
South Pacific Regional Environment Programme



**Seventh
SPREP
Meeting**



Held on
11 -13 October 1994
in **Tarawa, Kiribati**

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Meeting Report

Agenda Item 1:

Official Opening

1. The *Seventh SPREP Meeting* was convened in Tarawa, Kiribati, 11-13 October 1994. Representatives of the following SPREP member countries and territories attended: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Wallis and Futuna and Western Samoa. Advisers also attended from the South Pacific Forum Secretariat and the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC). Observers from a range of regional, international and non-government organisations were also present. A list of participants is attached as Annex 1.

2. Following an opening prayer, His Excellency the Honourable Teburoro Tito, President of the Republic of Kiribati, added his formal welcome to the traditional, spiritual welcome accorded to delegates by Eita Village. The President praised the initiative of the previous government in offering to host the Seventh SPREP Meeting. He referred to the special significance his recently-formed government gave to the presence of such wide representation from countries and organisations from within the region and the Pacific rim.

3. His Excellency the Honourable Teburoro Tito, assured delegates that the Government of the Republic of Kiribati would continue to support efforts at all levels to ensure sustainable development. He pointed out that the atoll environment such as Kiribati was particularly fragile and vulnerable to climate and other physical catastrophe. The message for sustainable development to be made from Tarawa after this meeting would therefore be a symbolic one. He emphasised both the need for national action as well as the common objectives among countries of the region and the importance of regional cooperation in environmental protection and sustainable development through SPREP.

4. His Excellency further stated the great value his Government placed on its participation in this forum which would continue to be a guiding and unifying force in efforts to take countries and peoples forward into the 21st century. In closing his address His Excellency declared the Seventh SPREP Meeting open.

5. The representative of New Zealand on behalf of delegates responded to the President's opening address and thanked the Government for hosting the Meeting so shortly following its recent election. She referred to the special qualities of the people of this small group of atolls and to the way in which Kiribati, and its Pacific island neighbours, understood the true meaning of being 'small island developing states'. She praised Pacific islanders' cohesiveness, dedication, awareness of their special needs and ability to relate international and regional issues back to the natural environment and the ability to rise to the challenge of sustainable development. She attributed much of the effectiveness with which Pacific countries worked towards environmental protection collectively as a region, to the guidance provided by SPREP under the directorship of Dr Vili Fuavao.

6. The Director of SPREP began his opening speech by extending congratulations to His Excellency Teburoro Tito on his recent election as leader of the Republic of Kiribati, wishing him and the people of Kiribati strength to face the many challenges ahead. He extended thanks to the Government and people of Kiribati for their excellent arrangements for the meeting and the warm hospitality extended to delegates, some of whom had travelled vast distances to attend this Seventh SPREP Meeting.

7. He expressed congratulations to one of SPREP's members, the Republic of Palau, on its very recent achievement of a new political status. Further, he thanked members and others for their collective efforts in striving to make SPREP an effective regional organisation and stressed the importance of maintaining the dialogue and spirit of partnership between member countries, donors and the Secretariat. He described 1993-94 as a very hectic year for the organisation as it took up the challenge of implementing the ambitious work programme entrusted to it, as well as the coordination of

regional inputs to international negotiations likely to affect development and conservation in the region. The Director referred to the ambitious agenda for deliberation over the ensuing days and brought to delegates' notice specific issues that required special attention, namely, endorsement of the Corporate Plan; and deliberations relating to the SPOCC Review and its implications for attracting high quality staff and ensuring stability for the organisation.

8. The Director thanked member countries, international organisations and donors for their financial support and for the partnership arrangements that had been forged to the collective benefit of the region. He outlined specific assistance provided by a large number of donors and collaborating institutions. He referred to the resources that the Secretariat and its member countries had invested in the preparations for, and participation in, the Global Conference for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States held in Barbados which he hoped would produce ongoing beneficial results. In referring to the Work Programme, he noted that the review of SPREP's five-year Action Plan was not far off and would provide a good opportunity to take stock and to ensure that all programme components were focused, pragmatic and achievable. Regional cooperation, through bodies such as SPOCC, continued to be of great importance to SPREP and other regional organisations in ensuring that duplication of effort was avoided. He extended congratulations to Mr Victor Uherbelau as the new Director of FFA and to Mr Phillip Muller for his reappointment as Director of SOPAC, and thanked Sir Peter Kenilorea for the FFA's assistance and cooperation extended to SPREP, especially with the establishment of SPREP's Financial Section. The Director also acknowledged with gratitude the work and efforts of the Chairman of the Sixth SPREP Meeting, Mr John Teaiwa of Fiji, and thanked his staff for their dedication and commitment.

Agenda Item 2:

Appointment of Chairperson

9. The representative of Fiji, as outgoing Chairperson, called the Meeting to order. The representative recalled the role of the Chairman of the Sixth SPREP Meeting, Mr John Teaiwa, who had also been Fiji's Focal Point for SPREP. She extended an apology and best wishes from Mr Teaiwa's successor, Mr Rishi Ram, who was unable to attend this Meeting.

10. In accordance with normal SPREP Meeting procedure, in which the host government chairs the Meeting, the representative of Kiribati, Mrs Makurita Baaro, Secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Trade was appointed as Chairperson by acclamation.

Agenda Item 3:

Adoption of Agenda and Working Procedures

11. The revised Provisional Agenda was adopted and is attached as Annex 2. The working hours of the Meeting were agreed as proposed by the Secretariat and open-ended sub-committees were established as follows:

- **Meeting Report Drafting Sub-committee**, chaired by the representative of Tonga and comprising representatives of Australia, France, Kiribati, New Zealand and Tonga; and
- **Work Programme and Budget Sub-committee** reconvened comprising representatives of Australia, Fiji, France, Niue, New Zealand, Marshall Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and the United States.

12. The representative of New Zealand was appointed as the new chairperson for the Work Programme and Budget Sub-committee in place of French Polynesia.

Agenda Item 4:

Matters Arising from Sixth SPREP Meeting

13. The Secretariat reported on implementation of matters arising from the Sixth SPREP Meeting as outlined in Working Paper 2 and under ensuing agenda items. The Meeting noted this report.

Agenda Item 5:

SPREP Director's Overview

14. The Director presented an overview (Working Paper 3) of institutional, policy, finance and work programme developments in SPREP during 1993/94 together with relationships with international organisations and called upon the Meeting to offer suggestions on future directions. Several issues referred to by the Director were reported upon in more depth under separate agenda items.

15. Regarding Staff Regulations and Conditions of Service, he reported that by March 1994 all contract staff had been incorporated under SPREP's current staff regulations, with their associated salaries and terms and conditions of service, ending the parallel SPC and SPREP systems. He reported on contract and support staff movements during the year and advised that recent cost of living adjustments for support staff in Western Samoa had alleviated the problem of disparities of pay with the Western Samoa Public Service.

16. The Director brought to the meeting's attention the cementing of relations with international organisations such as Memoranda and Letters of Understanding signed between SPREP and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the granting of observer status to SPREP by the Sustainable Development Commission.

17. In reporting on SPREP's financial situation during the past year, the Director stated that the voluntary nature of member contributions to SPREP continued to hamper and frustrate effective implementation of the work programme forcing the Secretariat to continually grapple with cash flow problems. He called upon the Budget Sub-Committee to discuss this issue and advise the Secretariat on how best to deal with this problem. Computerisation of SPREP's financial system had been completed during the year and this

system would be continually refined to ensure effective accountability, streamlining of payments and timely donor reporting.

18. Fundraising efforts during the year had built on the continuing and substantial assistance from UNDP, UNEP, AIDAB, NZ-ODA, CFTC, Canada, France, USA and ADB, resulting in the following funding arrangements for 1993/94:

- UNDP Capacity 21 - US\$ 994,000 for two and a half years;
- Environment and Population - US\$ 280,800 from UNFPA for 1994 activities;
- AIDAB - extrabudgetary and other special funding of approximately A\$1.5 million for 1994/95;
- NZ - NZ\$750,000 for assistance to SPREP activities in 1993/94;
- CFTC - 42,000 Pounds for 1994/95;
- IMO - 36,600 Pounds assistance to SPREP activities in 1994;
- WMO - US\$ 32,000 assistance to SPREP activities in 1994;
- Japan - US\$ 21,000 assistance to SPREP activities in 1994; and
- UNEP/GRID - US\$110,000 assistance to PENRIC activities in 1994.

