

## Action Taken on Matters Arising

### 30<sup>th</sup> SPREP Meeting (7-9 September 2021)

Agenda Item	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
<p><b>Agenda Item 6.1:</b> SPREP 3rd Independent Corporate Review and Mid-Term Review of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017 – 2026: Initial findings</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>noted</b> the update from the Secretariat on the Third Independent Corporate Review and Mid-Term Review of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017-2026;</li> <li>2) <b>noted</b> the consultant’s presentation on the Joint Reviews that includes the methodology, background and consultations;</li> <li>3) <b>endorsed</b> the Special Meeting of SPREP Members to convene on 15 October, 2021 that shall consider the full report of the Third Independent Corporate Review and Mid-Term Review of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017-2026 and recommendations; and</li> <li>4) <b>established</b> a working group to discuss governance and programmatic issues as an outcome of the reports, in the first six months of 2022. The Secretariat will develop TOR for the Working Group</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Secretariat disseminated the draft Terms of Reference for the SPREP Member Working Group in December 2021 via the SPREP Circular 21/149.</li> <li>• SPREP Circular 2/23 advising Members of the first meeting of the WG to be held on Tuesday 16 March.</li> <li>• The first meeting of the SPREP Member Working Group on the ICR/MTR was held on Tuesday 16 March 2022 at 1:00pm to 2:35pm Samoa local time. The meeting was attended by Australia, Cook Islands, New Zealand, and Samoa with support of the Secretariat.</li> <li>• The second meeting of the SPREP Member Working Group on the ICR/MTR was held on 8 June 2022 at 1:00pm – 2:30pm Samoa local time. The WG meeting was joined by the External Facilitator, Mr. Toleafoa Alfred Schuster engaged and funded by Australia to facilitate the work of the WG as per TOR approved by the WG.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 6.2:</b> Audit Committee Report</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>noted</b> and <b>approved</b> the report of the Audit Committee for the period August 2020-July 2021;</li> <li>2) <b>noted</b> the reserve position though improved when compared to 2019 is still at a critical level;</li> <li>3) <b>requested</b> Members to clear their outstanding membership contributions and provide extra voluntary contributions in support of their Secretariat;</li> <li>4) <b>noted</b> the proposed changes in the Audit Committee Charter; and</li> <li>5) <b>recorded</b> its appreciation for the cooperation and support it has received from the Director-General, management, and staff of SPREP over the past 12 months.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up letters sent in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2022.</li> <li>• For 2021 contributions, 4 of the 6 that were outstanding as at end Dec 2021 have paid in 1<sup>st</sup> qtr 2022. PNG &amp; Northern Marianas remaining.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Agenda Item 6.4:</b> Review of Staff Remuneration: Terms and Conditions</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>noted</b> the agenda of the Special Meeting of SPREP Members on 15 October 2021 to discuss the Independent Corporate Review and the Mid-Term Review of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017 – 2026, will be extended to include consideration of Agenda Item 6.4: Review of Staff Remuneration and the proposed recommendations.</li> <li>2) <b>established</b> an informal open-ended working group comprising Members but not limited to, Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Samoa and Tonga to meet and discuss further the recommendations of WP 6.4 and the full report by the Birches LLC Consultancy Group to report back with any revised recommendations to the Special Meeting on 15 October.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An informal open-ended Working Group was convened and met as follows to discuss further the recommendations of WP 6.4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 28th September 2021: Australia, France, New Zealand and Samoa</li> <li>○ 5th October 2021: Australia, France</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A submission was tabled at the Special SPREP Meeting in October 2021 with revised recommendations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 6.5:</b> Sustainable Financing</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>established</b> an ideal core funding structure that strengthens the core revenue of SPREP and enables the Secretariat to leverage additional funding sources;</li> <li>2) <b>considered</b> a structure similar to the core funding structure of SPC, which is an increase of the SPREP support to the core from 58 percent to 80 percent which enables SPREP to be financially resilient to current and future unforeseeable events;</li> <li>3) <b>encouraged</b> SPREP Members and Partners to consider entering multiyear core funding partnership arrangements similar to Australia and New Zealand; and</li> <li>4) <b>provided</b> guidance to address sustainable financing for the long-term financial resilience of SPREP.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted for consideration in the SF paper for the EB in September.