

## **Report by the Waigani Secretariat of work undertaken since the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

*Part A: Decision from the Third Conference of the Parties, 2006*

### **Agenda Item 5: Designation of Competent Authorities and Focal Points**

17. The Parties reviewed the list and agreed to inform the Secretariat of any changes as soon as possible.

#### ***Action taken to date:***

*Vanuatu by becoming a Party to the Convention since the COP3 (in February 2008) has advised Secretariat of its Competent Authorities and Focal Point. Of the other Parties, only Australia has advised the Secretariat on the change of their Competent Authority and Focal Point. No new information regarding designated competent authorities and focal points for the Convention were forwarded to the Secretariat since 2006*

*The Secretariat has posted the current list of all designated competent authorities and focal points for the Convention on the SPREP Website*

### **Agenda Item 6: Reporting and Transmission of Information**

#### ***Action taken to date:***

*Since 2006, no new information regarding the implementation of the Waigani Convention has been submitted to the Secretariat by way of formal reporting but Australia has regularly provided advice on the transboundary movement of hazardous waste from the region to their shores for destruction purposes. During COP3, a number of Parties indicated to the Secretariat that once their reports to the Basel Convention were completed, these would be forwarded to the Secretariat but this has not happened.*

### **Agenda Item 8: Cooperation with other institutions**

#### ***Action taken to date:***

*As directed by COP3, the Secretariat convened STAC2 and SC-PRC1 meetings back to back making full use of the membership attendance to the former meeting. The report of the STAC2 meeting is tabled as WP4.2*

*As part of the STAC2 agenda, a paper on the establishment of the Pacific Regional Centre for the Stockholm Convention within SPREP was tabled and discussed at length during the meeting. The STAC2 meeting agreed to the expansion of the existing Waigani/Basel regional centre role to encompass the Stockholm Convention as well as the inclusion of a request for additional resources to fund a person to coordinate the work of the centre.*

*The STAC2 meeting also agreed that the tabled paper on the establishment of the Pacific Regional Centre for the Stockholm Convention within SPREP would be annexed to the recommendation to the COP. The technicalities of the position (example salary) would be left*

*to the decision of the COP. These recommendations as part of the meeting report would be forwarded to the COP in September 2008 for endorsement.*

*The composition of the Pacific Regional Centre Steering Committee was as agreed to in COP3, i.e. a representative each from Australia, New Zealand, Melanesia (PNG), Micronesia (FSM) and Polynesia (Samoa). The PRC-SC1 meeting was held a day after the conclusion of the STAC2 meeting and the meeting report is tabled as WP4.3*

*The Secretariat also made full use of the gathering the delegates from the region to convene, in conjunction with GHD PLC, the Australian Managing Company for the POPs in PICs project the final Project Coordinating Committee (PCC) to with the aim of (i) updating and informing the countries of the methods and outcomes of this highly successful world first regional approach to POPs cleanup and destruction; (ii) providing an understanding of decisions made throughout the project; and (iii) summarizing the challenges, successes and lessons learned. The meeting also explored possible future activities with regard to hazardous and general waste management that could be addressed under a similar project. This meeting was also attended by a consultant from AusAID who was contracted to review the project. The report of the PCC can be made available to interested Parties*

### **Agenda Item 8.2: Business Plan for the PRC**

#### ***Action taken to date:***

*At COP3, under discussion of this agenda item, Australia asked if the PRC include in its work programme, ways of simplifying, streamlining and putting on line the requirements of all of the chemical related conventions. This has been done for the Waigani and Basel Conventions but has not progressed this to include the requirements for the Stockholm Convention simply because the reporting mechanism for the Stockholm Convention is still under development. The Secretariat is also keeping a close watch on a similar harmonised regional reporting system that is being trialled by Australia and SPREP for the Biodiversity cluster of MEAs.*

*On investigating innovative solutions to reporting (including online reporting or regional, biennial or triennial reporting), the Secretariat has not progressed this further due primarily to the lack of staff to work on this on a full time basis.*

### **Agenda Item 10: Consideration and adoption of core budget for the biennium 2007-2008**

*During the discussions on this agenda item at COP3, Australia urged the Secretariat to look for re-distributional efficiencies that would enable the Secretariat to put more funding into support for Parties. The Secretariat in its part has accordingly adjusted its delivery of services to serve the Parties in a programmatic manner in which maximum value is made of any one country visit and regional gatherings. However, the Secretariat is still not getting adequate support in its endeavours to mobilise resource to allow it to implement all the activities that were endorsed and approved at COP3.*