In the interests of diversifying sources of funding, dialogue and contact had also been initiated with the EU, the World Bank, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, the USA (through the University of California's National Laboratory in Los Alamos, New Mexico), IMO, WMO, WHO and UNESCO. As well, SPREP was looking to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for additional financial support.

19. The Director assured the Meeting of SPREP's continual striving to ensure that the Secretariat be lean and effective with high quality and quantity of outputs, transparency of expenditure, well-defined priorities and effective project management.

20. In summarising SPREP Work Programme activities (which were covered in more detail under later agenda items), the Director stated that SPREP continued to focus on priorities as identified by member countries in their National Environmental Management Strategies (NEMS) and continually refined the integrated Work Programme formulation process to complement national governments' own environmental management efforts and to address issues outlined in activities such as the

outcomes from the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Islands Developing States (GCSIDS), Barbados. The representative of Kiribati pointed out that the Barbados Conference recognised the need for financial resources to assist the sustainable development of small island developing states but that no specific additional funds had been pledged.

21. SPREP continued to place emphasis on coordination of its regional activities through participation in the South Pacific Organisations Coordinating Committee (SPOCC); institutional strengthening of member country capabilities; and in-country education and training activities. Further, he referred to recruitment of the full complement of staff under the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP), a major GEF-funded project implemented by SPREP; progress under the AIDAB-funded Radio Australia/SPREP/PRN "One World" project; as well as the UNEP-funded Pacific Environmental and Natural Resource Information Centre (PENRIC) and establishment of SPREP's Library and Information Centre with funding from New Zealand. The Meeting noted the Director's Overview.

Agenda Item 6:

Institutional and Policy

Agenda Item 6.1: Agreement Establishing SPREP

6.1.1. Status Report on Signatures and Ratifications

22. The *Agreement Establishing SPREP* was opened for signature on 16 June 1993 and by 30 August 1994 had been ratified by Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand and Western Samoa. The Agreement now only required an additional five ratifications to be lodged with the depository, the Government of Western Samoa, in order for it to enter into force.

23. The representative of Australia advised the Meeting that his government hoped soon to notify SPREP and provide to the Government of Western Samoa, the instrument of ratification for the SPREP Agreement. France stated that the ratification process by his government, a long and complex one, was under way and that ratification would occur as soon as possible. Palau informed the Meeting that, having entered into a Compact of Free Association with the United States, and pursuant to Article 10.5 of the Agreement, it was commencing its

internal process of accession to the Agreement. The representative of Palau stated that, since his country was now eligible for full fledged membership in SPREP, the Meeting should delete Palau from Rule 2 - Definition of 'Members' - of the Rules of Procedure for the Agreement. Palau's statement is attached as Annex 3.

6.1.2. Adoption of Plenipotentiary Meeting Report

24. The Meeting was invited to approve the Report of the Plenipotentiary Meeting held in Apia in June 1993. As agreed at the Sixth SPREP Meeting, the Secretariat's version of the report and the revised version submitted by the United States to the Legal Sub-Committee, were merged by the Secretariat and circulated to SPREP members for comments early in 1994. Comments were subsequently incorporated into the version submitted to, and approved by, the Seventh SPREP Meeting which appears as Annex 4.

6.1.3. Membership of Guam

25. Following the Plenipotentiary Meeting in June 1993, which resulted in the conclusion of the *Agreement Establishing SPREP*, the Governor of Guam announced that the territory would no longer participate in SPREP Meetings, effectively withdrawing from membership. Efforts by delegates of several member countries and by the Director of SPREP prior to the Sixth SPREP Meeting to seek a return to full participation by Guam had been to no avail. The Sixth SPREP Meeting directed the Secretariat to continue its efforts in this regard.

26. The representative of New Zealand expressed regret at Guam's continued reluctance to participate in SPREP Meetings and applauded efforts by the Secretariat and other member countries to encourage Guam's return.

27. The Meeting noted the actions taken by the Chairman of the Sixth SPREP Meeting and the Secretariat in endeavouring to encourage Guam to resume full membership of SPREP and noted that the Governor expressed his willingness for Guam to exchange technical information with SPREP and to participate in the work programme in areas of proven mutual benefit.

Agenda Item 6.2 : Frequency of Future SPREP Meetings

28. At the Sixth SPREP Meeting, the Director raised the possibility of convening the SPREP Meeting at two-yearly intervals rather than annually and was requested to submit a paper on this issue to the Seventh SPREP Meeting. Working Paper 5 outlined the origins and functions of SPREP Meetings, referring also to provisions in Article 3 of the *Agreement Establishing SPREP* which gave a mandate to the SPREP Meeting to determine the frequency of its future meetings. The Director outlined the direct and indirect costs associated with annual meetings and expressed concern at the large proportion of staff time diverted from programme activities to meeting preparation and attendance. In outlining the benefits and savings associated with two-yearly meetings, the Secretariat was cognisant of relevant factors such as future revisions of the SPREP Action Plan and Corporate Plan, appointment of the Director, convening of Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Apia and SPREP Conventions and the need to be consistent with SPOCC practices.

29. After considerable discussion, the Meeting agreed that SPREP should retain annual meetings for the meantime, with at least every alternate meeting being held in Apia to minimise costs and maximise efficiency. The Meeting noted the responsibilities of the host country specified in Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure. The Meeting also directed the Secretariat to analyse linkages between the SPREP Meeting and technical meetings to analyse further the costs and benefits of annual and biennial meetings and to report back to the Eighth SPREP Meeting for further deliberation on these matters.

Agenda Item 6.3 : Core Staff Positions

30. The Sixth SPREP Meeting requested the Secretariat to report to the Seventh SPREP Meeting on future arrangements, including funding implications, for staff positions financially supported by member governments under the core budget. Previous SPREP Meetings had established the principle that to ensure stability of the organisation, the basic functions of the Secretariat should be achieved by a lean and efficient critical mass of core staff, funded as far as possible from member contributions.

31. The Director outlined his assessment of staffing needs in relation to the region's environmental priorities (Working Paper 6), and concluded that the three Project

Implementation positions currently placed under the core budget, namely, Project Officer (Species Conservation); Project Officer (Environmental Education) and Coastal Zone Management Officer, would be best retained under the core budget. He also noted that SPREP's Legal Officer was currently funded by France, reference to which had been inadvertently omitted from Working Paper 6. The Meeting re-endorsed the retention of these three Project Implementation positions under the core budget.

Agenda Item 6.4 : Corporate Plan

32. A draft Corporate Plan for SPREP was first considered at the Fourth SPREP IGM in 1991. A revised draft was tabled at the Fifth SPREP Meeting in 1992. The Fifth SPREP IGM considered it premature to finalise the Plan in the absence of an *Agreement Establishing SPREP* and agreed that it be deferred again for consideration at the Sixth SPREP Meeting. The Sixth SPREP Meeting referred the draft Plan to the Work Programme/Budget/Corporate Plan Sub-Committee for review and agreed that the Corporate Plan be revised by the Secretariat and circulated out-of-session for additional comment. The Secretariat tabled the revised draft (Working Paper 7/Att.) which had incorporated, to the fullest extent possible, member governments' comments.

33. In response to the representative of Fiji, the Director explained that the establishment of a Divisional structure in SPREP would in no way limit the inter-disciplinary work practices of the organisation. The representative of France had no objection to the draft Corporate Plan. He congratulated the Secretariat for the good relationships with UNEP that France wished to encourage and he stated also that France had ratified the Conventions on Biodiversity and Climate Change.

34. The Meeting endorsed the Corporate Plan, noting that paragraphs relating to the functional core should now be amended to reflect decisions taken by the SPREP Meeting under Agenda Item 6.3 and that the list of ratifications to the SPREP Agreement should be updated to include Kiribati. The Meeting also recognised that the Corporate Plan was part of an evolving process to clearly link objectives set for SPREP by its members, under the SPREP Action Plan, to achievable targets and performance indicators for the Secretariat.

Agenda Item 6.5 : SPREP Meeting Rules of Procedure

35. The Sixth SPREP Meeting noted that there were inconsistencies between the Provisional Rules of Procedure and the *Agreement Establishing SPREP* and requested its Legal-Sub-Committee to provide guidance to the Secretariat to assist it in re-drafting the Rules prior to re-submission to the Seventh SPREP Meeting. The Secretariat tabled the revised SPREP Meeting Rules of Procedure as Working Paper 8.