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Agenda Item 7.2:</b> Securing climate financing to build resilience to Climate Change in the Pacific Region</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>noted</b> the discussion paper on 'Securing Climate Financing to build Resilience to Climate Change in the Pacific Region (WP 7.2/Att.2);</li> <li>2) <b>noted</b> the gaps and opportunities in accessing climate financing, in particular the opportunities available under the Adaptation Fund, and <b>urged</b> Members to work with SPREP to better articulate their climate change priorities for potential projects or programmes;</li> <li>3) <b>endorsed</b> SPREP's approach to capitalising on opportunities in the climate finance landscape in the Pacific;</li> <li>4) <b>endorsed</b> the multi-country SPREP Readiness proposal and encourage Members to support by allocating their respective unallocated 2021 country readiness funds. SPREP would like to also acknowledge those countries that have made commitments to support the SPREP Readiness and look forward to receiving the No Objection Letters; and</li> <li>5) <b>encouraged</b> Members to maximise the Readiness support programmes available for climate financing to support national and regional Direct Access Entities</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A full paper on progress is proposed for the climate financing session of the Meeting. Some summary points are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SPREP is working with Member countries in preparing for, and articulating climate change priorities through: (a) a Readiness and NAP portfolio consisting of eight (8) projects, and (b) a project portfolio of two full-size projects (Vanuatu and FSM); (c) pipeline consisting of four full-size projects under development.</li> <li>○ Capitalising on opportunities in the climate finance landscape is outlined in a broader paper providing progress against all of the actions highlighted in the paper tabled at the 2021 SPREP Council meeting.</li> <li>○ The SPREP Readiness was supported by Solomon Islands and FSM and is going through the lengthy GCF approval process. It is expected to be approved by June 2022, noting the 12-month review and approval period of the GCF.</li> <li>○ Members are accessing their Readiness support programmes and providing support to national and regional direct access entities in various ways e.g. SPREP Readiness project; providing funds for concept note development by AEs in the Readiness proposals; providing for support to national DAEs or proposed national DAEs to build institutional platforms etc</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 8.1.2:</b> Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Programme of Investment</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>noted</b> the <b>endorsement</b> of the Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Programme of Investment by Leaders at the 51<sup>st</sup> Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting Retreat on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 2021;</li> <li>2) <b>acknowledged</b> the progress made by SPREP in cooperation with the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, World Meteorological Organisation, PMC members, SPC and other partners on the request of the PMC-5 to scope a decadal Pacific regional extreme weather, water and ocean response program initiative;</li> <li>3) <b>acknowledged</b> funding support of the Government of Ireland towards development of the Investment plan;</li> <li>4) <b>noted</b> the Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Programme of Investment and progress to date; and</li> <li>5) <b>requested</b> the Secretariat to advocate for and seek funding for the Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Programme of Investment</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Secretariat provided strategic support to the PMC and Champion (Government of Tonga) of the Paper developed for the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting</li> <li>• The WRP was endorsed in 2021 by the Pacific Leaders Forum</li> <li>• The Secretariat continues to support the PMC by providing guidance and updates on progress of the WRP.</li> <li>• The secretariat has funded the advocacy communications products for donor engagement.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Agenda Item 8.2.1:</b> Update on CBD COP15 and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>noted</b> the update on the SPREP regional support for parties to the CBD;</li> <li>2) <b>noted</b> the Pacific priorities for CBD COP15;</li> <li>3) <b>noted</b> the challenges for Pacific Parties participation in virtual CBD meetings and to identify strategies to manage these challenges; and</li> <li>4) <b>encouraged</b> Members to register and support delegations to participate in CBD COP15 and associated meetings and processes</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Resumed Meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI), and the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework were held in Geneva, 14 – 29 March 2022. Fiji, Samoa and the Secretariat participated virtually. Fiji and Samoa were able to make interventions virtually.