



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
Twenty-Second SPREP Meeting
Apia, Samoa
13 – 15 September 2011



Agenda Item 8.2.4:

Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) Outcomes

Purpose

1. To inform the Meeting of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) outcomes.

Background and Context

2. The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) bi-annual meeting was held in March 2011 and hosted by Government and people of Niue.
3. The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) is the regional forum that facilitates a regionally coordinated approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation, consistent with the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC) where the PCCR has a monitoring and evaluation role. The PCCR is also the regional mechanism where countries and their regional and international partners and donors come together to discuss how best to address climate change-related issues, build partnerships, and coordinate activities consistent with PIFACC and other related regional policy frameworks.

Summary of Key PCCR Outcomes

PCCR Working Arrangements:

4. The PCCR agreed to a working structure of four Working Groups and a Steering Committee and there Terms of References. The working groups are as follows:
 - Mitigation Working Group – coordinated by SPC and PIFS
 - Adaptation and Mainstreaming Working Group – coordinated by SPREP and IUCN
 - Climate Change Resources Working Group coordinated by PIFS and SPREP
 - Climate Change Information and Knowledge Management Working Group, coordinated by SPC and SPREP
 - 2011-2013 PCCR Steering Committees which made up of country representatives, CROPs and Partners which will be on a rotational basis.

Cancun Outcomes:

5. In the context of discussing the Cancun outcomes, the PCCR thanked SPREP for its continuing assistance to Pacific Island Countries with preparations for UNFCCC meetings and highlighted the importance of:

- SPREP convening preparatory meetings for the up-coming 17th Conference of the Parties (COP 17) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Meeting in Durban, South Africa (December 2011), which could include regional development partners.
- SPREP to develop a simplified outcomes document from future UNFCCC COP meetings
- SPREP's continued assistance in logistical support for Pacific Island Countries

The road to Durban:

6. In preparation for COP 18 (to be held in December 2011), the PCCR invited Pacific Island Countries to encourage the participation of NGOs and youth in their UNFCCC delegations to Durban and noted the important role that civil society groups play in assisting PICs both in the lead up to and in the negotiations proper.

7. The PCCR invited SPREP to work with PICs, CROP agencies and civil society partners to prepare for Durban, including: (a) establishing a focal point for FCCC side events; and (b) convening preparatory and negotiations skills training workshops.

8. The PCCR invited Pacific representatives on different FCCC committees and boards to provide regular updates to the relevant PCCR working groups and to communicate on a regular basis.

Mobilizing climate change resources for the Pacific:

9. The PCCR noted the Director of SPREP's presentation of the findings of the SPREP Study on "Mobilising Climate Change Resources in the Region" and that this study would provide valuable input to the development of the Options Paper being coordinated by the Forum Secretariat. The study emphasised strengthening capacity of national and regional institutions and non-governmental organizations to confront the many challenges of climate change, and in this regard suggested establishing a technical backstopping mechanism to support the delivery of climate change work in the region.

10. The Climate Change Resources Working Group (CCRWG) suggested that the Regional Backstopping Mechanism be considered separately and suggested that amongst other things this backstopping mechanism should provide support to Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) to help in:

- developing strategic programming for resource mobilization, including the development of concept notes into project proposals with effective M&E frameworks and exploring opportunities for resource implementation; and
- Facilitating access to capacity and expertise externally to support national activities on climate change on a needs basis. This should include flexible resources to support timely TA mobilisation from other PICT's, CROP agencies, and other partners.

- The PCCR requested SPREP to develop a draft TOR in consultation with working groups coordinators. This TOR has been developed by SPREP, with additional input provided by the July (2011) CEO Sub Committee on Climate Change meeting.

Regional climate change coordination:

11. The PCCR welcomed the presentation by the SPREP Director and acknowledged the CROP Executive sub-committee on climate change's continuing lead role. The PCCR is coordinated by SPREP, thus the Director of SPREP is providing the formal link between the PCCR and the CROP Executive sub-committee on climate change as he is a co-chair of the sub-committee.

12. National climate change committees and PCCR partners were also be encouraged to work closely with such mechanisms.

13. SPREP will continue to coordinate and support the PCCR in line with the requirements of the SPREP Meeting, CROP Executive sub-committee and climate change development partners with provisions of staff and resources. This coordination and support role is dependent on sustainable sources of funds.

Climate change policy and information management:

14. The PCCR welcomed the PIFACC mid-term review and invited SPREP to widely disseminate the draft version of the revised PIFACC. The final version will be presented to the 22nd SPREP Meeting in Samoa. This process is currently underway.

15. The PCCR welcomed the presentation by the web portal consultants outlining the objectives and functions of the proposed web portal proposal. The PCCR requested that SPREP:

- Undertake further consultations on the web portal at and after the PCCR, including a stakeholder needs survey;
- The PCCR recommended SPREP to implement the consultants findings, working closely with a Steering Committee from the Knowledge Management Working Group); and
- Commence implementation, addressing issues such as: fundraising, governance, and partnership arrangements.

Mainstreaming of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction:

16. The PCCR welcomed presentations by Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Niue and Tonga outlining how climate change adaptation has been integrated with disaster risk reduction in these countries. The PCCR suggested CROP agencies work in cooperation with PICTs to develop a timetable for similar exercises in the other interested PICTs. It noted that Tonga had been innovative in financing its Joint National Action Plans primarily through the 2nd National Communication process and its emphasis on inter-disciplinary teamwork, while Cook Islands had sought financing from the Italian Government. Based on the presentation the PCCR highlighted the following key points from presentations and discussions:

- Ownership of the process by the people is very important;
- Adaptation issues in PIC countries are different but there are also many similarities;
- There is a desire in the region to integrate climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction at both regional and national levels;
- It is challenging and expensive to implement adaptation programmes, including conducting surveys, consultations and implementing projects, in remote outer island communities and this needs to be reflected in decision making.

17. The PCCR noted the work done on developing a loss and damage mechanism for the region, working with relevant international and regional agencies, and using a “think tank” approach to developing ideas and proposals. It agreed to develop terms of reference for a study on the implications on climate change and displacement, resettlement and relocation. It will also develop a manual of best practices on community based approaches. A database on suitable technologies should also be established.

Communications and Capacity building:

18. A session on communications and outreach was held to identify priority needs in climate change outreach and education and to clarify key messages for communication. A draft framework was developed to help guide SPREP in providing technical assistance and support to member countries and territories in climate change related communications and outreach.

19. The PCCR also held a communications session to formulate a regional communications strategy for the months leading up to Durban, and while at the COP 17 in Durban. This session laid the groundwork for a collective, Pacific communications approach as we prepare for COP 17.

20. Five capacity building needs were identified and partners and regional organisations were invited to address the following capacity needs: (a) funding (including resource mobilization); (b) communication (including education & awareness); (c) policy development (including mainstreaming climate change into national and sectoral policies, & strategy development on adaptation and mitigation); (d) climate change science; and (e) negotiation skills.

Recommendations

21. The meeting is invited to:

- **note** the outcomes of the 2011 PCCR;
- **endorse** the working arrangements of the PCCR and the Secretariat role; and
- **direct** the secretariat to respond to the tasks recommended for the Secretariat from the PCCR.

18 July 2011