## Part B: Waigani Convention Work Programme 2007-2008

Output	Outcome	Activities	Performance measure	Action taken to date
Development of adequate national legislation on the management of hazardous wastes	Convention implemented through national legislation	Review of national legislation; consultation with relevant stakeholders; awareness raising and drafting of national legislation	Five Parties provided with adequate national legislation on the control system for the transboundary movement and management of hazardous wastes	<p><i>The Secretariat provided technical assistance to Samoa, Tuvalu and Kiribati in the development of their waste legislation as part of their overall environmental management legislation work.</i></p> <p><i>The Secretariat also provided technical guidance to Vanuatu in their ratification of the Waigani Convention</i></p>
Information effectively managed, disseminated and exchanged	Surveys of information needs; development of information systems; training (workshop/ attachments)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthening of national and regional clearinghouse mechanisms in synergy with existing national and regional clearinghouse(s) such as PEIN, SIDSnet, and SPREP;</li> <li>2. Training with respect to the clearinghouse mechanisms</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clearinghouse mechanism initiated at national and regional level;</li> <li>2. Key enforcement staff trained in analytical use of clearinghouse mechanism.</li> </ol>	<p><i>Through the work of the PEIN project, the Secretariat has established in-country clearing house mechanisms to allow information to be disseminated properly by the focal points to all relevant stakeholders</i></p> <p><i>The Secretariat had already developed dedicated web pages for legal and waste management matters on the SPREP homepage where all the Waigani Convention and relevant documents are posted and updated to help with the implementation of the Convention</i></p> <p><i>In addition to this, the PEIN project as well as the monthly newsletter mechanism, has provided regular updates on relevant regional and national activities that help with the progress and implementation of the Convention</i></p>
Training of competent authorities and focal point	Competent authorities and focal points able to implement responsibilities under the convention	Workshop on the reporting requirements of the Waigani and Basel Conventions, with reference to developing national inventories of hazardous wastes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Inventories initiated in country.</li> <li>2. Parties report as required under the Conventions</li> </ol>	<p><i>The Secretariat has provided technical support to Samoa in developing their national chemical management strategy including the development of national definitions for waste</i></p> <p><i>The Secretariat has also provided technical advice on the transboundary procedures to a number of countries in the region</i></p>

Output	Outcome	Activities	Performance measure	Action taken to date
				<i>On reporting, following the training on reporting in 2005, the Secretariat is still receiving request for assistance on this and is in the process of mobilising resources to conduct national training for competent authorities to be able to meet their obligations under the Convention (including the compilation of their national reports</i>
Relevant stakeholders effectively implementing the Convention	Familiarisation of enforcement staff with the obligations under the Convention	National workshops in five countries to train customs, police, port, environment, and legal officers	Workshops are held; Officers of national agencies trained	<i>The Secretariat has provided technical assistance in various forms to Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Niue, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga in training relevant stakeholder in effectively implementing the Conventions</i>
Promotion of ratification and implementation to the Waigani and Basel Conventions	Broader representation and participation of Pacific Island Countries in the Conventions	Development of fact sheets, briefings papers, booklets, press kit.	3 more ratifications to the Waigani Convention; increased awareness of politicians and community to issues concerning hazardous waste management (e.g. e-waste)	<i>Since the last COP, Vanuatu has become a Party to the Convention and has been encouraging Marshall Islands, Nauru and Palau to consider becoming Parties to the Convention. For its part, the Secretariat has provided fact sheets about the benefits of becoming a Party to the Convention.</i>
Collaboration with the Basel Convention and relevant institutions	Development of complementary approach to hazardous waste management in the Pacific region	Promotion of the Waigani Convention and the Pacific Regional Centre to facilitate implementation of related chemicals Conventions	Waigani and Pacific Regional Centre effectively used to facilitate the implementation of related Chemical Conventions	<i>In addition to building on the good working relationships with the Secretariats of the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions, the Secretariat has established good working relationship with Secretariat of the Strategic Approaches for International Chemical Management (SAICM) which has seen a number of countries in the region access resources through their Quick Start Programme (QSP). The Secretariat is also working closely with these Secretariats in exploring ways in which the synergistic and integrated approaches to the environmentally sound management of chemicals and hazardous waste can be done at the regional and national levels.</i>