36. The representative of the United States called upon the Meeting to welcome the new Republic of Palau to SPREP and accordingly to delete the reference to Palau in Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure, with which the Meeting concurred. The Meeting also agreed to delete the word "present" under Rule 10.1. The Rules of Procedure as amended were endorsed by the Meeting and appear as Annex 5. Although in a strict legal sense the Rules would not be enforceable until such time as the *Agreement Establishing SPREP* entered into force, the Meeting agreed that for practical purposes the Rules as tabled and amended would take effect forthwith.

Agenda Item 6.6 : Rules of Procedure for Appointment of Director

37. The Sixth SPREP Meeting gave the Legal Sub-Committee the task of devising rules and procedures to govern future appointments of Directors of SPREP. The Secretariat tabled a draft which had been developed based on guidelines from the Legal Sub-Committee and by the delegation of Papua New Guinea, whose contributions were gratefully acknowledged by the Secretariat. This draft had been circulated by the Secretariat to members of the Legal Sub-Committee early in 1994.

38. Points of clarification were raised concerning Rules 3, 5 and 7. The representative of New Zealand also raised the point that early ratification of the *Agreement Establishing SPREP* would bring these Rules into force. Until such time the responsibility for appointing the Director of SPREP rested with the Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission. The Meeting endorsed the Rules of Procedure for Appointment of the Director of SPREP which appear as Annex 6.

Agenda Item 6.7 : Corporate Sponsorship

39. The Fifth SPREP Meeting endorsed in principle the general thrust of a paper by the Secretariat on Corporate Sponsorship as a means of further widening the financial base available to SPREP for programme implementation. However, it was also recognised that the issue was a delicate one involving a potential conflict of interest with corporate sponsors and therefore it was agreed that the Secretariat would prepare a more detailed analysis of the broad issues involved and propose guidelines for consideration at the next SPREP Meeting. Lacking expertise in the area, the Secretariat sought assistance from the EPOC Office in Port Vila and subsequently tabled at the Sixth SPREP Meeting draft guidelines for Corporate Sponsorship prepared by Mr Savenaca Siwatibau. The Sixth SPREP Meeting referred the draft to the Work Programme /Budget / Corporate Plan Sub-Committee who recommended that the Secretariat liaise with member governments and provide a revised document for consideration at the Seventh SPREP Meeting. Subsequently the Government of New Zealand, through its Department of Conservation, prepared a draft document (Working Paper 10/Att.) which was circulated by the Secretariat to member governments for their comment prior to the Meeting

40. The representative of New Zealand spoke to the paper advising the Meeting that whilst activities to secure sponsorship could be time consuming, the benefits could be substantial. He offered informal, ongoing assistance to those member governments wishing to draw on New Zealand's experience in this area. The representative of France while not opposed to corporate sponsorship, wished to emphasise the general need to provide a framework for such initiatives with limitations so as to avoid any outside interference.

41. The Meeting thanked the Government of New Zealand for its assistance and noted the *Sponsorship Guidelines for the Departments of Environment and Conservation (DEC) of SPREP Member Countries*, attached as Annex 7.

Agenda Item 6.8 : Review of Terms and Conditions of Employment of SPOCC Organisations

42. In 1992 the Forum Officials Committee decided to initiate a review of terms and conditions of employment in SPOCC organisations. Terms of reference and a timetable were adopted by each of the participating agencies during 1993 and the consultants,

Deloitte, Touche, Tohmatsu of New Zealand, appointed by the Forum Secretariat, submitted their final report in June 1994. The consultants' report caused considerable concern in each SPOCC organisation involved, leading to a common response which SPOCC agreed should be tabled at each governing council meeting. The consultants' report and attached SPOCC paper were tabled at the Forum Officials Committee Pre-Forum Session, Brisbane, July 1994 who considered them but, owing to the complexity and lack of definitive data, referred them to a subcommittee for advice on implementation. It is expected that the subcommittee will report back to the Forum Officials Committee in 1995.

43. The Secretariat tabled Working Paper 11 which included the consultants' report, the SPOCC response, and additional information recently received relating to Remuneration Components for Contract Officers and for Expatriates, together with the SPOCC response. The Secretariat expressed concern relating to the timing of the review and to the fact that the issue of local staff salaries had not been adequately addressed.

44. One member noted the size and complexity of the SPOCC Review document. He stressed the need for economies and savings not just by greater efficiency but also by trimming administrative and personnel costs. The representative suggested the SPOCC Review provides the basis for substantial savings, which could be directed towards the Work Programme, and that in circumstances where donor funds are not increasing in real terms, SPREP must utilise any available means to produce savings. He recommended to the Meeting that it adopt the Review document and implement its recommendations as quickly as possible.

45. Following further discussion, the Meeting deferred consideration of the report until after the Forum Officials Committee Sub-committee had reported to the Forum Officials Committee Budget Session in November 1994. A SPREP Meeting Sub-committee, comprising those countries with representatives in Apia, was formed to investigate the implications for SPREP following receipt of the Forum Officials Sub-committee report. The SPREP Sub-committee was requested to report back to the Eighth SPREP Meeting.

Agenda Item 6.9 : Criteria to Categorise Small Island Members

46. The Sixth SPREP Meeting, in discussing policy relating to payment of members' travel and per diem expenses at SPREP Meetings, agreed that the small island members eligible to receive assistance from the special fund established for that purpose were Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Tokelau and Tuvalu. The Secretariat was requested to submit to the Seventh SPREP Meeting guidelines for possible criteria that could be used to categorize "small island members".

47. The Secretariat, in Working Paper 12, stated that although no SPOCC member had adopted an official definition of "small island member," guidelines had been developed by the Forum which were followed by the South Pacific Commission and the Forum Fisheries Agency. Forum member countries accorded small island status based on these guidelines were Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue and Tuvalu.

48. Recognising that the membership of SPREP is wider than that of the Forum, the Meeting agreed that the special characteristics and problems nevertheless apply to SPREP's small island members and endorsed the Forum's guidelines. The Meeting thereby agreed that Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Tokelau and Tuvalu would be designated "small island members."

Agenda Item 6.10 : Guidelines for Reports of SPREP Meetings

49. The Sixth SPREP Meeting requested the Secretariat to prepare a report for submission to the Seventh SPREP Meeting on guidelines for Reports of SPREP Meetings. Reports of SPREP Meetings had traditionally been drafted with the assistance of a sub-committee established for that purpose; drafts had then been reviewed and adopted in plenary sessions, a practice which appeared to have worked satisfactorily and which the Secretariat advised was generally the procedure adopted by other SPOCC organisations.

50. The Secretariat thus sought further guidance from the Meeting as to what, if any, changes might be made either to the current procedure or format of SPREP Meeting reports. The Meeting endorsed existing procedures as an appropriate reporting mechanism.

Agenda Item 6.11 : Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific

51. At the Fifth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas held in Nuku'alofa, October 1993, delegates requested the Secretariat to revise the *Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific* stressing that the final document be simple, to allow the message to be taken to local communities and that the emphasis of the Strategy be on action and implementation, rather than merely on words. Accordingly the Secretariat, with assistance from The Nature Conservancy (TNC), revised the Strategy and invited the Meeting to consider and approve the revised text.

52. In discussing the Action Strategy, delegates congratulated the Secretariat and The Nature Conservancy for their excellent work in revising the document. In relation to proposed financial arrangements, several delegates expressed concern about possible multiplication of funding mechanisms. The Meeting applauded the community-based approach which was considered most important by Pacific island countries. It was agreed that amendments, as tabled, by the representatives of Australia (7SM/Inf.6) Fiji (7SM/Inf.9) and New Zealand (7SM/Inf.8), be incorporated. The Meeting approved the amended *Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific Region* which is attached as Annex 8.

53. The Meeting noted that environmental import /export procedures should be developed taking into account the relevant provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Barbados Programme of Action on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Agenda Item 6.12 : New Headquarters Proposals - Shortlisting of Architects

54. The Secretariat tabled its report (Working Paper 30) on developments with the proposed new headquarters complex for SPREP. The Secretariat advertised widely throughout the region for expressions of interest from registered architects wishing to participate in a concept design competition for the new headquarters complex in accordance with the Master Plan. A total of 38 expressions of interest were received from 12 countries and these were assessed by SPREP Management and the Project Manager, using the selection criteria presented to the Meeting.

55. The Secretariat advised that, to date, efforts to attract funding for the new building had not been successful but that fund-raising activities would continue to be actively pursued.

