



SPREP Treaty is Signed in Apia

After long meetings, difficult decisions and compromise, the SPREP Treaty was concluded in the early hours of Wednesday 16 June, in Apia, Western Samoa.

The Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) was opened for signature on 16 June after two days of intense negotiations. Concessions were made by both the French and US delegations to reach a compromise agreement, allowing the legal formation of the region's newest autonomous intergovernmental organisation.

Most disputes during the negotiations centred on the ability of Pacific territories to take part in decisions in SPREP's meetings. Finally, a compromise presented by Tuvalu proved acceptable to all delegates, and a final draft of the Treaty was completed.

The Chairman of the meeting, Hon. Misa Telefoni Retzlaff of West-

ern Samoa, congratulated the delegates on their uniting efforts to reach unanimity on these difficult issues. The Premier of Niue, Hon. Frank Lui, recognised the outstanding leadership of the Chair and the delegates, and the efforts of the SPREP Secretariat. The Director of SPREP, Dr. Vili Fuava, finished with a prayer of thanks.

The opening for signing by Parties to the Treaty allows the legal separation of SPREP from its former home in the South Pacific Commission in Noumea, New Caledonia. It also allows SPREP to now concentrate fully on its mission to encourage sustainable development in its member island countries.

The final ceremony of the meeting started with the Prime Minister of Western Samoa, Hon. Tofilau Eti Alesana, who signed both the

In This Issue ...

SPREP Treaty is Signed in Apia	1
PM Calls for Flexibility at SPREP Treaty Meeting	2
Prizes	2
From the Director's Desk	3
Work Starts for Global Small Islands Conference	4
Regional Meeting Sets Pacific Agenda for Global Conference	4
Meeting Updates Regional Turtle Programme	5
Rhetoric and Reality: Strengthening Environmental Institutions in Pacific Island countries	6
Funding	7
EnviroNews	7
GEF Provides	8
US\$10 million for Biodiversity Programme	8
First CNPPA Meeting for South Pacific	9
GEF Provides US\$10 million for Biodiversity Programme	9
Updates on Climate Change	10
Two Cyclones Fail to Silence Fiji Monitoring Station	11
Acronyms	11
First Regional ICZM Meeting	12
Conferences	13
Environment Book Review	14
Meetings '93	15
The Last Word	16

Issue no 33
April to June 1993

ISSN: 0257-1962

Agreement and the Final Act. The Western Samoa government is the depositary of the Agreement, which needs to be ratified by 10 Parties before it comes into force.

Ed.: Copies of the Agreement Establishing SPREP (in English and French) are available from the Director, SPREP.



Western Samoa
PM, Hon. Tofilau
Eti Alesana,
opening the
SPREP Treaty
Meeting in Apia.



(Photo: Apia Photo Mart)

Who Signed ...

The Agreement:

Fiji
France
Kiribati
RMI
Nauru
Niue
PNG *
Solomon Islands
Tuvalu
USA
Vanuatu
Western Samoa

* initialled only

The Final Act:

Australia
Cook Islands
Fiji
France
Kiribati
RMI
Nauru
New Zealand
Niue
PNG
Solomon Islands
Tonga

Tuvalu
USA
Vanuatu
Western Samoa

PM Calls for Flexibility at SPREP Treaty Meeting

Western Samoa's Prime Minister, Hon. Tofilau Eti Alesana, called for leadership and enlightenment at the opening of the meeting to negotiate the Agreement Establishing SPREP.

"The United States and France, two of the world's foremost leaders, are part of the region", said Tofilau in his opening speech. "(The United States and France could) provide leadership and direction, which in part means showing innovation, enlightenment and flexibility", he continued. He also said that a solution to problems with the treaty would clear the way for the signing of the treaty, and so allow SPREP to concentrate on its programmes which promote and improve the welfare of the people of the region.

In reply to the opening speech, Niue's Premier, Hon. Frank Lui, stressed that the outcome of the meeting "is important because I believe that the outcome of this meeting will determine the future and the strength of our collective voice in the region and more so to the future of the agency." He also hoped that all delegates would return home with a feeling of achievement.

Hon. Tofilau said that his government was committed to supporting SPREP and to finalising this treaty at this meeting. He hoped that any outstanding difficulties in concluding the treaty would "be dealt with in the spirit of co-operation and accommodation, and with flexibility and imagination."

Outstanding problems resolved were questions of the membership of SPREP and the Parties to the Agreement, voting procedures, diplomatic immunities and privileges and the method of appointing the Deputy Director of SPREP.

Of particular concern to the US and France was the membership of their territories, with France willing to allow New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna full voting rights in SPREP meetings. The US could not allow its territories to sign an international treaty, so disallowing voting rights for American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and Palau.

Accommodations were eventually made by both countries, with common ground reached in the early hours of Wednesday, 16 June.



The Chair of the Plenipotentiary Meeting, Hon. Misa Telefoni Retzlaff (right), and SPREP's Director, Dr Vili Fuava, directing proceedings during the first morning.

(Photo: Apia Photo Mart)

It was agreed that decisions in SPREP meetings were to be made by consensus of the Parties, recognising the "Pacific Way". Territories would participate in discussions leading to consensus. Both France and the US stated that they would ensure and encourage their territories to fully participate in SPREP meetings, and supported the concept of consensus as the form of decision-making for SPREP meetings.

(From a press release from the Chair of the Plenipotentiary Meeting, 16/6/93)

Prizes

Title: Goldman Environmental Prize

For Who?

One outstanding environmentalist from each of the world's six continental regions, including the South Pacific.

Prize: US\$ 60,000 per award.

Nominations to and more information from:

Duane Silverstein
Goldman Environmental Foundation
Fax: (1-415) 788 7890

Title: 1994 Australia Prize

For Who?

One to four people, for outstanding achievement in science and technology promoting human welfare in Sustainable Land Management.

Prize: AU\$ 25,000, plus a medal.

Closing Date:

31 July 1993

Nominations to and information from:

Australia Prize Secretariat
GPO Box 9839
CANBERRA, ACT. 2601
Australia
Fax: (61-6) 276 2188

From the Director's Desk



T alofa from Apia!

June 1993 will be noted in the history of SPREP as a most successful month. Firstly, the Government of Vanuatu successfully hosted a meeting organised by SPREP for the island countries of the Pacific and Indian Oceans to formulate our contributions to the *Global Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Islands Developing States* (GCSIDS). The meeting attained its objectives through the usual "Pacific Way" - by consensus. There is a report on this meeting later in this issue. The Global Conference is scheduled for April 1994 in Barbados, West Indies.

We also received the first of the *National Environment National Strategies* (NEMS) from the printer, and started distribution to the participating member countries. So far, we have received the printed NEMS for Solomon Islands, FSM and RMI. The Cook Islands NEMS and the Action Conservation Strategy for Tonga are due by the end of July.

Donors, such as ADB and the NZ Government, are already using project profiles from the NEMS to identify useful projects to fund in these countries. We hope that other donors will follow their lead in addressing the specific environmental problems prioritised in the

NEMS of each country. SPREP is also using these NEMS as the basis for its annual work programme for 1994.

On 14-16 June, the Government of Western Samoa convened a Plenipotentiary Meeting in Apia to finalise and sign the *Agreement Establishing SPREP* as an autonomous organisation. After two days of long and difficult negotiations, the terms of the Agreement were adopted at 2:30 a.m. on Wednesday, 16 June 1993. Later that day, thirteen countries signed both the Agreement and the Final Act. The list on page 1 of this Newsletter shows who signed what. The Agreement will come into force thirty days after the tenth ratification is received by the Depositary, the Government of Western Samoa. We are on a roll, so I urge member governments place the instruments of ratification with the Depositary as soon as possible.

