

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

AND

PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

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The United Nations University (UNU) and the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties"

CONSIDERING that the mission of UNU is to contribute through research and capacity development, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems that are the concern of the United Nations, its Peoples and Member States;

CONSIDERING that the mandate of SPREP is to promote cooperation in the Pacific Islands region and to provide assistance in order to protect and improve the environment and to ensure the sustainable development for future generations.

CONSIDERING further that the Parties share substantial areas of common interest;

AWARE of the benefits that would flow from closer cooperation between the Parties in terms of the increased impact and effectiveness of their respective programmes and the faster attainment of their common objectives; and

DESIROUS of enhancing coordination of their work and strengthening cooperation especially on programmes that promote sustainable human development;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

Article 1

The Parties concluded this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the ("MOU")) with a view to contributing to the most effective attainment of their common objectives.

Article 2

The Parties will act in close cooperation and consult each other, on a regular basis, on issues of common interest, including projects and other activities, to coordinate their work and to strengthen cooperation.

Such areas of common interest may include the following, which may be reviewed from time to time:

- Synergies between multilateral environmental agreements(MEAs)
- Education for sustainability
- Capacity development including the use of online learning for improved environmental management
- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA)
- Biodiversity and related issues such as Access and benefit sharing and the Biosafety Protocol)
- Development of international environmental law and enforcement
- Climate change and integrated coastal management
- Waste management including governance of chemicals, pollution prevention and emergencies
- Efforts to combat desertification and land degradation
- Economic instruments for environmental protection and sustainable development

Activities will be undertaken within the framework of one (1) year work plan cycles agreed upon between the Parties and which will constitutes annexes of this MOU.

Article 3

Each Party may request the cooperation and expertise of the other Party in projects or other activities of mutual interest. Such cooperation and expertise will be provided by either Party as mutually agreed and in accordance with applicable regulations and rules. Details of programmes, projects and activities which are considered appropriate to be conducted jointly will be the subject of special arrangements which will define the modalities and the costs of the participation of each Party, provided that both Parties agreed upon.

Article 4

The Parties will invite each other's representative to meetings and conferences to which international observers are admitted, in accordance with the respective Rules of Procedure governing such meetings and conferences, when issues of common interests to the two Parties are to be discussed.

Article 5

The Parties will undertake a regular exchange of publications.

Article 6

The Rector of UNU and the Director of SPREP undertake to consult one another periodically on issues relating to this MOU, in particular to assess and consider progress made in its implementation including the work plan as referred to in Article 2 above.

Article 7

The present MOU shall enter into force on the date of its signature by the Rector of the UNU and the Director of SPREP or any other duly authorized representatives of the Parties for a period of five (5) years and may be subject to extension by mutual agreement. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended with the mutual consent of the Parties in writing. The Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either Party giving the other Party six months prior notice in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have signed this MOU in the English language, in two originals, both copies being equally authentic, in French Polynesia, Tahiti on _____ 2004.

FOR THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

FOR THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

J. A. Van Ginkel
Rector

Asterio Takesy
Director