parties (COP 8) and to highlight developments in relation to island biodiversity across the region.

Island Biodiversity Programme of Work and CBD COP 8

2. At the 16th SPREP Meeting, Members were informed of the development of the Island IBPoW and endorsed preparations for the upcoming CBD COP8 which took place in Curitiba, Brazil in May 2006. A COP 8 Pacific Preparatory Meeting (supported by NZAID) in Fiji, and other regional discussions, preceded the Brazil meeting to consolidate Member views on and support for the IBPoW. The CBD COP8 adopted the Programme of Work. The Pacific Islands region was well represented with assistance from the Governments of New Zealand and France as well as support from a range of CROP agencies including SPREP, SPC, USP and the Forum Secretariat. In an effort to show the capacity and opportunities in the Pacific islands region for progressing the island biodiversity agenda, a number of side events were held— including a high level Ministerial dinner hosted by the President of Palau, a day long island biodiversity community side event and input into many other activities.

3. The challenge now for SPREP Member countries is to move from advocating for the specific IBPoW into implementation. Member countries and territories have a range of strategies and action plans that they have developed that provide and enable biodiversity conservation to be implemented at the local, national and regional level as well as international obligations. The Secretariat believes that the IBPoW offers an opportunity to begin to harmonise and rank issues of the IBPoW in line with national priorities in order to make progress in implementation. The Secretariat and the region are undertaking a number of activities that contribute to these goals (some new ones are identified later in this paper) and will continue to pursue options to assist national implementation.

GEF Advocacy

4. Noting the influence of resource availability on the implementation of activities at the national level, a considerable effort to link policy agreements with resourcing opportunities was made by Pacific delegations and CROP advisors at COP8. A number of important decisions and direction to the financial mechanism were agreed to that should enhance PIC's abilities to leverage resources to help implement their priorities. Amongst these was the agreement for COP9 to review the Global Benefits Index for Biodiversity (GBIbio) that forms part of the scoring system of the new Resource Allocation Framework (RAF) of the GEF. Furthermore, direction to the GEF that calls for the capacity and access issues of small island developing states (SIDS) to be addressed, as per the recommendations of the 3rd Overall Performance Study of the GEF (OPS3), paves the way for working towards a more flexible modality of access for SIDS. This is particularly important in light of the RAF as it limits the funds available, therefore a system that is more flexible and tailored to the capacity of SIDS would be desirable.

5. The decisions from COP8 will be discussed at the GEF Council in November 2006, where a paper on 'GEF Management response to guidelines of COP8' will be tabled. The Pacific islands must ensure that the direction secured at COP8 is taken on board by the GEF during the Council Meeting.

Commitments to island biodiversity

6. A number of SPREP Member countries have shown strong leadership in island biodiversity over the past year through commitments and concrete actions – with important announcements taking place at COP 8 by Micronesian countries through the Micronesia Challenge as well as Kiribati and Fiji.

Regional conservation partnerships

7. We have learned that long-term programmatic approaches and partnerships between government, regional institutions, NGOs, private sector and local communities are essential to sustainable conservation outcomes in islands. One of the key ways that many of these national initiatives and the new programme of work can be progressed is through the fostering of partnerships at all levels to focus resources on where they are needed the most and in ways which address national and regional priorities and in identifying gaps.

8. One such partnership is the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation, which is in its 8th year of existence. This group operates with a specific mandate from the regional conservation conference which requested organisations (including the diverse range of organisations involved in nature conservation, protection, environmental management and sustainable resource use) that are active in conservation across the region to develop more effective, collaborative approaches for supporting the implementation of the regional Action Strategy for Nature Conservation which is the conference's main output.

9. The next Pacific Nature Conservation and Protected Areas Conference will be hosted by the Government of Papua New Guinea in 2007 and will be an opportunity to revise the Action Strategy. Options including the integration of the IBPoW into the current Action Strategy will be discussed by participants.

10. In preparation for this, SPREP, with assistance from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and NZAID, has undertaken an activity to monitor and evaluate the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation and to report to stakeholders at the regional conference and SPREP Meeting in 2007 on what progress has been made in conservation across the region. This includes reporting based on a set of outcome indicators measuring overall impact including:

- the total area under conservation (in hectares);
- a threat reduction index, measured at a sample of conservation sites;
- the amount of long-term funding commitments to nature conservation;
- the degree to which nature conservation has been mainstreamed into national development plans, budgets and sectoral plans.

11. A number of options for improving the ability of the Roundtable to monitor and implement the Action Strategy were discussed at its 10th meeting in July.

Pacific Biodiversity Information Forum

12. SPREP has also recently entered into a framework for collaboration with the Pacific Biodiversity Information Forum (PBIF) based on the outcomes of a series of regional meetings involving country representatives to consider the value and need for the development of a regional information system for biodiversity science and conservation. PBIF is convened through the US Geological Survey and the Pacific Science Association and plays an important role as the chair of the Data and Information Working Group for the Roundtable for Nature Conservation. This Working Group manages the online inventory of conservation activities in the Pacific, the Pacific Protected Areas Database and other Roundtable tools. Its key focus is on improving access to biodiversity related information, removing duplication and in developing ways and means of making relevant biodiversity data and expertise systematically available to countries in the Pacific. It was developed in response to the fact that much important information was contained in existing collections and that there was a need to access, record and mobilise this information as a basis for national and regional inventories and as a basis for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

Pacinet (Pacific taxonomic capacity building activity)

13. Since 2005, SPREP, SPC and USP have been supporting a position based at USP to develop regional capacity in taxonomy. PACINET is a network of organizations and individuals focused on helping the Pacific islands region meet its taxonomic needs by promoting self-reliance through building local capacity and by enhancing the ability of the region to access and use taxonomic skills, resources and information needed to meet conservation and development priorities. Taxonomic capacity needs to be built to include identification services and support tools, access to taxonomists and parataxonomists, curators and collections and to have available and be able to effectively use digitally available information on species of the region. An initial activity was undertaken in early 2006 to train national participants in developing and using identification keys for a range of taxa. Plans have been developed for a follow-up training workshop in Samoa in 2007.

IUCN Oceania new programme

14. As one of the activities related to the signing of an MOU between SPREP and the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the Secretariat was actively involved in working with the new IUCN Oceania Office (in Fiji) to develop its work programme such that its work programme supplements SPREP's work with particular focus on enhancing cooperation between conservation and environment agencies and initiatives across the region, making concerted efforts to facilitate local capacity development for nature conservation, environmental management and sustainable development in the PICTs. These would be achieved through long-term support for the essential foundations of environmental governance, knowledge management and generation and capacity building. IUCN and SPREP will continue to work closely on activities of mutual benefit which will initially include: environmental legal activities, marine invasive species and economic valuation but expected to broaden over the next two years.

Next steps

15. The significance of the IBPoW is recognised in addressing SPREP Action Plan goals, in particular that of significantly reducing biodiversity loss.

16. SPREP has prioritised support to the implementation of island biodiversity initiatives and has reprioritised positions in the Secretariat to employ an Island Biodiversity Officer. Along with other staff of the Island Ecosystems and Pacific Futures Programmes, this new position will work to develop a mechanism to assist Members with the implementation of the IBPoW and other related biodiversity initiatives and agenda. SPREP will also continue to develop partnerships that advances its mandate and ensure that these lead to progress at the national level in SPREP member countries and territories.

Recommendation

17. The Meeting is invited to:

- **commend** the Micronesia Challenge countries, and Kiribati and Fiji, for their leadership in biodiversity conservation;
 - **support** the need to continue to advocate and develop partnerships to attract resources and support for the implementation of this programme of work and related biodiversity conservation activities;
 - **note** that the 2007 Pacific Islands Nature Conservation and Protected Areas Conference will be held in Papua New Guinea;
 - **note** partnerships with the World Council of Churches, the Roundtable for Nature Conservation, IUCN Oceania Regional Office, Pacific Biodiversity Information Forum, Pacinet and others as a key means to deal with many regional capacity issues; and
 - **note** the importance of the next GEF Governing Council in November 2006 with regards to responding to the decisions reached at COP8 of the CBD and ensure that issues of importance to Pacific SIDS, as highlighted in this paper, are supported for implementation.
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03 July 2006

Suva Declaration

We, the participants at the joint SPREP and BirdLife Pacific meetings in Suva, Fiji, 27 June – 2 July 2005, **noting** with mounting alarm:

1. that the Pacific region has more threatened species per unit area of land than any other region in the world; and
2. the most extinctions;

and **recognizing** that birds have long been indicators of wider biodiversity concerns;

therefore **resolve**:

- that no more bird species must be allowed to become extinct in the Pacific Region; and
- that the conservation status of all threatened birds must be improved.

We therefore:

- **welcome** initiatives taken for stronger collaboration between SPREP member countries and BirdLife's Pacific Partners in working together to achieve these goals;
- **recommend** that bird conservation actions be integrated into the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation at the regional level and NBSAPs (or similar plans) at the national level;
- **request** the Roundtable for Nature Conservation to establish a new working group within the Threatened Species and Ecosystems working group focusing on improving collaboration and coordination of bird conservation activities in the region and on monitoring progress;
- **acknowledge** the contribution made to the implementation of SPREP's Regional Bird Conservation Strategy by BirdLife's Pacific Regional Strategy, and in particular BirdLife International's Important Bird Area and Globally Threatened Species Programmes; and
- **request** that this resolution be placed before the 16th SPREP meeting for consideration and endorsement and that regular progress reports be provided to each SPREP meeting and to BirdLife International's Global Council.



Agenda Item 8.1.4 : Strategic Priorities for Biodiversity Conservation: Regional Framework for Marine Protected Areas

Purpose of the paper

1. To seek support from the SPREP Meeting on the development of a regional framework to support the establishment and management of marine protected areas, including community-conserved and managed areas as a tool to protect and sustainably manage the marine biodiversity of coasts and oceans as part of an overall ecosystems-based approach.

Background

2. The Pacific islands region encompasses an ocean expanse that stretches some 10,000 kilometres from east to west and 5,000 kilometres from north to south, with a combined EEZ close to 38.5 million km². In contrast, the total land area is just over 500,000 km², of which Papua New Guinea accounts for 83%, while Nauru, Tokelau and Tuvalu are each smaller than 30 square kilometres.

3. Coasts and oceans provide a broad range of socio-economic benefits (e.g., fisheries, tourism, transport, bioprospecting) as well as essential ecosystem services, such as climate regulation, erosion control, waste assimilation, and by virtue of their high biological diversity and abundance are essential to the resilience of oceans to changing conditions both natural and human induced (e.g., climate change).

4. While the biodiversity of coastal and inshore marine areas is comparatively well documented (e.g., coral reef ecosystems), the biodiversity of oceans is poorly known with less than 10% of the world's oceans being explored. There is, in particular, limited knowledge of open ocean and deep sea environments.

5. Research over the last 10 years has shown that deep seabed environments such as seamounts, hydrothermal vents, cold water coral and sponge reef ecosystems host long lived and unique species and communities. Through satellite imagery, some 100,000 seamounts have been recorded, with only 200 studied to date - of which 50% are found in the Pacific region. These ecosystems have great potential value for both scientific research and commercial use.

6. These ecosystems are under threat from human activities including fishing, marine pollution, mineral exploration and climate change. Those activities present a unique challenge when they are undertaken beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and control.

Issues

7. Over the last decade community-based marine protected areas in coastal and coral reefs areas have been established in SPREP member countries and territories as a tool for protecting marine environments and for providing sustainable livelihoods. Those initiatives have been focused on protecting inshore marine resources and in particular fishing resources. A SPREP recent survey of marine protected area (MPAs) in the Pacific islands region shows that they cover less than 1% of total EEZ of PICTs.

8. A number of SPREP Members have recognized the need for integrated MPA networks as a mechanism to build resilience of marine ecosystems to human-induced and natural threats over the long term. Some Members have also passed legislation to ensure those initiatives are fully integrated and part of their suite of tools for ocean and coastal management (e.g., Palau, Vanuatu and Fiji).

9. However, so far there has been limited focus in the region for establishment of MPAs beyond coastal areas, despite the high biodiversity of oceans and their economic importance to PICTs. A significant exception has been the protection of marine mammals as 9 PICTs have declared their EEZs as whale sanctuaries.

10. The time is opportune to consider a regional approach to support the design and management of the various forms of MPAs for a number of reasons

Commitment and leadership

11. Several PICs have made significant commitments at international fora towards the protection of island biodiversity including MPAs as a means to protect their marine ecosystems and resources, consistent with National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs):

- The Micronesia Challenge countries committed at the 8th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP8) to the protection of 20% of their inshore marine biodiversity by 2020;
- Fiji committed at the 10 Year Review meeting of the Barbados Programme of Action for SIDS in Mauritius in 2005 to manage 30% of its waters as a network of MPAs by 2020. For example, the Great Sea Reef Marine Protected Area covers some 380,000 square kilometres. No-take zones have been put in place; and

- Kiribati announced at the CBD COP8 the declaration of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area. The area covers some 184,700 square kilometres and represents 8% of the area of MPAs currently designated globally and the third largest MPA behind the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The area includes a range of marine habitats from coral reefs to deep seamounts. Management planning is under way with a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Kiribati, the New England Aquarium and Conservation International for the design of a range of protection zones. A trust fund is also being developed.

Regional initiatives and partnerships

- Pacific Island Leaders endorsed in 2002 the Pacific Islands Regional Oceans Policy (PIROP) and in 2004 noted the Framework for Integrated Strategic Action (PIROF-ISA), which calls for the establishment of a network of MPAs as a tool for the protection of coastal and ocean biodiversity.
- SPREP members endorsed in 2003 the *Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the Pacific Islands Region 2003-2007* which sets 30-year goals for the environment, economy and society including increasing the areas under effective conservation regimes. Both PIROF-ISA and the Action Strategy are regional partnership mechanisms to support national implementation.
- In 2005, the Pacific Islands Leaders Forum, concerned about the impacts of high seas bottom trawling on marine biodiversity, directed SPC and FFA to develop an appropriate legal framework to manage this fishing method. At the FFC61, FFA ministers endorsed a draft declaration on "*Deep-sea Bottom Trawling to protect Biodiversity in the High Seas*" for consideration by the Pacific Islands Forum when it meets in October 2006 (**Annex**). The draft declaration proposes consideration of a range of options for marine biodiversity protection including the use of MPAs.
- A South Pacific Fisheries Management Organisation is being discussed for the conservation and management of living marine resources other than those listed in Annex 1 of UNCLOS in the high seas. It is understood that conservation and management includes the sustainable utilization of resources and the protection of the marine environment.
- PICs have developed a draft Memorandum of Understanding for the protection of cetaceans under the auspices of the Convention on Migratory Species and Wild Animals, to be open for signature at the SPREP Meeting. Similar developments on turtles and dugongs are underway.

International developments

12. The CBD COP8, which was attended by many PIC delegations, endorsed a number of important decisions on islands biodiversity, coastal and marine biodiversity and protected areas including beyond national jurisdictions which provide guidance, mechanisms and tools for building capacity for implementing Pacific island countries' commitments to the CBD and WSSD biodiversity targets to significantly reduce biodiversity loss by 2010 (terrestrial) /2012 (marine).

13. The Pacific islands region has an opportunity to take a leadership role in the development of MPA networks because of the extensive area of EEZs relative to high seas areas, which are small and enclosed. This, and the fact that most PIC EEZs are contiguous and together provide a collective jurisdiction over a large area of ocean, offers the opportunity for achieving significant reduction in biodiversity loss, thus contributing to global biodiversity benefits as well as protecting important future economic resources.

Proposed action

14. SPREP Members have an opportunity to contribute to those significant developments now taking place, by expressing their strong support for regional initiatives and contributing expertise and experience in biodiversity conservation nationally and regionally within the Pacific islands context, as well as internationally. Lessons learnt in conserving coastal waters can be adapted and applied across the marine realm, including beyond national jurisdiction.

15. The Secretariat proposes the development of a regional framework to support the establishment of MPA networks as a strategic planning response to the priorities and commitments made by countries in regional and international fora and to support the implementation of NBSAPs.

16. A regional framework will:

- identify common priorities for action at regional level, to support national actions and plans consistent with national policies expressed through, for example, NBSAPs and National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS);
- build on, share and strengthen experiences, models and activities in coastal and inshore MPA design and management;
- provide a forum for sharing knowledge and experience and for acquiring and disseminating scientific and technical information best practice and lessons learnt;

- ensure a consistent approach to establishing MPA networks and a forum for considering transboundary biodiversity issues (e.g., across neighbouring EEZs, migratory species);
- foster partnership arrangements and mobilize international and regional technical and financial resources for implementation; and
- facilitate the engagement of the region in regional and international meetings related to marine conservation and management.

17. To initiate this process, the Secretariat proposes to convene a regional workshop in 2007 in collaboration with relevant CROP organizations, potential international donors and partners to scope and develop a programme of work, including a resourcing strategy for its implementation. Preliminary discussions with SPC, the CBD Secretariat, UNEP Regional Seas Programme and other partners on convening the workshop have been positive to date.

Recommendation

18. The SPREP Meeting is invited to:

- **note** the increasing regional and international interest and developments in marine biodiversity conservation,
- **support** and **recommend** that the SPREP Environment Ministerial Meeting also endorse the FFA/SPC draft declaration on "*Deep-Sea bottom Trawling To Protect Biodiversity of the High Seas*" for consideration by the Pacific Islands Leaders at their meeting in October;
- **invite** FFA and SPC collaboration on a regional initiative for the establishment and management of MPAs to strengthen the conservation of marine biodiversity of coasts and oceans, and
- **endorse** the Secretariat's plan to convene a regional workshop in 2007 in collaboration with relevant CROP agencies and international partners, to scope and develop a programme of work, including a resourcing strategy for the implementation of a regional framework to support the establishment of MPAs and report on outcomes to the 18th SPREP Meeting.

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**Declaration on Deep-Sea Bottom Trawling to
Protect Biodiversity in the High Seas**

RECALLING the decision of the 36th Pacific Islands Forum leaders in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea in October 2005 to develop an appropriate legal framework to manage deep-sea bottom trawling to protect biodiversity in the high seas;

FURTHER RECALLING the 4th Pacific Community Conference in Palau in November 2005 that agreed with respect to deep-sea bottom trawling and high seas seamounts that SPC should work with FFA and other partners to develop an appropriate management framework for consideration by members;

RECALLING the Pacific Islands Regional Oceans Policy endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum leaders in 2002 which aims to ensure the future sustainable use of our oceans and its resources by Pacific Island communities and partners, and the need to establish high-level leadership on oceans issues;

RECOGNISING the critical importance of marine resources to the Pacific Island peoples;

SERIOUSLY CONCERNED about the sustainability of fish stocks and the effects of destructive fishing practices on the marine environment, including high seas bottom trawling that has adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

CONSCIOUS of the need to avoid adverse impacts on the marine environment, preserve biodiversity, maintain the integrity of marine ecosystems and minimize the risk of long-term or irreversible effects of fishing operations;

NOTING that it is in the mutual interest of all fishing nations active in the region, and the Pacific Islands, to protect and preserve the marine environment;

FURTHER NOTING the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction should be based on the precautionary and ecosystem approaches using the best available science and prior environmental impact assessments

RECALLING the United Nations General Assembly resolution 59/25 which called upon States, either by themselves or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, where these are competent to do so, to take action urgently, and consider on a case-by-case basis and on a scientific basis, including the application of the precautionary approach, the interim prohibition of destructive fishing practices, including bottom trawling that has adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals located beyond national jurisdiction, until such time as appropriate conservation and management measures have been adopted in accordance with international law; (2004 UNGA Resolution 59/25)

RECALLING the relevant provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and in particular Articles 117, 118, 119, 192, 194(5), 197 and 206;

FURTHER RECALLING the relevant provisions of the United Nations Agreement to Implement the relevant provisions of the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention relating to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, and in particular Articles 5 and 6;

WELCOMING the ongoing discussions to establish a South Pacific RFMO, and supportive of efforts to cooperate to establish interim targeted protection mechanisms for vulnerable marine ecosystems;

COMMITTS the members of the Pacific Islands Forum to urgently take actions to prevent destructive fishing practices on seamounts in the "Western Tropical Pacific Island Area"¹ and to prevent destructive fishing practices in other areas of high seas in the WTPIA until an appropriate environmental impact assessment has been carried out and conservation and management measures are implemented in respect of that location;

¹ The Western Tropical Pacific Islands Area (WTPIA) is defined by the exclusive economic zones of Pacific Island countries and territories in the tropical region and any high seas enclaves enclosed by those exclusive economic zones.

DETERMINES, to this end, to convene a meeting of regional fisheries management experts and legal advisers to contribute to the development of model legislation to guide the domestic implementation of this commitment, taking into account relevant international developments in respect of destructive fishing practices and international best practice guidelines.

RECOMMENDS that consideration is also given to the use of other options to give greater international effect to the intent of this Declaration including;

1. the possible inclusion of the high seas areas in the tropical Pacific within the area covered by the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation or another RFMO with the necessary competence;
2. the possible development of a separate arrangement for the WTPIA area including relevant areas of the high seas and the Pacific Island countries and territories' EEZs in the form of a convention to address the impacts of destructive fishing practices;
3. where the science supports, the development of multi-use Marine Protected Areas to provide for international controls to prevent destructive fishing practices in the high seas enclosures beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

CALLS on the international community to support, and cooperate in, the implementation of this commitment to sustainable fisheries and, in particular urges flag states whose vessels operate in the WTPIA to promptly implement measures to ensure their vessels and nationals do not engage in destructive fishing practices in the WTPIA.



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting*Noumea, New Caledonia*

11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 8.1.5 : Regional Arrangements for the Conservation of Marine Species of Special Interests and the Regional Marine Species Programme Framework 2003-2007**Purpose of paper**

1. To update the Meeting on the development of regional arrangements for the conservation of cetaceans, turtles and dugongs under the auspices of the Convention for the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) in the Pacific islands region. The paper also seeks the support of the Meeting for the review of the Regional Marine Species Programme Framework (RMSPF) 2003-2007.

Background

2. SPREP submitted a Working Paper WP.7.1.4 to the Sixteenth SPREP Meeting (16SM) in 2005 providing an update on progress in the collaborative work between SPREP and CMS including an account of the progress in the development of the MoU for the Conservation of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific Islands Region under the auspices of CMS. The Meeting made the following decision with respect to that paper:

- Endorsed the joint SPREP/CMS process towards the development of a CMS MoU for the Conservation of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific Islands Region;
- Agreed to forward official comments on the MoU no later than the 30 October 2005 deadline;
- Directed the Secretariat to progress regional arrangements for dugongs and marine turtles including under the auspices of the CMS;
- Noted progress for the Year of the Sea Turtle 2006.