The signing of the Agreement marks the "coming of age" for SPREP as an independent and internationally-recognised regional organisation. From the Secretariat, *fa'afetai tele* to all the delegates from our member governments for the hard work and commitment throughout the negotiation sessions, and especially to Western Samoa, the host country of SPREP and the convener of the Plenipotentiary Meeting.

With the negotiation of the Agreement completed, we all now look forward to the Sixth IGM in September for directions from you on further developments for our work programme, our financial system and budget, our corporate plan, corporate sponsorship and the new premises for the Secretariat.

Finally, let me take this opportunity to thank you for your support and commitment to SPREP. We have come a long way since July 1991. We still have some way to go in establishing and laying the solid foundation for SPREP to launch future activities as a "lean", responsible, stable and effective organisation. I must admit, however, that the "light at the end of the tunnel" looks a little brighter each day.

I look forward to welcoming you to the Intergovernmental Meeting in September, as part of the SPREP family. We also look forward to your further contributions to the upcoming Global Conference in Barbados in 1994.

Tofa soifua,

Vili A. Fuavao
Director

An important moment for SPREP - delegates at the opening of the Plenipotentiary Meeting.

Photo: SPREP



This issue of *Environment Newsletter* includes a reader survey.

Please take time to complete the questions and return the survey to SPREP.

This is your chance to comment on how effective you think this publication really is.



Work Starts for Global Small Islands Conference

Small island nations face unique challenges as they strive for economic development. Their small land areas limit the natural resources that are often used to fuel this development - rainforests, coral reefs, mangroves, open ocean and coastal areas.

These nations have small, fast growing populations, though this may be tempered in some countries by migration to nearby developed countries, as in Tonga and Western Samoa. The dependence on development along coastlines also makes them very susceptible to natural disasters such as cyclones and storm surges, and man-made problems such as poor planning and global warming.

The unique environmental problems of the small island nations of the world were highlighted last year at the Earth Summit, especially through the efforts of Pacific island countries and organisations such

as AOSIS and SPREP. Through pressure from these sources, a chapter was added to Agenda 21, the blueprint for environmentally sound sustainable development into the next century. It was also recommended that a Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (GCSIDS) be held in 1994.

With the approval of the Fifth SPREP IGM in September 1992, SPREP is co-ordinating preparations for the meeting in Barbados in April 1994. Bilateral donors and international agencies will be approached for financial assistance for these preparations.

Australia has already assisted by hosting an Expert Meeting in Canberra on 3-7 May, to prepare an agenda for a later regional meeting. This Expert Meeting analysed and discussed submissions from various agencies. These were synthesised into a series of papers

for the Regional Technical Meeting for the Asia-Pacific, which was held on 31 May-4 June 1993, in Port Vila, Vanuatu (see below).

Other forums for comments and sources of information for GCSIDS preparations include meetings of PIC/Development Partners held on 19-23 April, SPOCC on held 20 May, the South Pacific Forum in August, and the SPREP IGM in September.

The UN Preparatory Committee meetings (PrepComs) for the GCSIDS will start soon. SPREP will co-ordinate activities before, during or after PrepComs and the Global Conference, and so welcomes comments from interested parties, government and non-government organisations.

For more information and comments, contact Gerald Miles, the Sustainable Development Officer at SPREP.

Regional Meeting Sets Pacific Agenda for Global Conference



Achieving development that is both economically and environmentally sound is now a clear objective in the region following the last South Pacific Forum in Honiara. It is also the concern of the forthcoming Global Conference on Sustainable Development in Small Island Developing States (GCSIDS) in Barbados, West Indies, in April 1994.

Last year, the Earth Summit in Rio began to address some of these issues. The unique situation of the small island states was also recognised by the 150-plus govern-

ment leaders, as seen by the special chapter inserted into Agenda 21, which was signed by most of these leaders.

The South Pacific has mandated SPREP to assist in achieving sustainable development, and the Secretariat has responded by starting a number of regional projects to fulfil this. This includes co-ordinating the Pacific's participation in the Global Conference.

A Technical Meeting for the Asian-Pacific Region on the GCSIDS convened in Port Vila,

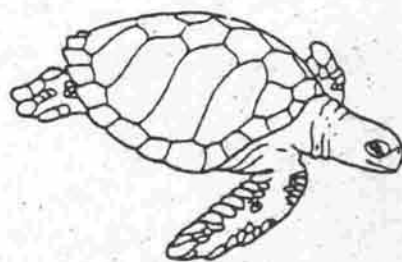
Vanuatu, on 31 May-4 June, to address these issues. Over 90 delegates from government, non-government regional and international organisations from the Indian and Pacific Oceans focused on the special circumstances of sustainable development in small island countries.

Governments agreed on a detailed action programme for islands in these regions, aimed at subjects as diverse as climate and sea-level

(cont'd on page 5)

Meeting Updates

Regional Turtle Programme



Many marine turtle species are endangered. Over fishing, stray dogs on beaches and disturbed nesting areas are some of the growing problems facing turtles worldwide. The Pacific is no exception.

Turtles have a unique life cycle, traveling vast distances between nesting and feeding grounds throughout the Pacific. They are also an important part of the diets and customs of many Pacific islanders. However, as females are aged between 25 and 50 years when they begin to lay eggs, over fishing can be particularly devastating on turtle populations. This is a growing problem where human populations are growing rapidly, or where turtles are fished commercially for meat or turtle shell handicrafts.

It is initially through monitoring and careful study that turtle populations can be effectively managed and conserved for these uses, without decimating populations. As turtles move freely around the region, any national efforts to study these animals must be co-ordinated.

SPREP recognised this by initiating the Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme in 1990 to co-ordinate projects in the region, with initial funding from the Australian and Canadian governments.

The South Pacific Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme helps fisheries and conservation agencies in the 22 island countries of the SPREP region to protect these unique and valuable creatures.

The Third Meeting of the Turtle Programme, in Apia on 9-11 June, looked at a number of issues. These include conservation work such as protecting nesting areas, tagging and monitoring populations, public awareness about turtles, training and research, and a review of international and national legislation protecting turtles. Countries participating in the Programme include Fiji, French Polynesia, FSM (Yap State), Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and

Vanuatu. Seven other countries also attended: American Samoa, FSM (Pohnpei), Kiribati, Tonga, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Western Samoa.

An associated meeting immediately followed on the Regional Marine Mammals Conservation Programme, also co-ordinated by SPREP. This meeting discussed why whales dolphins and the endangered dugong are important, where they are located, and what is happening to them. It then reviewed a Marine Mammal Conservation Strategy.

A meeting report will soon be available from SPREP. Contact Adrienne Farago, Biodiversity Officer, for more details.

Regional Meeting Sets Pacific Agenda

(cont'd from page 4)

change and improving preparedness for natural and environmental disasters; managing wastes; conserving coastal, marine, freshwater, land, energy, tourism and biodiversity resources; building up national and regional capabilities to manage the environment and development; and developing effective environmental legislation.

Commitment will be the key to carrying out this action programme. Pacific island leaders made commitments at the Earth Summit to better integrate environment and

development when making their decisions. This meeting recognised that to do this, there should be better links between environment programmes and national budgets, integrated plans for environmental management in development process, more consultation between national and relevant local governments, communities and non-government organisations, and more integration of traditional knowledge, culture and values into sustainable development decisions.

The meeting also called for stronger regional organisations to improve co-ordination and to contribute to and encourage sustainable development.

Delegates made a call internationally for better access to finances, technology and information that fit-

ted the priorities of national island governments, their regional organisations, and relevant international agencies, and better co-ordination between the United Nations system and regional and sub-regional island organisations.

The results of this meeting will be discussed at the UN's Second Preparatory Committee meeting in New York in August, along side similar contributions from regional meetings of Caribbean, Atlantic and Mediterranean islands nations. A common action programme will then go to the GCSDSIDS.

The meeting was made possible with the generous support of the Australian and Vanuatu Governments, UNDP and UNEP.