56. The representative of New Zealand requested that the record reflect their view that certain elements of the Master Plan had not been finally endorsed at the Sixth SPREP Meeting. However, recognising the constraints that the Secretariat was currently operating under in its existing premises, her delegation endorsed the recommendation to proceed with the design competition. Her delegation acknowledged the excellent site generously provided by the Government of Western Samoa and she agreed with earlier comment made by the representative of Australia, stressing the importance relating to ensuring that the building was a low-maintenance structure, suitable to conditions in Western Samoa.

57. The Meeting agreed that the first seven companies from the list should be invited to participate in the design competition and that invitations be issued immediately following the Meeting.

Agenda Item 6.13 : Regional Mechanism to Implement Barbados Conference Outcomes

58. The 25th South Pacific Forum agreed to establish a regional mechanism to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the Barbados Conference outcomes. It further agreed that such a mechanism should consist of a support unit utilising the resources and services of SPREP and the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC) and an advisory committee composed of senior policy officials. SPREP was requested, in consultation with EPOC and other interested parties, to prepare a report on the modalities of this mechanism for consideration at the Seventh SPREP Meeting and subsequently for consideration by the 26th South Pacific Forum. The expected functions, structure and modalities for this regional mechanism outlined in Working Paper 26, were revised by a working group.

59. The Meeting decided to recommend to the 26th South Pacific Forum the modalities for the regional consultative mechanism as follows:

- i. Modalities to be adopted by SPREP Meeting, 11-13 October 1994, Tarawa, and reported to the next South Pacific Forum, Waigani, 1995, and to the ESCAP Commission Session, 1995 (SPREP to pass a copy for information to the ESCAP Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development, 24-28 October 1994, Bangkok).

- ii. SPREP and EPOC to identify focal points within each organisation.
- iii. Consultations between SPREP and EPOC, and other relevant groups, to establish uniform database structure for monitoring activities and procedures for collection and dissemination.
- iv. Resources identified to cover set-up costs for database (approximately USD 10,690).
- v. The members of SPREP will constitute the Advisory Committee. In addition, and consistent with the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the following will be invited to participate in the meeting as observers:
 - other donor countries (as defined by the Forum);
 - relevant UN organisations, regional commissions, non-UN regional and sub-regional organisations and banks; and
 - Non-government organisations.
- vi. All members and participants in the Advisory Committee process provide information as required on activities to implement the Barbados Programme of Action.
- vii. Resources identified for the recurrent costs of the Regional Consultative Mechanism (approximately USD 25,000).
- viii. SPREP to convene the first meeting of the Advisory Committee, in close consultation with EPOC, immediately prior to the 8th SPREP Meeting in 1995.
- ix. Secretariat resources for the meetings to be made available by SPREP and EPOC.
- x. Subsequent meetings of the Advisory Committee to be convened by SPREP, in close consultation with EPOC, will be held to coincide with the SPREP Meeting, or another appropriate regional meeting, and timed to ensure effective input to the CSD.
- xi. The Report of the Advisory Committee will be tabled for consideration by the SPREP Meeting.
- xii. The final Report will be transmitted to ESCAP, and to the CSD in time for the latter's consideration under items relevant to the sustainable development of small island developing States.

Agenda Item 6.14 : Proposed South Pacific Input to the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities

60. The Secretariat reported that preparations, coordinated by UNEP, were now in progress for an intergovernmental meeting to be held in Washington in 1995 at which a Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities would be agreed upon. Meetings had already been held including a Preliminary Meeting of Experts to Assess the Effectiveness of Regional Seas Agreements, Nairobi, December 1993, followed by a Meeting of Government-designated Experts Focusing on the 1985 Montreal Guidelines for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Sources of Pollution. A further preparatory meeting would be held in Reykjavik, Iceland, 6 March 1995. A meeting to provide Pacific input to the Global Programme of Action had been held in Nuku'alofa, 16 - 19 August 1994, back-to-back with the Technical Meeting on Waste Management and Pollution Prevention. The resulting draft *South Pacific Input to the Draft Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities* was tabled as Working Paper 28/Att.

61. In response to reservations by some members to elements of the text in WP.28/Att., including in particular reservation by France on paragraph 7, the Meeting noted *A Pacific Island Input to the Draft Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities* as a consensus of Pacific island members of SPREP. The Meeting requested the Chairperson of the Seventh SPREP Meeting to transmit this document, as such, to UNEP. The Meeting also agreed that SPREP members should be encouraged to actively participate in preparations and activities leading to agreement on a Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities.

Agenda Item 7:

Reports

Agenda Item 7.1: Director's Annual Report for 1993/94

62. The Director presented his 1993-94 Annual Report. The Meeting congratulated the Secretariat on both its excellent report and its professionalism in serving the needs of the region and endorsed the Director's Annual Report for 1993-94.

Agenda Item 7.2 : Barbados Conference : Implications for Managing Resources in the Pacific Region

63. The Secretariat tabled its report (Working Paper 17) which outlined decisions taken by world leaders at the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Barbados Conference) and their implications for managing the region's resources. The substantive text of this paper had been presented to the 25th South Pacific Forum, which welcomed and endorsed the Barbados Conference outcomes and stressed the importance of effective implementation of the recommendations of the *Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States*.

64. Specifically, the 25th South Pacific Forum had (i) endorsed the Programme of Action as a blueprint for sustainable development and regional cooperation; (ii) recognised that it contained a number of new areas for partnership and called upon the international community to work with Pacific Island countries and their regional organisations to provide adequate, predictable, new and additional financial resources for their implementation; (iii) agreed to the institutional mechanism (discussed under Agenda Item 6.13); and (iv) endorsed the approach outlined to achieve improved access to financial resources from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) II.

65. The Meeting endorsed the report and attachment, with minor amendments.

Agenda Item 7.3 : World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction

66. The Secretariat tabled its report (Working Paper 18) on preparations for, and outcomes from, the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction convened in Yokohama, Japan, 23 - 27 May 1994. The Yokohama meeting, whose theme was 'A Safer World for the 21st Century', had been convened as a mid-term review of action undertaken within the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR, 1990 - 2000) to reduce loss of life, property damage, and economic and social disruption caused by natural disasters, particularly in developing countries.

67. The Sixth SPREP Meeting requested SPREP to coordinate the preparation of a regional report to the Conference. It did this with financial support from the Government of Australia and in close cooperation with the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs, South Pacific Programme Office (DHA-SPPO), SPOCC organisations, Emergency Management Australia (EMA), and the United States Agency for International Development, Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID-OFDA), Suva Office. The report, *Natural Disaster Reduction in Pacific Island Countries*, is a comprehensive statement on disaster reduction activities in the Pacific and sets out a clear strategy for implementing future disaster reduction projects on a regional basis. It was well received by countries within the region and the IDNDR Secretariat.

68. The representative of France requested the Meeting to note the natural disaster coordination activities undertaken within the region by the Governments of Australia, France and New Zealand.

69. The Meeting noted the report and requested SPREP to continue to work closely with other regional organisations in coordinating regional disaster management activities.

Agenda Item 7.4 : Coastal Management and Planning

Agenda Item 7.4.1 : Overview

70. The Secretariat tabled its report (Working Paper 19) which presented an overview of SPREP's Coastal Management and Planning Programme since SPREP's inception and gave information on the more recent emphasis of this area of the work programme, namely, Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). The Secretariat explained that this

particular integrated approach focused on (i) coastal habitat surveys involving training; (ii) development of coastal management plans; (iii) commissioning studies on urgent coastal issues, with emphasis on developing appropriate guidelines; (iv) holding in-country and regional workshops; and (v) developing and promoting proposals for long-term coastal planning and management, emphasising appropriate integrated coastal management.

71. Further the Secretariat explained that the Coastal Management and Planning Programme cooperated closely with, and complemented the work of, other regional agencies active in the coastal and marine work areas. Staffing of this Work Programme area had been supplemented by a one-year member country attachment, in 1994 from the Federated States of Micronesia, a scheme which SPREP hoped to encourage and expand as a means of on-going "on the job" training for member government coastal management officers. The major constraint to further developing the Coastal Management and Planning Programme concerned the lack of financial support for Integrated Coastal Zone Management within the region. The Secretariat advised that the pursuit of funding support for this activity remained a high priority.

72. Delegates gave strong indications of support for SPREP's continued work in the Coastal Management and Planning area of the Work Programme, particularly Integrated Coastal Zone Management. The Meeting encouraged the Secretariat to continue its pursuit of funding for this activity which delegates agreed was of primary importance to the region. The Meeting noted the importance of SPREP members pursuing SPREP initiatives through their constituencies on the GEF Council.