3. In November 2005, SPREP and CMS signed a Memorandum of Co-operation (MoC) in recognition that both organizations pursue common goals in the conservation of ecosystems and the protection of migrating species, which can only be successfully met by enhanced and concerted actions on different levels and between all sectors. The MoC recognises that activities under SPREP concern migratory species and issues that are also covered by the CMS or agreements concluded under its auspices. The MoC highlights agreement on certain aspects including, policy compatibility, institutional cooperation, exchange of experience and information, coordination of programmes of work, joint conservation action, consultation, reporting and further guidance on new areas of co-operation and action.

4. The current RMSPF 2003-2007 with Action Plans for Dugongs, Whales and Dolphins and Marine Turtle is up for review next year. A successor Framework for the ensuing 5 years is expected to result from this review. The framework is limited to only the three groups of marine animals of special interest as mentioned above.

Regional arrangements for cetaceans, marine turtles and dugongs under the auspices of CMS

5. As noted in paragraph 2, 16SM endorsed the joint SPREP/CMS process towards the development of a CMS MoU for the Conservation of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific Islands Region and directed the Secretariat "to progress regional arrangements for dugongs and marine turtles including under the auspices of the CMS".

MoU for the Conservation of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific Islands region

6. The draft MoU was circulated jointly by SPREP and the CMS Secretariats to members and partners in August 2005 for comments before its finalization. SPREP facilitated receipt of comments and onward transmission to the CMS Secretariat and also provided advice and comments to the CMS Secretariat on certain issues raised.

7. The CMS Secretariat compiled and reviewed the comments and made recommendations to the working group Convener (Samoa) for the final version of the MoU. The final MoU incorporates comments, where appropriate, from members and partners and has been sent to members for consideration for signing. The MoU is open for signing during this meeting.

8. During the CMS Conference of Parties in November 2005, a resolution on the Implementation of Existing Agreements and Development of Future Agreement included the MoU on Cetaceans in the Pacific islands region. The Conference:

- Welcomed the significant progress made to date to develop the Memorandum of Understanding for the Conservation of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific Islands Region;
- Urged Party and non-Party Range States to ensure its early conclusion and entry into effect as a key initiative to conserve cetaceans and their habitats in the Pacific Islands Region;
- Endorsed the joint approach by CMS and Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to develop this instrument and *invites* their further close collaboration once the implementation phase begins;
- Supported the Secretariat's commitment to work closely with the Range States and SPREP to revise the SPREP Whale and Dolphin Action Plan (2003-2007); and
- Urged Parties, interested States and organisations to generously support these efforts by providing financial and in-kind resources.

MoU for the Conservation of Marine Turtles in the Pacific

9. In line with the 16SM decision, a proposal was submitted by Australia during the 8th CMS Conference of Parties in November 2005, which was adopted, encouraging Parties and range states in the Pacific to cooperate to develop and conclude a MoU and associated conservation plan for the conservation and management of marine turtles under the CMS. It also encouraged existing Pacific regional conservation programmes and instruments relevant to marine turtles to participate in the development and implementation of a regional conservation arrangement for marine turtles in the Pacific. The CMS CoP Resolution 8.5 supported the development of an appropriate CMS instrument on marine turtles for the Pacific islands region; requested a Range State Party to act as the lead country to support the instrument's preparatory phase as a threshold condition of CMS's continued support for the initiative, and urged Parties, interested States and organizations to generously support this effort by providing financial and in-kind resources.

10. SPREP has been collaborating with both the CMS Secretariat and Australia to progress the MoU for the conservation of marine turtles in the Pacific. The first meeting to discuss the MoU has been negotiated and due to the migratory nature of turtles in different phases of their life cycle, this meeting is envisaged to include Pacific Rim countries and distant water fishing nations that impact on turtle populations in the region. However, the first meeting will provide an opportunity for members to decide whether a Pacific-wide MoU would be warranted. The first meeting is scheduled in Apia and will be co-hosted by SPREP, the CMS Secretariat, Australia and other donors.

Dugong Conservation and Management

11. Dugongs only occur in six countries and territories in the SPREP region, namely, Australia, PNG, Solomon Islands, Palau, Vanuatu and New Caledonia.

12. The First Meeting on Dugong Conservation and Management in the South-east Asian region under the auspices of CMS was held in Thailand from 23 to 25 August 2005. Even though all SPREP dugong range states and territories were invited with full funding, only one was able to attend that meeting.

13. During the CMS COP 8 in November 2005, a resolution was adopted which included encouraging Parties to continue to cooperate amongst themselves and with other non-Party Range States to further develop and conclude the Dugong MoU and Conservation Plan. The resolution also urged all partners, such as national governments, international and non-governmental organizations, including regional economic and environmental bodies to provide appropriate assistance towards the conclusion and subsequent implementation of the MoU.

14. The second intergovernmental meeting on dugong conservation was held in Thailand from 25 to 28 April 2006. SPREP communicated with organizers of this meeting to ensure participation of all SPREP dugong range members. SPREP was also represented in this meeting, working with SPREP dugong range members. An agreed draft MoU and Conservation and Management Plan, which will be circulated for consideration by range states, was produced.

15. Given the limited number of SPREP dugong range members, a separate MoU for the Pacific islands region under CMS is not warranted. SPREP will continue to provide advice to members involved that need it, and to ensure their participation in all meetings leading to the finalization and opening of the MoU for signing.

Regional Marine Species Programme Framework 2003-2007

Review of the Regional Marine Species Programme Framework (RMSPF) 2003-2007

16. The current 5-year Marine Species Programme Framework, which encompasses the Dugong, Marine Turtles, and Whale and Dolphin Action Plans, is up for review next year. Species within these groups are in various status of conservation concern globally. Certain species from these groups continue to be listed in Appendix 1 of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Appendix 1 of the Convention for the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals.

17. There is a need to assess the implementation of the RMSPF 2003-2007 to make any necessary revision for a successor framework. In preparation for the region wide review of the framework, technical meetings have been scheduled. The technical meeting to update available information on cetaceans in the region is scheduled to take place in Apia, in August 2006. This meeting will involve experts working on cetaceans in the region. Similar technical workshops are being planned for turtles and dugongs either at the end of the year or at the beginning of 2007. The results from these workshops will provide updated information for the region wide review of the Action Plans.

Consideration for inclusion of other marine species in a successor Regional Marine Species Programme Framework

18. The SPREP Marine Species Programme has been concentrating on the three groups of marine animals mentioned above. However, there is growing concern on the status of other marine species becoming threatened in the wild of which the Pacific islands region is an important habitat, e.g. sharks. In addition, SPREP plans to seek from members their list of other marine species of national conservation priority to be considered for inclusion in the regional marine species programme framework for 2008-2012.

Recommendation

19. The Meeting is invited to:

- **encourage** participating PICs to sign the MoU for the Conservation of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific islands region under the auspices of CMS;
- **note** the development and progress of the MoU for the Conservation of Marine Turtles in the Pacific under the auspices of CMS;
- **urge** members who are parties to the CMS, and partners, to support the timely development and finalization of the MoU on the conservation of marine turtles;
- **encourage** dugong range states and territories to be fully involved in the development of the MoU for conservation and management of dugongs in the South-east Asian region under the auspices of CMS;
- **endorse** the review process of the Marine Species Programme Framework 2003-2007 and to consider inclusion of other marine species of special interest to the region;
- **direct** the Secretariat to submit the revised Marine Species Programme Framework to the 2007 SPREP Meeting for endorsement by members; and
- **encourage** members who are not parties to CMS to consider becoming parties given the relevance of CMS to the region.

03 July 2006



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

**Agenda Item 8.2.1 : Regional Strategy on Shipping Related
Introduced Marine Pests (IMP)****Purpose of Paper**

1. To provide an overview of the contents of the draft "*Regional Strategy on Shipping Related Introduced Marine Pests*" and to seek the Meetings approval of the draft Strategy.

Background

2. Invasive Marine Species have been globally identified as one of the four main threats to the world's oceans and marine environment. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), has responded to the threat posed by IMPs, by developing a Regional Strategy for the Members consideration. Development of the Strategy is an activity under the joint IMO/SPREP Pacific Ocean Pollution Prevention Programme (PACPOL).

3. The trans-boundary nature of shipping and the inter-connectedness of the seas and oceans dictate that no one port or country can effectively control the spread of IMPs via shipping. In order to be effective, countries must work cooperatively with both their neighbours and the broader global community to implement harmonized measures. The SRIMP-PAC Strategy provides a regional framework for cooperation between Pacific Island countries and territories and Pacific-Rim countries, including through Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

4. The Strategy has undergone a thorough consultative process during its formulation through discussions with experts from member countries and territories, CROP agencies, IMO, and UNEP. The Strategy was also reviewed and endorsed by a Joint Working Group of the Association of Pacific Ports (APP) and the Pacific Maritime Association (PacMA).

Aim and objectives

5. The aim of SRIMP-PAC is:
 - To maintain, protect and enhance the quality of coastal and marine environments in the Pacific islands region by preventing, minimising and controlling the introduction of shipping-related marine pests to Pacific island countries and territories (PICTs).

6. The objectives of SRIMP-PAC are:
- To assess and monitor the current and potential risks of shipping-related Introduced Marine Pests (IMPs) in the Pacific islands region.
 - To assist PICTs to develop better capacity to effectively prevent and respond to shipping-related IMPs,
 - To provide a financing and sustainability plan, which allows effective implementation of SRIMP-PAC actions and activities.
 - To provide a framework and mechanism for regional cooperation, coordination and harmonization of shipping related IMP management activities in particular ballast water and hull fouling, and also to provide links with similar activities that address non-shipping vectors, both within the region and with Pacific-Rim countries.

Layered Defence

7. The SRIMP-PAC Strategy is based on the principle of 'layered defence', with management arrangements organized along established world's best practice in the fields of bio-security and quarantine, as follows:

- Pre-border (incursion prevention)
- At-Border (incursion interdiction)
- Post-border (incursion response, control and mitigation)

8. The principle of layered defence is based on the premise that prevention is always better than cure, and that prevention of shipping-related IMPs is best addressed by preventing them from being taken-on / attaching to vessels at their points of origin / source ports, through 'pre-border' management efforts.

9. The principle recognizes however, that despite best pre-border efforts, some IMPs may well arrive at ports in the Pacific islands region, and 'at-border' interdiction efforts are therefore also required.

10. Finally, this approach recognizes that some IMPs may still invade past a country's border, and 'post-border' incursion response, control and mitigation plans are therefore needed to supplement pre- and at-border incursion prevention efforts.

11. In order to allow PICTS to implement practical management measures to prevent shipping-related bio-invasions, SRIMP-PAC includes standard templates outlining what actions countries need to take, in relation to both ballast water and hull-fouling management.

12. The SRIMP-PAC budget and workplan includes a major capacity building component, aimed at equipping Pacific island port state control agencies with the skills and resources needed to implement these measures.

Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building

13. The Strategy recognises the current limitations on the capacity of PICTs to manage IMPs, and seeks to address these through capacity building and institutional strengthening, with a long-term view to self-sufficiency in IMP management. All technical activities under SRIMP-PAC include capacity building and institutional strengthening elements.

Technical Activities

14. Based on experience in other parts of the world, SRIMP-PAC proposes a number of foundation activities that need to be undertaken in order for the region to begin to address IMPs. These include:

- Communication and awareness
- Risk assessment
- Port surveys and monitoring
- Legislation and regulations
- Compliance monitoring and enforcement
- Technical training and capacity building
- Information management

Regional & National Coordination

15. The development and implementation of SRIMP-PAC is being coordinated at the regional level by SPREP, and will involve the establishment of a Regional Co-ordination Body comprising SPREP member States and other stakeholders (e.g. port and shipping industries), as well as an Ad-Hoc Technical Advisory Group.

16. At the national level, each PICT will designate a National Lead Agency and establish an inter-ministerial task force to oversee implementation of in-country activities.

Funding & Timeline

17. Full implementation of all SRIMP-PAC projects as outlined in the Workplan requires a core total budget of US\$3.9 million over five years. When considering that this applies to 21 separate countries and territories spread over the world's largest ocean, this is not a particularly large amount of money. The benefits that will accrue in terms of increased protection of coastal and marine resources make such an investment highly worthwhile.

18. Extension of an IMP management regime over the Pacific islands region will also have major benefits for the larger economies of the Pacific-Rim, in terms of increased protection of their resources and ecosystems. Pacific-Rim countries will be approached to become active partners in the Strategy and implementation of its Workplan.

19. The Secretariat has also begun to explore possible links with other multi-lateral funding initiatives, including three relevant GEF proposals:

- The proposed GEF / SPREP project *Pacific Invasive Species Management*,
- The proposed GEF / GISP project *Building Capacity and Raising Awareness in Invasive Alien Species Prevention and Management*; and
- The proposed GEF / IMO project *Building Regional Partnerships for Effective Ballast Water Control and Management in Developing Countries (GloBallast Partnerships)*.

Recommendation

20. The Meeting is invited to:

- **consider** and approve the draft Regional Strategy on Shipping Related Invasive Marine Pests (SRIMP-PAC); and
- **commit** itself and all members to fully support and participate in implementing the Strategy.

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SPREP



IMO

SRIMP-PAC

Shipping-related Introduced Marine Pests In the Pacific Islands: **A regional strategy**

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Approved by the [insert number] SPREP Meeting held in [insert place, month, year]

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"I do not exaggerate the problem when I compare it (biological invasion) to the scope and devastation wrought by natural disasters like hurricanes. It is less dramatic but just as destructive"

(Admiral James M. Loy, Commandant, United States Coast Guard, 2000).

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Issue

The importance of coastal and marine environments to every aspect of the lives of Pacific Islanders cannot be overstated. Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) maintain resource rights and management responsibilities over 30 million square kilometres of ocean, equivalent to the total land area of Canada, China and the USA combined. The total population of coastal Pacific Islanders is only 2.6 million. There are 11 square kilometres of ocean for each Pacific Islander. Jurisdictionally, the ocean is 200 times more significant to the average Pacific Islander than it is to the average global citizen (Adams et al 1995). Anthropogenic impacts on coastal and marine resources and ecosystems are a major concern for Pacific Island peoples.

Over the last fifteen years, the introduction of exotic (non-native) species, including aquatic species, to new environments by human activities, both intentionally and accidentally, has been identified by scientists, environmentalists, governments and industry as a major and increasing concern. Marine bio-invasions, including via vessel-related vectors such as ballast water and hull fouling, have been identified as one of the four greatest threats to global marine bio-diversity and ecosystems, and are also a significant threat to coastal economies and even public health. Global economic impacts from invasive aquatic species, including through disruption to fisheries, fouling of coastal industry and infrastructure and interference with human amenity, are estimated to exceed 100 billion US dollars per year (Chisholm, *in prep*). The US General Accounting Office (2003) has identified biological invasions as one of the greatest environmental threats of the 21st Century. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Conservation Union (IUCN) announced at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002, that invasive species are the second greatest threat to global bio-diversity after habitat loss. The impacts are set to increase in coming years as global economic activity and therefore the movement of goods and materials around the world increases.

Developing countries are at particular risk as economic globalisation continues and new markets and therefore ports and shipping routes are opened in these areas. Small Island Developing States (SIDS), including PICTs, are also at particular risk as they are totally shipping dependant, are often located adjacent to major trans-oceanic shipping lanes and are often favoured destinations for cruising yachts (which present particular problems in relation to transfer of species by hull fouling). There are a large number of shipping routes and a variety of ports throughout the Pacific and the Pacific islands are at risk from both ballast and fouling mediated bio-invasions. A number of introduced species of concern and potentially significant concern have been found in the region, and have become or are threatening to become invasive, including the barnacle *Chthamalus proteus*, several macro-algae species, harmful planktonic algae species and the Black Striped Mussel *Mytilopsis sallei* from the Gulf of Mexico / Caribbean.

The potentially serious threats posed by IMPs, combined with the extremely high value and significance of coastal and marine resources to Pacific islands peoples, highlights the importance of vigilance against marine introductions.

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The Strategy

The Members of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme have responded to the threat posed by IMPs, by developing a *Regional Strategy on Shipping-Related Introduced Marine Pests in the Pacific Islands* (SRIMP-PAC).

Development of the Strategy is an activity under SPREP's Pacific Ocean Pollution Prevention Programme (PACPOL), and is funded by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). It aims to assist PICTs to protect their marine environments from shipping related marine bio-invasions. The two key vectors that are being targeted are ships' ballast water and vessel fouling, with particular emphasis on cruising yachts, that visit the region in significant numbers.

The transboundary nature of shipping and the inter-connectedness of the seas and oceans dictate that no one port or country can effectively control the spread of IMPs via shipping. In order to be effective, countries must work cooperatively with both their neighbours and the broader global community to implement harmonized measures. The SRIMP-PAC Strategy provides a regional framework for cooperation between Pacific Island countries and territories and also with Pacific-Rim countries, including through APEC.

The Pacific Islands are fortunate in that three key SPREP members are world leaders in addressing IMPs – including being the major driving force on the issue at IMO - Australia, New Zealand and the USA. The SRIMP-PAC Strategy therefore seeks to maximize links with these three countries, including joint funding and implementation of technical activities in the region.

Aim and objectives

The aim of SRIMP-PAC is:

- To maintain, protect and enhance the quality of coastal and marine environments in the Pacific islands region by preventing, minimising and controlling the introduction of shipping-related marine pests to Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs).

The objectives of SRIMP-PAC are:

- To assess and monitor the current and potential risks of shipping-related Introduced Marine Pests (IMPs) in the Pacific islands region.
- To assist PICTs to develop better capacity to effectively prevent and respond to shipping-related IMPs,
- To assist Pacific Island Countries to ratify and implement the new IMO Convention on Ballast Water Management
- To provide a financing and sustainability plan, which allows effective implementation of SRIMP-PAC actions and activities.
- To provide a framework and mechanism for regional cooperation, coordination and harmonization of IMP management activities, including links with similar activities that address non-shipping vectors, both within the region and with Pacific-Rim countries.

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Layered Defence

The SRIMP-PAC Strategy is based on the 'layered defence' approach, with management arrangements organized along established world's best practice in the fields of bio-security and quarantine, as follows:

- Pre-border (incursion prevention)
- At-Border (incursion interdiction)
- Post-border (incursion response, control and mitigation)

The layered defence approach is based on the premise that prevention is always better than cure, and that prevention of shipping-related IMPs is best addressed by preventing them from being taken-on / attaching to vessels at their points of origin / source ports, through 'pre-border' management efforts. However it is recognised that despite best pre-border efforts, some IMPs will arrive at pacific island ports, and 'at-border' interdiction efforts are also required. Finally, this approach recognizes that some IMPs may still invade past a country's border, and 'post-border' incursion response, control and mitigation plans are therefore needed to supplement pre- and at-border incursion prevention efforts.

Regional & National Coordination

The development and implementation of SRIMP-PAC is being coordinated at the regional level by SPREP, and will involve the establishment of a Regional Co-ordination Body comprising SPREP member States and other stakeholders (e.g. port and shipping industries), as well as an Ad-Hoc Technical Advisory Group.

At the National level, each Pacific island country will designate a National Lead Agency and establish an inter-disciplinary task force to oversee implementation of in-country activities.

Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building

The Strategy recognises the current limitations on the capacity of Pacific island countries to manage IMPs, and seeks to address these through capacity building and institutional strengthening, with a long-term view to self-sufficiency in IMP management. All technical activities under SRIMP-PAC include capacity building and institutional strengthening elements.

Technical Activities

Based on experience in other parts of the world, SRIMP-PAC proposes a number of foundation activities that need to be undertaken in order to address IMPs. These include:

- Communication and awareness
- Risk assessment
- Port surveys and monitoring
- Legislation and regulations
- Compliance monitoring and enforcement
- Technical training and capacity building
- Information management

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Practical Management Measures

In order to allow PICTS to implement practical management measures to prevention shipping-related bio-invasions, SRIMP-PAC includes standard templates outlining what actions countries need to take, in relation to both ballast water and hull-fouling management.

The SRIMP-PAC budget and workplan includes a major capacity building component, aimed at equipping Pacific Island Port State Control agencies with the skills and resources needed to implement these measures.

Funding & Timeline

Full implementation of all SRIMP-PAC projects as outlined in the Workplan requires a core total budget of US\$3.9 million over five years. When considering that this applies to 22 separate countries and territories spread over the world's largest ocean, this is not a particularly large amount of money. The benefits that will accrue in terms of increased protection of coastal and marine resources make such an investment highly worthwhile.

Extension of an IMP management regime over the Pacific Islands region will also have major benefits for the larger economies of the Pacific-Rim, in terms of increased protection of their resources and ecosystems. Pacific-Rim countries will be approached to become active partners in the Strategy and implementation of its Workplan.

It is also important to explore possible links with other multi-lateral funding initiatives, including three relevant GEF proposals:

- The proposed GEF / SPREP project *Pacific Invasive Species Management*,
- The proposed GEF / GISP project *Building Capacity and Raising Awareness in Invasive Alien Species Prevention and Management*; and
- The proposed GEF / IMO project *Building Regional Partnerships for Effective Ballast Water Control and Management in Developing Countries (GloBallast Partnerships)*.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following organisations are thanked for their valuable contributions to the development of SRIMP-PAC:

- The International Maritime Organization (IMO) for funding the development of SRIMP-PAC through its Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP).
- The GEF/UNDP/IMO Global Ballast Water Management Programme (GloBallast) Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) at IMO for providing supporting information and materials.
- The Governments of all SPREP member countries, through relevant agencies, for contributing to the development of SRIMP-PAC, by facilitating identification of country needs and priorities and reviewing the draft of SRIMP-PAC, and for being key partners for its implementation.
- Staff at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in Australia and the Ministry of Fisheries (MFish), the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Science (NIWA) and the Cawthron Institute in New Zealand, as well as at the Bishop Museum in Hawaii, for providing supporting references, information and material and for their specific efforts in reviewing the draft SRIMP-PAC document in detail, and providing extremely useful and constructive inputs.
- The regional shipping and port industries, as represented through the Pacific Maritime Association (PacMA), for reviewing the draft of SRIMP-PAC and being key partners for its implementation.
- Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) colleagues.
- SPREP Staff for their support, advice and guidance during the development of the Strategy.