Rhetoric and Reality: Strengthening Environmental Institutions in Pacific Island countries

David Sheppard

This is Part 2 of this series on institutional strengthening. Part 1, in Environment News 32, explored the definitions of institutional strengthening, and what this term really means. David Sheppard was the RETA Team Leader with SPREP, organising the development of NEMS in five member countries. He is now with IUCN-Switzerland as the Head of the IUCN's Protected Areas Project.

Institutional Strengthening in the Pacific - the Rhetoric

The Earth Summit in Rio in 1992 was attended by the Heads of State and political leaders of a number of Pacific countries, with many strong

Become a Turtle Spotter!

SPREP's Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme runs an extensive tagging project throughout the region. These tags are important in learning more about how and where the various turtle species feed, breed and migrate. This data is vital for developing an effective regional conservation programme.

If you find or catch a tagged turtle, write down the tag details, the species and the location. Send this information to SPREP, PO Box 240, APIA, Western Samoa, or tell your local fisheries officer. Your information adds to the understanding of how to look after the turtles for their and our future. If you release the turtle, you are also doing your part to conserve this unique animal so your children will appreciate it.

and significant statements made by these leaders on the subject of institutional strengthening in the Pacific.

The South Pacific Forum, after their annual meeting in Honiara in 1992, also issued a communiqué strongly emphasising the importance of environmental protection and sustainable development for the continued livelihood of Pacific islanders.

Many countries are now actively involved in developing their NEMS, which will be endorsed by national Cabinets. Much has also been said in these and the accompanying State of the Environment Reports on the need to strengthen environmental institutions.

Institutional Strengthening in the Pacific - the Reality

These statements above suggest that the environment is now more important in Pacific countries, and that it is moving to the centre stage of political agendas. However, it is interesting to see reality in the light of this rhetoric. We can do this using the previously-mentioned "keys of effectiveness" for environmental institutions (see Environment Newsletter 32).

For political support, most Pacific countries have established Environment Units or the equivalent. These agencies are often small, with a limited number of dedicated, professional staff. Most environmental agencies are subordinate to other bodies, such as Ministries of Natural Resources. So they rarely have direct access to the responsible Minister's "ear".

For partnership, environmental agencies are clearly beginning to work more effectively with other

government agencies in many Pacific Island countries. The high level NEMS Task Teams oversee the development of the NEMS, bringing together senior representatives from a range of government and non-government agencies, including environment, to identify the most appropriate responses to national environmental issues.

The staffing and funding of environmental agencies is still a constraining factor. However, several environmental agencies in Pacific countries are developing the "cramped office syndrome", reflecting the growth of resources to the environmental area. This has usually come from external sources such as donor agencies, rather than commitments from national governments. A notable exception to this was the recent allocation of relatively large funding in FSM (US\$ 100,000) to strengthen the national environment unit, with additional funding from the ADB. The Cook Islands Conservation Service has also recently been strengthened.

It fair to say, however, that a lag exists between the rhetoric and the reality. This lag is understandable, and it should be noted that changes are occurring, as seen in FSM and the Cook Islands.

This trend of increased institutional strengthening will continue. In fact, it may even accelerate, due to the:

- magnitude of the environmental problems facing Pacific Island countries which require an effective response now. The consequences of inaction are becoming more obvious, such as the decline of inshore fisheries in many places, and could be disastrous for Pacific Island economies. Establishing effective national and regional environmen-

(cont'd on page 7)

Funding

Title: Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund (PGTF) for Economic and Technical Co-operation Among Developing Countries.

Goal: To support economic and technical co-operation to achieve collective self-reliance for developing countries, according to their own priorities.

Who for? Government, regional and non-government organisations.

Objective: To provide seed money for financing pre-investment studies and implement projects.

What for? Subregional or regional projects in and between member countries of the UN's G77.

Endorsement: Projects must be endorsed by host governments or governing bodies of governments as applicable.

Deadline: 31 March each year.

For more information, contact:

PGTF Co-ordinator
c/- Office of G77
PO Box 20
NEW YORK, NY 10017
United States of America
Fax: (1-212) 758 7850



Environmental news briefs from around the region and the world

Cooks Minister Urges Clear EIA Strategies

Cook Islands Conservation Minister, Vaine Tairea, urged co-operation from all involved in preserving the environment and in developing the country, for the good of all Cook Islanders.

Mr Tairea was opening a week-long seminar for senior government officials, government planners and managers, that concentrated on improving the use of environmental impact assessment. "(It) is one of many stones that we have to take to achieve sustainable economic growth", he said, as "we, today, are merely caretakers of the land and our environment for our children and our children's children."

(From CI News, 20/4/1993, p1)

Guam EPA Celebrates 20 Years

Guam EPA celebrated its 20th anniversary on a positive note. Fred Castro, Administrator of Guam EPA, said that "Guam is blessed with a clean environment, bountiful in resources".

"However, solid waste remains a top priority, with the current system needing upgrading and, eventually, replacement," Mr Castro said.

Education for youth was another important area. "One of the most important things in the long-term is to groom our younger generation. Through an effective outreach program, we need to provide the younger generation with an ecological ethic," said Mr Castro.

(From Pacific Daily News Supplement, 5/4/93)

(cont'd on page 8)

Rhetoric and Reality: Strengthening Environmental Institutions in Pacific Island countries

(cont'd from page 6)

tal agencies is a key element for an appropriate response to this issue.

- donor agencies such as the World Bank being more involved in environmental management, with more emphasis on linking financial assistance to environmental performance. This is likely to influence the approach of Pacific countries to environmental management.

Where to from here?

If institutional strengthening accelerates as suggested, then it is essential that it occurs properly. Institutional strengthening should be systematic, along these broad lines:

- It is important to improve institutional arrangements as recommended in NEMS. Each NEMS strongly emphasises institutional strengthening, and recommends relevant approaches for each country. These recommendations establish the blueprint for future action;
- Each country should establish a central government agency responsible for environmental management. This agency

should be "lean and effective", with the ability to influence key government decisions in environmental management. This agency would have a clear role to co-ordinate activities and programmes between government and non-government agencies in environmental management;

- Other agencies in Pacific Island countries, such as forestry, marine resources, agriculture and tourism bodies, should be encouraged to increase their level of environmental involvement and expertise. Environmental management should not be viewed as the domain of any one agency - it should be routine business for each agency;
- Each Pacific Island country should establish a high level body aiming to integrate environmental issues with economic decision making. The existing National Task Teams have fulfilled this important role in the Pacific countries to date, and it is vital that they continue to do so.

Ed.: *The views expressed here are not necessarily those of SPREP, the Director or the Editor.*





(cont'd from page 7)

Australia Pushes for Strong UN Action on Fisheries

Australia is pushing for strong action to conserve deep water fisheries at a major UN meeting in July 1993 on straddling and migratory fish stocks. Better surveillance and enforcement are touted as part of this vital action.

(From Australia-South Pacific Newsletter, p5)

Forum Sec. Congratulates Japan on Environmental Lead

Japan received a boost recently from the Secretary-General of the Forum Secretariat, Ieremaia Tabai, for its environmental management. He particularly welcomed Japan's recent initiatives with SPREP in developing proposals adapting technologies in coastal engineering, freshwater reticulation, sewerage, public health, pollution monitoring, waste management and other areas.

(From Pacific Report, 6:5)

FSM and Greenpeace Pilot New Waste Systems

International NGO, Greenpeace, is co-operating with Yap and Kosrae States (FSM) to prove the viability of biological systems that process human waste without using water. These states are sites for experimental biological toilets that use commercial technology and are built from local materials. If proven successful, these will be particularly useful for communities already struggling to conserve their limited water supplies, especially on atolls.