Output	Outcome	Activities	Performance measure	Action taken to date
Effective operation of the Pacific Regional Centre	Regional Centre facilitating implementation of the Waigani and Basel Conventions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop joint business plan for Regional Centre with Basel Secretariat</li> <li>2. Maintenance of Regional Centre fund raising</li> </ol>	Business plan implemented	<p><i>Following the approval of the establishment of the Pacific Regional Centre, the Secretariat has worked collaboratively with the SBC (and other Secretariats of relevant Conventions) to start implementing the regional centre business plan. These have included:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The pilot project on the ESM of e-waste in the region (in four countries)</i></li> <li>• <i>The Pacific regional awareness raising workshop on the SAICM process, in collaboration with the SAICM Secretariat and the Government of Australia</i></li> <li>• <i>The Pacific regional training workshop on national reporting and inventories of hazardous wastes</i></li> <li>• <i>In-country training workshop in Tonga, and Samoa on developing legislation for the chemical cluster of MEAs</i></li> <li>• <i>In-country training workshop in Niue, PNG, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, Kiribati and RMI on environmental ports management</i></li> <li>• <i>The Pacific regional waste management training course</i></li> <li>• <i>The in-country waste management training workshops in Fiji, Kiribati, PNG and Solomon Islands</i></li> </ul>

## Part C: Business Plan for the Pacific Regional Centre 2007-2008

Sub-Activities	Action taken to date
<b>Activity 1: Development and implementation of region-specific hazardous and other wastes minimization programmes in Pacific Island countries</b>	
Assessment of e-wastes in the Pacific	<i>Pilot regional project currently being implemented in four (4) countries – this project is aimed at assess the current practices in the ESM of electronic and electrical waste in the Pacific region.</i>
Assessment of ULABs in the Pacific	<i>No progress on this</i>
Pilot project for a partnership on ESM of Used Oils in the North Pacific	<i>The Secretariat has not made much progress on this activity as it is still reviewing the initial result and effectiveness of the Pacific Islands Regional Recycling Initiative (PIRRI) in which recyclables from FSM, Palau, Guam and CNMI are collected, consolidated and then shipped off to Asia for recycling.</i>
Assessment of asbestos in the Pacific	<i>Technical advice was provided to the Cook Islands and plans are in place for this service to be provided to Kiribati</i>
Pilot project on the management of non-POPs wastes including laboratory chemicals and healthcare waste (expired pharmaceuticals)	<i>No practical progress has been made on this but the issue was discussed during the final POPs in PICs Project Coordinating Committee Meeting in May 2008. The Secretariat will work closely with AusAID and other donors to explore ways in which this issue can be addressed</i>
<b>Activity 2: The operation of the PRC-SPREP as one of the main regional delivery mechanism for the concrete Implementation of the Strategic Plan</b>	
Training on National Waste Definitions and Hazardous Waste Data Collection	<p><i>The Secretariat has provided technical support to Samoa in developing their national chemical management strategy including the development of national definitions for waste</i></p> <p><i>The Secretariat has also provided technical advice on the transboundary procedures to a number of countries in the region</i></p>

<b>Sub-Activities</b>	<b>Action taken to date</b>
Training of focal points, competent authorities and relevant staff on various aspects of the implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions	<i>The Secretariat has provided technical assistance in various forms to Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Niue, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga in training relevant stakeholder in effectively implementing the Conventions. Although the training is not specifically structured to train the competent authorities and focal points on the complete transboundary process, the technical training provided has given the trained officials a better understanding of their responsibilities in the overall process.</i>
Replication of the Training of legal officers to develop the concept of a national regulatory framework for the synergistic implementation of the 4 chemical conventions (Waigani, Basel, Stockholm, Rotterdam)	<i>While no direct organised and structured training has been provided specifically to legal officers, the Secretariat through its work provided technical assistance to Samoa, Tuvalu and Kiribati in the development of their waste legislation as part of their overall environmental management legislation work. The Secretariat also provided technical and legal guidance to Vanuatu in their ratification of the Waigani Convention</i>
<b>Activity 3: Development and implementation of programme activities concerning the environmentally sound management of priority waste streams</b>	
National hazardous waste management plans development	<i>The Secretariat also provided technical and legal guidance to Samoa on the development of their national chemical management strategy.</i>
<b>Activity 4: Implementation of the control of trans-boundary movements of hazardous wastes</b>	
Establishment of association with Pacific Customs Organization (PCO) and develop training programme	<i>As part of our preparation, the Secretariat invited PCO to make a presentation to the Pacific regional awareness raising workshop on the SAICM process which was conducted in collaboration with the SAICM Secretariat and the Government of Australia. This presentation allowed discussions on how the Secretariat could work collaboratively with the PCO on training customs officers to better manage the transboundary movement of hazardous substances and waste</i>
Strengthening the synergies between Customs Officials and the Basel and Waigani Convention Competent Authorities (and other relevant chemical MEAs)	<i>No progress on this.</i>