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AQIS	Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
APP	Association of Pacific Ports
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
ATC	Australian Transport Council (of Ministers)
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
BW	Ballast water
BW Convention	International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments
BWM	Ballast water management
BWRA	Ballast Water Risk Assessment
BWRF	Ballast Water Reporting Form (as per IMO BW Guidelines A.868(20))
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCIMPE	Consultative Committee on Introduced Marine Pest Emergencies (Australia)
CI	Conservation International
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CME	Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement
CRIMP	Centre for Research on Introduced Marine Pests (now CSIRO Marine Research, Hobart, Tasmania)
CROP	Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (Australia)
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Australia)
DEH	Department of the Environment and Heritage (Australia)
DSS	Decision support system (for BW management)
DWT	Deadweight tonnage (typically reported in metric tonnes)
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (of the United Nations)
FFA	(Pacific Islands) Forum Fisheries Agency

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FORSEC	(Pacific Islands)Forum Secretariat
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic information system
GISP	Global Invasive Species Programme
GloBallast	GEF/UNDP/IMO Global Ballast Water Management Programme
GT	Gross tonnage (usually recorded in metric tonnes)
HLG	High Level Officials Working Group (Australia)
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Seas
IGA	Inter-governmental Agreement (Australia)
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IMP	Introduced Marine Pest
IOC-GOOS	Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission – Global Ocean Observing System
ITCP	(IMO) Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme
ISSG	Invasive Species Specialist Group (of IUCN)
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
MAF-NZ	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry – New Zealand
MARPOL	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MEPC	Marine Environment Protection Committee (of the IMO)
MERCOSUR	Southern Common Market (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay)
MFish	Ministry of Fisheries – New Zealand
MPA	Marine Pollution Adviser
NANPACA	National Aquatic Nuisance Species Prevention and Control Act (USA)
NBIC	National Ballast Information Clearinghouse (managed by SERC)
NEMISIS	National Estuarine & Marine Invasive Species Information System (managed by SERC)
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NIMPCG	National Introduced Marine Pests Coordination Group (Australia)
NIMPIS	National Introduced Marine Pests Information System (managed by CSIRO, Australia)
NIS	Non-indigenous species
NISA	National Invasive Species Act (USA)
NIWA	National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Science (NZ)
NRMMC	Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council (Australia)

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NTF	National Task Force
NZ	New Zealand
NZAid	New Zealand Agency for International Development
PAC-IMPIS	Pacific Introduced Marine Pests Information System
PacMA	Pacific Maritime Association
PACPOL	Pacific Ocean Pollution Prevention Programme
PCU	Programme Coordination Unit (of the GloBallast Programme at IMO)
PICTs	Pacific Island Countries and Territories
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PSC	Port State Control
R&D	Research and Development
RMP	Regional Maritime Programme (of SPC)
RTF	Regional Task Force
SERC	Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (USA)
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPACHEE	South Pacific Action Committee for Human Ecology and Environment
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SPREP Convention	Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region and related protocols
SRIMP-PAC	(Regional Strategy on) Shipping-Related Introduced Marine Pests in the Pacific Islands
STCW	International Convention on Standards and Training for Crews and Watchkeeping
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
US	United States (of America)
USA	United States of America
USAid	US Agency for International Development
USP	University of the South Pacific
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WWF	World Wide Fund for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

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DEFINITIONS

NB: These definitions are for the purposes of SRIMP-PAC only.

Ballast water	Any water and associated sediment used to manipulate the trim and stability of a vessel.
Bio-invasion	A broad based term that refers to both human-assisted introductions and natural range expansions.
Border	The first entrance point into a countries jurisdiction.
Cryptogenic	A species that is not demonstrably native or introduced.
Domestic routes/shipping	Intra-national coastal voyages (between domestic ports).
Established introduction	A non-indigenous species that has produced at least one self-sustaining population in its introduced range.
Foreign routes/shipping	International voyages (between countries).
Fouling organism	Any plant or animal that attaches, during at-least one stage of its life cycle, to natural and man-made substrates.
Harmful marine species	A non-indigenous species that threatens human health, economic or environmental values.
Intentional introduction	The purposeful transfer or deliberate release of a non-indigenous species into a natural or semi-natural habitat located beyond its natural range.
Introduced species	A species that has been intentionally or unintentionally transferred by human activity into a region beyond its natural range.
Introduced marine pest	A harmful introduced species (i.e. an introduced species that threatens human health, economic or environmental values).
Invasive species	An established introduced species that spreads rapidly through a range of natural or semi-natural habitats and ecosystems, mostly by its own means.
Non-invasive	An established introduced species that remains localised within its new environment and shows minimal ability to spread despite several decades of opportunity.
Pathogen	A virus, bacteria or other agent that causes disease or illness.
Pathway (Route)	The geographic route or corridor from point A to point B (see Vector).
Risk	The likelihood and magnitude of a harmful event.
Risk assessment	Methodology to assess the risk of an invent or activity
Risk analysis	Evaluating a risk to determine if, and what type of, actions are worth taking to reduce the risk.
Risk management	The organisational framework and activities that are directed towards identifying and reducing risks.
Ship (vessel)	Any vessel used by humans for transport, commerce, recreation or any other purpose on the sea, including but not restricted to all types and sizes of cargo vessels, passenger vessels, fishing vessels, research vessels, naval vessels, barges, pontoons, dry-docks, drilling rigs and other floating platforms, boats, yachts, launches, dinghies and canoes.
Translocation	The transfer of an organism or its propagules into a location outside its natural range by a human activity.
Unintentional introduction	An unwitting (and typically unknowing) introduction resulting from a human activity unrelated to the introduced species involved (e.g. via water used for ballasting a ship or for transferring an aquaculture species).
Vector	The physical means or agent by which a species is transferred from one place to another (e.g. BW, a ship's hull, or inside a shipment of commercial oysters)

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THE SRIMP- PAC STRATEGY

DRAFT ONLY**1. Introduction – the Issue**

The importance of coastal and marine environments to every aspect of the lives of Pacific Islanders cannot be overstated. Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) maintain resource rights and management responsibilities over 30 million square kilometres of ocean, equivalent to the total land area of Canada, China and the USA combined. The total population of coastal Pacific Islanders is only 2.6 million. There are 11 square kilometres of ocean for each Pacific Islander. Jurisdictionally, the ocean is 200 times more significant to the average Pacific Islander than it is to the average global citizen (Adams et al 1995). Anthropogenic impacts on coastal and marine resources and ecosystems are a major concern for Pacific Island peoples.

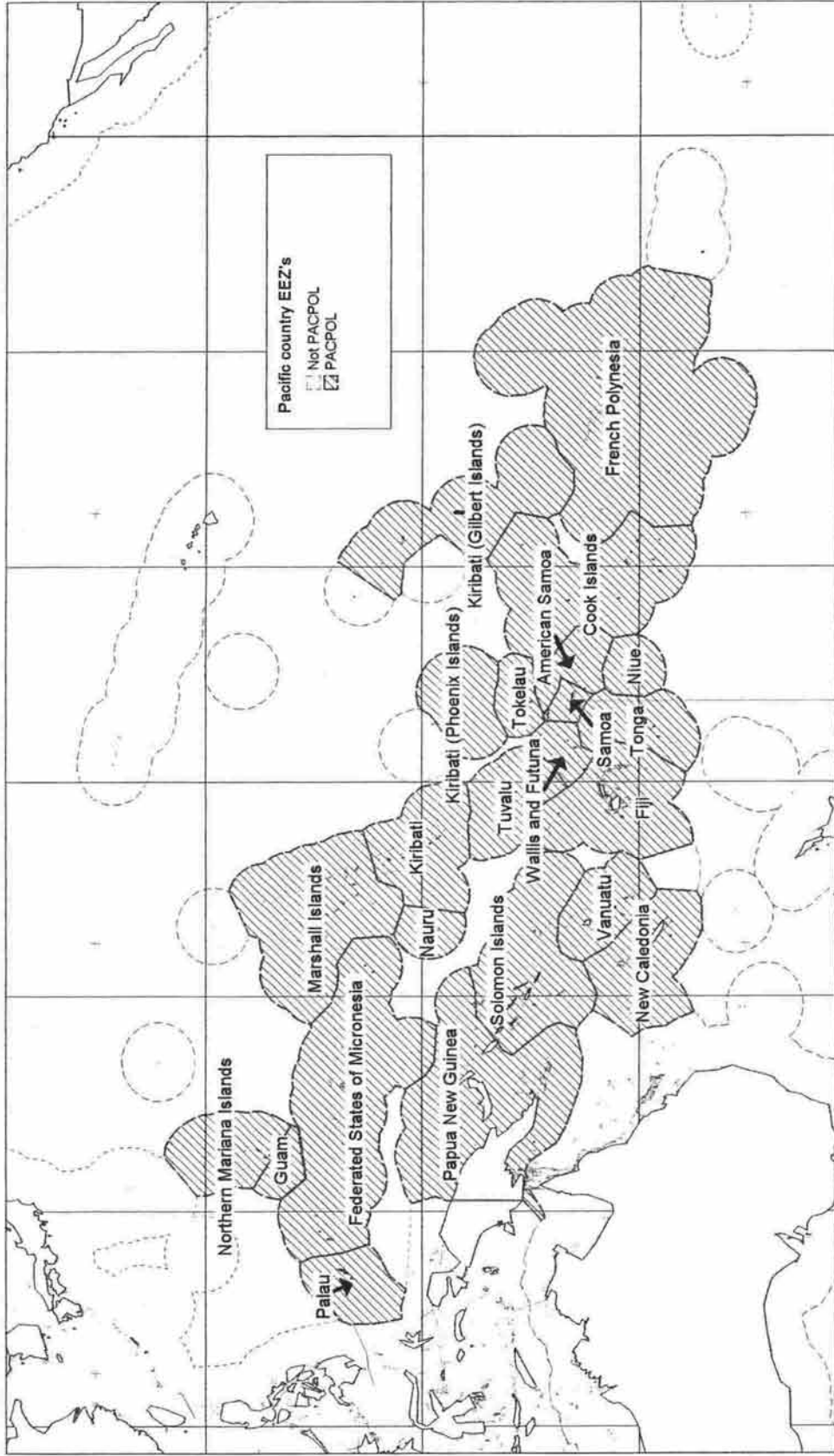
Over the last fifteen years, the introduction of exotic (non-native) species to new environments by human activities, both intentionally and accidentally, has been identified as a major and increasing concern. Marine bio-invasions, including via vessel-related vectors such as ballast water and hull fouling, have been identified as one of the four greatest threats to global marine bio-diversity and ecosystems (Carlton per somms), and are also a significant threat to coastal economies and even public health. Global economic impacts from invasive aquatic species, including through disruption to fisheries, fouling of coastal industry and infrastructure and interference with human amenity, are estimated to exceed 100 billion US dollars per year (Chisholm, *in prep*). The US General Accounting Office (2003) has identified biological invasions as one of the greatest environmental threats of the 21st Century. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Conservation Union (IUCN), announced at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002, that invasive species are the second greatest threat to global bio-diversity after habitat loss. The impacts are set to increase in coming years as global economic activity and therefore the movement of goods and materials around the world increases.

Isolated island environments such as those found in the Pacific are considered to be particularly vulnerable to the impacts of biological invasions. Very little is known about the distribution and impacts of Introduced Marine Pests (IMPs) in the Pacific Islands region, with very few sites having been surveyed (some of the US territories). A number of introduced species of concern and potentially significant concern have been found in the region, and have become or are threatening to become invasive, including the barnacle *Chthalamus proteus*, several macro-algae species, harmful planktonic algae species and the Black Striped Mussel *Mytilopsis sallei* from the Gulf of Mexico / Caribbean.

The potentially serious threats posed by IMPs, combined with the extremely high value and significance of coastal and marine resources to Pacific islands peoples, highlights the importance of vigilance against marine introductions, the need for baseline and monitoring surveys to allow early detection and control and the need for a prevention and management strategy to be implemented, as provided for by this document.

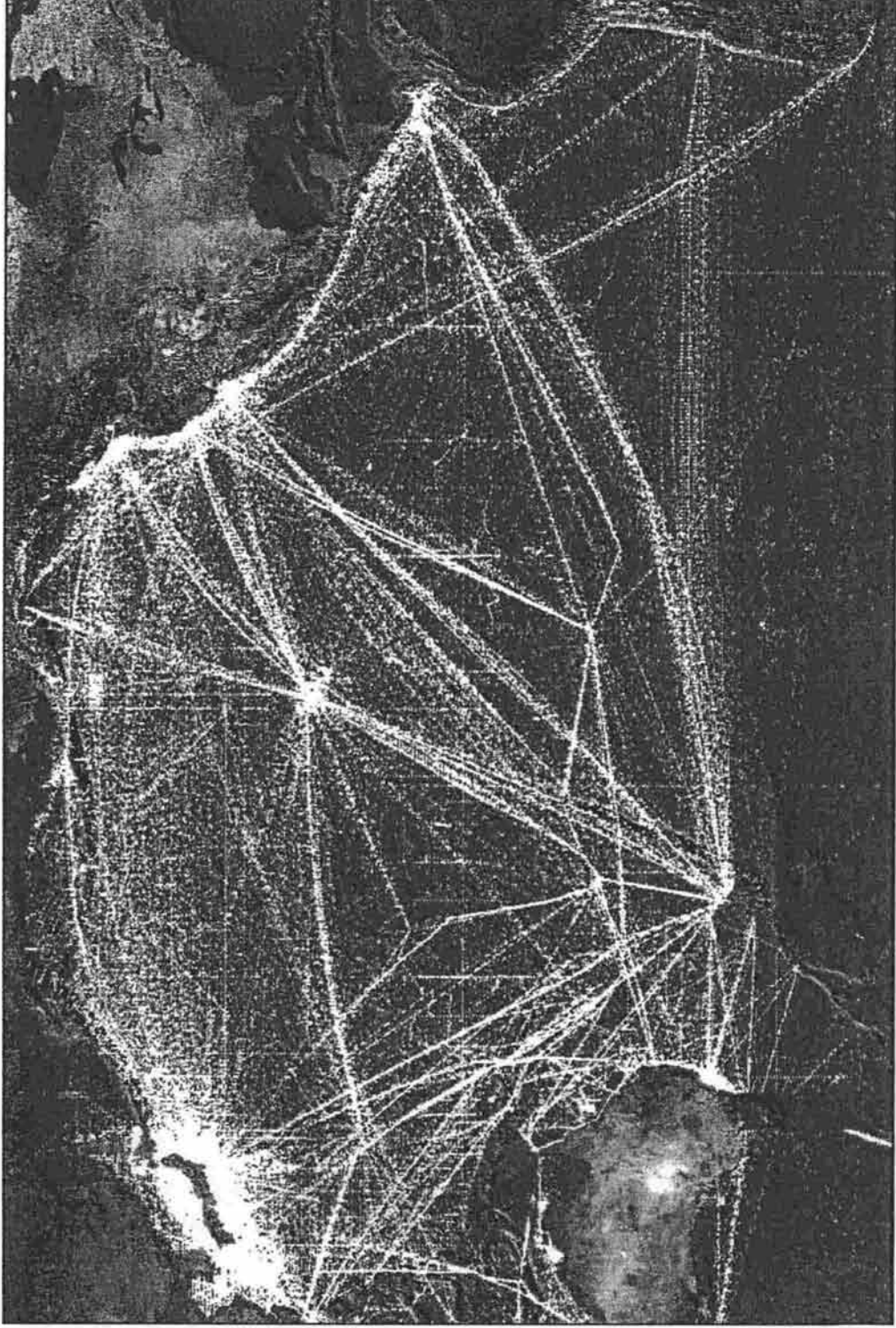
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Figure 1: The Pacific Islands Region Showing Indicative 200NM EEZ's



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Figure 2: Overall shipping routes in the Pacific, including ships transiting the Pacific Islands region on voyages between Pacific-Rim countries, as recorded by actual reported ship positions (Source: SPREP - PACPOL).



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2. The SPREP Response

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) in partnership with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) is implementing the *Pacific Ocean Pollution Prevention Programme* (PACPOL). PACPOL addresses shipping related marine environment protection issues throughout the Pacific Islands region. Management of Introduced Marine Pests (IMPs) in Pacific Island ports is one of the focal areas of PACPOL.

Table One: SPREP Members

Pacific Island Countries	Pacific Island Territories	Non-Island Members
Cook Islands	American Samoa (US)	Australia
Fiji Islands	Northern Mariana Islands (US)	France
Kiribati	French Polynesia (France)	New Zealand
Marshall Islands	Guam (US)	United States of America
Fed. States of Micronesia	New Caledonia (France)	
Nauru	Tokelau Islands (NZ)	
Niue	Wallis & Futuna (France)	
Palau		
Papua New Guinea		
Samoa		
Solomon Islands		
Tonga		
Tuvalu		
Vanuatu		

SPREP members endorsed the Regional Invasive Species Strategy in 2000. The Regional Invasive Species Strategy does not address marine species but it recognized the need to develop a separate but complementary Strategy for marine invasive species. This *Regional Strategy on Shipping-Related Introduced Marine Pests in the Pacific Islands Region* (SRIMP-PAC) is designed to fill that gap and to complement the existing Regional Invasive Species Strategy.

The SRIMP-PAC Strategy addresses shipping-related vectors only (vessel fouling and ballast water). Other marine vectors in the region (e.g. fisheries and aquaculture) are addressed by related initiatives, such as those of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) Marine Resources Division. Additionally, SRIMP-PAC is restricted to the marine (saltwater) environment, given the overwhelmingly marine nature of the Pacific Islands region, the fact that the freshwater ecosystems in the region are highly unlikely to receive biological invasions through shipping vectors and that the existing Regional Invasive Species Strategy covers fresh water species.

SRIMP-PAC is also designed to provide a framework for harmonized regional implementation of the global regime for the control and management of shipping-related IMPs, including the *International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments* (BW Convention) as adopted by IMO member States in February 2004. It is also intended to link with other relevant initiatives, such as the IMP activities being developed by Pacific-Rim countries through Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the IUCN's *Cooperative Initiative on Islands* and the GEF / UNDP / IMO *GloBallast Partnerships* project.

DRAFT ONLY**3. The Need for a Regional Strategy**

The trans-boundary nature of shipping and the inter-connectedness of seas and oceans dictate that no one port or country can on its own effectively control the spread of shipping related IMPs. In order for management to be effective, countries must work cooperatively with both their neighbours and the broader global community to implement harmonized measures.

The need for regional cooperation on this issue is recognized in Article 13.3 of the recently adopted *International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments* (BW Convention), which states;

"In order to further the objectives of this Convention, Parties with common interests to protect the environment, human health, property and resources in a given geographical area, in particular, those Parties bordering enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, shall endeavour, taking into account characteristic regional features, to enhance regional co-operation, including through the conclusion of regional agreements consistent with this Convention. Parties shall seek to co-operate with the Parties to regional agreements to develop harmonized procedures."

The countries and territories of the Pacific Islands region have a long history of working cooperatively and multi-laterally to manage and protect their marine resources and have established a number of regional mechanisms and organizations with this objective in mind. They certainly have common interests to protect the environment, human health, property and resources of the region.

A significant feature of shipping in the Pacific Islands is transit ships trading between the major economies of the Pacific-Rim, that pass through their 200 nautical mile Exclusive Economic Zones. The need to address biological invasions at-source, requires the SRIMP-PAC Strategy to be coordinated with relevant activities of the Pacific-Rim countries, including through forums such as APEC Heads of Maritime Meetings.

Further, it is worth noting that the 2000-2004 1st phase of the *GEF / UNDP / IMO Global Ballast Water Management Programme* (GloBallast), *inter alia* assisted several regions of the world to develop and implement regional strategies and action plans similar to that being developed by SPREP under this project. Under the planned 2nd phase of this programme, called *GloBallast Partnerships*, IMO intends to invite the SPREP Member Countries to become a new beneficiary region. Development of SRIMP-PAC is therefore extremely timely and will place the region in a strong position for the implementation of the BW Convention and to benefit from technical assistance under *GloBallast Partnerships*.

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4. Strategy Development – Outline of Approach

Development of SRIMP-PAC is an activity under the SPREP/IMO PACPOL Programme, and was funded under the IMO Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP).

The background research and drafting of the strategy document was carried out by a SPREP consultant (Steve Raaymakers - EcoStrategic Consultants) with support from and managed by the SPREP Marine Pollution Adviser (Sefanaia Nawadra). There was significant input and assistance from individuals and parties consulted during the drafting process.

As the SPREP Member Countries are the “owners” of the Regional Strategy, their views, perspectives, priorities and needs are vital, and including the countries in development of the Regional Strategy from the earliest stages was important for generating ownership and “buy-in”. Technical consultations with the responsible maritime sector authorities in SPREP Member Countries were carried out through a joint working group of the Pacific Maritime Association (PacMA) and the Association of Pacific Ports (APP).

Given that the management of marine invasives is a relatively new issue for PICTs, development of the Strategy also involved wide consultations with organisations that have management and technical expertise in this area. These included other regional organizations, APEC, relevant ministries, institutions, organizations and individuals in Pacific-Rim countries, the IMO-GloBallast Demonstration Site in China, various UN agencies including IMO, the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP), IUCN Species Survival Commission Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) and many others, to gain their inputs to the Regional Strategy.

Strategy development was divided into eight discrete steps, as outlined below.

- Step One: Information gathering / background research
- Step Two: Initial Consultations with individuals and agencies
- Step Three: Produce First Draft
- Step Four: Review by SPREP
- Step Five: Produce Second Draft
- Step Six: Review by Technical Groups and agencies
- Step Seven: Produce Final Draft and formally circulate to countries
- Step Eight: Formal Discussion with view to endorsement at 17th SPREP Meeting

5. Aim & Objectives

The aim of SRIMP-PAC is:

- To maintain, protect and enhance the quality of coastal and marine environments in the Pacific islands region by preventing, minimising and controlling the introduction of shipping-related marine pests to Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs).

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The objectives of SRIMP-PAC are:

- To assess and monitor the current and potential risks of shipping-related Introduced Marine Pests (IMPs) in the Pacific islands region.
- To assist PICTs to develop better capacity to effectively prevent and respond to shipping-related IMPs, including:
 - Encouraging ratification and effective implementation of the IMO ballast water Convention and other relevant international conventions.
 - Developing regional and national vessel-fouling management plans and systems.
 - Building the necessary institutional arrangements, both administrative and legislative.
 - Raising awareness about shipping-related IMPs amongst all relevant stakeholders.
 - Developing effective regulatory compliance monitoring and enforcement systems.
 - Providing education and training in ballast and vessel-fouling management practices.
- Developing information systems to support IMPs management in the region.
- Targeting projects to address identified high priority IMP problems in the region.
- To provide a financing and sustainability plan, which allows effective implementation of SRIMP-PAC actions and activities.
- To provide a framework and mechanism for regional cooperation, coordination and harmonization of IMP management activities, including links with similar activities that address non-shipping vectors, both within the region and with Pacific-Rim countries.

6. Mandate

The mandate for SRIMP-PAC is derived from a number of sources, including:

Legal mandate:

- The *Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment in the South Pacific Region* (SPREP Convention) has a general provision in Article 4 that "*Parties shall endeavour to conclude agreements.... for the protection, development and management of the marine and coastal environment*" and Article 6 addresses discharges from vessels.
- The *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* (UNCLOS), in particular Article 196 which provides that "*States shall take all measures necessary to prevent, reduce and control the intentional or accidental introduction of species, alien or new, to a particular part of the marine environment, which may cause significant and harmful changes thereto.*"

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- The *Convention on Biological Diversity* (CBD), in particular Article 8(h) which states “*Contracting Parties to the Convention should, as far as possible and appropriate, prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.*”
- The *International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments* (BW Convention), in particular Article 13.3 which states “*In order to further the objectives of this Convention, Parties with common interests to protect the environment, human health, property and resources in a given geographical area, in particular, those Parties bordering enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, shall endeavour, taking into account characteristic regional features, to enhance regional co-operation, including through the conclusion of regional agreements consistent with this Convention. Parties shall seek to co-operate with the Parties to regional agreements to develop harmonized procedures.*”

Programmatic mandate:

- The *SPREP / IMO PACPOL Strategy & Workplan*, which was approved by SPREP Members at the 1999 SPREP Meeting in Samoa, which identifies the need to further develop capacity in the area of IMPs management in PICTs, and under which SRIMP-PAC is an initiative.
- The *SPREP Regional Invasive Species Strategy*, which was endorsed by SPREP Members in 2000, and which focuses on terrestrial and freshwater eco-systems and identifies the need to address the marine ‘gap’.