</li> <li>• The Fourth Meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will be convened from 21 – 26 June 2022 in Nairobi. This meeting will continue negotiations on the Global Biodiversity Framework and on Digital Sequence information on genetic resource to produce the final draft of the framework for consideration by the Conference of the Parties. The Secretariat intends to participate virtually at the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and encourage Members to register.</li> <li>• An additional technical expert meeting on indicators of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will be convened from 26 June – 1 July in Bonn, Germany where the Secretariat will be attending in the meeting in Bonn in person.</li> <li>• The dates for the Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) to CBD have not been announced and is scheduled for the third quarter of 2022. The Secretariat will convene a Virtual Preparatory Meeting for the COP15 in July, 2022 in preparation for the CBD COP15.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 8.2.2:</b> Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021 – 2025 and the 10<sup>th</sup> Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>endorsed</b> the Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas 2021 – 2025;</li> <li>2) <b>encouraged</b> Members and partners to support the implementation of the Framework;</li> <li>3) <b>noted</b> the successful virtual 10th Pacific Islands Conference; and</li> <li>4) <b>invited</b> Members that did not attend the high-level segment of the Nature Conference to endorse the Vemööre Declaration.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members who were unable to attend the High-level Segment of the Nature Conference in 2020 were invited at the 30<sup>th</sup> SPREP meeting to endorse the Vemööre Declaration and no further endorsements were noted.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Agenda Item 8.2.3:</b> Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>endorsed</b> the Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan;</li> <li>2) <b>encouraged</b> Members and Partners to commit and support the cross-sectoral implementation of the Plan; and</li> <li>3) <b>directed</b> the Secretariat to support implementation of the Plan by Members.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members were once again consulted (by SPREP and consultant Kate Davey) through one-on-one meetings, to determine what are the key priorities for implementation in the short term (2-5 years). – This work was funded by Government of Australia. The draft implementation plan is being developed.</li> <li>• A decade for ocean Science project has been submitted to UNESCO for endorsement. In order to foster greater collaboration across CROP the Project will sit within the broader pacific Program under the PCCOS.</li> <li>• The first project under the decade is being developed with Australia, France, the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network and relevant scientific organisations. This project will develop a community based monitoring and awareness project to be rolled out across the Pacific</li> <li>• Working with MNRE of Samoa to develop pilots on coral reef restoration and monitoring at several site across Samoa</li> <li>• Development of communications products including Webpage, Teaser video and written materials to promote and inform on the Plan and its implementation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 8.3.1:</b> Strategic planning and management of disaster waste</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>supported</b> and <b>committed</b> to establishing Environment sectors (with disaster waste included) within National Disaster Management Offices to address disaster waste and other environmental issues; and</li> <li>2) <b>directed</b> the Secretariat to work with Members and Partners in seeking assistance from the FRDP PRP in the establishment of a Regional Disaster Waste Management Taskforce.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is in progress by the PWP towards assisting Members establish environment sectors within the National Disaster Management Offices that involves developing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ a template for national and community disaster waste management plan with drafting/guiding instructions;</li> <li>○ a structure for the establishment of an Environment Sector Working Group (EWG); and</li> <li>○ a standard methodology for estimating and recording of disaster waste and biodiversity loss and damages following a natural disaster. PWP will pilot these tools in one Member country before finalising and publication.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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<p><b>Agenda Item 8.3.3:</b> Pathway to introduce Sustainable Financing Mechanism</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>noted</b> and <b>supported</b> the proposed Pathway for a sustainable financing mechanism; and</li> <li>2) <b>directed</b> the Secretariat to work with Members and Partners in sustainable financing mechanisms for waste management.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Secretariat has and is supporting Members in sustainable financing mechanisms for waste management. Some of the key activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ delivery of a Sustainable Financing “Deep Dive” hosted by PWP and J-PRISM II, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Clean Pacific Roundtable where the 21 step Pathway was introduced and schemes discussed with approx.. 