(From Isle Watch, no. 3, p1)

(cont'd on page 9)

GEF Provides US\$10 million for Biodiversity Programme

SPREP and UNDP signed the project document for the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP) in Suva on 21 April. This signalled approval to start the full-scale phase of this 5-year, US\$ 10 million project for the South Pacific region. Pacific Island governments and NGOs helped determine the needs and the approach during an extensive preparatory phase under SPREP's leadership.

The SPBCP will be implemented by SPREP and its member countries, with funds provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which is a joint effort of the World Bank, UNDP and UNEP. UNDP will administer this project on behalf of the other GEF partners.

All SPREP's 22 member countries will benefit. However, there will be emphasis in 14 states: Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, RMI, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

The SPBCP aims to preserve the region's biological diversity, benefiting the peoples of the region and the world, for now and the future. It aims to ensure the continued viability of the full range of ecosystem types and species, especially those of regional and global concern. The Programme hopes to achieve this by establishing and managing a series of in-country

Conservation Areas. These are defined as "large, diverse areas which contain important features for the conservation of the biological diversity of the region or country, and in which there are agreed criteria for development based on long-term ecological sustainability".

At the signing of the project document, SPREP's Director, Dr. Vili Fuavao, said that: "for most Pacific Island societies, biodiversity is a capital inheritance, maintained or even enhanced by past generations, and passed on to the present and future generations of islanders. It is a capital resource needed for maintaining and developing Pacific societies. It is the basis for ecological, cultural, traditional subsistence affluence and in fact the economic survival of the Pacific islands in the modern world. Hence, whilst the primary goal of the SPBCP is the conservation of biodiversity, it is not driven by just the desire to protect uniqueness, or for scientific importance or research, or for other technical discoveries that can be used commercially. A major focus of the Programme will be the improvement of the economic and social well-being of local communities through sustainable development".

Mr. Herbert Behrstock of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Asia

(cont'd on page 9)



The Rock Islands of Palau.

(Photo: SPREP)

Newsletter Survey

SPREP is a clearinghouse for environmental information in the South Pacific region. The quarterly *Environment Newsletter* is a major tool for relaying this information to users of SPREP's information.

The *Newsletter* is distributed widely in the region and internationally. It aims to service the needs of decision-makers, administrators and technical personnel in government agencies, institutions, teachers, non-governmental organisations and interested individuals in SPREP's 26 island and metropolitan members countries and administrations, and international agencies, donors and interested people around the world.

The *Newsletter* seeks to generate interest and discussion on important regional and global environmental and sustainable development issues within the region, especially in those that are within the scope of SPREP's Action Plan. It encourages information to be submitted from the region, so that the *Newsletter* could become a forum for opinion and debate on these issues.

SPREP is continually assessing its programmes and their effectiveness. This survey is part of this assessment. Please take time to complete the form, and return it as soon as possible. Use this survey to offer constructive criticisms and praise as needed. These are important if the *Newsletter* is to be improved and to better service your needs. The results will be published in a future issue of the *Environment Newsletter*.

I thank you for taking the time to complete the form,

Yours sincerely,

Dr Vili Fuavao
Director, SPREP

Complete the survey by ticking the of your choice below each question, or by completing the space provided.

Section A: General Comments

After reading the comments above, I believe that the *Environment Newsletter* achieves its aims to:

1. service the needs of its readers.
Agree Disagree Unsure
2. give useful environmental information to its readers.
Agree Disagree Unsure
3. encourage readers to write articles for the *Newsletter*.
Agree Disagree Unsure
4. discuss important regional issues on environment and development.
Agree Disagree Unsure
5. discuss important global issues on environment and development.
Agree Disagree Unsure

Section B: Personal Comments

I believe that the *Environment Newsletter* assists me by:

6. giving me useful information on SPREP's activities in the region.
Agree Disagree Unsure
7. giving useful information to help me do my job.
Agree Disagree Unsure
8. giving me timely information on SPREP's activities in the region.
Agree Disagree Unsure
9. providing useful information to others at my place of work.
Agree Disagree Unsure
10. showing me examples of what others are doing in the region.
Agree Disagree Unsure

Section C: Comments on Feature Stories

11. I find the articles on successes in other Pacific Island countries very interesting.
Agree Disagree Unsure
12. I find the articles on problems in other Pacific Island countries very interesting.
Agree Disagree Unsure
13. I think there should be more articles on what others are doing about their country's environmental problems.
Agree Disagree Unsure
14. I think there should be more articles on SPREP programmes that address the region's environmental problems.
Agree Disagree Unsure
15. I think there should be more articles on what other international organisations are doing about the region's environmental problems.
Agree Disagree Unsure

Section D: Comments on Regular Sections

I find the following regular sections in the *Newsletter* interesting and useful:

16. From the Director's Desk
Agree Disagree Unsure
17. EnviroNews
Agree Disagree Unsure
18. Environment Book Review
Agree Disagree Unsure
19. Conferences and Training Announcements
Agree Disagree Unsure
20. Funding Announcements
Agree Disagree Unsure
21. Meetings '93
Agree Disagree Unsure
22. Acronyms
Agree Disagree Unsure
23. The Last Word
Agree Disagree Unsure

Section E: Comments on the *Newsletter's* appearance:

24. I like the overall appearance of the *Newsletter*.
Agree Disagree Unsure
25. The *Newsletter* should have more photos in it.
Agree Disagree Unsure
26. The *Newsletter* should have more pictures in it.
Agree Disagree Unsure
27. The type is easy to read.
Agree Disagree Unsure
28. It is easy to find the articles I want to read.
Agree Disagree Unsure
29. The articles are written in an easy-to-read style.
Agree Disagree Unsure

Section F: Something about Myself:
(Please tick one box for each comment.)

30. I am a:
 political decision-maker
 administrator
 technical person
 teacher
 consultant
 other (_____)
31. I am employed by a:
 government environment agency
 education ministry
 other government agency or department.
 non-government organisation
 local community group
 private business firm
 Pacific regional organisation
 international agency
 other (_____)
32. I reside in a country that is :
 a SPREP Pacific Island member.
 a SPREP metropolitan member.
 not a member of SPREP.

This survey is only a beginning in the further development of the *Environment Newsletter*. Please attach further comments on a sheet of paper.

Send the completed survey to:
Att: Newsletter Survey Form
Information and Publications Officer
SPREP, PO Box 240
APIA, Western Samoa
Fax: (685) 20 231

First CNPPA Meeting for South Pacific

The IUCN convened its first South Pacific regional meeting for the Commission for National Parks and Protected Areas (CNPPA) in Apia, Western Samoa, on 5-7 April 1993.

The meeting aimed to:

- review and revise the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific, which was first written in 1985 and revised at the Fourth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in 1989; and,
- prepare a project proposal for protected areas in the region, for potential funding by the EC under the Lomé Convention's European Development Fund.

The first drafts of these reports will be ready for the Fifth South

Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, to be held in Tonga on 4-8 October 1993.

The steering committee preparing this report includes the Vice-Chair for the CNPPA - Pacific Region, Muliagatele Iosefatu Reti from SPREP, Wayne King from the Cook Islands, Iamo Ila from PNG and Henry Isa from Solomon Islands. This committee will encourage and support CNPPA activities in the region, and co-operate with SPREP in protected area matters, especially with the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP).

For more information on these activities for the Fifth South Pacific Conference, contact Muliagatele Iosefatu Reti at SPREP.



(cont'd from page 8)

Ozone Conventions Ratified

RMI and Kiribati recently ratified the 1987 Montreal Protocol to limit the use of substances that affect the ozone layer. RMI has also ratified the 1990 London Amendment.

(From OzonAction no. 6,
March 1993, p6)

RMI EPA Launches New Newsletter

New national water quality regulations and the clean-up of Majuro beaches are topics in the new *Quarterly Newsletter* of RMI's Environment Protection Authority. This bilingual publication received presidential endorsement in its first issue, and shows RMI's commitment to the environment.