7. Scope

7.1 Geographical scope

The geographical scope of SRIMP-PAC is the Pacific islands region, defined as the coastlines and all marine waters within the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of the 21 PICTs that are members of SPREP.

In addition to the PICTs, there are four developed countries that are members of SPREP (Australia, France, New Zealand and USA - Table One). These countries are referred to as SPREP non-island or metropolitan members and are key partners in SRIMP-PAC

7.2 Technical scope

SRIMP-PAC is designed to address IMPs carried by shipping-related vectors only (ballast water and fouling). SRIMP-PAC does not address IMPs that may be introduced by other vectors such as fisheries and aquaculture, nor does it address freshwater species. These are addressed by other, related and coordinated initiatives in the region, as part of the integrated ‘three-pronged’ approach described in Section 8.

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For the purposes of SRIMP-PAC, 'ship' is defined as any vessel used by humans for transport, commerce, recreation or any other purpose on the sea, including but not restricted to all types and sizes of cargo vessels, passenger vessels, fishing vessels, research vessels, naval vessels, barges, pontoons, dry-docks, drilling rigs and other floating platforms, boats, yachts, launches, dinghies and canoes. SRIMP-PAC is designed to address IMPS carried by all ship types.

8. Underlying Principles

The SRIMP-PAC Strategy is based on the following underlying principles:

- **Ecosystem Approach:** The majority of major aquatic bio-invasions documented globally to date have occurred in ecosystems that are already disturbed and degraded by other human impacts, such as physical alteration, pollution and over-fishing. Many invasive species are 'colonisers' which benefit from the reduced competition that follows habitat degradation and reduced native biodiversity. One of the best ways to prevent bio-invasions is therefore to take an 'ecosystem approach', managing marine human activities so as to maintain natural biodiversity and 'healthy' ecosystem function. If PICTs effectively manage and protect their coastal and marine environments and resources in general, including through implementation of the CBD, adoption of integrated coastal and ocean management practices and application of the Precautionary Principle (see below), they will effectively reduce their vulnerability to IMPs.
- **Prevention is the priority:** While a number of introduced marine species of concern and potentially significant concern have been found in the region, and have become or are threatening to become invasive, the Strategy is based on the assumption that the marine environment in the Pacific islands region is relatively free of IMPs, and that the best approach is to keep it this way, through prevention efforts.
- **Need for data:** The Strategy recognises that the presence, distribution and impacts of IMPs in the region are poorly understood and that detailed studies or surveys have not been conducted for the vast majority of ports and islands in the region. A much larger number of introductions, including potentially invasive pests, would almost certainly be detected with a more comprehensive and systematic survey effort.
- **Precautionary Principle:** The Precautionary Principle, as one of the basic principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD), states that lack of data should not be used as a reason for avoiding or postponing management actions, where the potential for irreversible ecological impacts exists, even if there is uncertainty about that potential. Because the impacts of biological invasions are very often irreversible, and as it is almost impossible to predict in advance, what marine species may or may not be invasive, and what their impacts might be if introduced to a new environment, in the absence of data all introductions should be treated as potentially harmful.

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- **Layered Defence:** The Strategy is based on the approach of 'layered defence' (as used in New Zealand's biosecurity arrangements), with management arrangements organized along established world's best practice in the fields of bio-security and quarantine, as follows:
 - Pre-border (incursion prevention)
 - At-Border (incursion interdiction)
 - Post-border (incursion response, control and mitigation)

The layered defence approach is based on the premise that prevention is always better than cure, and that prevention of shipping-related IMPs is best addressed by preventing them from being taken-on / attaching to vessels at their points of origin / source ports, through 'pre-border' management efforts.

The approach recognizes however, that despite best pre-border efforts, some IMPs may well arrive at ports in the Pacific islands region, and 'at-border' interdiction efforts are therefore also required.

Finally, this approach recognizes that some IMPs may still invade past a country's border, and 'post-border' incursion response, control and mitigation plans are therefore needed to supplement pre- and at-border incursion prevention efforts.

- **Consistent with Global regime:** The Strategy seeks to implement the global shipping-related IMP management regime at the regional and national level, including the rapid ratification and implementation of the IMO BW Convention by PICTs.
- **Regionally & nationally relevant:** The Strategy reflects the needs and priorities of PICTs. The Strategy considers the regional context but considers the need for national-level implementation, and reflects world's-best-practice adapted for realistic application in PICTs.
- **'Three-pronged' integrated approach:** The Strategy is regionally co-ordinated and integrated with other related programmes and initiatives, and includes collaboration between relevant programmes within SPREP, between SPREP and other regional organisations which are members of the Committee of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP), and with Pacific-Rim countries and broader regional bodies such as APEC. Within the region SRIMP-PAC is one 'prong' of a 'three-pronged' approach to the overall issue of invasive species, where terrestrial and freshwater vectors are addressed by SPREP's Regional Invasive Species Programme, fisheries and aquaculture vectors are addressed by relevant initiatives of the SPC Marine Resources Division and shipping-related vectors are addressed by SRIMP-PAC, thereby providing a comprehensive, integrated and holistic approach to all vectors and pathways in the region.
- **Industry involvement:** The Strategy is endorsed and supported by the private sector, in particular the shipping and port industries, and seeks to encourage private sector solutions to IMPs. The private sector must be fully integrated into regional and national IMP management plans.

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- **Capacity building:** The Strategy recognises the current limitations on the capacity of Pacific island countries to manage IMPs, and seeks to address these through capacity building and institutional strengthening, with a long-term view to self-sufficiency in IMP management.
- **Importance of shipping:** Whilst the over-riding aim of SRIMP-PAC is protection of coastal and marine environments from shipping-related IMPs, the vital role of shipping in the region and the need for the shipping industry to further develop should be considered at all times.

9. Institutional Arrangements

The effective implementation of any natural resource management / environmental protection Strategy such as SRIMP-PAC, requires appropriately designed institutional arrangements, including clearly defined management frameworks and administrative procedures and designation of roles and responsibilities.

The institutional arrangements for the effective coordination and management of SRIMP-PAC are based on those developed and applied successfully in six other regions of the world by the IMO-GloBallast Programme, and are divided into regional and national level arrangements. They include programme management, Regional and National Task Forces (with sectoral and organisational linkages) and reporting requirements, as outlined below.

9.1 Regional arrangements

9.1.1 Overall Strategy Coordination

Responsibility for the development and ongoing management of SRIMP-PAC rests with the SPREP Secretariat in Apia, Samoa, as part of the SPREP / IMO PACPOL Programme.

SPREP's responsibility includes managing the implementation of SRIMP-PAC projects and ensuring the delivery of outputs and benefits to SPREP island members, coordination at the regional level, seeking and managing funding for SRIMP-PAC projects and reporting progress to SPREP members, donors and other stakeholders. The SPREP Marine Pollution Adviser is responsible for day-to-day coordination of these activities within SPREP, and will work with the SPREP Invasive Species Officer to ensure internal coordination between SRIMP-PAC and the terrestrially focused SPREP Invasive Species Programme.

9.1.2 Regional Co-ordination

It is vital that SRIMP-PAC is not just a SPREP initiative but a regional programme, co-ordinated and consistent with other regional and international activities relating to IMPs. Based on the model applied successfully by the IMO-GloBallast Programme in other regions, this is best achieved through the formation of a co-ordinating body, which meets at least annually.

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For cost-effectiveness oversight of SRIMP-PAC would be through the SPREP Meeting. Regional co-ordination of activities would be carried out in conjunction with and/or as part of other relevant regional groups such as PacMa, APP, the CROP Marine Sector Working Group, APEC Heads of Maritime Meeting and the Nature Conservation Round Table. The SPREP Marine Pollution Adviser would be responsible for co-ordinating submissions and making presentations to these groups.

Regional co-ordination functions are:

- To review and approve annual SRIMP-PAC budgets and workplans.
- To coordinate SRIMP-PAC activities across the region and with relevant activities of other bodies (e.g. other regional organizations, APEC and Pacific-Rim countries).
- To provide a forum for PICTs and Pacific-Rim countries to report on progress with IMP issues in their respective jurisdictions, and to share information and news on latest developments.
- To seek and secure funding and support-in-kind for SRIMP-PAC activities.
- To periodically review the overall progress of SRIMP-PAC against its stated aim and objectives, and recommend any necessary changes and realignments to the SPREP Meeting.

9.1.3 *Ad-hoc Technical Advisory Group*

Issues may arise that necessitate the convening of ad-hoc technical advisory groups to guide the implementation of various SRIMP-PAC activities. The composition of the Advisory Group will be approved by the SPREP Meeting and would depend on the technical and management needs of the issues at hand. Membership of the Group would be drawn from all stakeholders including member governments, CROP, UN agencies, academic and research institutions, industry associations and NGOs. The recommendations of the Advisory Group are to be submitted to the SPREP Meeting.

9.1.4 *Reporting Requirements*

As part of its programme management responsibilities, SPREP will regularly report on progress with the implementation of SRIMP-PAC to SPREP members, to programme donors, to other regional organisations, the IMO, the regional shipping and port industries and the community in general. This will be achieved through:

- The normal SPREP reporting process to members, including publication and distribution of the SPREP Annual Reports.
- The reporting requirements of individual funding arrangements with programme donors.
- Presentations at relevant meetings, conferences, workshops and seminars.
- The regional news media.

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9.2 National arrangements

While the regional institutional arrangements outlined above are vital to ensure overall regional coordination, ultimately, practical measures to ensure the prevention, control and management of IMPs need to be implemented by individual governments at the national level. The national-level institutional arrangements recommended by SRIMP-PAC are based on those developed and successfully applied by the IMO-GloBallast Programme and are similar to those in place in countries such as Australia, as follows:

9.2.1 National Responsible Authority

9.2.1 National Lead Agency

Each government should designate a National Lead Agency (NLA) as the focal point for shipping-related IMP issues in the country. Given that SRIMP-PAC deals with shipping vectors, ideally the NLA should be the transport/shipping administration, although some countries may designate the marine resources/fisheries administration or the environment protection administration. Other government ministries, departments and agencies must also play a role and assume certain responsibilities for IMP prevention, control and management.

9.2.2 National Task Forces

To ensure an integrated approach to IMP prevention, control and management, a multi-disciplinary National Task Force (NTF) should be formed in each country and territory. Recognizing the capacities and resources available in PICTs, the NTF could be integrated into existing groups such as the national marine pollution committees. The NTF should comprise agencies such as:

- The NLA (Secretariat to the NTF).
- The Maritime transport administration
- The marine resources/fisheries administration.
- The environment protection administration.
- The health and quarantine administrations.
- The port authority.
- The shipping industry.
- The main national-level marine environment NGO.
- Any national-level marine science body.
- The Ministry of Finance or equivalent.

The functions of the NTF are:

- To review and approve national-level SRIMP-PAC budgets and workplans.
- To coordinate national-level SRIMP-PAC activities with relevant activities of other bodies.
- To provide a forum for all relevant government bodies and other national stakeholders to report on progress with IMP issues in their respective jurisdictions, and to share information and news on latest developments.
- To seek and secure national funding and support-in-kind for SRIMP-PAC activities.
- To periodically review the overall national-level progress of SRIMP-PAC against its stated aim and objectives, and recommend any necessary changes and realignments to the biennial RTF Meetings.

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10. Foundation Activities

The experience of the IMO-GloBallast Programme found that once institutional arrangements are established at the national and regional levels, a number of basic and standard 'foundation activities' need to be carried out when providing technical assistance, institutional strengthening and capacity building to developing countries and regions to address shipping related IMPs. These include communication and awareness, risk assessment, surveys and monitoring, legislation and regulations, compliance and enforcement, technical training and education, evaluation and review, research and information management. The development of marine pest management arrangements in countries such as Australia and New Zealand has revealed similar issues.

SRIMP-PAC activities follow a similar approach, while adapting each element to the Pacific islands context as outlined below.

10.1 Communication and awareness

A general lack of awareness amongst all sectors of society about the issue of IMPs has been identified as one of the main barriers to the development and implementation of effective IMP prevention and control measures (IMO-GloBallast Programme, 2000). The 'awareness barrier' is compounded by the fact that IMPs are not a highly visible phenomena which attract major media attention, compared to major oil spill emergencies or similar environmental 'catastrophes' (although the chronic impacts of IMPs can be far more severe than these acute pollution events).

While concerted awareness campaigns such as that carried out internationally by the GloBallast Programme from 2000 to 2004 have significantly reduced this barrier, the lack of awareness still persists in many sectors and in many parts of the world, including in the Pacific islands. Because there has been a significant history of intentional introductions and translocations of aquatic species for fisheries and aquaculture production in the Pacific, there is often a positive perception about introduced species amongst some stakeholders in the region.

A basic starting point for SRIMP-PAC is therefore to carry out a comprehensive communication and awareness campaign, both regionally and in each country. This campaign comprises:

- Establishment of a SRIMP-PAC page on the SPREP web site – linked to other relevant sites such as IMO-GloBallast, SPC and sites in Pacific-Rim countries.
- Development of awareness materials on both the ballast water and hull fouling issues.
- Running a series of awareness and training workshops for all stakeholders throughout the region.
- Including IMP issues in various regional newsletters and print media.
- Including IMP issues in relevant courses at the University of the South Pacific (USP).
- Including IMP issues in the maritime training curriculum that is coordinated by the SPC RMP.
- Including IMP issues in presentations at various seminars, workshops, conferences and meetings in the region, on an opportunistic basis.

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The development of SRIMP-PAC awareness materials will benefit from the excellent global products available from IMO-GloBallast, and those developed by some Pacific-Rim countries.

10.2 Risk assessment

No invasive marine pests risk assessment has been carried out for the Pacific islands region or for any country or port within the region. These need to be carried out to provide a baseline in order to guide required interventions and against which to measure the effectiveness of SRIMP-PAC activities.

10.2.1 Overall risk assessment

Risk assessment is a basic first-step for any country contemplating a formal system to prevent, control and manage IMPs. In order to assess the risk of introductions and begin to design a management regime for any given port, it is necessary to first understand the nature of the problem, and define basic parameters such as the volumes of ballast water received and exported, the frequency of ballast discharge and uptake events, the types and frequency of fouled-vessel arrivals, and the locations where ballast water and fouled vessels are received from (source ports) and exported to (destination ports).

Fortunately, standard ballast water risk assessment methods have been developed and successfully applied by the IMO-GloBallast Programme, and NIWA in New Zealand has developed a risk-based predictive tool for assessing the risks posed by hull fouling (Floerl et al 2005). Such standard and readily available methods can be used by SRIMP-PAC to undertake a comprehensive, overall IMP risk assessment for the region and each major port in the region.

10.2.2 Vessel / voyage-specific risk assessment

In determining the nature and extent of their IMP management measures, port States may wish to assess the relative risk posed by particular trading routes/and or vessels. A risk-based 'selective' approach could be attractive to PICTs that may not have sufficient resources to target every single vessel calling at its ports, and which therefore need to prioritise their regulatory efforts. Under the BW Convention, risk assessment may be used to determine if a ship can be exempt from requirements. This requires some sort of a Decision Support System (DSS), and would benefit from the overall risk profiles and supporting data generated by the overall risk assessment referred to above.

Australia has developed a DSS that allows the ballast water risks posed by an individual ship on a specific voyage, to be assessed before that ship arrives in Australia, and the Cawthron Institute in New Zealand has a similar tool available (SHIPPING EXPLORER). The Canadian government is currently evaluating these, to develop its own ballast water DSS. The risk-based predictive tool for hull fouling developed by NIWA referred to above, can also be used for vessel / voyage specific risk assessment.

Ultimately, these may be linked with each other and with other regional initiatives, to provide a harmonized, Pacific-wide IMP risk assessment DSS, covering both the Pacific-Rim and the Pacific islands region.

DRAFT ONLY**10.3 Surveys & monitoring**

The presence and distribution of introduced, non-native marine species in the Pacific Islands region is poorly understood and apart from the US territories, no detailed studies or surveys have been conducted in any port or on any open coastline in the region.

In order to solve any problem, it is first necessary to understand the problem, and researching and documenting the patterns of biological invasions in coastal waters is fundamental to gaining this understanding. It is not possible to prevent and control IMPs unless you know 'what they are' and 'where they are', and these cannot be achieved without an organised survey, monitoring and surveillance effort.

Port surveys and monitoring programmes are needed to assist port States to meet their obligations under the IMO BW Convention, to alert shipping and other interested parties to 'outbreaks' of harmful aquatic organisms, to assist in preventing their uptake, and to detect invasions as early as possible, thereby increasing the chances of successful response, control and mitigation actions.

Surveys and monitoring are also needed to assess the effectiveness of management responses, including the IMO ballast water Convention, by providing data on changes in the rates and patterns of invasion over time. Establishing a comprehensive, regional network of IMP survey and monitoring programmes, is an essential part of the broader efforts to reduce the spread of IMPs through all vectors. These surveys also bring huge benefits to science and the general understanding of aquatic biodiversity and ecology.

In recent years, initiatives by a number of countries and organizations have seen the development of an extensive global network of a large number of sites where surveys and monitoring for IMPs have been carried out.

Australia, through its Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization Centre for Research on Introduced Marine Pests (CSIRO-CRIMP), pioneered the development of standard protocols for surveys and monitoring of introduced species in port areas (Hewitt & Martin 1996, 2001). In 1996 CRIMP together with other Australian marine science bodies, various State agencies and port authorities commenced the Australian National Port Survey Programme, which by the end of 2003 had completed surveys using the standard CRIMP protocols, in 36 ports around the country.

The CRIMP protocols have been adopted, adapted and applied at many more ports around the world, including through the IMO GloBallast Programme, and at more than 13 sites in NZ.

The Bishop Museum in Hawaii has developed its own methodology to undertake surveys throughout Hawaii, Johnston Atoll, Midway Is. and American Samoa. The Smithsonian Environmental Research Centre (SERC) in the USA has established passive settling plates at a number of sites on the US Pacific Coast, and the California Lands Commission is undertaking surveys in Californian ports.

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Clearly, the major data gap that exists throughout the Pacific islands needs to be plugged, and the SRIMP-PAC Workplan and Budget includes provision for an IMP Survey and Monitoring Programme, based on a combination of methods, as follows:

- Full-scale, comprehensive, CRIMP-style surveys at 'high risk' ports / yacht congregation areas in the region,
- Reduced-scale, less rigorous 'surveillance' surveys using Bishop Museum methods at representative 'medium risk' ports / yacht congregation areas in the region,
- Establishment of SERC-style passive settling plates at representative 'low risk' ports / yacht congregation areas in the region,

Development and implementation of the Pacific Islands IMP Survey and Monitoring Programme will be coordinated by SPREP and undertaken by a cooperative consortium comprising the regional experts on this issue from CSIRO, NIWA, Bishop Museum and SERC, with active participation by (and training of) marine scientists and students from USP and the University of Guam as well as staff from PICT marine resources/fisheries administrations and the SPC Marine Resources Programme. This training and capacity building component to develop regional expertise is a major feature of this programme, and will include establishment of a regional voucher and reference collection and IMP information system at USP.

Limitations in taxonomic expertise will certainly be a constraining factor for this effort (as is the case world-wide), and the programme therefore includes a specific Taxonomy Initiative.

Development of this programme should be initiated by a technical workshop involving the players mentioned above, so as to define roles and responsibilities, agree funding and resource sharing arrangements, and to map-out an action plan to get the surveys up and running.

Ultimately, the long-term objective of this activity is to establish an effective IMP monitoring and early-warning system, and IMP surveys and monitoring should be 'mainstreamed' into the routine environmental management activities of all ports, harbours, marinas, aquaculture sites and marine protected areas in the region; carried out as ongoing, long-term monitoring programmes; and linked into the regional and any global IMP information system.

10.4 Legislation and regulations

Ultimately, for any country to be able to effectively prevent and control IMPs, it must have appropriate national legislation and regulations, and to enable the provisions of international Conventions that it has become a Party. Apart from the application of US laws such as NISA and the US Coast Guard ballast water regulations in American Samoa, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, to date no PICTs have enacted specific legislation or regulations relating to IMPs.

As an initiative under the SPREP / IMO PACPOL programme SPREP and the SPC RMP developed a *Regional Model Marine Pollution Prevention Act - A Template for Pacific Island Countries*. This model legislation was last revised in 2003. The intent of this model legislation was to provide Pacific Island Countries with a ready-to-use, all-in-one template by which they could rapidly develop national legislation that was generally consistent with the IMO marine environment protection Conventions, including MARPOL, OPRC, London Convention and the CLC and Fund Conventions.

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This model legislation pre-dated adoption of the IMO BW Convention (Feb 2004), and was developed in the absence of an international regulatory regime for the fouling vector (as is still the case in March 2005). However with considerable foresight the model included 'embryonic' sections dealing with these two vectors for shipping-related IMPs (see box).

Now that the IMO BW Convention has been adopted it provides the standard for national legislation. Ideally, IMP legislation and regulations should address both the ballast water and fouling vectors in a single Act. The current absence of an international regulatory regime for the fouling vector means that SPREP Members will be pioneering legislative developments in this area. However other countries such as Australia and New Zealand are developing legislative arrangements to address biofouling and these will provide guidance for our efforts.

A review of the regional model legislation to bring it up to date with current IMP legal developments is a key activity of SRIMP-PAC. This activity will be carried out in two phases:

Phase 1: Develop regional model shipping-related IMP legislation that is fully consistent with the IMO BW Convention, UNCLOS and CBD and which also includes the fouling vector, and incorporates practical management measures.

Phase 2: Provide technical assistance to PICTs to develop their national legislation and regulations, consistent with the regional model.

Extract from:

**Regional Model Marine Pollution Prevention Act:
A Template for Pacific Island Countries.**

6. Discharge of ballast water

- (1) No ballast water containing non-indigenous harmful aquatic organisms and/or pathogens shall be discharged from a vessel into (*Country name*) waters.
- (2) If any ballast water containing non-indigenous harmful aquatic organisms and/or pathogens is discharged from any vessel into (*Country name*) waters, the owner and master commit an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding (\$250,000).
- (3) The Master of a vessel that discharges ballast water in (*Country name*) waters shall comply with any voluntary or mandatory ballast water management requirements issued by the International Maritime Organization in force at the time of the discharge.
- (4) The Master of a vessel that intends to discharge ballast water in (*Country name*) waters shall, prior to such discharge, complete and submit to the (*Minister/Secretary*) a Ballast Water Reporting Form in the form approved for that purpose.
- (5) It shall be a defence to show that all reasonable measures to comply with any voluntary or mandatory ballast water management requirements issued by the International Maritime Organization in force at the time were taken to ensure that no ballast water containing non-indigenous harmful aquatic organisms or pathogens were discharged from a vessel into (*Country name*) waters.

