



## SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement and the Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia  
5 September 2008

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### **Agenda Item 4: Presentation of Report by the Secretariat of work undertaken since the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

#### **Purpose**

1. To present for noting by the Meeting the Report of work undertaken by the Secretariat since the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, 2006.
2. To present for consideration and endorsement by the Meeting the Report of the Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC2).
3. To present for consideration and endorsement by the Meeting the Report of the First Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Center for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions (SC-PRC1)

#### **Background**

##### Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC2)

4. In the Decision to Agenda Item 5 on Institutional Arrangements for the Implementation of the Convention: Establishment of a Subsidiary Body, at its first meeting, the Conference of Parties to the Waigani Convention (COP1) decided to establish Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to meet as necessary in order to fulfil its tasks as mandated by the Conference of Parties subject to available resources.
5. In Decision WC/2/I, the Conference of the Parties to the Waigani Convention, at its second meeting considered and approved the Terms of Reference for the STAC paving the way for the STAC meetings to function as an entity in the implementation of the Waigani Convention.
6. The Secretariat with financial support from the Government of Australia convened the second meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) in April 2008. The report of this meeting is presented for consideration and endorsement by the COP.

### First Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Center (SC-PRC1)

7. The Pacific Regional Centre was established by way of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2003 between the Secretariats of the Waigani and Basel Conventions on behalf of their respective Conferences of the Parties.

8. Article VII of the MOU (Attachment) provides for the establishment of a Steering Committee to advise on the development and implementation of the activities of the Centre and to enhance national support to its work form countries served by the Centre.

9. It was not until the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Waigani Convention 2006, under Agenda item 8 (paras 34-41) that action was taken to proceed to convene a meeting of the SC-PRC. The Meeting agreed that the 5 members of the SC-PRC be appointed according to the following formula: Australia 1, New Zealand 1, and 1 each for the sub-regions of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesian. It was also decided that to the extent possible, the SC-PRC be held back to back with the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) Meeting.

10. The MOU establishing the PRC does not prescribe for rules of procedure for the SC-PRC and it is therefore proposed to adopt on an interim basis and so far as they are appropriate, until the SC-PRC has had the opportunity to fully consider the matter, the rules of procedure of the Waigani Convention as they apply to a properly constituted subsidiary body of that Convention.

11. Consistent with the directive of holding the SC-PRC back to back with the STAC meeting, the Secretariat with financial assistance from the Government of Australia convened the first meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Center. The report of this meeting is presented for consideration and endorsement by the COP.

### **Recommendation**

12. The Parties are invited:

- to **note** the Report of the Secretariat outlining work undertaken since the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (4WC/WP.4.1).
- to **consider** and **endorse** the Report of the Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (4WC/WP.4.2).
- to **consider** and **endorse** the Report of the First Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Center (4WC/WP.4.3).