USP Approves New "Environment and Economics" Course

A new USP course on *Resource and Environmental Economics* will soon be offered to economics and related faculties, including science and geography. AIDAB is helping fund resources for the course, which will focus on how the condition of the environment affects economic development in the South Pacific.

(From Australia - South Pacific
Newsletter, 1 June, p11)

(cont'd on page 11)

GEF Provides US\$10 million for Biodiversity Programme

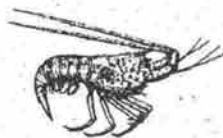
(cont'd from page 8)

and the Pacific, New York, applauded the SPBCP as a highly innovative initiative which is expected to achieve success and to serve as a model for other GEF-sponsored conservation efforts elsewhere in the world. He explained that the GEF was established to assist developing countries address pressing environmental concerns such as global warming, pollution control and loss of biodiversity. These concerns are particularly important to small islands in the Pacific region, and so this region has gained international significance in protecting the global environment.

Both SPREP and UNDP agreed that whilst GEF assistance was crucial to the protection of biodiversity in the region, the success of national and regional efforts will depend largely on the participation and co-operation of Pacific Island

governments, and especially the people and the local communities who own the resources. Therefore, the Programme has emphasised the importance of local communities being part of the establishment, implementation and management of conservation areas supported by the Programme. To do this, local Conservation Area Co-ordinating Committees, which will be largely responsible for implementing the project, with representatives from governments, NGOs and community groups.

(from Press Release from UNDP
Suva Office, Fiji, 21 March 1993).



Updates on Climate Change

Climate change is a pressing concern in the region. Scientific experts and political leaders have raised the issue at many meetings in recent years.

Planners and decision makers need relevant and up-to-date information and predictions about climate and sea-level changes to make sound long-term development decisions. There are presently two major climate change programmes in the region aiming to provide this information.

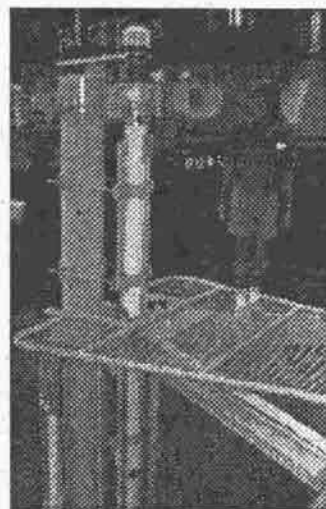
South Pacific Sea-Level and Climate Monitoring Project

This AU\$ 7 million project is an initiative of the South Pacific Forum, funded by the Australian government through AIDAB, and managed by the National Tidal Facility (NTF) in Adelaide, Australia. The first step is to set up a network of highly-accurate sea level and climate monitoring stations throughout the Western Pacific region. These stations feed information via normal telecommunications systems to NTF where the data is processed and stored.

Shipping and installing the stations has been a difficult process since it started late in 1992. This task is now nearing completion, with stations running in Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa. A station for Nauru is to be installed in July, while those in Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands are now being negotiated.

The first station was installed at Lautoka, Fiji, on the west coast of the main island of Viti Levu, on 23 October 1992. This station has been collecting and transmitting data successfully and regularly since installation, even during and after two recent cyclones (see box).

Training and information are important components in this project. To improve awareness about the Project, NTF, SPREP and AIDAB organised a training workshop held in Adelaide on 21-25 June 1993. The workshop targeted policy planners, advisors and senior government officials, aiming to improve basic understanding of sea-level and climate change issues, as well as the aims of the project.



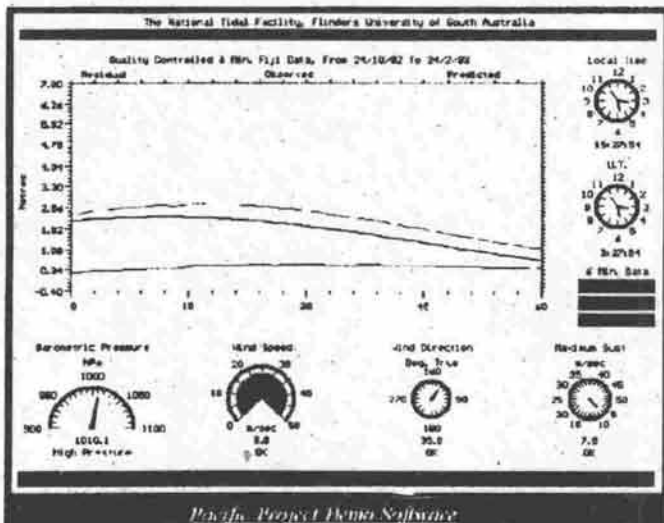
Steve Turner, of NTF, Australia, checks the new monitoring station in Apia Harbour, Western Samoa. (Photo: SPREP)

TOGA and TOGA/COARE Activities

Interactions between the atmosphere and oceans have a major impact on global weather and climate. The Tropical Ocean Global Atmosphere (TOGA) Project aimed to improve understanding of these interactions in the Pacific Ocean, with 16 nations and over 700 scientists involved.

Information was collected from sensors on over 70 buoys strung across the equator. One important conclusion from results of experiments was that understanding these interactions was essential in predicting El Niño - Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events. These events are often involved in radical changes in rainfall patterns, resulting in droughts on land areas in the Central and Western Pacific regions, as seen in RMI in the late 1980s.

From November 1992, TOGA conducted an intensive study of ocean-atmosphere interactions, the Coupled Ocean-Atmosphere Response Experiment (TOGA-COARE). This study was carried out between latitudes 10°N and 10°S, and Galapagos Is in the east and Indonesia in the west. This area has the warmest water in the world, with intense atmospheric conditions and high rainfall.



Computer screen showing data analysed from the Lautoka, Fiji, Monitoring Station.

(Supplied by NTF, Australia)

(cont'd on page 11)

Two Cyclones Fail to Silence Fiji Monitoring Station

The full fury of Cyclones Joni and Kina were recently recorded by the National Tidal Facility (NTF) in Adelaide, Australia, while they happened!

With winds gusting to around 130 kph in both cyclones, the NTF's sea level monitoring station continued to transmit changes in sea level and other relevant weather data. During the height of Joni, the sea level rose over half a metre, the equivalent of a spring tide. During Kina, it rose by 0.4 metre.

"We weren't sure if the station would withstand the enormous buffeting of a cyclone," said the NTF's Director, Prof. Geoff Lennon, "but it did, and it provided us with information which will be very useful as a basis for research, and ultimately of benefit to Pacific islanders".

The Lautoka station was the first station commissioned, in October 1992, as part of the AIDAB-funded South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project. ☼☼☼



(cont'd from page 9)

French Polynesia Declares New Reserves

French Polynesia recently cited the SPREP and Apia Conventions in supporting the declaration of nature reserves on Scilly and Bellinghaus atolls near Mauputi. These conventions came into force in 1991, and have been ratified by France.

Tuvalu PM Warns G-7 of Global Warming

Tuvalu's Prime Minister, Mr Bikenibeu Paeniu has warned that Tuvaluans face "cultural genocide" if G7 nations fail to cut their carbon dioxide emissions. He is in Tokyo ahead of the July G-7 Summit, representing the views of small island states.

The G-7 Summit agenda allocates little time to discussing the "global environment", and climate change is not included. G-7 nations, representing the seven most industrialised countries in the world, are responsible for 40 per cent of all "greenhouse gas" emissions.

(From Greenpeace NZ, 1 July) ☼☼☼

Updates on Climate Change

(cont'd from page 10)

The activities of TOGA and TOGA/COARE are almost completed, and scientists now await the final reports. The South-Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project will use this information to help fine-tune its own work.

SPREP Activities

SPREP's own commitment to addressing climate change issues has also increased, with Mr Neville Koop appointed as the new Meteorology / Climatology Officer in April.