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7. *Hull scraping and cleaning*

- (1) The scraping and cleaning of the hulls and other external surfaces of vessels in a manner that may result in the introduction of non-indigenous harmful aquatic organisms or pathogens into (*Country name*) waters is prohibited.
- (2) Any person who breaches this section commits an offence and shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding (\$250,000).

10.5 *Compliance and enforcement*

Legislations and regulations are of limited value if compliance and enforcement is not effective. At the international level, very little progress has been made in developing compliance monitoring and enforcement systems and procedures in relation to IMP regulatory arrangements. In September 2004, the IMO GloBallast Programme held an international workshop in Iran to review the current global state-of-play in relation to ballast water CME systems, and found that this is a very embryonic but rapidly developing field. The report on this workshop is available at <http://globallast.imo.org/publications> .

Because it will be some years before PICTs will have enforceable IMPs legislation, and because CME systems and methods will develop rapidly in this time, and considering the many other 'baseline' activities that PICTs need to complete under SRIMP-PAC in order to begin to address IMPs, CME activities are not immediately included in the SRIMP-PAC Workplan (section 13), although Projects LA1 to LA3 and Project PSC1 in Table Two (section 13) have relevant components. After two years from the commencement of SRIMP-PAC, we will review this and if appropriate, develop a more detailed CME component for implementation in the region.

10.6 *Technical training and capacity building*

One of the underlying principles of SRIMP-PAC is that training and capacity-building are core requirements in order to address the current limitations on the capacity of PICTs to manage IMPs. This is to be achieved in the SRIMP-PAC Strategy through:

- Including training and capacity building as an integral component of all SRIMP-PAC activities (e.g. the IMP surveys and monitoring programme).
- Developing a purpose-made modular training course on shipping-related IMPs prevention and control, targeting government officials and managers in the port and shipping industry, for delivery at regional workshops and in each PICT. This will be based on the standard GloBallast modular training package that is already available from IMO, developed further to include the fouling vector and to suit the Pacific islands region. It should be noted that GISP and UNEP-CBD are developing standard modular training materials for non-ballast marine vectors to complement the GloBallast training package, and this will be assessed by SPREP for use in the SRIMP-PAC training courses.

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- Including shipping-related IMP issues in the maritime training curriculum that is coordinated by the SPC RMP.
- Including IMP issues in relevant courses at USP.

10.7 Information management

In order for the Strategy to be effective, it is important that good information management supports IMP prevention and control efforts. SRIMP-PAC proposes the establishment of a Pacific IMP Information System (PAC-IMPIS). Ideally, such a system should be compatible with and linked to other similar systems, such as the Australian National Introduced Marine Pests Information System (NIMPIS – www.marine.csiro.au/crimp/nimpis) and the US National Exotic Marine and Estuarine Species Information System (NEMESIS – www.serc.si.edu/nemesis). The technical specifications for PAC-IMPIS should therefore be derived directly from NIMPIS and NEMESIS (which are themselves compatible). These databases contain information on the distribution, biology, ecology and impacts of invasive aquatic species, and in the case of PAC-IMPIS would be populated by data from the surveys and monitoring described in section 10.3.

To be complete and comprehensive PAC-IMPIS should also hold and manage information on vessel movements and ballast water and hull fouling management issues (which are not included in systems such as NIMPIS and NEMESIS). The US National Ballast Information Clearing House (www.serc.si.edu/nbic) provides a potential model for this module of PAC-IMPIS. Data derived from the risk assessments described under section 10.2 and collected by PICT Port State Control authorities such as from IMO Ballast Water Reporting Forms (Section 11.2) would assist in populating this database.

PAC-IMPIS would need to be housed at a relevant and suitable regional institution such as USP or SPC.

10.8 Cooperation with Pacific-Rim countries

Most ships, yachts and other vessels that voyage to and through the Pacific Islands originate from Pacific-Rim countries. It is important that activities under SRIMP-PAC are coordinated with these countries, in particular devising strategies to prevent the uptake and carriage of potentially invasive species at Pacific-Rim source ports, with the aim of preventing their spread to the islands, and vice versa. Coordinating and integrating SRIMP-PAC with the IMP strategies and activities of Pacific-Rim countries, including through APEC, will provide a more holistic, 'whole of the Pacific' or 'Total Ocean-Basin' approach to IMP management.

It is therefore important that SPREP should liaise with relevant authorities in these countries to identify opportunities for integration, coordination and synergies as well as co-financing of common activities, and to endeavour to ensure uniform application of harmonized management measures in the region, including the IMO BW Convention.

A review has been carried out to provide an overview of relevant activities of the Pacific-Rim countries that are most active on IMP issues, along with recommendations for. It is recommended that SPREP to seek cooperation with these countries individually or through APEC, this will be done in part through inviting APEC and Pacific-Rim countries to be members of the SRIMP-PAC Ad-hoc Technical Advisory Groups or to attend relevant regional meetings.

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11. Practical Management Measures

As outlined in section 8 the SRIMP-PAC Strategy is based on the principle of “layered defence”, with management measures organized into three layers as follows:

- Pre-border (incursion prevention)
- At-border (incursion interdiction)
- Post-border (incursion response, control and mitigation)

Each of these three layers is in turn divided into general arrangements which apply irrespective of the vector, followed by a hull fouling and ballast water component which outlines the management measures that apply specifically to these vectors, in each layer.

11.1 Pre-border (incursion prevention)

11.1.1 General pre-border measures

“The most effective strategy for biosecurity control is to focus on minimising the arrival of new non-native species - prevention is better than cure. At-border and post-border controls will not be as effective as pre-border measures due to difficulties in detecting and eradicating introductions. This is especially difficult in the marine environment as the technology to inspect vectors is only in the developmental phase and organisms can rapidly disperse over a wide area by currents and tides.” (MAF-NZ 2004).

Two general measures are recommended under SRIMP-PAC as part of pre-border incursion prevention efforts; risk assessment and communication and awareness campaigns at Pacific-Rim source ports.

Risk assessment: The first general pre-border incursion prevention measure is to undertake an overall risk assessment for the region (addressing both the fouling and ballast vectors), as outlined in section 10.2 and included in the SRIMP-PAC Workplan.

To support such risk assessments, under SRIMP-PAC, SPREP Members should work through the RTF, through regional groups like APEC, and through direct bi-lateral links with Pacific-Rim countries, to ensure that IMP survey and monitoring programmes are extended to all major Pacific-Rim ports, especially those in Asia and South America where there are currently major survey and monitoring gaps (see section 10.3).

Communication and awareness: In order to help prevent foreign marine species entering the Pacific islands region a comprehensive communications and awareness strategy as outlined in Section 10.1 and included in the SRIMP-PAC Workplan (section 13) is required. High priority source ports targeted for this communication and awareness effort will be determined by the outcomes of the risk assessment, and may include the Panama Canal and Pacific coast departure ports in Canada, USA, Mexico, Chile, New Zealand, Australia, China and Japan (in relevant languages).

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The most effective way to prevent IMPs being introduced to the Pacific islands region through vessel fouling, is for PICTs to work with relevant authorities in Pacific-Rim countries, to ensure that best-practice fouling prevention and control measures are applied in Pacific-Rim ports. Taylor & Rigby (2002) provide a comprehensive synopsis of best-practice fouling management measures, and these are summarised in the Generic Fouling Management Template in Appendix 1.

Such an approach would involve developing a system, in cooperation with Pacific-Rim countries, to ensure that all vessels that depart ports in these countries on voyages destined for PICTs are free of fouling before they depart. This would involve vessels being inspected for fouling, and should fouling be observed, having it removed before the vessel is authorised to leave port (NB. Ideally, appropriate controls and facilities would need to be available in these ports for such a cleaning operations, so as to ensure that marine pests are not left in the ports after cleaning).

Taylor & Rigby (2002) describe methods for undertaking vessel fouling inspections, including:

- On-board assessment by vessels' crew
- Hull inspection from dockside
- Hull inspection from small boat
- Hull inspection underwater (diver and remote cameras)

Floerl et al (2005), Coutts et al (2003) and Coutts & Taylor (2002) also describe methods for assessing fouling on vessels.

In addition to the hull, high-risk fouling areas including sea-chest grills, areas around the propeller and rudder, and also anchors, anchor chains and anchor lockers, require inspection. Fishing vessels also require inspection of fishing nets, ropes, traps, floats and other gear that may host fouling species.

An example of such an approach (albeit a domestic one implemented within a single country's jurisdiction), can be found in NZ, where a *Biosecurity Code of Practice for Vessels Operating Around the Sub-Antarctic Islands* (MFish 2005) has been developed. This code establishes guidelines to reduce the risk of hull fouling introductions to the Sub-Antarctic islands; and in particular the highly invasive Northern Pacific seaweed *Undaria pinnatifida*, which is has been introduced to mainland NZ. While the above Code of Practice is a domestic one there is nothing to prevent PICTs putting in place a regional one. There is a long history of regional co-operation that should assist this approach. Consideration should be given to extension of this into Pacific-rim countries though in the absence of an international regulatory regime for the fouling vector, such international cooperation with Pacific-Rim countries may well be difficult to achieve.

It is therefore recommended that under SRIMP-PAC, SPREP Members should work through regional groups like APEC, and through direct bi-lateral links with Pacific-Rim countries, to ensure that effective fouling prevention and control measures are put in place at Pacific-Rim ports, so as to prevent the spread of fouling species from these ports into the Pacific islands region.

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One high-priority target area for this approach could be the Pacific end of the Panama Canal. Because this concentrates a large number of vessels, from merchant vessels to small private yachts, in one clearly defined area before they head into the Pacific, it may be feasible to require vessels to undergo a fouling inspection here before they are authorised to enter the Pacific. This would capture a considerable percentage of vessels that voyage to PICTs, and potentially prevent a significant number of marine bio-invasions (e.g. the introduction of the Black Striped mussel from the Gulf of Mexico / Caribbean). SPREP and SPREP members, in coordination with IMO, should seek to work with the Government of Panama towards establishing such a system.

To demonstrate our commitment to Pacific-Rim countries, PICTs should work to implement fouling prevention and control measures in their own ports, to prevent the spread of IMPs from our own ports to Pacific-Rim ports. To improve the impetus for all countries to implement such measures, PICTs should work through IMO, to initiate and accelerate the development of an international regulatory regime for the fouling vector, which complements the IMO BW Convention.

11.1.3 Pre-border ballast management measures

One of the main objectives of SRIMP-PAC is to ensure rapid ratification and harmonized implementation of the IMO BW Convention in PICTs, and all ballast management practices outlined in SRIMP-PAC are derived from and are intended to be consistent with the BW Convention.

As with the fouling vector, one of the main thrusts of pre-border ballast management measures under SRIMP-PAC is to prevent IMPs from being taken up by ships in Pacific-Rim ports, thereby preventing their transfer into the Pacific islands region.

Under the Regulation C2 of the BW Convention, it is recommended that port States advise ships of areas where there are known outbreaks of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens (e.g. harmful algae blooms), sewage outfalls and areas of poor tidal flushing, so that ships may avoid taking on ballast in these areas, so as to prevent the uptake of potentially harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens at the source port.

As described above for pre-border fouling management measures, this approach would involve a high degree of international cooperation, in order to ensure that source ports around the Pacific-Rim implement the necessary surveys, monitoring and reporting systems so as to be able detect outbreaks of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens, and communicate areas and times to be avoided to the shipping industry.

It is therefore recommended that under SRIMP-PAC, SPREP Members should work through regional groups like APEC, and through direct bi-lateral links with Pacific-Rim countries, to ensure that these measures are put in place at Pacific-Rim ports (see also sections 10.2 and 10.3).

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Once a ship commences its voyage, there are a number of pre-border ballast management measures that can be applied during the voyage, in accordance with Regulation B-3 of the Convention, including:

- Undertaking ballast water exchange at sea in accordance with Regulations B-3 and D-1 of the Convention.
- Undertaking shipboard treatment of ballast water en route to PICTs in accordance with Regulation D-2 of the Convention.

It should be noted that there are significant limitations on the practice of ballast water exchange at sea, including the fact that it may be unsafe for some vessels during certain weather and sea conditions, the fact that some voyages may not pass beyond 200Nm or even 50nm of the coast in accordance with Regulation B-3 of the Convention, the fact that some voyages may be too short to allow sufficient time to undertake complete exchange in compliance with Regulation D-1 of the Convention, and the fact that even when complete exchange is able to be undertaken in full compliance with the Convention, species may still be transferred. The implementation of requirements for arriving ships to undertake ballast water exchange at sea before discharging ballast in PICT ports therefore constitutes a 'risk-reduction' measure only.

It should also be noted that in relation to shipboard treatment of ballast water, there are currently no commercially viable and practically feasible technologies available that can meet Regulation D-2 of the Convention, although there are a large number of R&D projects underway which promise to deliver such technologies in the near future.

11.2 At-border (incursion interdiction)

11.2.1 General at-border measures

For the purposes of SRIMP-PAC, the border of PICTs in relation to IMPs is the EEZ, although in actual practice many at-border management measures can only be applied to vessels just prior to port entry. At-border measures primarily involve an inspection regime to ensure that arriving vessels have complied with pre-border incursion prevention requirements.

11.2.2 At-border fouling management measures

As a result of the Black Striped Mussel incursion in Darwin in 1999, Australia has developed a National Border Bio-fouling Protocol for Apprehended and Small International Vessels. This provides a possible model for PICTs to implement at-border fouling management measures. Essentially, such measures involve:

- Scrutiny of high risk vessels and other floating facilities before allowing their entry or detention in, and movement from or between PICT ports;
- Inspection of international yachts and other pleasure craft at their first port of call to ensure they are free of exotic organisms, and prompt action to remove these vessels from the water for cleaning should exotics be detected; and

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- Promotion of good maintenance and antifouling practices to small boat owners, including actions to ensure boats do not continue to operate, or move outside their home port when the predicted life of the paint scheme has been exceeded or the antifouling has lost its effectiveness.
- A ban on the scraping and cleaning of the hulls and other external surfaces of vessels in a manner that may result in the introduction of IMPs into PICT waters (e.g. in-water cleaning and scraping).
- A requirement that when hulls and other external surfaces of vessels are scraped and/or cleaned in dry-dock / on slipways / when careened ashore, any organisms removed are disposed of appropriately ashore.

Implementation of such measures requires adequate resourcing and training of port State inspection and quarantine authorities in PICTs, and this is provided for in the SRIMP-PAC Workplan.

11.2.3 At-border ballast management measures

The main at-border ballast management measure to be implemented by PICTs involves port State control inspections to assess whether relevant ships have undertaken ballast water exchange at sea or other ballast water management measures as required by the IMO BW Convention.

The simplest and most useful at-border tool that can be implemented by PICTs is to require all arriving ships to submit Ballast Water Reporting Forms as per the IMO ballast water Guidelines (A.868 (20)). While the new BW Convention only requires ships to record, and not necessarily report, ballast water information, experience gained at the six GloBallast Demonstration Sites between 2000 and 2005, showed that the basic data generated by these forms, while often fraught with errors and incompleteness, proved invaluable in allowing Port State authorities to begin to assess and understand the nature and magnitude of the ballast water issue in their country. Until such time as the BW Convention enters into force, the A.868 (20) guidelines continue to apply. Even after entry-into-force of the Convention, port States may continue to require ships to submit Ballast Water Reporting Forms.

The collection of these forms is considered a fundamental starting point for any country beginning to address the issue. Collection of these forms must be supported by the establishment of a national information system to store, manage and assess the resulting data, and the data should be provided to the regional information system established under SRMP-PAC (section 10.7). Considering the resource limitations of PICTs, collection of these forms should be integrated with the routine collection of other information from ships by PICT PSC agencies such as customs and quarantine.

Under Article 9 of the BW Convention (*Inspection of Ships*) port State Control inspectors can verify that the ship has a valid certificate; inspect the Ballast Water Record Book; and/or sample the ballast water. If there are concerns, then a detailed inspection may be carried out and “the Party carrying out the inspection shall take such steps as will ensure that the ship shall not discharge Ballast Water until it can do so without presenting a threat of harm to the environment, human health, property or resources.” All possible efforts shall be made to avoid a ship being unduly detained or delayed (Article 12 *Undue Delay to Ships*).

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Should such inspections indicate that a ship has not undertaken ballast water exchange at sea, or applied alternative ballast water management measures as outlined in the BW Convention, contingency arrangements are required, whereby the ship may be requested to steam offshore into deep oceanic waters to undertake exchange prior to ballast discharge in port. In the case of PICTs, which in most cases have water deeper than 200m relatively close to shore, such a requirement may not be particularly onerous.

Implementation of such an inspection capability requires adequate resourcing and training of port State inspection and quarantine authorities in PICTs, and this is provided for in the SRIMP-PAC Workplan.

11.2.4 Ballast tank sediments

Another important at-border ballast management measure relates to preventing the disposal of ballast tank sediments in PICT ports. Under Article 5 *Sediment Reception Facilities*, Parties undertake to ensure that ports and terminals where cleaning or repair of ballast tanks occurs have adequate reception facilities for the reception of sediments. The SRIMP-PAC therefore includes an activity to identify and assess those ports in the region where cleaning or repair of ballast tanks occurs, and to develop a ballast tank sediment management plan for each.

11.3 Post-border (incursion response, control & mitigation)

Once a foreign marine species establishes in a new environment, efforts need to be undertaken to respond to the incursion, including in order to control its further spread and mitigate its impacts, and if possible to eliminate it from the invaded environment.

It should be noted that in the vast majority of cases, once a marine bio-invasion is discovered, very little could be done to stop its spread. One notable exception is the incursion of the Black Striped Mussel in a Darwin marina in 1999, where the incursion was successfully eliminated. Following from the Darwin experience, the Australian National System for the Prevention and Management of Introduced Marine Pests, includes an ongoing management and control element coordinated by the Department of Environment and Heritage. This element aims to contain and control any introduced marine pests that have established viable populations within Australia and are having, or are expected to have a significant impact on the marine environment, industry or human health, through nationally agreed Control Plans. National Control Plans are currently being developed for 11 species that have been identified as having a potential or actual significant impact on the marine environment or industry. Also in Australia the CSIRO has published a tool-kit outlining control options for various IMP species (www.marine.csiro.au/crimp/nimpis/controls.htm).

New Zealand is also active in this area, including the development of a control plan for the northern Pacific seaweed *Undaria pinnatifida*.

While the primary focus of SRIMP-PAC is the prevention of marine bio-invasions through the pre- and at-border measures outlined above, in anticipation that such measures do sometimes fail, it is necessary for PICTs to develop regional and national IMP incursion response, control and mitigation plans, and the SRIMP-PAC Workplan provides for this. The incursion response, control and mitigation efforts being undertaken in Australia and NZ as outlined above provide models and templates for this activity.

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12. Transit Shipping

Transit shipping is shipping that travels through our region but does not call at any of our regional ports. As clearly evident on Figure 2, the Pacific Islands play unwitting host to transit ships trading between the major economies of the Pacific-Rim, passing through their Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ).

In terms of ballast water and IMPs, this creates a potential (and as yet un-assessed) problem for Pacific Island marine environments. Transit ships en-route from Japan to Australia, Singapore to South America or New Zealand to California, for example, may pass through PICT waters. In order to comply with the ballast water management requirements of Pacific-Rim ports, such ships may undertake ballast water exchange in the vicinity of small island States, and therefore potentially (and inadvertently) threaten PICTs with these ballast water discharges. . In order to assess and address the potential ballast water threat posed by transit shipping, the SRIMP-PAC Workplan includes a Transit Shipping Assessment project.

The IMO BW Convention requires that ships that undertake ballast water exchange at sea should do so at a distance of more than 200 NM from land and in waters with a depth greater than 200 metres. Reductions to 50 NM from land and in waters with a depth greater than 200 metres or in other areas designated for the purpose by Port States are provided for, where operational factors, voyage route and/or safety considerations prevent the greater distance being complied with.

Through their National ballast water management regimes, Australia, Canada, Chile, NZ and the USA require ships to record and in some cases report their mid-ocean ballast water exchange locations. Several countries have plotted these on Geographic Information System (GIS) and Australia and NZ have undertaken an evaluation of areas suitable for ballast water exchange at sea. The Transit Shipping Assessment includes using this data to identify and map the locations in the Pacific where ships report undertaking mid-ocean ballast exchange. These will be assessed with regard to proximity to Pacific island coastal and marine resources, prevailing oceanographic conditions, and compliance with the distance from shore and depth requirements of the BW Convention, to enable an enlightened assessment of the potential risks posed (or not posed) by transit ballast exchange.

Without pre-empting the findings of this assessment, given the rapid increase in ocean depths and the highly oceanic conditions that prevail close to most Pacific island coastlines (especially the more isolated islands in eastern Polynesia and eastern Micronesia), the assessment may well find that risks are not that high. However, simple distance from the coast and water depth may not be the best indicators of risk. Biophysical oceanographic parameters including temperature gradients and phytoplankton concentrations throughout the region will also be used in the assessment.

Again, without pre-empting the findings of the assessment, those PICTs that have coastal-type oceanographic conditions extending further seaward, and which are comprised of larger, continental islands that are close together and which host larger numbers of ballasted transit ships, may well be at risk from these ships conducting ballast exchange at sea (e.g. the western Melanesian islands of PNG and the Solomon Is.).

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Should the assessment indicate such high risk zones, it may be necessary to consider a process for PICTs to require 'additional measures' to be applied in these zones in accordance with Regulation C-1 of the IMO BW Convention, and also the possibility of designating these as Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs) through IMO, thereby allowing the relevant PICT to implement more stringent control measures in these areas.

13. Workplan & Budget

The SRIMP-PAC Workplan forms the 'backbone' of the Strategy, outlining the projects that need to be implemented in order to reduce shipping-related IMPs in the region. The SRIMP-PAC Workplan is to be undertaken over 5-years. Projects are grouped into the following categories (in no particular order of priority):

- Institutional Arrangements (IA)
- Communication and Awareness (CA)
- Risk Assessment (RA)
- Surveys and Monitoring (SM)
- Legislation and Regulations (LA)
- Training & Capacity Building (TCB)
- Port State Control (PSC)
- Ballast Sediments Management (BSM)
- Incursion Response and Control (IRC)
- Transit Shipping (TA)
- Information management (IA)

The projects contained within the Workplan reflect the needs and priorities of PICTs, as identified through consultations during the formulation of SRIMP-PAC.

In recognition that it is likely that no one donor will fund the entire programme individual projects or group of projects will be developed into more detailed project proposals with their respective implementation programmes. The intent of the workplan and budget is to define indicative programme of activities and budget.