80 participants <a href="https://www.cleanpacificroundtable.com/recordings-day4;">https://www.cleanpacificroundtable.com/recordings-day4;</a> completion of 8 feasibility studies on the implementation or expansion of sustainable financing schemes in Cook Is, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Is, and Vanuatu;</li> <li>○ developed “Design it Yourself” resources developed and released to assist and with initial states of the 21 step Pathway and designing a Sustainable Financing scheme; assistance provided to Cook Is and Vanuatu during the design of scheme and drafting of regulation/legislation;</li> <li>○ developing a toolkit resource for governments to use to effectively consider Gender Equality Disability Social Inclusion (GEDSI) in sustainable financing scheme design; and partnering with the UNEP Green Forum/Community of Practice initiative and currently designing a webinar that will be used to launch the Community of Practise. Work is also being planned to support Niue on the sustainable financing mechanism. Work is also underway to enhance the “Design it Yourself” resource into a practical workbook with self-learning training modules/material to assist informed evidence-based decision making on the key components of sustainable financing design and implementation. Work is also in progress to develop and implement sustainable financing modules led the AFD Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP) project in partnership with PWP, J-PRISM II.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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<p><b>Agenda Item 8.4.1:</b> Scaling up environmental data management in the Pacific Islands region</p>	<p>The Meeting:</p> <p>1) <b>supported</b> the scaling up of environment data management in the Pacific and <b>directed</b> the Secretariat to initiate a process for developing a full-sized project proposal to support the scaling up environmental data management and explore the options of seeking resourcing from the GEF 8 replenishment and other funding sources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Project Identification Form (PIF) developed with the focus on strengthening SPREP as the hub for hosting Pacific Environmental Data for member countries at SPREP. Several member countries indicated their support from the GEF 8 Star Allocation. SPREP approach UNEP as the Implementing Entity and to support the development of the full project proposal. The time line for eventual submission is the first GEF council meeting for GEF 8 allocation in December 2022.</li> </ul>

## Special SPREP Meeting (15 October 2021)

Agenda Item	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
<p><b>Agenda item 3.1:</b> SPREP 3rd Independent Corporate Review and Mid-Term Review of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017-2026: Initial findings</p>	<p><b>The Meeting:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>noted</b> the Working Group shall consist of Australia, Cook Islands, New Zealand, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, and other Members who may wish to volunteer by informing the Secretariat before the end of 2021;</li> <li>2) <b>noted</b> that the Secretariat will develop a draft Terms of Reference to be provided to Members before the end of 2021; and</li> <li>3) <b>agreed</b> for the Working Group to meet in the first quarter of 2022 to consider timelines and resourcing including consideration of an external facilitator and identification of three key focus areas for Members endorsement.</li> <li>4) No objections were recorded to these recommendations.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please refer to Agenda Item 6.1: SPREP 3rd Independent Corporate Review and Mid-Term Review of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017 – 2026: Initial findings and Agenda Item 6.4: Review of Staff Remuneration: Terms and Conditions</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 3.2:</b> Review of Staff Remuneration: Terms and Conditions</p>	<p><b>The Meeting:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>requested</b> the Secretariat to submit a proposal to Members for a one off 2.5% general salary increase proposing that it be implemented as soon as possible including how it will be resourced; and</li> <li>2) <b>agreed</b> that the rest of the remuneration review will be considered alongside the ICR and Mid-term Review of the Strategic Plan.</li> </ol>	<p>The Special Meeting on 15 October 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>requested</b> the Secretariat to submit a proposal to Members for a one off 2.5% general salary increase proposing that it be implemented as soon as possible including how it will be resourced; This has been completed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 29 November 2021: Circular 21/147, proposal circulated to Members seeking comments by 14 December 2021;</li> <li>○ 23 December 2021: Circular 21/157, noting approval of proposal</li> <li>○ 1 January 2022: 2.5% general salary increase implemented; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>agreed</b> that the rest of the remuneration review will be considered alongside the ICR and Mid-term Review of the Strategic Plan.</li> </ul> <p>Noted and included in discussions currently in progress through the Members Working Group on the ICR and MCR</p>