His position assists the Climate Change Officer with technical assistance and training for the region. He is currently organising a regional meeting for senior meteorological officers at Port Villa, Vanuatu, on 19-21 September, addressing climate change issues and regional responses.

For more information on these activities, contact Dr Chalapan Kaluwin, Climate Change Officer, or Neville Koop at SPREP.

Ed.: Neville comes from Darwin, Australia, with a wife and one child. He is no stranger to the Pacific, with over two years at Nadi, Fiji, with the Fiji Met. Service. Talofa, Neville! ☼☼☼

Neville Koop,
SPREP's new
Climatology /
Meteorology
Officer.



Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIDAB	Australian International Development Assistance Bureau
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
EC	European Community
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
EWC	East West Center
FFA	Forum Fisheries Agency
FS	Forum Secretariat
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IGM	Intergovernmental Meeting
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change
IUCN	World Conservation Union
NEMS	National Environmental Management Strategies
NGO	Non-government Organisation
NZ	New Zealand
PNG	Papua New Guinea
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission

SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UN	United Nations
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UN)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme (UN)
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme (UN)
Unesco	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
USA	United States of America
USP	University of the South Pacific
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

☼☼☼

New SPREP Publications

SPREP has recently completed a number of projects and reports, resulting in a larger number of new publications.

The vulnerability of Pacific island countries to climate and sea level change is the subject of four new books in the *SPREP Reports and Studies Series*, with *Preliminary Mission Reports* for Western Samoa (SRS 59), Tonga (SRS 58) and Tokelau (SRS 61), and a detailed *Study of Majuro Atoll*, RMI (SRS 60). The preliminary reports presents the general concerns for climate change in these countries, and recommendations for future studies. The more-detailed Majuro study assesses this atoll's vulnerability to climate and sea level changes, and provides recommendations for response strategies. It is also a useful case study for applying to other Pacific situations.

Studies on *Ocean Processes and Properties* are now available in SRS 56. The book details two studies, headed by ORSTOM researchers, with the results of research cruises between Vanuatu and RMI in 1991. These studies analysed physical and chemical properties in these waters, and were part of a wider ranging studies in the TOGA programme. It includes a detailed look at changes in water properties due to this El Niño event. The report is in French, and is also abstracted in English.

The RETA/NEMS Project produced over 50 publications, with a number now in print. One major part of the project was the detailed *Reviews of Environmental Law* in each participating country: Cook Islands, FSM, RMI, Solomon Islands and Tonga. These are now available from the respective SPREP national focal points in these countries, or from SPREP.

The central goal of the RETA/NEMS Project was to produce *National Environmental Management Strategies* (or the equivalent) for each participating country. These are important, as they outline the national priorities for sustainable development in these countries, as determined by a cross-sectoral National Task Team and an exhaustive and comprehensive review process. These NEMS are now available for FSM and Solomon Islands from the SPREP national focal points, and will be available in other RETA Project countries soon. The associated State of the Environment reports for Cook Islands, RMI, Solomon Islands and Tonga are also available from these focal points. SPREP also has copies of all the NEMS publications.

For more details on these and other SPREP publications, contact the Director at SPREP.

Coastal Resources and Systems of the Pacific Basin

This volume contains the papers presented at the UNEP-sponsored Symposium on regional cooperation on environmental protection of the marine and coastal areas of the Pacific Basin. This was organised in association with the XVII Pacific Science Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, in 1991.

Papers in the volume focus on climate change and sea-level rise, marine pollution assessment and control, integrated coastal zone management, coastal ecosystem monitoring and conserving marine biological diversity. Education issues and submissions for UNCED are also included.

For copies, write to:

The Director
OCA/PAC
UNEP
PO Box 30 552
Nairobi
Kenya, E. Africa.

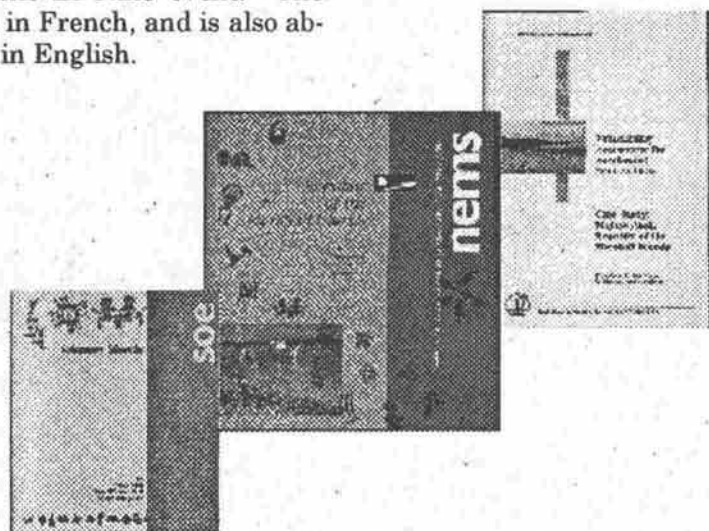
The "Easy-to-Read" Agenda 21

A plain-language version of Agenda 21 and other Agreements from last year's Earth Summit at Rio is now available.

Agenda for Change, by Michael Keating, states the blueprint for the next century in simple terms, with excellent use of graphics and figures to illustrate important points. This is a must for decision makers, government officials, NGOs, environmental journalists and schools who want to know what Agenda 21 really means people in the region.

For more information, write to:

Publications Section
Centre for Our Common Future
52, rue des Paquis
1201 GENEVA
Switzerland



Two Cyclones Fail to Silence Fiji Monitoring Station

The full fury of Cyclones Joni and Kina were recently recorded by the National Tidal Facility (NTF) in Adelaide, Australia, while they happened!

With winds gusting to around 130 kph in both cyclones, the NTF's sea level monitoring station continued to transmit changes in sea level and other relevant weather data. During the height of Joni, the sea level rose over half a metre, the equivalent of a spring tide. During Kina, it rose by 0.4 metre.

"We weren't sure if the station would withstand the enormous buffeting of a cyclone," said the NTF's Director, Prof. Geoff Lennon, "but it did, and it provided us with information which will be very useful as a basis for research, and ultimately of benefit to Pacific islanders".

The Lautoka station was the first station commissioned, in October 1992, as part of the AIDAB-funded South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project.



(cont'd from page 9)

French Polynesia Declares New Reserves

French Polynesia recently cited the SPREP and Apia Conventions in supporting the declaration of nature reserves on Scilly and Bellinghaus atolls near Mauputi. These conventions came into force in 1991, and have been ratified by France.

Tuvalu PM Warns G-7 of Global Warming

Tuvalu's Prime Minister, Mr Bikenibeu Paeniu has warned that Tuvaluans face "cultural genocide" if G7 nations fail to cut their carbon dioxide emissions. He is in Tokyo ahead of the July G-7 Summit, representing the views of small island states.

The G-7 Summit agenda allocates little time to discussing the "global environment", and climate change is not included. G-7 nations, representing the seven most industrialised countries in the world, are responsible for 40 per cent of all "greenhouse gas" emissions.

(From Greenpeace NZ, 1 July)

Updates on Climate Change

(cont'd from page 10)

The activities of TOGA and TOGA/COARE are almost completed, and scientists now await the final reports. The South-Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project will use this information to help fine-tune its own work.

SPREP Activities

SPREP's own commitment to addressing climate change issues has also increased, with Mr Neville Koop appointed as the new Meteorology / Climatology Officer in April.

His position assists the Climate Change Officer with technical assistance and training for the region. He is currently organising a regional meeting for senior meteorological officers at Port Villa, Vanuatu, on 19-21 September, addressing climate change issues and regional responses.

For more information on these activities, contact Dr Chalapan Kaluwin, Climate Change Officer, or Neville Koop at SPREP.

Ed.: Neville comes from Darwin, Australia, with a wife and one child. He is no stranger to the Pacific, with over two years at Nadi, Fiji, with the Fiji Met. Service. Talofa, Neville!

