



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Nineteenth SPREP Meeting

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia
04 – 12 September 2008

Agenda Item 9.2.1: Action Plan for the implementation of the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (2006-2015)

Purpose of paper

1. To present to the SPREP Meeting for endorsement the Action Plan for the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on climate Change (PIFACC) and to inform on the progress towards convening the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR).

Background

2. In 2005, Forum Leaders adopted the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006-2015 and requested the Secretariat to complete the drafting of a regional action plan for the implementation of PIFACC. The Secretariat duly engaged in discussions with national focal points, national and regional climate change experts, CROP agencies and regional NGOs active on climate change, and developed a draft action plan. In-country consultations were then carried out in 6 Member Countries. A final draft was circulated to national focal points for adoption on a non-objection basis in February 2008. The Action Plan is now considered adopted (Attachment 1). The Secretariat is in the process of printing the Action Plan and PIFACC in a user-friendly format.

3. The Action Plan will guide regional and national action and act as a coordinating mechanism through a revived PCCR, which will improve the overall climate change governance in the region. PIFACC established a series of priorities on climate change for the region. These priorities are also the headings for the Action Plan:

1. Implementing adaptation measures
2. Contributing to mitigation of GHG emissions
3. Improving our understanding of climate change
4. Education and awareness
5. Improving decision making and good governance
6. Partnership and cooperation

4. Under each of these priorities it is envisaged that project activities will be undertaken by Pacific island countries and territories (PICTs) nationally and regionally, supported by the regional organizations. Since responsibility for the Framework's regional and international actions can and should be shared by the region's organisations, SPREP has been called upon to convene regular meetings the PCCR inclusive of all regional and international organizations with active programmes on climate change in the Pacific region to:

- help update the PICTs on regional and international actions undertaken in support of the Framework;
- voluntarily lead or collaborate in implementing and monitoring actions relevant to their priorities and work programmes; and
- agree on mechanisms for measuring progress, identifying difficulties, and addressing actions needing special attention.

5. The PCCR should meet at least once a year, and should also afford the PICTs the opportunity to prepare for the annual meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC.

Launch

6. It is proposed that the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable be held in Apia, Samoa from 27 October 2008.

Funding

7. New Zealand has generously funded the consultative process and printing of the Action Plan. The Secretariat has received confirmation that the Government of Switzerland will contribute 120,000 Sfr towards the convening of the PCCR. This will allow the Secretariat to ensure optimal representation as well as adequate and appropriate resource persons for the meeting. Future meetings of the PCCR will however require additional funding.

Recommendations

8. The Meeting is invited to:

- endorse the Action Plan for PIFACC;
- consider and endorse the Secretariat plans for the PCCR;
- welcome the financial contribution from the Government of Switzerland; and
- encourage members to fully participate in the PCCR.