Agenda Item 7.4.2 : Coastal Protection Meetings

73. The Secretariat sought the Meeting's approval for SPREP, in association with SOPAC, to draw up and implement an action plan to address coastal protection needs in the region. The 24th South Pacific Forum (in 1993) requested SPREP, in consultation with SOPAC, to convene workshops with the overall objective of ensuring early provision of effective coastal protection systems in the region. Accordingly SPREP, in association with SOPAC, and with financial assistance from the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, had convened two regional coastal protection meetings (Apia, February 1994 and Suva, May 1994). Reports of these meetings were submitted to the 25th South Pacific Forum in August this year. The

recommendations from these meetings formed the basis for the proposed Action Plan to be developed and implemented jointly by SPREP and SOPAC.

74. The Meeting noted the recommendations in the report, as endorsed by the 25th South Pacific Forum and authorised the Secretariat, in association with SOPAC, to draw up and implement an action plan in respect of these resolutions and to report back to the 26th South Pacific Forum and the Eighth SPREP Meeting.

75. In response to questions from island members regarding the level of donor support for coastal management projects, Australia suggested that bilateral approaches may be more effective at the project level. SPREP is in a good position to provide project development and coordination, while funds for project implementation in specific countries may be more appropriately obtained through bilateral channels. It is the responsibility of individual governments to place a high enough priority on individual projects to gain acceptance in terms of bilateral development assistance agreements.

Agenda Item 7.5 : Hazardous Wastes (Proposed Regional Convention)

76. The Secretariat reported (Working Paper 20) on progress, since the initial proposal made to the 23rd South Pacific Forum by the Government of Papua New Guinea in 1992, towards concluding a convention to ban the import of hazardous wastes into Forum Island countries and to control transboundary movement and management of hazardous wastes within the region. Technical consultations and negotiations had so far resulted in a draft text which seeks to (i) ban the importation into Pacific Island countries of all hazardous wastes generated outside the proposed convention area; and (ii) ensure that transboundary movement of hazardous wastes within the South Pacific area are completed in a controlled and environmentally sound manner. The Forum negotiating committee had agreed that SPREP would be the most appropriate regional organisation to undertake the role of Convention Secretariat, given its mandate and technical capabilities. However, it was recognised that a final decision on this would require the endorsement of SPREP's membership. It was also agreed that non-Forum members of SPREP should be invited as observers to future meetings of the working group. The 25th South Pacific Forum had: (a) directed officials to make every effort to ensure that the Convention would be completed in time for signature at the 26th South Pacific Forum; (b) encouraged members to become involved in

these negotiations and (c) endorsed the recommendation that SPREP act as the Secretariat under the Convention.

77. The meeting noted the Convention negotiating committee's recommendation, endorsed by the South Pacific Forum, that SPREP act as the Secretariat under the Convention. In light of difficulties expressed by the United States of America, the Meeting could not agree on this point. Members agreed to make a decision on this question through a written polling/consultation process to be completed in a time frame consistent with the Convention negotiating process.

78. The representative of Australia requested that the record reflect its support for the Forum decision that SPREP act as Secretariat under the Convention and highlighted the point that SPREP is the most appropriate regional organisation to perform this role. Australia also called on SPREP Members to give this question appropriate consideration when polled/consulted by the SPREP Secretariat.

Agenda Item 7.6 : Global Environment Facility: A Regional Strategy

79. The Secretariat tabled its report (Working Paper 25) outlining decisions taken by the South Pacific Forum concerning the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and suggested a strategy to ensure effective participation in, and support from, the GEF. The Secretariat noted that the GEF, restructured and replenished by US\$ 2 billion, could provide access to new and additional resources within its mandate for certain projects under the Barbados Programme of Action where the global benefits from those projects could be clearly defined. The GEF Council is made up of 32 constituencies.

80. The Meeting was advised that Western Samoa, as Alternate on the Pacific islands constituency to the GEF Council, would become the Member for the constituency in July 1995 and that SPREP currently held one of two adviser seats on the constituency. SPREP members were encouraged to participate actively in the GEF, in particular in the preparation of terms of reference for the GEF to be considered by the GEF Council. The Secretariat and UNDP brought to the Meeting's attention a joint Workshop on the GEF to be held early 1995.

81. The Meeting endorsed the strategy and requested the Chairperson of the Seventh SPREP Meeting to send the draft letter (Working Paper 25/Att.) to the Administrator, UNDP, requesting support for Pacific Island participants under the NGO Small Grants Scheme.

82. Information papers were distributed on "Incremental Costs and Financing Policy Issues" and "Scope of GEF Activities Concerning International Waters" supplied to the Secretariat by the representative of the United States.

Agenda Item 7.7 : Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme

83. The Secretariat tabled Working Paper 27 outlining recommendations which had emanated from the Third and Fourth Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme Meetings, held in Apia, during 1993 and August 1994 respectively. The Sixth SPREP Meeting had already endorsed recommendations relating to the need to: (i) immediately and substantially reduce the number of turtles being killed throughout the region; (ii) encourage countries to ban international trade in turtles and turtle products; and (iii) encourage countries to introduce a moratorium, or where possible a permanent cessation in commercial use of turtles and turtle products, allowing only cultural and/or subsistence use.

84. The Meeting agreed that a working group comprising SPREP members, and other appropriate organisations including the SPC and FFA, be established to investigate suitable mechanisms to implement the already endorsed recommendations and that this group report back in time for SPREP to report to the 26th South Pacific Forum. Further, the Meeting noted with appreciation the support given by the 25th Forum for 1995 as the 'Year of the Sea Turtle'. The Meeting called upon SPREP members to accede to the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)*.

Agenda Item 8:

Items Proposed by Member Countries

Agenda Item 8.1 : Coral Reefs, Seagrass Beds and Mangroves

85. Information Paper 7 was tabled by the representatives of the United States and Australia to promote discussion of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI). They explained that the ICRI was a partnership among several nations, including the USA, Japan, Australia and Jamaica which seeks to provide for protection, restoration, sustainable use and understanding of coral reefs and related ecosystems. ICRI partners would convene a meeting in Washington DC on 21-22 November 1994 to develop a plan of action to implement the objectives of the Initiative.

86. The Meeting thanked the representatives of the United States and Australia for bringing the ICRI to their attention, noted the potential practical benefit to the Pacific and agreed that SPREP and its member countries should play an active role in the Initiative. It was agreed that SPREP would represent its member countries at the November meeting for which SPREP would prepare a brief report on Pacific regional priorities for coral reef conservation and management. Member countries would be consulted in preparation of the paper.

Agenda Item 8.2 : South Pacific Biodiversity Interests: Progress on Implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity

87. Working Paper 29 was tabled to provide information on progress with implementation of the *Convention on Biological Diversity* and prospects for the first Conference of the Parties to the Convention which will be held in Nassau, Bahamas 28 November to 9 December 1994. The provisional agenda for the Conference of the Parties contains items for which it is mandated, explicitly or implicitly, under the Convention as well as other matters raised at the last meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Convention on Biological Diversity (ICCBD). These include early activation of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA); the Conference of the Parties' contribution to the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) as well as a medium-term work programme. This work programme would include capacity building, policy and

programming tools for implementing Convention provisions, scientific and technical assessment of biodiversity, national strategies, national reporting requirements, the role of indigenous and local communities, cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions and conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdictions. As well, a Biodiversity Technology Fair was planned to be held in conjunction with the Conference of the Parties. It was anticipated that meetings would be held with Pacific delegates, during the Conference of the Parties.

88. In response to questions, the Director indicated that the Secretariat would be playing a role for the region. For example, the databases being established under SPBCP would probably serve the role of the regional databases intended under the Convention. The Secretariat advised that it was currently preparing a briefing paper to assist Pacific island participants to the Conference of the Parties and that a SPREP Officer would attend to further assist Pacific island delegates.

89. The Meeting noted the report and thanked the Government of Australia for bringing this to the Meeting's attention.

Agenda Item 9:

Finance and Administration

Agenda Item 9.1 : Status of Member Contributions

90. In accordance with Financial Regulation 13, the Secretariat reported to the Meeting on receipt of member contributions, outlined in Working Paper 21. The Secretariat expressed concern at outstanding contributions and urged members to promptly remit their contributions, noting that SPREP's primary function commitments were dependent on this source of funding.