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Table Two: SRIMP-PAC Workplan

Programme Area	Project Code & Title	Description	Priority	Funding source*	Models / Expertise sources	Time-line
Institutional Arrangements (IA)	IA1: Programme Coordination	Undertaken by SPREP Marine Pollution Adviser supported by Invasive Species Officer.	Very high	Funded separately as SPREP positions with broader responsibilities.		Ongoing
	IA2: Regional Coordination Meetings	Airfares and DSA for regional meetings 2.4.2	Very high	IMO ITCF?	IMO-GloBallast	Ongoing
	IA3: National Tasks Forces (NTFs)	Regular meetings of the NTFs in each PICT as outlined in section 2.4.2.	Very high	Internal PICT responsibility.	IMO-GloBallast	Ongoing
	CA1: SRIMP-PAC web site.	Establish and maintain IMP page on SPREP web site linked to other relevant sites.	High	AusAID? NZAID?	IMO-GloBallast	Establish 2007. Ongoing.
Communication & Awareness (CA)	CA2: Pac-Rim Source Port brochures/posters	Develop and distribute awareness materials at Pacific-Rim source ports aimed at preventing uptake of IMPs before departure for PICTs.	High.	APEC? Pacific-Rim countries?	IMO-GloBallast	1 st half 2007. Ongoing.
	CA3: In-region brochures/posters.	Develop and distribute awareness materials within the region.	High	AusAID? NZAID?	IMO-GloBallast	1 st half 2007. Ongoing.
	CA4: Awareness seminars / workshops	Hold 3 sub-regional awareness seminars / workshops (Micronesia/Melanesia/Polynesia) based on standard GloBallast and GISP courses.	Very high	IMO ITCF?	IMO-GloBallast	June 2007 – Dec 2007
	RA1: Overall regional risk assessment.	Carry out overall ballast water and hull fouling risk assessment to identify high-risk source ports, using environmental similarity as the primary risk factor. Include capacity building of experts from PICTs.	Very High	AusAID? NZAID? CIDA?	DAFF CSIRO Cawthron-NZ IMO-GloBallast	June 2007- June 2008
Risk Assessment (RA)	RA2: Pac-wide DSS Scoping Study	Undertake a scoping study to determine the utility and feasibility of extending the Australian and Canadian ballast water DSS to become a linked Pacific-wide system	Medium	AusAID? CIDA? APEC?	DAFF CSIRO Cawthron-NZ TransCanada	1st half 2008
	SM1: CRIMP port surveys	Survey 4 high priority ports using the full CRIMP port survey protocols. Include capacity building of experts from PICTs.	High	AusAID? NZAID? IMO ITCF? IUCN?	CSIRO NIWA-NZ JCU IMO-GloBallast	July 2007 to Dec 2008
	SM2: Bishop Museum surveys.	Survey 4 medium priority reef sites using the Bishop Museum survey protocols. Include capacity building of experts from PICTs.	Medium	US sources?	Bishop Museum Univ. of Guam	July 2008 to July 2009
Surveys & Monitoring (SM)	SM3: SERC Settling Plates	Establish SERC-style passive settling plates at 4 low priority ports. Include capacity building of experts from PICTs.	Medium	US sources?	SERC	July 2009 to July 2010

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Programme Area	Project Code & Title	Description	Priority	Funding source*	Models / Expertise sources	Time-line
	SM4: Regional voucher/reference collection	Establish a regional voucher and reference collection at USP in Fiji to house and manage samples collected from SMI, 2 and 3.	Medium	Census of Marine Life? BioNET?	CSIRO NIWA-NZ JCU	Jan 2008
	SM5: Regional IMP taxonomy initiative.	Hold one marine taxonomy training workshop every 2 years	Medium	Census of Marine Life? BioNET?	CSIRO NIWA-NZ JCU Universities.	July 2008 and July 2010
Legislation & Regulations (LA)	LA1: Regional model IMP legislation	Develop regional model IMP legislation consistent with the IMO BW Convention, UNCLOS and CBD and including the fouling vector.	Very high	IMO ITCP? IMO-GloBallast?	IMO-GloBallast SPC RMP	April 2007 to Sept 2007
	LA2: National legislative reforms	Assist each PICT to enact and implement national IMP legislation consistent with the regional model.	High	SPC RMP?	IMO-GloBallast SPC RMP	Ongoing
Port State Control (PSC)	PSC1: At-border interdiction enhancement project	Provide institutional strengthening, capacity building and technical assistance in each PICT to implement at-border incursion interdiction arrangements for both ballast water and hull fouling. Includes training of inspectors.	Very high	AusAID? NZAID? US sources?	DAFF AQIS MAF-NZ USCG	Jan 2007 Ongoing
Ballast Sediments Management (BSM)	BSM1: Ballast sediments review.	Identify and assess those ports in the region where cleaning or repair of ballast tanks occurs, and develop a sediment management plan for each.	Medium	IMO ITCP?	Singapore? Rotterdam?	Jan 2008
Training & Capacity Building (TCB)	TCB1: Develop regional model training course	Adapt the standard IMO-GloBallast and GISP-UNEP marine invasive training courses to a regional model training course suitable for use in the Pacific islands region.	Very high	IMO-GloBallast? GISP? China? Singapore?	IMO-GloBallast GISP	July 2007 to Dec 2007
	TCB2: Deliver regional model training course	Deliver the regional model training course in each sub-region (Micronesia/Melanesia/Polynesia) (NB. this is separate from and more technically focused than the awareness seminars in CA4). Include training of PICT course deliverers.	High	IMO ITCP?	IMO-GloBallast	July 2008 to July 2009
Incursion Response, & Control (IRC)	TCB3: Maritime curriculum IMP module	Adapt the regional model training course as a module for inclusion in the curriculum of regional maritime training institutes through SPC RMP.	Medium	IMO ITCP? IMO-GloBallast?	IMO-GloBallast SPC RMP	Oct 2008
	IRC1: Regional and national IMP response & control plans.	Develop a regional template for an IMP response and control plan and assist PICTs to develop national plans.	Very High	AusAID? NZAID? US sources?	CSIRO DEH NIWA-NZ MAF-NZ	July 2007 Ongoing

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Programme Area	Project Code & Title	Description	Priority	Funding source*	Models / Expertise sources	Time-line
Transit Shipping (TS)	TS1: Transit Shipping Assessment	Identify and map the locations in the Pacific where ships report undertaking mid-ocean ballast exchange. Assess with regard to risks posed (or not posed) to PICTs. Should the assessment indicate such high-risk zones, consider a process for PICTs to require 'additional measures' in accordance with Regulation C-1 of the IMO BW Convention, and also the possibility of designating PSSAs.	High	Japan? China? AusAID? NZAID? US sources?	DAFF MAF-NZ USCG CSIRO NIWA-NZ IMO-GloBallast Japan Chile Canada	July 2007 to July 2008
Information Management (IM)	IM1: Regional IMP Information System (PAC-IMPIS)	Establish a Regional IMP Information System (PAC-IMPIS) compatible with and linked to the Australian NIMPIS and US NEMESIS and other relevant information systems in the region.	Very high	APEC? AusAID? NZAID?	CSIRO SERC	Jan 2007 Ongoing

*NB as potentially proposed in this consultation draft only - based on 'perceived relevance' to proposed sponsors' experience and interests - subject to agreement by the proposed sponsors - inclusion in this draft table in no way obliges the proposed sponsors.

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Table 3: Indicative Budget

Project Code and Title	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
IA1: Programme Coordination	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000
IA2: Regional Co-ordination Meetings	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	125,000
IA3: National Tasks Forces (NTFs)	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	150,000
CA1: SRIMP-PAC web site.	20,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	30,000
CA2: Pac-Rim Source Port brochures/posters	30,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	40,000
CA3: In-region brochures/posters.	20,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	30,000
CA4: Awareness seminars / workshops	150,000	-	-	-	-	150,000
RA1: Overall regional risk assessment.	75,000	75,000	-	-	-	150,000
RA2: Pac-wide DSS Scoping Study	-	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
SM1: CRIMP port surveys (4 Ports)	120,000	120,000	-	-	-	240,000
SM2: Bishop Museum surveys. (4 Ports)	-	80,000	80,000	-	-	160,000
SM3: SERC Settling Plates (4 Ports)	-	-	40,000	40,000	-	80,000
SM4: Regional voucher/reference collection	5,000	50,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	70,000
SM5: Regional IMP taxonomy initiative.	-	25,000	-	25,000	-	50,000
LA1: Regional model IMP legislation	30,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	50,000
LA2: National legislative reforms	10,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	70,000
PSC1: At-border interdiction enhancement project	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	1,500,000
BSM1: Ballast sediments review.	-	20,000	20,000	10,000	-	50,000
TCB1: Develop regional model training course	30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000
TCB2: Deliver regional model training course	-	75,000	75,000	-	-	150,000
TCB3: Maritime curriculum IMP module	-	-	30,000	-	-	30,000
IRC1: Regional and national IMP response & control plans.	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	200,000
TSl: Transit Shipping Assessment	75,000	75,000	-	-	-	150,000
IMI: Regional IMP Information System (PAC-IMPIS)	50,000	30,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	100,000
Total/Year	1,020,000	1,132,500	792,500	517,500	442,500	3,905,000

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Any Regional Strategy is of limited use if it simply exists as a document and is not actually implemented. This of-course requires adequate financing and resourcing to allow full and effective implementation on an on-going, sustainable basis. Ideally, the implementation of environmental protection and maritime regulatory regimes such as those proposed in SRIMP-PAC should be self-sustaining and based on the 'user pays' principle.

Further development and finalisation of the Workplan and Budget contained in section 13, and especially Table 3, should include refined differentiation of initiation costs (e.g. conducting an overall regional risk assessment) and ongoing/operational costs (e.g. maintaining a regional information system), as well as refined differentiation of central/regional costs (e.g. for SPREP to undertake its overall Strategy coordination role) from in-country costs (e.g. for Port State Control activities). These differentiations will further assist the development of the financing and sustainability plan.

In 2004 the IMO GloBallast Programme undertook a *Global Review of Self Financing Mechanisms for Ballast Water Management Regimes*. This review identified three basic models for funding and resourcing such regimes, as follows;

- Reliance on external donors through official development assistance.
- The taxpayer of the country pays through government funding.
- The user (shipping industry) pays through port fees, levies or duties.

The review identified a number of examples of 'user pays' systems, including the Californian example where each visiting ship pays a set flat fee to a central ballast water management fund, and an earlier Australian example where visiting ships paid a fee per tonne of cargo carried.

While these funding schemes have proven highly successful in their particular settings, unfortunately, the relatively low volumes of shipping in Pacific island ports are unlikely to make similar approaches viable in the Pacific islands context.

Similarly, given their extremely small, aid-dependant economies, very limited tax bases and numerous competing development priorities, it is highly unlikely that PICT governments would be able to fund IMP control and management programmes from their own government revenues.

This means that effective implementation of SRIMP-PAC is unavoidably dependant on the provision of funding and support from external donors, through bilateral official development assistance (e.g. AusAID, NZAID, USAID, CIDA etc), and multi-lateral technical cooperation programmes such as the IMO-ITCP, GEF and World Bank and regional bodies such as APEC.

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Full implementation of all SRIMP-PAC projects as outlined in the Workplan in Section 13 requires a core total budget of US\$3.9 million over five years. When considering that this applies to 22 separate countries and territories spread over the world's largest ocean, this is not a particularly large amount of money. The benefits that will accrue in terms of increased protection of coastal and marine resources that form the basis of the livelihoods of Pacific islands peoples make such an investment highly worthwhile. Extension of an IMP management regime over such a large area of the Pacific will also have major benefits for Pacific-Rim countries, in terms of increased protection of their resources and ecosystems.

Given the extremely small economies of PICTs, the extremely large economies of Pacific-Rim countries (such as the USA, Japan, China, Canada, Australia and the Republic of Korea), and the benefits that will accrue to Pacific-Rim countries from the effective implementation of SRIMP-PAC, Pacific-Rim countries should be approached to fund the Strategy and implementation of its Workplan.

It is also important to explore possible links with other multi-lateral funding initiatives, including three relevant GEF proposals:

- The proposed GEF / SPREP project *Pacific Invasive Species Management*,
- The proposed GEF / GISP project *Building Capacity and Raising Awareness in Invasive Alien Species Prevention and Management*; and
- the proposed GEF / IMO project *Building Regional Partnerships for Effective Ballast Water Control and Management in Developing Countries (GloBallast Partnerships)*

The GloBallast *Partnerships* proposal is of particular relevance, and SRIMP-PAC provides an excellent framework for the implementation of GloBallast activities in the region, including replication of the experiences gained at the GloBallast Demonstration Site in Dalian, China.

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SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting*Noumea, New Caledonia*11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 8.2.2 : Projects coming to a close: Capacity Building for the Development of Adaptation Measures in Pacific Island Countries (CBDAMPIC)**Purpose of Paper**

1. To inform the SPREP Meeting of the conclusion of the CBDAMPIC project and follow-up programmes in place.

Background

2. The CBDAMPIC project was funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and implemented by SPREP from January 2002 to March 2005. The Project involved implementing pilot adaptation activities in four countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu. Through extensive community consultations, problems related to climate change were identified and prioritised and adaptation measures formulated and implemented. Core to all pilots was the participation, capacity building and establishment of institutional networks to enable and empower local communities to deal with issues arising from climate change, climate variability and associated risks.

Achievement of Outcomes and Outputs

3. The CBDAMPIC has successfully achieved its main purpose, which is to enhance the adaptive capacity of 16 communities in four Pacific island countries to the adverse effects of climate change. All the pilot communities and national governments have expressed gratitude and appreciation for the adaptation funding support provided. A brief description of the activities carried out in each country is set out below:

- In the Cook Islands, the eight communities of Aitutaki were grateful for the water tank support that they received which addressed in a considerable way the water problems they are facing due to the high salinity of their underground water supply. There were also management programmes that have been put in place that will ensure effective undertaking of water issues in the future for the whole of Aitutaki.

- In Fiji support has been provided to two Fijian dominated communities (Bavu and Tilivalevu) and an Indo-Fijian community (Volivoli) on their water retention and supply capacity.
- In Samoa, two communities (Lano and Saoluafata) were provided support for sea defence and water retention capacity. Sea defence support was provided to Saoluafata to minimise a major erosion problem they faced over the years. Already four dwellings and a primary school had to be relocated due to the severe erosion problem.
- In the case of Vanuatu, support was also provided to three communities on water retention support and relocation of a whole community.

Project Management

4. The CBDAMPIC exhibits several innovative ways of project management building on the foundation that the Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP) put in place. Although it was regionally executed, the bulk of the implementation was carried out at the national level. Resources were made available to the national governments for their management and direct implementation of planned activities. The regional coordinating mechanism of SPREP was therefore focused on backstopping countries on technical capacity building, financial administration and other support needed from time to time.

Implication on the development field

5. In the development field, this project was notable for its substantive consideration of (longer-term) climate change risks in development and resource management planning, and in efforts to improve adaptive capacities and enhance livelihoods. The project was also distinctive in the field of climate change impacts and adaptation, particularly in its:

- recognition of a wide range of risks associated with climate change, not just those derived from climate change models/scenarios;
- focus on community-based (and hence community-relevant) vulnerability assessment and community-based ("bottom-up") adaptation options;
- real community engagement in the processes of improving capacities to deal with climate-related risks; and
- incorporating adaptation to climate-change risks and related vulnerabilities into existing institutional and decision-making processes ("mainstreaming"), at both the community level and the national planning level.

International level

6. The project has directly and indirectly contributed to the direction that adaptation work is now taking in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations and funding through the Global Environment Facility (GEF). It has contributed to the increase in awareness among policy makers in other Pacific island governments on the need to integrate climate change into mainstream government planning and development.

7. The project has also developed and successfully demonstrated a framework of action that fuses the top-down and bottom-up approach to climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessments and action. This is an important development globally as some adaptation projects only promote either of the approaches. From such approaches, new models of action at the community level emerge that are specifically useful to particular cultural and geographical situations not only in the Pacific region but globally as well.

Way Forward

8. In a regional workshop that was held in Fiji (2005) to discuss lessons learnt from the CBDAMPIC project, CIDA and participating country representatives commended SPREP on its execution of the project. Country representatives again requested SPREP to develop CBDAMPIC type projects that would involve more PICs. This call reinforced similar requests made to the Secretariat at Annual SPREP Meetings and other meetings since 2003.

9. In response, SPREP and UNDP have developed the Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project that targets the Special Climate Change Fund of the GEF. Currently, the GEF has approved the PACC PDF B that will be implemented from June to December 2006 with the aim of developing a Full Size Project proposal for submission to the GEF in March 2007. Eleven countries have provided their formal letters of support and endorsement to SPREP and UNDP and requested to be part of the PACC regional adaptation initiative. Other countries that chose not to be part of the regional initiative have plans to submit national projects to the GEF.

Recommendation

10. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** the successful completion of CBDAMPIC and the progress with the PACC project addressing climate change adaptation in the region.



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

**Agenda Item 8.2.3 : Projects coming to a close: Pacific Islands
Renewable Energy Project (PIREP)****Purpose of Paper**

1. To advise the Meeting of the closure of the PIREP and the status of its follow-on project, the Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP), and other PIREP-related parallel initiatives and plans.

Background*The Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme (PICCAP): 1997-2001*

2. The PICCAP project, funded by UNDP and GEF, was the Secretariat's first regional project to build the capacity of the Pacific island countries (PICs) to deal with the challenges of climate change. Under the PICCAP, a regional greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation study confirmed that the combustion of fossil fuel was and will continue to be the major source of GHG emission and renewable energy, among others, offers excellent opportunities for reducing GHG emissions and pursuing other sustainable development aspirations of the PICs. PICs then requested the Secretariat to pursue a regional GHG mitigation project focusing on renewable energy. The PIREP was initiated as a response to this request.

The Pacific Islands Renewable Energy Project (PIREP): 2003 – 2006

3. The GEF approved the funding of the PIREP in 2002 but the PIREP was not operational until May 2003. The PIREP was a GEF Medium Size Project (MSP) funded jointly by GEF and UNDP. While it was a MSP it was still a project development exercise. It covered the 14 PICs that have ratified the UNFCCC plus Tokelau. The development goal of PIREP was the preparation of a regional approach to removing barriers to the development and commercialisation of RE systems in the PICs that influences country efforts to reduce the long-term growth of GHG emissions from fossil fuel uses, especially diesel.

4. The development of the regional approach involved conducting GHG and renewable energy assessment studies in the 15 participating PICTs, the conduct of a Regional Project Design Workshop, various consultation meetings with PICs, regional and international agencies, donors and co-financing partners and the dissemination within and beyond the region of the lessons learnt, experiences gained and outputs of the PIREP. The activities of the PIREP culminated in the design of the regional approach to removing barriers to renewable energy development, which is the PIGGAREP.

5. The PIREP was operationally closed after its Terminal Multipartite Review meeting in August 2006.

The Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP): 2006 – 2011

6. The PIGGAREP is a regional GHG mitigation project involving 11 PICs. It consists of various activities whose outputs will contribute to the removal of the major barriers to the widespread utilization of RE technologies (RETs). The project is expected to bring about in the PICs: (i) Increased number of successful commercial RE applications; (ii) Expanded market for RET applications; (iii) Enhanced institutional capacity to design, implement and monitor RE projects; (iv) Availability and accessibility of financing to existing and new RE projects; (v) Strengthened legal and regulatory structures in the energy and environmental sectors; and, (vi) Increased awareness and knowledge on RE and RETs among key stakeholders.

7. In June 2005, the GEF Council approved the PIGGAREP Project Brief with the GEF providing US\$5.225 million. The approved Project Brief was then converted into a Project Document (ProDoc) and by June 2006, the PIGGAREP ProDoc was at the GEF Secretariat awaiting final endorsement by its Chief Executive Officer. PIGGAREP is a five-year project and is expected to get off the ground in late 2006. It is the PICs' only regional GHG mitigation project in the International Renewable Energy Action Programme adopted in Bonn in June 2004. US\$0.500m in co-financing for the Project is being provided through the Pacific Islands Energy Policy and Strategic Action Plan (PIEPSAP) project being managed by SOPAC.

Parallel PIREP Initiatives and Plans

8. Besides the PIGGAREP, the PIREP's assessment reports and outputs have provided the most comprehensive and up-to-date GHG emission and energy sector data and information from the PICs. These data and information have been used as key inputs in the development of the following parallel and related projects and plans:

- i) *Action for the Development of Marshall Islands Renewable Energies (ADMIRE)*. This is a GHG mitigation barrier removal project of the RMI with US\$1 million requested of the GEF. This MSP project has been submitted to the UNDP-GEF and to the GEF Secretariat.

- ii) *Sustainable Economic Development through Renewable Energy Applications (SEDREA)*. This is Palau's GHG mitigation barrier removal project. This MSP project has been submitted to the UNDP-GEF and to the GEF Secretariat.
- iii) *Sustainable Energy Financing Project (SEFP) – (2007-2014)*. This *World Bank and IFC* sub-regional project for Fiji, Marshall Is, PNG, Solomon Is and Vanuatu was tabled at the GEF Council meeting in June 2006. This project's direct objective is to significantly increase the adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures in participating PICs by providing a package of incentives to encourage local financial institutions to participate in sustainable energy financing of equipment purchases. The GEF is expected to provide US\$9.48 million to this project.
- iv) *Australia's consideration of a Renewable Energy Action Plan for the Pacific*. The PIREP Chief Technical Advisor was invited by the Australian Department of Heritage and Environment to participate in a workshop to discuss the elements of Australia's engagement in the Pacific on renewable energy with a view to developing an Action Plan. PIREP data and information were used in the background discussion paper of this workshop.

Recommendation

9. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **note** the closure of the PIREP and the progress with the PIGGAREP and other PIREP-related parallel initiatives and plans.

03 July 2006



Agenda Item 8.2.4: Regional Strategy for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol in the Pacific Region

Purpose of Paper

1. To advise the Meeting of the final phase of the Regional Strategy to phase out ozone depleting substances (ODS) and draw attention to outstanding activities that need to be completed to achieve the objectives under the strategy. The paper also describes potential future activities in relation to the control of ozone depleting substances and in particular the phase out of HCFCs (hydrochlorofluorocarbons).

Background

2. The project started in 2002 with funding from the Multilateral Fund Secretariat (MLFS) of the Montreal Protocol together with the Government of Australia. The initial aim of the Strategy was to phase out CFCs by 2005 in eight countries through the following activities:

- Establishment of National Compliance Centres (NCC)
- National training for refrigeration technicians
- Development of regulations
- Training of customs officers for border control on ODS

3. The Project is implemented by SPREP in cooperation with UNEP DTIE (Division of Technology Industry and Environment) and UNEP ROAP (Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific). Funding is provided to SPREP and part of this is disbursed to countries for in-country activities; and part is used by SPREP to provide regional/technical support and to facilitate training.

4. Three additional countries, Nauru, Niue and Cook Islands joined the Project in 2005. UNEP and the MLFS granted a one year time extension to allow for activities in the three additional countries. The Project is due to conclude at the end of 2006.