Neville Koop,
SPREP's new
Climatology /
Meteorology
Officer.



Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIDAB	Australian International Development Assistance Bureau
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
EC	European Community
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
EWC	East West Center
FFA	Forum Fisheries Agency
FS	Forum Secretariat
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IGM	Intergovernmental Meeting
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change
IUCN	World Conservation Union
NEMS	National Environmental Management Strategies
NGO	Non-government Organisation
NZ	New Zealand
PNG	Papua New Guinea
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission

SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UN	United Nations
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UN)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme (UN)
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme (UN)
Unesco	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
USA	United States of America
USP	University of the South Pacific
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

First Regional ICZM Meeting

Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is a multi-disciplinary technique providing an integrated approach to managing fragile coastlines. SPREP recognises the advantage of this technique, seeking to adapt it to work within the constraints of the Pacific situation.

An initial meeting of a technical group was held in Apia on 24-28 May to advise SPREP on how ICZM may be used in the region. The meeting aimed to develop the technical basis for a regional programme on integrated coastal zone management. The participants included professionals representing a variety of disciplines, from SPREP member governments, regional agencies and an NGO.

The meeting began by discussing and arriving, by consensus, at what integrated coastal zone management means in the Pacific context. The meeting agreed on a description of the coastal zone, and a statement of purpose, principles and goals that should form the basis for any regional ICZM project. These were agreed to by the meeting participants, but do not necessarily represent SPREP's position.

They meeting agreed that the "coastal zone is a region of indeterminate and variable width. It extends from and includes, the wholly marine (i.e. the sea-bed, the overlying waters and their resources) to the wholly terrestrial (i.e. beyond the limits of marine incursion and the reach of salt-spray). Linking these two environments is the tidal area which forms a transition between the land and the sea. This coastal zone, so described, is characterised by a steep ecological and environmental gradient (from the wholly marine to the wholly terrestrial) and is consequently rich and diverse in natural resources. Because of this, the coastal zone is the focus of subsistence and commercial agriculture, fisheries activity and the location of intense economic development and settlement.

"The environments of the land and sea are strongly linked at the coast. Events on land are reflected in coastal waters while storm events also have a substantial impact on coastal lands and seas. The extent and effect of such linkages varies seasonally, year-by-year and in response to occasional catastrophic events. Superimposed on all this is human activity.

"Managing coastal activities is normally approached sector by sector (i.e. fisheries, agriculture) and area by area, which is inappropriate. Rarely is the coastal zone viewed as an entity. The challenge of Integrated Coastal Zone Management is to do this.

"ICZM aims to promote the sustainability of coastal areas and resources for Pacific islands through Integrated Coastal Zone Management, by integrating all human activities and natural processes that affect coastal systems and recognising that these do not conform to administrative boundaries.

"The principles of ICZM in the Pacific are:

- the needs of present generations must be met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs;
- equity in participation must be promoted in sustainable development;
- adverse environmental impacts of economic development must be minimised;
- the precautionary principle must be taken into account;
- resource use and development planning policies must integrate environmental considerations with economic and sectoral planning and policies; and,
- international responsibilities in the Pacific must be met.

"ICZM for the Pacific should:

- sustain natural systems by ensuring sustainability of coastal resources, protecting critical systems, and recognising the interrelationships between natural, social, economic and cultural systems;



Pacific Island countries need careful coastal planning - for both their environmental and economic well-being.

(Photo: SPREP)

(cont'd on page 13)

Conferences

First Regional ICZM Meeting

(cont'd from page 12)

- be determined by locally identified needs and be appropriate to local social, cultural, political and economic systems;
- balance local, provincial, regional and national goals;
- provide for economic and social needs and aspirations of communities;
- encourage integrated coastal management and strategies at appropriate levels of decision-making; and,
- Incorporate measures for capacity building, including training and education at all levels, strengthening institutional capacity, improving information and data bases, and improving the exchange of information, experience and expertise.

The meeting then considered what components and sub-components should be included in an ICZM project. The six components identified were:

- approach development;
- urgent response projects;
- coastal hazards management;
- national ICZM programme development;
- public education; and,
- regional co-ordination.

SPREP will now use the information and ideas from this technical group meeting to develop a draft project document for review, especially by SPREP members. A final project document will be submitted to donors later in the year.



Title: 20th Waigani Seminar: Environment and Development in PNG up to 2000 and beyond

Where? Port Moresby, PNG

When? 22-27 August 1993

Goal: To stimulate the process of developing PNG's own Agenda 21 - the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS).

Objectives:

1. To translate recommendations from PNG's Post-UNCED Seminar into active recommendations.
2. To develop a vision for sustainable development for PNG.
3. To develop recommendations for priorities and processes for the NSDS.
4. To promote awareness and information exchange between all levels of society across all relevant areas.

For more information, contact:

Dr David Mowbray
Chairman, 20th Waigani Seminar
Environmental Science
UPNG
PO Box 320
University, NCD
PNG
Fax: (675) 26 7187

Title: World Coast

Where? The Hague, The Netherlands

When? 1-5 November 1993

Goal: To stimulate national and international efforts in developing ICZM plans for low-lying coastal areas, accounting for sea-level and climate change.

Objectives:

1. To exchange information and experiences in assessing vulnerability and in developing ICZM plans.
2. To develop common concepts, techniques and tools for ICZM plans for low-lying areas and small island states.
3. To assist coastal nations potentially affected by climate change.
4. To stimulate effective co-ordination among national, regional and international organisations supporting ICZM plans.

For more information, contact:

Conference Organising Bureau ESC
PO Box 2139
2800 BG GOUDA
The Netherlands
Fax: (31-1820) 38 166

Title: Economic Growth with Clean Production

Where? Melbourne, Australia

When? 7-10 February 1994

Goal: To provide a forum for examining economic growth accompanied by clean production.

Objectives: To realistically address sustainable development in a clean environment through:

1. minimising waste,
2. suitable technology,
3. conserving energy,
4. controlling pollution,
5. training and education,
6. recycling, and
7. transferring technology.

For more information, contact:

Conference Australia Ltd
GPO Box 1469N
MELBOURNE, Vic. 3001
Australia
Tel.: (61-3) 698 4210
Fax: (61-3) 699 4863

Title: Tourism Ecodollars

Where? Mackay, North Queensland, Australia

When? 11-15 April 1994

Goal: To promote progress with responsibility through environmentally sound development and management in tourism.

Objectives:

To address current concerns in modern tourism:

1. sustainable tourism profits,
2. environmental management,
3. modern waste technologies,
4. protecting pristine environments, and
5. agriculture vs tourism.

For more information, contact:

EMIAA
Cumbrae Stewart Building
University of Queensland
St LUCIA, Qld. 4072
Australia
Fax: (617) 365 4199

New SPREP Publications

SPREP has recently completed a number of projects and reports, resulting in a larger number of new publications.

The vulnerability of Pacific island countries to climate and sea level change is the subject of four new books in the *SPREP Reports and Studies Series*, with *Preliminary Mission Reports* for Western Samoa (SRS 59), Tonga (SRS 58) and Tokelau (SRS 61), and a detailed *Study* of Majuro Atoll, RMI (SRS 60). The preliminary reports presents the general concerns for climate change in these countries, and recommendations for future studies. The more-detailed Majuro study assesses this atoll's vulnerability to climate and sea level changes, and provides recommendations for response strategies. It is also a useful case study for applying to other Pacific situations.

Studies on Ocean Processes and Properties are now available in SRS 56. The book details two studies, headed by ORSTOM researchers, with the results of research cruises between Vanuatu and RMI in 1991. These studies analysed physical and chemical properties in these waters, and were part of a wider ranging studies in the TOGA programme. It includes a detailed look at changes in water properties due to this El Niño event. The report is in French, and is also abstracted in English.