91. The representative of Australia expressed concern over the large number of member contributions in arrears and encouraged delegates to request their governments to rectify this situation as a matter of urgency. Further he called upon delegates to remit annual contributions as early as possible each year to assist SPREP's cash flow.

92. The Meeting noted the report, particularly the implications for primary function commitments associated with the shortfall in member contributions and some delegations, namely Wallis and Futuna and

American Samoa, advised the Meeting that their contributions would soon be forthcoming.

Agenda Item 9.2 : Report on 1993 Cash Flow

93. The Fifth SPREP IGM directed the Secretariat to present to each SPREP Meeting a report summarising cash flow for SPREP finances. The Secretariat advised in Working Paper 22 that this summary applied only to cash flows associated with Primary and Project Management Functions rather than the Project Implementation Function. (The Project Implementation Function is donor funded with expenditure only occurring upon receipt of funds.) The Secretariat stated that the flow of income at the beginning of the year had been strong and that a positive cash flow was maintained throughout the year. SPREP had been fortunate in receiving extra-ordinary funding injections which were not expected to be of this magnitude in ensuing years. Positive cash flow in the future would therefore be dependent on members making regular and timely payments of their contributions, and ensuring donor funded projects included adequate provision for administration fees.

94. The Meeting noted the report and again encouraged members to remit their contributions early each year.

Agenda Item 9.3: Audited Annual Accounts for 1993

95. The Secretariat tabled Working Paper 23 and attachments containing the report of the Audited Annual Accounts for 1993 and the Financial Statements. These were adopted by the Meeting. Congratulations were given to both the auditors and the Secretariat for a very comprehensive and transparent report.

Agenda Item 10:

Work Programme and Budget

- Work Programme Reports for 1993
- Revised Budget for 1994
- Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 1995
- Indicative Work Programme and Budgets for 1996-97
- Report of the Review Team and Secretariat's Response

96. The Secretariat tabled Working Paper 24 and attachments containing the above-mentioned documents. In line with the formulation process approved by the Fifth SPREP IGM (1992) which resulted in more realistic work programme development, an independent team of experts had again assembled (in Apia, 20 - 21 July 1994) to review and report on SPREP's Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 1995-97. The review team's recommendations and proposed Work Programme and Budget for 1995 were put to the Work Programme and Budget Subcommittee.

97. Following consideration of the report of the Work Programme and Budget Subcommittee, the Meeting:

- a) noted with approval that the Project Implementation Budget had been amended, as recommended by the Review Team, to include details of actual or estimated funds brought forward from year to year;
- b) agreed that for subsequent SPREP Meetings future Work Programmes include, wherever possible, details of specific activities being proposed, together with a summary of costs and, where possible, the location of the activity and the anticipated donor;
- c) expressed its concern about the projected annual deficits in the Primary Function Budget and the declining proportion of core positions funded by donors to the Primary Function Budget;
- d) required the Secretariat to provide for consideration at the 8th SPREP Meeting options to address projections of increased expenditure and reduced income in relation to the Primary Function Budget;
- e) recommended that delegates of members currently in arrears with contributions be requested to pursue the issue of payment with their relevant authorities;
- f) noted the importance of prompt payment of member contributions each year if the Primary Function Budget is to balance expenditure and income;
- g) noted that members may need to consider an increase in member contributions if the functions of the Secretariat and services provided to members continue to increase;
- h) requested the Secretariat to obtain from member countries the order of priority of project proposals, whether covered under the National Environmental Management Strategies or not;

- i) noted that in addition to in-country priorities there is also a need for priorities to be developed at the regional level;
 - j) noted that Members may submit new priority proposals from outside their NEMS priority list as long as full justification is provided;
 - k) noted that to be effective these priorities need to be submitted in adequate time for the preparation of the Work Programme and Budget;
 - l) agreed that sufficient time must be made available at SPREP Meetings for adequate consideration of the Work Programme;
 - m) agreed, in line with the Review Team, to withdraw the requirement to circulate a draft Work Programme to countries for comments by June each year, noting that circulation of the proposed Work Programme not less than the required six weeks before the annual SPREP Meeting should be sufficient;
 - n) requested the SPREP Secretariat, with assistance from interested members, to prepare a paper on a procedure to evaluate the scientific aspects of the implementation of the Work Programme on a selective basis. The paper should take account of requirements for State of the Environment Reporting in the region, performance indicators in the SPREP Corporate Plan and the scientific quality of particular projects which provide the basis for management decisions;
 - o) agreed that this paper be circulated to members of the Work Programme and Budget Sub-Committee for comment, then circulated to all members for comment before being brought to the 8th SPREP Meeting for consideration and adoption;
 - p) agreed, in line with the Review Team, that an independent financial and administrative review of the draft Work Programme and Budget would no longer be required, noting that the process had now reached a stage where this type of independent review was no longer necessary, and that future draft Work Programmes and Budgets should be referred directly by the SPREP Meeting to the Work Programme and Budget Sub-committee for assessment;
 - q) required the Secretariat to include a table on income and expenditure and details of activities concerning the Small Grants Scheme;
 - r) noted the corrected Consolidated Budget (Table 1) - (WP.24/Att.2);
 - s) reiterated the principle endorsed by the 4th SPREP IGM, that to the maximum extent possible the costs of project implementation and the full costs of project management should be met by project funds from donors, and, recognising the Secretariat's preference for charging a 10-15% administration fee on donor project funds, noted also the need to maintain other options for donors, such as a charge negotiated on the basis of estimated actual costs;
 - t) noted and encouraged efforts being made by the Secretariat to contain the operating expenditure under the Primary Function Budget, in particular, communication, mail and stationary costs; and
 - u) commended the Secretariat on the early distribution of Working Papers for the 7th SPREP Meeting and noted the importance of ongoing early distribution to members.
98. The Sub-committee regretted that it did not have time to consider Part 3, namely the Work Programme and detailed budgets by Programme areas. It therefore had no recommendation on the Work Programme to bring to the Meeting but noted the importance of the linkage between the Work Programme and budget considerations, and the importance of careful consideration by members of such issues. The Sub-committee congratulated the Secretariat on its clear and comprehensive presentation of the 1995 Work Programme proposals and related budget material.
99. The Meeting thanked the Review Team and the Work Programme and Budget Sub-committee for their work and report on the Work Programme and Budget.
100. The Meeting then approved the Work Programmes and Budgets for 1995.

Agenda Item 11:

Statements by Observers

101. Observer statements, outlining environmental activities and collaboration with SPREP, were presented by the representatives of World Conservation Union (IUCN); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC); University of Oregon, Micronesia and South Pacific Program; and Asian Wetland Bureau, Oceania Program.

Agenda Item 12:

Other Business

102. Delegates noted other matters as follows:

- *Action Plan on Wetland Conservation in the South Pacific.* In response to a faxed request from Papua New Guinea that the Action Plan be tabled by Western Samoa, the Meeting agreed that the Secretariat should evaluate the Action Plan, including the recommendation that SPREP establish a Wetlands Project Officer position, and report back to the Eighth SPREP Meeting.
- *SPREP Convention, Dumping of Radioactive Wastes.* New Zealand noted that at the recent 17th Consultative Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the *Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter (London Convention, 1972)*, France was asked whether it had considered withdrawing the objection it had lodged under the SPREP Convention relating to the ban on radioactive waste dumping in view of the London Convention decision 51 (16) which banned all dumping of radioactive waste. In view of the response by France at the 17th Consultative Meeting, suggesting that this question should be put forward within an appropriate forum, New Zealand asked France, within the context of the SPREP Meeting, whether such consideration could be given and a response be provided before or during the next SPREP Meeting. France responded that, while it was not able to respond immediately, it expected to be able to do so within an acceptable time frame and through appropriate channels.
- *US Country Studies Program: Support for Climate Change Studies.* The representative of the United States advised the Meeting of the following selected follow-up actions identified at a Pacific islands workshop:
 - a) Improve education and awareness of climate change issues, sea-level rise, and coastal management for government officials and the public;
 - b) Enhance access to, and capabilities for, interpreting existing data on climatic events and trends (for instance, the data distributed by the NOAA ENSO centers should be made available to non-U.S. flag countries);

- c) Support twinning activities (e.g. exchanges of officials) between countries that have had success with coastal management and those needing assistance;
- d) Support regional modelling of changes in storm tracks and fishery patterns;
- e) Make coastal engineering experts available to work with countries on identification and evaluation of coastal engineering alternatives; and
- f) Provide training and technical assistance on use of GIS systems.