Current status of Project

5. The project document sets out key milestones to be achieved in participating countries, a summary of country progress towards these milestones is set out in Table 1 below:

Countries	Establishment of Part time National Compliance Centre to implement NCAP	Approved National Legislation to control consumption ODS	Assisted with provision of training to refrigeration and air-conditioning technicians	*Assisted with provision of Customs Trainings and other enforcement officers
FSM	√		√	
Kiribati	√		√	
Palau	√	√	√	
RMI	√	√	√	√
Solomon Islands	√		√	
Tonga	√		√	
Tuvalu	√		√	
Vanuatu	√		√	
Cook Islands	√			
Nauru	√			
Niue	√		√	

Table 1 – Summary of activities implemented denoted by ticks

* [NB Regulations need to be in place before Customs training is undertaken]

6. Five countries have achieved zero consumption levels of CFCs in 2004. These countries were Kiribati, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Cook Islands and Niue. (The usual submission deadline for 2005 Article 7 data report is 30 September 2006) FSM was reported to be in non-compliance with the phase out program, whereby their consumption had exceeded the baseline level of 1.219 ODP tones. FSM has now returned to compliance and the reported consumption to be at 0.38 ODP tones for 2005. The details are provided in Table 2 below.

Countries	Base Line	2002	2003	2004	2005
Cook Is	1.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FSM	1.22	1.88	1.69	1.45	0.38
Kiribati	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	N.R.
Marshall Is	1.16	0.17	0.17	0.01	N.R.
Nauru	0.54	0.00	0.03	0.02	N.R.
Niue	0.05	-	0.00	0.00	N.R.
Palau	1.62	0.09	0.97	0.94	N.R.
Solomon Is	2.04	0.48	0.82	1.13	0.96
Tonga	1.33	0.80	0.32	0.00	N.R.
Tuvalu	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	N.R.
Vanuatu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Table 2 – Annex I (CFC) consumption data for each Country in ODP tonnes

N.R. – stands for not yet reported

Comment on progress

7. As can be seen from Table 1, there is much work to be completed if the Project is to meet its objectives. It is clear that:

- i) implementing ozone regulations has proven much more difficult and time-consuming than anticipated, meaning that phase out of ODS (CFC) across the region will not be achieved before the end of the Project; and
- ii) the costs of refrigeration training and consultant technical support has exceeded that budgeted for the project

8. The combination of these two factors mean that the funding body, the MLFS is becoming increasingly concerned about the delivery of outputs under this project. As a consequence, it is considering withholding funding for the completion of the Project, given the perceived lack of progress.

9. SPREP is continuing to work with UNEP to maintain the support of the MLFS to complete as much as possible of the work by the end of 2006. Countries can assist this greatly by passing ODS regulations as soon as practicable and completing their reporting requirements under the Strategy and the Montreal Protocol.

Regional Support beyond 2006

10. SPREP is working closely with UNEP, the Government of Australia and member countries to develop proposals to continue support for this work at national and regional level. A Regional Network proposal is being developed, which would provide regional support for ozone officers and fund an annual regional network meeting. At the national level, continued support is being sought from the MLFS for renewals of the existing institutional strengthening projects (primarily funding of national ozone officers as well as operations of the NCC).

Recommendation

11. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** progress with the control and phase out of ozone depleting substances under the Regional Strategy;
- **note** the Secretariat plans to continue to provide technical support and advice to countries under the current Project until its conclusion at the end of 2006;
- **urge** countries that have not yet done so to implement ozone regulations as soon as practicable and complete their reporting requirements under the Montreal Protocol; and
- **note** that SPREP is working with UNEP and the Government of Australia to maintain ongoing support for control/phase-out of ozone depleting substances beyond 2006.



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 8.2.5 : Activities in relation to financing for regional environmental projects from the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Purpose of the Paper

1. To advise the Meeting of activities related to financing for regional environmental projects from the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

Background

2. The Secretariat has been playing a leading role in supporting countries and the region in gaining access to funding, primarily through the GEF. This role is reinforced in the Pacific Plan, which identifies SPREP as the Lead Agency for the following initiative:

5.6 Facilitate international financing for sustainable development, biodiversity and environmental protection and climate change in the Pacific including through the Global Environment Facility

GEF Activities for 2005/06

Influencing GEF Processes

3. SPREP, along with other CROP agencies, facilitated regional input into the third Overall Performance Review (OPS3) of the GEF early in 2005. This input led to the OPS3 report highlighting the fact that Small Island Developing States, particularly in the Pacific, have had difficulty gaining access to GEF funding. PIC's input has had significant influence on the design of GEF processes, and increased awareness within the GEF Secretariat of PIC's special circumstances and needs. The GEF Secretariat has responded by:

- Creating a special programme to build and strengthen national GEF focal points
- Extending the Small Grants Programme (SGP) to all Pacific SIDs

4. Following up on the needs identified in OPS3, SPREP and the Forum Secretariat negotiated agreement with AusAID and NZAID to fund a GEF officer to provide GEF outreach services to Pacific countries; the position to be housed at SPREP. This position should have been advertised by August 2006. This appointment will complement the placement of a UNEP officer at SPREP, and the support provided to the region by the GEF implementing agencies (UNDP, ADB, World Bank)

Supporting Countries

5. SPREP and the Forum Secretariat have provided analysis and advice to support for PICs in their dealings with the GEF. This occurs through two avenues:

- Supporting Pacific New York Missions working with the GEF Secretariat and Implementing Agencies to support initiatives for the Pacific (in terms of improving GEF processes, and lobbying in support of specific projects). A summary of current GEF regional projects is attached as annex 1.
- Supporting GEF Focal points in Constituency meetings and the GEF Assembly.

6. SPREP has appointed a Sustainable Development Adviser whose role includes advocating on behalf of the region in GEF process, and in support of Pacific GEF Projects.

Ongoing GEF Issues

- Replenishment of funds: During 2006 donor countries agreed to commit funding for a fourth replenishment of GEF funds to be allocated under GEF4. Funding is expected to be at approximately the same level as GEF 3.
- Resource allocation framework: Under GEF 4 funding through the climate change and biodiversity windows will be allocated under a Resource Allocation Framework (RAF). This sets aside funding for countries subject to the submission of sound projects. The RAF potentially limits the total funding available to countries. The implementation of the RAF will require greater engagement of countries in terms of in-country priority-setting. In addition SPREP and other CROP agencies expect to contribute to identifying regional priorities and coordination.

European Development Fund – EDF 10

7. The European Union is in the process of developing strategies to guide the tenth European Development Fund (EDF 10) setting out funding priorities over the period 2008 – 2012. The EU has put forward its view of regional priorities in terms of a proposed Green – Blue concept. This identified the Pacific regional environment as a 'global good' that the EU is interested in supporting. The Green-Blue concept covers a full range of environmental issues across the region (climate change, biodiversity, waste management, lands, forest, fisheries, tourism, renewable energy, etc).

8. At the time of writing, a process was being put in place for regional organisations to develop a regional strategy paper to guide regional funding under EDF10

Recommendation

9. The Meeting is invited to:

- note the work carried out by SPREP, the Forum Secretariat and other regional organisations to support countries' and regional access to GEF funds; and
- note that the EU has promoted a "Green-Blue" concept for regional programming under the 10th EDF.

Annex 1

Summary of Current and Pipeline GEF Regional Projects in Pacific SIDS

- The implementation of the Pacific Islands Renewable Energy Project (PIREP) has led to a regional Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP) which is awaiting final endorsement by the GEF Secretariat's CEO. GEF Grant US\$5.225 million, Co-financing US\$m 20.80, **Total Project Cost US\$m 26.025.** (SPREP)
- Renewable Energy Assessments conducted under the PIREP in 15 PICs have facilitated a World Bank / IFC proposal for funding from the GEF to encourage local financial institutions in Fiji, PNG, RMI, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu to participate in sustainable energy financing of equipment purchases. GEF Grant US\$9.48 million Sub-Total Co-financing: US\$21,600,000, Sub-Total Leveraged Resources: US\$22,120,000 (Associated Activities), **Total Project Cost US\$ 53,200,000.**
- The PIREP has assisted RMI to develop a US\$1 million project proposal that has been submitted to the GEF Secretariat CEO to be approved for funding.
- Pacific Invasive Species Management PDF-B (UNDP), with a GEF contribution of \$529,700 approved for PDF- B. A full sized project will be developed with budget- GEF Grant of US\$m 4.500, Co-financing Amount US\$m 6.739, **Total Project Cost US\$m 11.239** (SPREP).
- Implementing the Bonn Guidelines on ABS in the Pacific Island Countries a PDF-A (US\$48,000) being used to develop medium-sized project (**US\$948,250**). (SPREP)
- Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) (UNDP). This is one of the few projects globally to access the Special Climate Change Fund of the GEF. The PACC PDF B has been approved by the GEF and this phase of the project will be executed from June 2006 to December 2006 to develop the full-sized project. SCCF/GEF: US\$11.250m; co-financing \$70.8m; **Total Project Costs US\$82m.** (SPREP)
- Implementing Sustainable Integrated Water Resource and Wastewater Management in the Pacific Island Countries (UNDP). GEF Grant 12.723m in PDF B phase Co-financing US\$m 12.000 and **Total Project Costs US\$m 24.723.** (SOPAC)
- Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (UNDP). GEF Grant 11.644 US\$m, co-financing US\$m 79.092 **Total project US\$m 90.736** (FFA)



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting*Noumea, New Caledonia*

11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 8.3 : Regional Collaboration: Greater Engagement of Territories in SPREP Activities**Purpose of the Paper**

1. To provide the Meeting with an update on activities undertaken by the Secretariat since the SPREP Meeting last year to address opportunities and mechanisms that foster a greater involvement and participation of territories in the work of the Secretariat as well as enhance regional engagement and exchanges between island member countries and territories

Background

2. During the SPREP Meeting of 2004, the Secretariat convened an informal consultation with territories on increasing their involvement and integration into the work programme of the Secretariat. The objective of the consultation was to identify ways to achieve greater participation of the territories in the work of the Secretariat. At the consultation, a number of gaps were identified that required more indepth consideration.

3. The Environment Ministers' Meeting that followed that SPREP Meeting "requested the Secretariat to further its efforts to increase the involvement of the Territories in the programmes of SPREP and welcomed the Secretariat's initiative to hold a workshop in 2005 addressing increased Territory participation and to report the outcomes to the 16th SPREP meeting of Officials".

4. Accordingly, the Secretariat convened a meeting inviting all seven territories and metropolitan countries at SPREP Headquarters, in June 2005 and its report was presented to last year's SPREP Meeting. In concluding discussion of the meeting report, the 16th SPREP Meeting urged the Secretariat to pursue efforts in promoting greater involvement of Pacific island territories in the work programme of SPREP, and requested the Secretariat to report to the next SPREP Meeting on the steps undertaken to address the identified opportunities and mechanisms for greater involvement and participation of the Pacific island territories into the work programme of SPREP.

Issues

5. The 2005 meeting, identified a number of key mechanisms for strengthening regional collaboration and engagement of territories in the Secretariat programmes including increasing the visibility of SPREP in the territories, establishing better communication and liaison between the Secretariat and the territories, as well as mobilisation and sharing territories technical expertise with island countries.

6. The process of identification involved a rethinking of where the constraints lie and developing ways and means to deal with them. This has been matched by the willingness of territories to engage with both the Secretariat and other members in a range of activities including the CMS MOUs on cetaceans and dugongs, the Roundtable for Nature Conservation monitoring and evaluation (M&E) consultations, the Montreal Protocol discussions, the CBD COP 8 meeting and other regional environment meetings. As knowledge and information are exchanged and experiences shared, these relationships will continue to develop and bear fruit.

7. A range of regional strategies and policy documents include territories as stakeholders including the Pacific Islands Climate Change Framework which was endorsed by Forum Leaders last year and involved American Samoa in its consultation meeting. With the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation, a number of territories were visited and consulted as part of the M&E activity to show the outcomes achieved by that Strategy. The feedback provided will assist the Secretariat in the ongoing implementation of regional priorities and in incorporating the efforts and experiences of territories in its work.

8. The territories' political status often affect eligibility for project funding from intergovernmental agencies and precludes them from participation in some very worthwhile environment projects. In an effort to overcome the financing issue the Secretariat has secured funding from Fond Pacifique to engage territories in a regional UNDP/GEF invasive species activity as well as with NOAA on establishing a socio-economic monitoring network which will strengthen practical relationships between SPREP member countries and territories.

10. SPREP was invited to participate in a *Workshop on Climate Variability and Change in American Samoa: Challenges and Opportunities*, organised by the East-West Center in partnership with a range of American Samoan institutions. It included representatives of the American Samoa government, businesses, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and communities. The focus was on discussion of the impacts of year-to-year climate variability associated with El Niño and long-term climate change for the communities, natural resources and businesses of American Samoa.

11. The Regional Waste Management Strategy has provided a regional context that contain both regional and Member specific actions. Recent work with Japan, France, UNEP, AusAID and NZAid has resulted in a coordinated approach to the implementation of that regional strategy. Further work is required to bring other agencies such as the ADB, the UNDP, the EU and the US into regular communication about projects and priorities in waste management to capitalize on economies of scale and shared methodologies.

12. The Secretariat made important steps to facilitate greater focus on regional collaboration over the past year. The SPREP Director visited New Caledonia in August 2005 to follow up the relevant outcomes of the territories meeting and took part in the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council meeting in American Samoa: the Secretariat has also recruited a bilingual coral reef expert, who will also act as a focal point for the French territories and SPREP staff have taken part in a range of meetings in territories and relevant countries to identify opportunities for technical and policy exchange and dialogue, including at the US Coral Reef Taskforce meeting in Palau, IFRECOR meeting in New Caledonia and others.

13. Territories have also been involved in the first phase of the Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN) which offers the opportunity for SPREP members to deal with a significant issue affecting all countries and territories. American Samoa and Guam are in the first phase of this activity and New Caledonia and French Polynesia will be involved in the second phase.

Opportunities for strengthening regional collaboration

14. At the strategic level, the SPREP Meeting is the main mechanism for members particularly through the work programme and budget and reporting processes as well as the Ministerial Meeting, to highlight in-country activities and needs and to direct the work of the Secretariat consistent with the SPREP Action Plan priorities. The focus on island biodiversity in this year's Ministerial meeting offers an opportunity for territories to outline their efforts and needs.

15. The Secretariat continues to look for resources to enable territories to be involved in projects and activities. This is particularly relevant in the current discussions on the EU EDF 10.

16. Learning networks, such as PILN, offer a significant opportunity as their focus is more on the issues that are common between island members and provide a practical means for these to be addressed and allow the sharing of expertise, technologies and techniques between island countries and territories. PILN is a pilot of this type of approach and the growing focus on this and the broadening of its focus will continue to enable territories to be tangibly involved in the work of other member countries and the Secretariat.

17. There are also a range of networks which could also benefit from this approach by bringing together existing initiatives in the territories and Pacific island countries such as the Pacific Island MPA Community (PIMPAC), the French Initiative for Coral Reefs (IFRECOR) and the Locally Managed Marine Areas Network.

Recommendation

18. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** the progress towards improved integration of territories in the work of the Secretariat;
 - **encourage** all SPREP members and the Secretariat to continue to expand the positive dialogue and increase tangible actions on environmental issues, activities and projects of relevance; and
 - **urge** both donor members and the broader donor community to supplement or extend funding for environment projects to include territories.
-

8 July 2006



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 8.4: Country Profiles as a Means for Members' National Reporting under SPREP Action Plan (2005 - 2009)**Purpose of Paper**

1. To present to the Meeting a discussion paper on the draft Country Profile template that SPREP Members could use to document relevant international, regional and national instruments and actions that contribute to achieving the Outcomes of the region's Action Plan for Managing the Environment and to seek its endorsement of the draft Country Profile for immediate implementation.

Background

2. The concept of Country Profiles as a means to assist SPREP members and Pacific island countries and territories, document all relevant international obligations and national legislations, policies and frameworks, projects and actions contributing to addressing the environment priorities of the region encapsulated in the Action Plan for Managing the Environment of the Pacific Islands Region (2005 – 2009), was addressed by senior environment officials and the Secretariat in a workshop in June 2004 that recommended the draft Action Plan to the 15th SPREP Meeting (Tahiti, September 2004) for approval. They adopted the concept for inclusion in the Action Plan as a Means for Implementation of the Action Plan (Section 7.2).

3. The Environment Minister's Meeting that met on 17 September 2004 in Pape'ete, French Polynesia, in approving the Action Plan (2005 – 2009) "urged members together with the Secretariat to undertake the necessary steps at the earliest to implement the Action Plan taking into account the different approaches and partnerships needed".

4. Under Country Profiles in the Action Plan it is stated:

"The Action Plan is a synthesis of Members' environmental and sustainable development priorities. Successful implementation depends on progress within each member country and territory. To effectively measure progress over time, Pacific island Members' profiles will be developed. The profiles provide a template for each member to indicate progress towards achieving the outcomes of the Action Plan"

5. At the SPREP Meeting last year, at the New Zealand delegation's initiative, the Meeting again addressed the matter of the need for the Members' to complement the reporting by the Secretariat of work undertaken in the region towards the outcomes of the current Acting Plan to enable the Meeting to have a more complete picture of what is taking place in the region to address the priorities of the Action Plan and how successful or not these are in achieving the Action Plan outcomes.

6. The Meeting concluded the matter be further addressed at the 17th SPREP Meeting. The full text of the discussion and decision of last year's Meeting on this is annexed as Attachment 2.

Country Profiles

7. Subsequent to the adoption of the 2005 – 2009 Action Plan in 2004, the Secretariat worked on developing a Country Profile template for Members' consideration.

8. The Secretariat's obligation and contribution towards achieving the goal and outcomes of the Action Plan is set out in its Strategic Programmes (2004 – 2013) which is delivered incrementally over the period in its annual work programmes and budgets approved yearly by the SPREP Meeting.

9. To enable the SPREP Meeting, as the gathering of all Members, to obtain a more complete view of progress towards achieving its Action Plan outcomes would require both information on what its Secretariat is doing as well as the substantial work that is being undertaken nationally by countries and territories. The Country Profiles would facilitate and assist members in this task that would have benefits for both the region and members themselves.

10. For the region, particularly its annual gathering as the SPREP Meeting, it would help provide a more complete picture and appreciation of how it is faring, at particular points in time, in moving towards achieving its agreed outcomes for environmental priorities. It would also facilitate the much desired but still limited sharing of experiences and lessons learned by PICTs in addressing, nationally and regionally, of the environmental priorities of the Action Plan.

11. For the countries and territories themselves, they would have the benefit of a national document that would include the various, international, regional and national obligations, instruments, policies, frameworks, projects and actions addressing the environmental priorities identified by the members as being of both national and regional application.

12. Additionally, the Secretariat is hopeful that with improvement and finetuning as the template evolves, the Country Profiles could also assist Pacific island countries with their national reporting obligations to the various international and regional conventions they are Parties to.

13. The draft Country Profile template that has been developed by the Secretariat is provided as Attachment 1.

Recommendation

14. The Meeting is invited to:

- **review and adopt** the Country Profile template for immediate implementation.

26 July 2006

SPREP COUNTRY PROFILES

Objectives of the Profiles:

1. To have a National Profile that relates the goals and outcomes of the SPREP Action Plan to the unique context of each member Country and Territory.
2. To provide a mechanism to monitor the progress, at the National level over time, towards achieving agreed outcomes in the SPREP Action Plan.
3. To have ability to monitor and guide the assistance of the Secretariat directly at the National Level.
4. To document institutional memory at the National level, on the status of the country against the SPREP Action Plan and other important environmental goals and targets.
5. To provide a record of Country/Territory visits and assistance
6. To develop a Country Profile owned and vetted by the Country themselves instead of having other agencies developing national profiles with data that is often outdated or in-correct.

Responsibility to update:

1. SPREP Members have discussed the frequency for updating the Country Profiles and have agreed it is a National Decision but suggest updating perhaps at the outset of the Action Plan, at its half way mark (2.5 Years) and again at its end in 2009.
2. The SPREP National Focal Point will have the editing responsibility of the Country Profile.
3. The Secretariat will assist the National Focal Points where requested to update the Country Profile, however will approach the NFP with suggested updates in particular after in-country visits or important developments.
4. Initial baseline for 2005. Offer Secretariat's assistance to develop using past National Assessments and other material, or through already planned country visits over the next 6 months or so.

COUNTRY PROFILE TEMPLATE

INTRODUCTION

Some brief information about the Country, listing the SPREP Focal Point and contact details as well as the GEF Focal Point and contact details. Another other information the member thinks relevant e.g. list National Plans, Policies or Strategies that this profile should also act as a means for reporting against.

1.0 NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Relevant Instruments: List instruments that Member Country/Territory is a party to, has developed or is using that is relevant to this area.

Status and Particular Issues of concern: List issues specific to the Member Country/Territory within the context of the narrative of the relevant section of the SPREP Action plan.

Agreed Outcomes in Action Plan:

1.1. The sustainable management and conservation of terrestrial, marine and coastal resources, ecosystems and species improved, through the development of programs for sustainable development.

2005 – Current status of the member C/T on the above and relevant programmes and partnerships assisting member at the time. Include suggestions for desired assistance from Secretariat and other partners.

1.2 Significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss by 2010.

2005 – Current status of member C/T, available data, systems or ability to monitor, strategies or programs assisting the member to meet the outcome. Suggestions for future assistance from Secretariat and other partners or direction for improved capacity at the national level to contribute to this outcome.

1.3 Effective implementation of the ecosystem approach to natural resource conservation.

2005 – Current system of approach in member C/T. Suggestions on how to move towards ecosystems approach to natural resource conservation. Programmes and partnerships assisting member C/T and suggestions for further assistance by Secretariat and other partners, or improved capacity at the National level.

[Provision for National specific outcomes]

2.0 POLLUTION PREVENTION

Relevant Instruments: List instruments and policy that Member Country/Territory is a party to, has developed or is using that is relevant to this area.

Status and Particular Issues of concern: List issues specific to the Member Country/Territory within the context of the narrative of the relevant section of the SPREP Action plan.

Agreed Outcomes in Action Plan

2.1 Effective management of pollution due to waste and other land based human activities through the implementation of appropriate systems for waste disposal and treatment.

2005 – Current status of management systems, desired improvements for more effective systems. Current relevant programmes, partnerships, and policies that are assisting the member C/T in this area and suggestions for improved assistance from secretariat and other partners. Suggestions for National improvement in capacity to facilitate this area.

2.2 PICT capabilities to manage and respond to terrestrial, atmospheric, marine pollution, hazardous waste, solid waste, sewerage and other land-based sources of pollution enhanced.

2005 – Status of member C/T in regard to the above in particular national policy and response mechanisms. Current programmes, partnerships and policy assisting with this area. Suggestions for improved assistance from the secretariat and other partners and measures at the national level to improve the ability of the member to meet this outcome.