The RETA/NEMS Project produced over 50 publications, with a number now in print. One major part of the project was the detailed *Reviews of Environmental Law* in each participating country: Cook Islands, FSM, RMI, Solomon Islands and Tonga. These are now available from the respective SPREP national focal points in these countries, or from SPREP.

The central goal of the RETA/NEMS Project was to produce *National Environmental Management Strategies* (or the equivalent) for each participating country. These are important, as they outline the national priorities for sustainable development in these countries, as determined by a cross-sectoral National Task Team and an exhaustive and comprehensive review process. These NEMS are now available for FSM and Solomon Islands from the SPREP national focal points, and will be available in other RETA Project countries soon. The associated State of the Environment reports for Cook Islands, RMI, Solomon Islands and Tonga are also available from these focal points. SPREP also has copies of all the NEMS publications.

For more details on these and other SPREP publications, contact the Director at SPREP.

Coastal Resources and Systems of the Pacific Basin

This volume contains the papers presented at the UNEP-sponsored Symposium on regional cooperation on environmental protection of the marine and coastal areas of the Pacific Basin. This was organised in association with the XVII Pacific Science Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, in 1991.

Papers in the volume focus on climate change and sea-level rise, marine pollution assessment and control, integrated coastal zone management, coastal ecosystem monitoring and conserving marine biological diversity. Education issues and submissions for UNCED are also included.

For copies, write to:

The Director
OCA/PAC
UNEP
PO Box 30 552
Nairobi
Kenya, E. Africa.

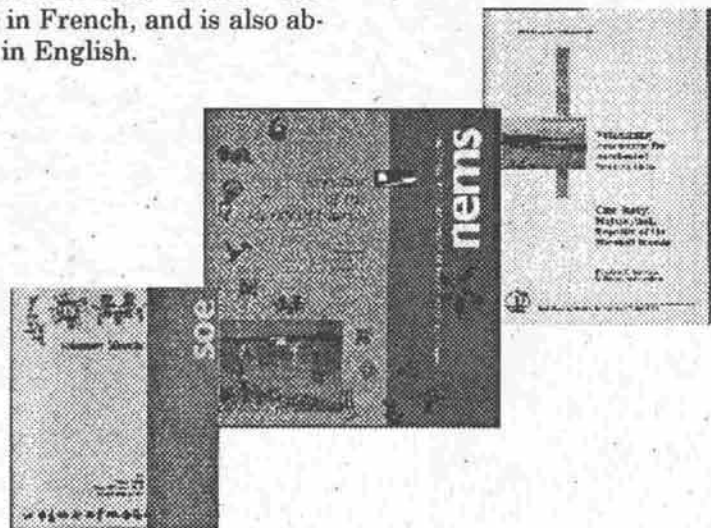
The "Easy-to-Read" Agenda 21

A plain-language version of Agenda 21 and other Agreements from last year's Earth Summit at Rio is now available.

Agenda for Change, by Michael Keating, states the blueprint for the next century in simple terms, with excellent use of graphics and figures to illustrate important points. This is a must for decision makers, government officials, NGOs, environmental journalists and schools who want to know what Agenda 21 really means people in the region.

For more information, write to:

Publications Section
Centre for Our Common Future
52, rue des Paquis
1201 GENEVA
Switzerland



Meetings '93

<i>Date</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Officer</i>
July			
12 - 16	Towards Biodiversity and Conservation	Brisbane, Australia	
12 - 16	Coastal Zone Management Workshop	New Orleans, USA	A. Smith
27 - 29	National NEMS Seminar	Tuvalu	N. Wendt
August			
2 - 13	2nd PrepComm for GCSDSIDS	New York	G. Miles
3 - 6	Asian Pacific Workshop on Vulnerability Assessment of Sea Level Rise and Coastal Zone Management	Japan	C. Kaluwin
4 - 5	Pre-Forum Session	Nauru	Forum Sec.
10 - 11	24th South Pacific Forum	Nauru	Forum Sec.
12 - 13	5th Post-Forum Dialogue Partners Meeting	Nauru	Forum Sec.
16 - 27	INC 8 - Climate Change Convention	Geneva, Switzerland	
20 - 27	International Symposium on Environmental Education	Tsukuba, Japan	
24 - 28	Global Forum on Environmental and Development Education	New Delhi, India	
27 - 2 Oct.	2nd World Congress on Tourism for the Environment	Venezuela	
September			
	2nd Meeting of the Contracting Parties for the Apia Convention	<i>tba</i>	SPREP
	2nd Meeting of the Contracting Parties for the SPREP Convention	<i>tba</i>	SPREP
	6th SPREP Intergovernmental Meeting	<i>tba</i>	SPREP
13 - 24	INC 2 - Desertification Convention	Geneva, Switz.	
22 - 24	Third Meeting of Parties to the Vienna Convention to Protect the Ozone Layer	Bangkok	
24 - 26	Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol that Deplete the Ozone Layer	Bangkok	
October			
1 - 9	22nd SOPAC Annual Session	Nadi, Fiji	
4 - 8	5th South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas	Nuku'alofa, Tonga	A. Farago
18 - 22	19th CRGA	Noumea	
19 - 21	Regional Meteorological Directors Meeting	<i>tba</i>	N. Koop
25 - 27	33rd South Pacific Conference Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol	Noumea Nairobi	
November			
1 - 5	"World Coast 93": International Conference on Coastal Zone Management <i>Forum Officials Committee 1993 Work Programme and Budget Session</i>	The Netherlands Suva	A. Smith Forum Sec.
January, 1994			
18 - 26	19th Session of IUCN General Assembly	Buenos Aires, Argentina	
April, 1994			
	Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing Countries	Barbados, West Indies	

Please note these Meetings are subject to changes without notice. *tba* = "to be advised".
Confirm dates and venues with the Director, SPREP. Tentative meetings are in *italics*.



The Last Word ...

from the Editor

Welcome to this special issue of *Environment Newsletter*, the first since SPREP formally attained its autonomy. The Agreement Establishing SPREP is now a reality, and ratifications are in full swing. We start this issue with a report on the meeting that finalised this Agreement, with comments also "From the Director's Desk".

With the dust still settling from the Earth Summit, SPREP is looking to the next major global conference, one which will perhaps have greater importance for the small island nations of the Pacific - the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States. To gain the most benefit from this meeting, the Pacific region's contributions and its delegation will be co-ordinated by SPREP and its Sustainable Development Officer, Gerald Miles.

The Conference arose from the special concerns shown at the Earth

Summit for the world's small island states. An expert meeting was initially held in Australia to develop an agenda for a Regional Technical Meeting. The Technical Meeting developed the contributions from the Pacific and Indian Ocean states for the forthcoming UN PrepCom Meetings in New York. Read more on these meetings inside this issue.

SPREP organised a number of other regional meetings since March, covering various areas of the SPREP Action Plan: turtle conservation, coastal management, biodiversity and climate change. Reports from most of these meetings are also inside.

We continue our regular columns, with "Environment Book Reviews" outlining some of the many SPREP publications published in recent months, including the NEMS for some SPREP member countries. "EnviroNews" gives a roundup of environmental and related news

from around the region and the world, and "Funding", "Conferences" and "Meetings '93" give you more of the information you need from *Environment Newsletter*.

Finally, as promised in the last issue, find enclosed a reader survey form. This survey is part of SPREP's continuing efforts to improve services to its clients, the people of the Pacific region. You are urged to complete and return this simple form to SPREP as a means of giving us your constructive criticisms and suggestions. These are vital for improving the content and the impact of *Environment Newsletter*. Results will be published in a later issue, and useful advice will be acted on. Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

Ni sa moce,
Wesley Ward
The Editor

Air Mail

Stamp

Printed Matter

Published by:
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
P.O. Box 240, APIA, Western Samoa
Telephone: (+ 685) 21 938
Fax: (+ 685) 20 231