The representative of the United States advised the Meeting that limited funds are available to undertake projects in these six areas. It was agreed that Members interested in participating should express such interest either directly to the United States or to the Secretariat.

Agenda Item 13:

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

103. The Meeting agreed that the Eighth SPREP Meeting be held in Apia, Western Samoa, during September 1995.

Agenda Item 14:

Adoption of Report

104. The Meeting adopted the Report of its proceedings.

Agenda Item 15:

Close

99. Responding to the Chairperson's closing remarks, the representatives of the United States, Fiji and the Secretariat, thanked the Chairperson for her excellent work and the Government of Kiribati for hosting the Meeting on behalf of SPREP Meeting members. Thanks was also given by the Director to the staff of SPREP and all those responsible for the successful organisation and conduct of the Meeting. A closing prayer was given by the representative of Tokelau and the Chairperson then formally closed the Seventh SPREP Meeting.

Annexes

Annex 1: Participants' List

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Annex 2: Revised Provisional Agenda

1. Official Opening
2. Appointment of Chairperson
3. Adoption of Agenda and Working Procedures
4. Matters Arising from Sixth SPREP Meeting
5. Director's Overview
6. Institutional and Policy
 - 6.1 *Agreement Establishing SPREP*
 - 6.1.1 Status Report on Signatures and Ratifications
 - 6.1.2 Adoption of Plenipotentiary Meeting Report
 - 6.1.3 Membership of Guam
 - 6.2 Frequency of Future SPREP Meetings
 - 6.3 Core Staff Positions
 - 6.4 Corporate Plan
 - 6.5 SPREP Meeting Rules of Procedure
 - 6.6 Rules of Procedure for Appointment of Director
 - 6.7 Corporate Sponsorship
 - 6.8 Review of Terms and Conditions of Employment of SPOCC Organisations
 - 6.9 Criteria to Categorise Small Island Members
 - 6.10 Guidelines for Reports of SPREP Meetings
 - 6.11 Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific
 - 6.12 New Headquarters Proposals - Shortlisting of Architects
 - 6.13 Regional Mechanism to Implement Barbados Conference Outcomes
 - 6.14 Proposed South Pacific Input to the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities
7. Reports
 - 7.1 Director's Annual Report for 1993/94
 - 7.2 Barbados Conference : Implications for Managing Resources in the Pacific Region
 - 7.3 World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction
 - 7.4 *Coastal Management and Planning*
 - 7.4.1 Overview
 - 7.4.2 Coastal Protection Meetings
 - 7.5 Hazardous Wastes (Proposed Regional Convention)
 - 7.6 Global Environment Facility : A Regional Strategy
 - 7.7 Regional Marine Turtle Conservation Programme

8. Items Proposed by Member Countries

8.1 Coral Reefs, Seagrass Beds and Mangroves

8.2 South Pacific Biodiversity Interests: Progress on Implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity

9. Finance and Administration

9.1 Status of Member Contributions

9.2 Report on 1993 Cash Flow

9.3 Audited Annual Accounts for 1993

10. Work Programme and Budget

- Work Programme Reports for 1993

- Revised Budget for 1994

- Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 1995

- Indicative Work Programme and Budgets for 1996-97

- Report of the Review Team and Secretariat's Response

11. Statements by Observers

12. Other Business

13. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

14. Adoption of Report

15. Close

Annex 3: Palau's Opening Statement

by Victor Uherbelau

Ms Chairperson, distinguished officials from the host country, fellow delegates, ladies and gentlemen. I bring warm greetings from a proud people of a little over one week-old, sovereign and independent Republic of Palau.

2. My statement will be brief as it addresses agenda item 6.1 on the "*Agreement Establishing SPREP*" exclusively.

3. Last year, Palau raised a concern over its eligibility to sign or accede to the agreement establishing SPREP in view of provision categorising it as a non-self-governing territory instead of a potential party to the agreement. In his 22 September 1993 response, the 6th SPREP Meeting Chairman replied as follows:

- "With respect to the possibility of Palau's future accession to the Agreement, should it approve the compact of free association, article 10(5) of the agreement provides for accession by any State. Therefore, no amendment to the agreement is required to permit Palau to become a party, should it enter into the compact with the United States".
- I am indeed happy to report that on 9 November 1993 Palau's compact was overwhelmingly approved in a nation-wide plebiscite. I am even happier to report as well that, as of a week ago last Saturday, that compact entered into force and effective as of 1 p.m. (Palau time) on 1st October 1994, an independent and sovereign Republic of Palau entered into a political relationship of free association with its former mentor, the United States of America.

- Conditions precedent to Palau's eligibility for full-fledged membership in SPREP have now been fulfilled. Last month, Palau requested the depositary government (pursuant to article 10(5)) to notify the parties to SPREP Agreement of the Republic of Palau's intention to commence its internal accession process.

- And while we accept the 6th SPREP Meeting's conclusion that "... no amendment to the agreement is required to 'permit Palau to become a party'...", we must insist on deletion of "Palau" from the definition of "Members" in rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure.

4. I said, Ms Chairperson, I would be brief and I will. But before closing, allow me this opportunity to extend my country's unqualified support for full SPREP membership to Guam and, for that matter, to the other half a dozen non-self-governing territories, which, all the same, are our next-door neighbours in our vast Pacific Region (north or south) and populated by our fellow Pacific islanders.

Thank you, Ms Chairperson, Thank you!

Annex 4: Record of the Plenipotentiary Meeting on the SPREP Treaty, held in Apia, Western Samoa, on 14-16 June 1993

Item 1 : Official Opening

1. A Plenipotentiary Meeting on the SPREP Treaty was held at Apia, Western Samoa, from 14 to 16 June 1993. Representatives of the following SPREP member countries and territories attended: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, France, Guam, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu and Western Samoa. Apologies were received from Federated States of Micronesia, Wallis and Futuna and United Kingdom on behalf of Pitcairn. A list of participants is at Attachment 1.

2. The meeting was opened by the Honourable Misa Telefoni, the Minister for Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries in Western Samoa, who welcomed delegates and commented on the high level of representation. In his address, the Hon. Minister referred to decisions of the Fourth SPREP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) to establish SPREP as a separate, independent, regional organisation by Treaty and the general agreement of the Fifth IGM that a solution should be found to allow SPREP to continue the full participation of all its current members. As for the difficulties being experienced by France and the United States, the region looked to these two foremost world leaders to provide leadership and direction and in so doing to show innovation, enlightenment and flexibility. The principle of decision making by consensus accorded with practice in the region and might be a way forward. Conclusion of the Treaty would formalise SPREP's new beginning and enable it to take its place as a significant intergovernmental organisation assisting the development of the Pacific's small island states as they entered the 21st century. Conclusion of the Treaty would also allow the Government of Western Samoa to formalise the transfer of land at Vailima for the new SPREP headquarters as well as SPREP's privileges and immunities in Western Samoa. The text of the Minister's address is at Attachment 2.

3. Responding, the Premier of Niue, the Honourable Frank Lui, thanked the Prime Minister for his remarks and for the gesture and hospitality of Western Samoa in convening the meeting. The Premier hoped the Meeting would provide a foundation for clear directions on common issues unique to the region. SPREP needed status and recognition both regionally and internationally. The Premier also thanked Australia for its assistance towards funding the Meeting's travel costs. The text of the Premier's statement is at Attachment 3.

Item 2 : Appointment of Chairperson

4. The meeting unanimously supported the nomination of the Minister of Agriculture of Western Samoa, Honourable Misa Telefoni, as Chairperson.

Item 3 : Adoption of Agenda and Working Procedures

5. The Provisional Agenda was adopted subject to Item 6 being amended to read: "Signature of Final Act and Treaty." The Agenda, as amended and adopted, is at Attachment 4.

6. Nauru stated that it was necessary to establish a drafting committee and suggested that the committee have the same membership as the Legal Sub-committee which was originally established during the Fourth IGM in 1991 and which met again during the Fifth IGM in 1992. This comprised Australia, Federated States of Micronesia, France, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, with Western Samoa in the Chair. The Sub-committee would be open to any other delegations wishing to participate.

7. It was also agreed that the Drafting Committee would be responsible for drafting the Final Act and the Report of the meeting.

8. The Chairperson was appointed to act as spokesperson to the Press, with assistance from the Director of SPREP. Any delegate could request to see press releases before these were issued.