2.3 Maximized reuse, recycling and reduced waste generation.

2005 – Status of member C/T in regards to reuse, recycling and reduction, available data, available monitoring systems. Programmes, partnerships and policy's assisting the member in this area, and suggestions for improved assistance from secretariat and other partners.

[Provision for National specific outcomes]

3.0 CLIMATE CHANGE, CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND SEA LEVEL RISE

Relevant Instruments: List instruments and policy that Member Country/Territory is a party to, has developed or is using that is relevant to this area.

Status and Particular Issues of concern: List issues specific to the Member Country/Territory within the context of the narrative of the relevant section of the SPREP Action plan.

Agreed Outcomes in Action Plan

3.1 PICTs responses to the known and potential impacts of climate change enhanced through the implementation of adaptation measures.

2005 – Status of adaptation measures for response to potential impacts of climate change. Current programmes, partnerships or policy that is assisting the member C/T to improve its ability in this area. Suggestions for further assistance by secretariat and other partners, including the member, to improve the ability of the member to meet this outcome.

3.2 Alternative energy technologies and systems that are adequate, affordable, efficient and environmentally sound, in particular renewable energy resources, developed and used.

2005 – Status of alternative energy used, its affordability and effectiveness. Programmes, partnerships and policy assisting to improve the development and use of renewable energy in the member C/T. Suggestions for improved assistance from secretariat and other partners.

3.3 Meteorological and climatologically capacities of PICTs developed and enhanced.

2005 – Status of climatological capacity of member C/T and desired improvements over the next 5 years. Programmes, partnerships and policy assisting the member achieve this. Suggestions for improved assistance from secretariat and other partners, including improved capacity at the national level.

3.4 Improved accuracy of information, modeling and clearing house mechanisms on the effects of climate change.

2005 – Current status of information accessible and used by the member C/T. Current programmes, partnerships and policy assisting in this regard. Suggestions for improved assistance from the secretariat and other partners including member C/T.

3.5 CFCs in PICTs banned by 2005

2005 – Status of use of CFC's in member state. Programmes, partnerships or policy assisting with this objective.

[Provision for National specific outcomes/targets]

4.0 CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

4.1 INTEGRATED POLICY, PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS

4.1.1 National sustainable development strategies/frameworks developed and implemented.

2005 – Status of NSDS development and implementation. Stakeholders involved in its development and implementation.

4.1.2 Integrated planning and management mechanisms and tools for sustainable development, enhanced.

2005 – Status of available and used tools for sustainable development. E.g. EIA Suggestions for improving their use in Integrated Planning and management processes in member C/T.

4.1.3 Collaboration and coordination, through national and regional partnerships, improved.

2005 – Status of successful partnerships providing improved coordination amongst relevant stakeholders at the national level. Status of regional partnerships currently assisting the member, and suggestions for improvement of these partnerships.

4.2 ENVIRONMENT MONITORING AND REPORTING

4.2.1 Means to monitor and report on environmental performance and socio-economic pressures on the environment improved.

2005 – Status of monitoring and reporting on environmental performance and socio-economic pressures on the environment. E.g. State of the Environment Database's, PRISM, other database's or indicators being used at the National Level. What policy's, programmes and partnerships are assisting with this work. Suggested means to improve through national changes or partners assistance.

4.2.2 Tools to improve the means to respond to pressures, emerging threats and opportunities developed.

2005 – Status of members ability to respond to pressures, emerging threats and opportunities. E.g. GIS, land use planning, opportunity mapping, sustainable development guidelines etc. What policy's, programmes and partnerships are assisting with this work. Suggested means to improve through national changes or partners assistance.

4.2.3 Integrated assessments and planning processes accessible and available.

2005 – Status of planning and assessment processes and partners involved in the consultation and decision making process.

4.3 MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENT AGREEMENTS AND PROCESSES

4.3.1 Improved capacity of PICTs to manage multilateral environmental agreements and relevant regional mechanisms.

4.3.2 PICTs capacity to meet the obligations under the Apia, SPREP, Waigani and other multilateral environmental agreements enhanced.

2005 - List of MEAS ratified.

Institutional framework including the number of policies, human resources developed for improved negotiation and management of MEAs. List establishment of committees/councils/working groups/task forces for the management of MEAs. Highlight success factors/problems or constraints in setting up/maintaining the institutional framework.

Legal Framework – List number of legal specialists based or involved in the Department /Unit responsible for the implementation of MEAs. Different legislation developed to implement MEA's. Any specific activities which took place to develop capacities within agencies involved in the implementation of MEAs. Areas of particular expertise that your country possesses or has strongly developed which could be useful for others

Information management – List means put in place in relevant agencies for data collection, storage, assessment and reporting under MEAs. Measures taken nationally to disseminate information to increase/relevant stakeholders (NGOs, private sector..)

Public Awareness – List actions/initiative taken to increase public awareness on the MEAs that have been ratified by your Country/Territory.

Participation and partnership - Measures to increase cooperation and partnership with stakeholders (NGOs, private sector, among agencies..)

Financing and resourcing- Accessibility to funding sources for the management of MEAs. Percentage of national financial commitments for the implementation of the MEAs. Relative priority of the management of MEAs in the context of National Development Plans or Strategies.

4.4 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

4.4.1 *PICTs capacity to manage and develop its human resources improved*

2005 – Status of implementing the individual and institutional capacity building priority activities linked to Action Plan Outcomes and identification of emerging priorities.

4.5 PUBLIC AWARENESS & EDUCATION

4.5.1 *PICTs capacity to educate and raise awareness about environment and sustainable development improved.*

2005 – Status of Education and Awareness personal in environment department/unit, or the integration of environmental issues in current school curriculum.

4.6 KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

4.6.1 *PICTs capacity to manage knowledge further developed and strengthened.*

4.6.2 *Relevant national and regional clearinghouse mechanisms and environmental databases are established, integrated and improved.*

4.7 OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

Possibly list here other National, Regional or Environmental Goals that are not included in the SPREP outcomes, that are perhaps longer term than 5 years, but still contribute significantly to the goals of the SPREP Action Plan, or National Environmental Priorities.

E.g. MDG's Goal 7 and 8, relevant targets of the JPoI etc...

Extract from the Record of the 16th SPREP Meeting

Agenda Item 10: Items Proposed by Members

Members' Reporting on National Activities under SPREP Action Plan (NZ)

406. The representative of New Zealand highlighted that last year's Meeting agreed to a name change. He also noted that the Members supported the SPREP Action Plan and highlighted the joint responsibility to undertake this work. He suggested that each year, Members report to the SPREP Meeting on their efforts to implement the SPREP Action Plan, under an agreed theme. This would provide an opportunity to highlight the work being undertaken by Members under the Action Plan. He said it was necessary for a mechanism to be developed and asked for suggestions on how to undertake this process.

407. The Chair supported this proposal and stated that SPC has adopted a theme process for reporting. He suggested that each Member prepare a short briefing on a selected theme.

408. The representative of Marshall Islands supported the idea if it was within the capacity of countries to share information on national initiatives currently taking place and not in a reporting manner.

409. The representative of Vanuatu endorsed the proposal. He said Members can take a stronger lead in implementing the SPREP Action Plan and promoted collaboration and partnerships. He expressed willingness to be involved in the process.

410. The representative of Tonga supported the proposal. Such an agenda item to the Meeting would give Members the opportunity to promote its expectations to the Secretariat.

411. The representative of Samoa suggested the need to refine the process for sharing information on issues, and a mechanism for sharing experiences. He suggested there was a need for a forum for Members to share their work programme to the other Members.

412. The representative of France supported the proposal, however stressed that the Members not be laden with administrative reporting requirements. He suggested that themes are drawn from international agendas, that would result in a significant contribution to regional dialogues. He also stated that other such reports generated in this context could be used as a basis for discussion at the SPREP Meeting.

413. The Chair proposed that the next SPREP Meeting would be a forum to discuss a mechanism for developing and presenting Members' reports and decide on a theme for the 18th SPREP Meeting.

414. The representative of New Caledonia supported the proposal and suggested this would be a good opportunity to better integrate territories into SPREP programmes.

415. The Meeting endorsed the proposal for the next meeting.



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 8.5: Consideration and Approval of the Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2007 and Indicative Budgets for 2008 and 2009

Purpose of Paper

1. To seek the Meeting's consideration and approval of the Secretariat's proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2007 and to note the indicative budgets for 2008 and 2009.

Recommendation

2. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **consider** and **approve** the proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2007 and to note the indicative budgets for 2008 and 2009.
-

10 July 2006



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia
11-15 September 2006

**Agenda Item 9.1 : Status of Ratifications of the
Agreement Establishing SPREP (AES)**

Purpose of paper

1. To provide the Meeting with a brief report from the Depository on the ratifications so far to the AES and its status.

Background

2. Although SPREP had been in existence since the mid-1970s as a programme of SPC and since 1982 as an autonomous entity within SPC, negotiations for the formal intergovernmental Agreement Establishing SPREP was only initiated in 1992 after it relocated to Apia, Samoa and concluded and signed at Apia on 16 June 1993. It entered into force on 31 August 1995, after the tenth instrument of ratification was lodged with the Depository, the Government of Samoa.
3. Since 1995, three signatories (the Republic of Marshall Islands, the United States of America and Vanuatu) and one former U.S. Trust Territory (Palau) remain to ratify or accede to fully commit all States and Territories that established SPREP to the AES and its institutions.
4. The Secretariat with the help of the Depository continued to work with the few remaining members to complete their ratifications and accession to the AES.
5. The Secretariat is now delighted and proud to report that 2006 is a landmark year in the life of SPREP when the remaining signatory to the AES, the Government of Vanuatu lodged its Instrument of Ratification with the Government of Samoa, in January.
6. All member States and Territories are now full legal and participating members of SPREP.
7. A brief report by the Depository on the details is attached.

Recommendation

8. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **note** that all states and territories are now full members and participants in SPREP.

AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (SPREP)

Status of Ratification of the Agreement

The SPREP Agreement came into force on 31st August 1995 after the deposit of the tenth Instrument of Ratification with the Government of Samoa as the Depositary of the Agreement.

As of July 2006, eighteen (18) countries have become Parties to the Agreement, having so ratified the Agreement, and that no reservations or declarations were made by the signatories or Parties to the Agreement.

Country	Signature	Ratification/ Accession (A)	Entry into force
Australia	21 September 1993	17 October 1994	31 August 1995
Cook Islands	~	30 August 1995 (A)	30 September 1995
Federated States of Micronesia	10 August 1993	19 January 1995	31 August 1995
Fiji	16 June 1993	12 October 1993	31 August 1995
France*	16 June 1993	11 July 1996	11 August 1996
Kiribati	16 June 1993	16 August 1994	31 August 1995
Marshall Islands	16 June 1993	4 February 2003 (A)	7 March 2003
Nauru	16 June 1993	16 March 1994	31 August 1995
New Zealand**	10 August 1993	16 December 1993	31 August 1995
Niue	16 June 1993	31 July 1995	31 August 1995
Palau	~	18 August 2005 (A)	18 September 2005
Papua New Guinea	29 September 1993	7 November 1994	31 August 1995
Samoa	16 June 1993	16 September 1993	31 August 1995
Solomon Islands	16 June 1993	7 March 1996	7 April 1996
Tonga	~	15 September 1995 (A)	16 October 1995
Tuvalu	16 June 1993	17 November 1994	31 August 1995
United Kingdom***	~	~	~
United States of America****	16 June 1993	14 July 2005	14 August 2005
Vanuatu	16 June 1993	31 January 2006	3 March 2006

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Apia, 4 July 2006

*includes French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna

**includes Tokelau

***on behalf of Pitcairn Island which withdrew from SPREP effective 2002

****includes American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianas Islands



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting*Noumea, New Caledonia*11-15 September 2006

**Agenda Item 9.2: Performance Management and Development for
Post of Director**

(A Paper by Australia)

Purpose

1. This paper responds to the decision of the 16th SPREP Meeting of Officials (Item 8.2) to:
 - To establish a working group facilitated through email by Australia and a core group comprising Samoa, Tonga, FSM, French Polynesia and any other interested members to allow consideration of a system for evaluating the Director's performance and to report to the 17th SPREP meeting; and
 - That on the second year of the Director's first term, the Members evaluate his/her performance and decide on whether to offer a second term or advertise the post.

Policy Statement

2. The aim of any employee performance management and development process is to develop, maintain and improve individual performance in order for an employee to meet his or her individual potential and SPREP's business goals. It is a tool for rewarding, encouraging, supporting and developing employees. It also encourages employees to examine their careers within the context of their abilities, skills, values and performance leading to effective career self-management.
3. SPREP recognises that different professional and occupational groups and work units have different performance requirements, managers and supervisors are given flexibility in implementing a relevant model within the boundaries of this policy. However, all employees need to be informed about how their performance is to be planned, assessed and recorded.

Principles

4. 1. Responsibility for evaluating the Director's performance and development will be taken by the Members on an annual basis. The Members may choose to delegate this task to the Chair and Vice-Chair.
2. The principles of natural justice and procedural fairness will apply to all performance management and development decisions.
3. Feedback will be constructive, with the aim being to recognise and support individual differences and cultural sensitivities.
4. Appropriate levels of confidentiality will be maintained for all processes associated with the performance and development scheme.
5. Appropriate levels of documentation will be maintained for each performance assessment. This should clearly and concisely describe the grounds on which the assessment is made.
6. It is the responsibility of the Director to ensure that the performance planning process cascades down through other levels of the organisation, so that middle managers effectively contribute to the goals established between the Director and the Members.

The Performance Development Cycle

5. The cycle outlined below is suitable for roles that involve performance of structured and relative consistent work tasks throughout the performance development cycle.

Step 1 Planning Meeting

6. A planning discussion with the Chair and Vice-Chair and the Director will define the role, responsibilities, scope, goals and objectives of the position, based on the Work Programme and budget. The Director should document the performance indicators for each key objective, ie what are the key elements he/she should achieve in the job, and the way to measure achievement against this objective. This meeting should also identify any training or development opportunities and discuss how these might be provided.

Step 2 Progress Meeting (or Mid-cycle Meeting)

7. This discussion involves evaluation of progress and results achieved to date, measurement of work performance, identifying areas of success and areas that require further development. The Director should identify and list achievements and list and identify any barriers that hindered progress in meeting agreed objectives. The meeting should also identify any additional training requirements or areas for development.

Step 3 Achievement Meeting (within 12 months of planning meeting)

8. The achievements discussion occurs at the end of each performance and development cycle to evaluate how well goals and achievements have been met and to forward plan for the following cycle. This involves discussing achievements and any barriers that hindered progress in meeting objectives. The discussion is a chance to review the key objectives and assign a rating to each to indicate the degree to which they have been achieved. It should also update development and training needs and note any relevant activities that have occurred since the last meeting. This meeting is also the time to agree on a development plan for the next cycle.

Performance Rating

9. There are several ways of rating performance, but the overall objective is to assign a value to the degree of success an employee has achieved in meeting his or her key objectives. Each key objective commonly has a cluster of activities that underpin it. As well as rating each of the objectives, it is not unusual, particularly at more senior levels, to give a rating of overall performance.

10. A rating scale similar to the one below is widely used throughout public sector agencies, although the descriptors and numerical values can vary.

RATING SCALE		DESCRIPTION
3	Above Expectations	Performance is consistently beyond expectations
2	Meets Expectations	Performance consistently fulfils expectations and at times exceeds them
1	Improvement Needed	Performance does not consistently meet expectations
0	Unsatisfactory	Performance is consistently below expectations. Deficiencies need to be addressed.

At such a scaling, addition remuneration may only apply to the top two grades.

Performance Appraisal for Senior Executives

11. For senior executive positions, such as the Director of SPREP, the same general principles and procedures are involved, whereby key objectives are identified and some measure of success attributed to the executive's performance in meeting those.

12. The two main functions of performance appraisal are:

- developmental
- evaluative

13. For the developmental function, the performance appraisal aims to help the executive to recognise the areas where further development may be needed and ensuring a strategy is put in place to meet those needs. In the case of the evaluative function, the appraisal is undertaken so the appropriate level of (additional) remuneration and/or promotion can be determined.

14. The major differences can be summarised thus:

	Developmental	Evaluative
Focus	On improvement in future performance	On past performance
Objective	Improve performance through self-learning and growth	Improve performance by more effective reward administration
Method	Smaller, focussed steps such as management by objectives	Variety of rating and ranking methods
Role of Supervisor	To counsel, help or guide	To judge, to evaluate
Role of subordinate	Active involvement in learning	Passive, reactive, often defensive of self and actions

15. Many senior executive appraisal schemes, particularly in the private sector, are focussed on the evaluative (remuneration) function. Performance can be assessed by the use of outside indices, such as staff turnover, meeting budget targets or new funding attracted.

16. The difficulties of these approaches can be readily appreciated. However, approaches where organisational performance is taken to reflect senior executive performance does seemingly remove many of the personal elements from the evaluative process. This approach can be justified on the basis that the senior executive group is in place to take the organisation on a particular course (as charted in the Programme of Work and Budget and the Strategic Programmes) and additional remuneration is justified by measuring progress against the markers such plans provide.

17. Management of performance at very senior levels of public sector organisations such as SPREP tends to be a customised mix of developmental and evaluative factors, with an emphasis on the free flow of communication between the Director and the Members, as well as considering if he or she has kept the organisation on track and productive. There will always be a degree of subjectivity in these assessments. This is inevitable whenever human beings interact.

Recommended Approach

18. That the members of SPREP agree:

- to establish a process for evaluating the performance of the Director on an annual basis;
- that the process should be based on the principles and processes outlined above;
- that the Chair and Vice-Chair should develop the process in consultation with the Director and initiate the performance review process outlined above;
- that the outcomes be reported to the meeting of Members on a confidential basis.



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting

Noumea, New Caledonia

11-15 September 2006

**Agenda Item 9.3 : Report by the Director on Staff Appointments
Beyond Six Years**

Purpose of Paper

1. To report to the Meeting that Mr Sefanaia Nawadra has been reappointed to the position of Marine Pollution Adviser for another 3 year term after he had served at SPREP for 6 years.

Background

2. Staff Regulation 13 (f) and (g) on Appointment Procedure, require:

“(f) Subject to Regulation 13(g), a fixed term appointment of three years for professional staff is renewable, based on the needs of SPREP, and the merit and performance of the employee, for a further period not exceeding three years.

(g) When an aggregate period of six years has been served by professional staff it shall be mandatory for that position to be re-advertised. The incumbent is eligible to apply and should the Director decide to reappoint the incumbent on merit he/she may do so provided a report is made to the next SPREP Meeting.”

3. Mr Nawadra’s second successive 3 year contract expired in September 2005. In accordance with the provisions of the Staff Regulations the post was advertised about 5 months before the expiry of his contract. Mr Nawadra reapplied to the post along with 19 other applicants. The Secretariat constituted a selection panel comprising of the Corporate Services Manager as Chair, 2 other senior professional staff and an independent member from outside the Secretariat. The Panel successively narrowed down the number of eligible candidates to a short list of 5 and then to 3 top candidates for face-to-face interviews. On being notified of the interviews, one of the 3 candidates withdrew his application and the 4th ranked was then invited but he too declined the invitation citing change of plans. After a comprehensive interview process (about 1 hour to 1 hour 45 minutes for each candidate) the 4 Panelists were unanimous that Mr Sefanaia Nawadra was the best candidate for the post. Mr Nawadra was reappointed for a further 3 year term

Recommendation

3. The Meeting is invited to:

➤ **note** the reappointment of Mr Nawadra to the position of Marine Pollution Adviser



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Seventeenth SPREP Meeting*Noumea, New Caledonia*11-15 September 2006

Agenda Item 9.4: Appointment of Auditor**Purpose of Paper**

1. To seek the Meeting's approval of the appointment of Auditors to audit the accounts of SPREP for the financial years 2006 and 2007.

Background

2. Financial Regulation 29 requires the Meeting to "appoint biennially, one or more Auditors in no way connected with the Secretariat on such terms as it sees fit".

3. The SPREP Meeting in 1998 decided that the audit tender be advertised locally and regionally. Accordingly, the Secretariat advertised for tenders both locally and regionally for the audit of its 2006 and 2007 accounts.

4. Tender criteria required the firms to demonstrate that they have:

- substantial experience in the audit of international organisations or similar regional organizations;
- qualified personnel to undertake the audit assignment;
- demonstrated in its proposal that it would be able to conduct the audit in a competent and professional manner; and
- a competitive quote for the conduct of the assignment

5. Three tender proposals were received, all from Samoa. Two of the three tenders fully satisfied the required criteria regarding extensive audit experience with regional or similar organisations, qualified personnel and demonstrated ability to conduct the audit in a competent and professional manner. The firms and their relevant backgrounds are as follows:

- (a) Betham & Co. Originally operated under the name of Coopers & Lybrand and maintain an audit reporting/working relationship with other international audit firms. Had been the auditors for SPREP for 8 years. It had also conducted audits for other similar regional organisations.

Betham and Co. quoted USD6,000 p.a. for each of 2006 and 2007 to do the audit. It's quote is based on an audit assignment concentrating on controls over disbursement of funds. The quote is also based on a total audit time of three weeks divided into two visits – one prior to year end and a final visit after year end. While the Secretariat is confident of the credentials of the Principal of the Company, its quote did not specify other professional staff to assist in the audit.

- (b) Lesa ma Penn. Maintains audit links with KPMG Fiji, Price Waterhouse Deloitte Coopers Parnell Kerr Forster and Arthur Anderson, some of the well-known auditing firms and has conducted audits for the Government of Samoa; multinational and regional organisations and has been the auditor for the Secretariat for the last 4 years.

Lesama Penn's quote is USD7,225 for each of 2006 and 2007. While marginally higher than Betham and Co's quote, it is in fact lower than the current audit fee for our 2005 accounts. Its fee quote is based on a continuation of the current arrangement with the Secretariat where when needed they visit at any time of the year for consultations and checks but no less than 3 times a year. In their quote they have not only detailed the extensive credentials and experience of their Principal Partner assigned to SPREP but also qualifications of the 18 professional staff of the firm among whom three are chosen to assist the Principal in our audit.

6. Given the broader scope and demonstrated competence of Lesama Penn in their bid for the SPREP audit and its fee being slightly reduced, the Secretariat recommends that Lesama Penn be appointed to audit the Secretariat's accounts for 2006 and 2007.

Recommendation

7. The Meeting is invited to:

- **approve** the appointment of the firm of Lesama Penn to audit the Secretariat's accounts for the financial years 2006 and 2007.

27 July 2006

AUDIT TENDER QUOTES

Name of Tenderer	2006 Currency	2007 Currency
Betham & Co	<u>USD</u>	<u>USD</u>
Fees Fin. Audit (including 15% VAGST)	6,000 -	6,000 -
Incidentals	<u>nil</u>	<u>nil</u>
Total	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
Lesa ma Penn	<u>USD</u>	<u>USD</u>
Fees Fin. Audit (including 15% VAGST)	7,000 -	7,000 -
Incidentals	<u>225</u>	<u>225</u>
Total	<u>7,225</u>	<u>7,225</u>