**Item 4 : Deliberations on the Draft Agreement
Establishing the South Pacific Regional
Environment Programme as an
Intergovernmental Organisation**

9. The Chairperson outlined two procedural options facing the Meeting: to go through the draft Agreement clause-by-clause or to adopt the draft Agreement except for the areas of contention in square brackets. His preference would be the first option.

10. Cook Islands felt that further consideration of the draft should be preceded by general discussion. This was supported by Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, and Tonga, all of which felt that general discussion should be followed by consideration of the areas of contention.

11. The Chair noted that differences had arisen between France and the United States last year and suggested that general statements from delegates be followed by consideration of the procedures to be adopted.

12. Cook Islands, in its general statement, focused on the outstanding issues. Cook Islands supported the SPREP Treaty and participation of and voting by territories. These procedures, adopted by the 23rd South Pacific Conference in Saipan in relation to the SPC, had been applied effectively to SPREP since its beginning. Cook Islands was against sacrificing the basic principle of participation by all which had been practiced by SPREP for 10 years. However, Cook Islands accepted that only certain entities had the ability to accept the international responsibility of a treaty. Cook Islands was ready to sign the Treaty subject to satisfactory resolution of outstanding issues.

13. Fiji fully supported the Treaty and was also ready to sign.

14. Papua New Guinea noted that it had first sponsored the establishment of SPREP during the South Pacific Forum in Nauru in 1976. Papua New Guinea was fully behind establishment of SPREP as an autonomous body and hoped the issue of the territories could be resolved by this Meeting. He assured the Meeting that Papua New Guinea would sign and ratify the Treaty by the time of the Sixth IGM in Guam in September 1993.

15. Kiribati remarked that sustainable development was only possible by regional cooperation through SPREP. The Treaty had the approval of the Government of Kiribati which supported the membership formula now used in the South Pacific Conference and was ready to sign. Kiribati also agreed to inclusion of a clause on privileges and immunities similar to the Agreement Establishing the Forum Secretariat, with the proviso that it would need to consider the taxation situation of Kiribati nationals working in Kiribati for SPREP.

16. New Zealand was grateful for the efforts of France and the United States to date, but shared the concern of the others that the unresolved Treaty issue was overwhelming SPREP and diverting attention from its work. New Zealand looked to France and the United States to show flexibility by allowing the Treaty to be signed by the end of this meeting.

17. Tuvalu recalled that the Fifth IGM Report had set out the unresolved issues, to which was added the appointment of the Deputy Director of SPREP. Tuvalu supported the Fifth IGM's call for urgency in finalising the Treaty which was critical to the successful implementation of SPREP's mandate.

18. Tonga supported the draft Treaty which would lead SPREP into the 21st century.

19. Vanuatu supported SPREP's programmes which had been of great benefit to it. Vanuatu was ready to sign the Treaty as soon as it was formalised.

20. The Republic of the Marshall Islands, noting that the central issues were participation and voting rights, supported current practice. Protection of the environment should not be restricted by legal issues and the lack of an agreement was detracting from SPREP's work. Territories should be allowed to work together with other members and only the legal framework was lacking. There should not be undue emphasis on strict counting of votes.

21. New Caledonia noted that SPREP was still part of the South Pacific Commission and that for the past ten years the SPC system of participation had caused no objections. International law recognised regional law and this should be the case in the Pacific.

22. Australia supported finalisation of the Treaty at this Meeting and full participation of territories consistent with current regional practice. It was important that the Treaty issue not be allowed to drag on and effect SPREP's substantive work for sustainable development. Australia hoped that France and the United States could resolve their differences in a manner which would not detract from regional

practice. Australia had come with a flexible approach prepared to assist in the search for a solution. Australia supported the principle of the Director appointing his Deputy and was now studying the Secretariat's further proposals concerning privileges and immunities. Australia hoped to sign the Final Act and had authority to sign the Treaty *ad referendum*.

23. The Chairman thanked Australia for its generosity in providing airfares and per diems for participants to the Meeting.

24. American Samoa appreciated its political relationship with the United States, although, being Samoan, it aspired to be part of the region.

25. Nauru was ready to sign both the Final Act and the Treaty. This would formalise the status of an organisation which had been in existence since 1982. Nauru supported participation by territories in SPREP's programmes and decisions.

26. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands reiterated the call by the Prime Minister of Western Samoa for innovation, enlightenment and flexibility.

27. Referring to Article 8, concerning Privileges and Immunities, the Chair suggested that a small group of members meet to discuss these issues and also the question of the appointment of the Deputy Director.

28. In response to a query from France, the Director clarified that the Article XI attached to the Secretariat's Information Paper 4 referred to the Agreement Establishing the Forum Secretariat.

29. France stated that it was a misapprehension that there were specific French and United States positions. All members agreed that SPREP needed to be established on an internationally recognised basis. The problem was how to achieve this? How would decisions be taken in the SPREP Meeting? The SPC situation, where all members were on an equal footing regardless of political status, was exceptional. There was a need to preserve what had been acquired without detrimental effect to the wishes of members. The problem was that of a legal barrier to the political will. Two points needed to be made; first, that law establishes practice, and second, that all members should make proposals to help break the deadlock. Suggestions were required for wording that would preserve what had been acquired and yet overcome difficulties experienced by any one country.

30. Guam recounted the history leading to its present association with the United States, which it valued highly, and pleaded that progress be made in allowing it to have a regional voice through SPREP.

31. Niue supported the SPREP Treaty which was necessary to achieve SPREP's aims. Niue also supported the wishes of Guam.

32. The Chair reminded the meeting that the Fifth IGM had requested a meeting in February and that this had been postponed to June. He asked France and the United States to report formally to the meeting on whether or not they had been successful in concluding the issues outstanding from the Fifth IGM.

33. The United States advised that no agreement had been reached, but discussions were continuing and hoped they would bear fruit. He reminded the meeting that the Director of SPREP had provided a report on discussions held during his visits to Paris and Washington, D.C.

34. France was concerned to try to maintain the existing situation for territories whereby all members participated in decisions which were made by consensus. But it had been unable to reach agreement with the United States because of constitutional problems. France wanted to go forward, and hoped to find an acceptable form of wording. France understood the concerns of the United States and felt that progress should be possible on what was an editorial problem, rather than one of substance.

35. The Chair recalled that all countries had tried to contribute towards a solution, including Western Samoa whose Ambassadors to the EC and the USA had been involved. The Chair itself had some alternatives to offer, but wished first to allow an opportunity to other delegations to come up with alternative wording, since both France and the United States had reported that they were unable to resolve the issue.

36. At the request of the Chair, France and the United States agreed to circulate written proposals which could be considered by delegates. The proposals subsequently tabled were:

France

The Parties shall adopt by consensus, at their first ordinary meeting, rules of procedure for their meeting. These rules of procedure shall provide, among other things, that the Parties will ensure the full involvement of all members in the work of the SPREP Meeting, and that the work of the SPREP Meeting shall be conducted on the basis of consensus of all members, taking into account the practices and procedures of the South Pacific Commission.

United States of America

The work of the SPREP Meeting shall be conducted to the extent possible without resort to decision-making procedures. In the event that decisions are required in the SPREP Meeting, the Parties shall ensure that any such decisions are taken by them by consensus, taking into account the role of the practices and procedures of the South Pacific region.

37. Debate on these proposals revealed continuing lack of consensus.

38. Fiji then tabled the following proposal in the hope that it form an acceptable compromise as a temporary measure; there being feeling that the Treaty should be signed that day:

The Parties shall ensure the full involvement of all members in the work of the SPREP Meeting. The work of the SPREP Meeting shall be conducted on the basis of the consensus of all members, taking into account the practices and procedures of the South Pacific region.

39. It was agreed that the Fiji proposal offered a basis for going forward and the Chairman suggested that a drafting committee comprising Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, France, Guam, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States and Western Samoa be responsible for drafting an agreed text of the proposal and also the Final Act. The Director of SPREP clarified that any other interested parties could be involved. The Chair suggested that this committee also look at the issue of privileges and immunities and the procedure for appointment of the Deputy Director.

40. Following discussions of these issues by the Drafting Committee, it recommended that the Director retain his power to appoint the Deputy Director. In addition, it recommended that a further Article 2(g) be included: "promoting integrated legal, planning and management mechanisms." This was approved by the Meeting.

41. With respect to the primary issue [Article 4(3)], the Drafting Committee reported a formulation (PM/Draft. 4/Rev. 1) that represented the views of the majority of members. This read:

Article 4(3)

(a) The parties shall ensure the full involvement of all members in the work of the SPREP Meeting. The work of the SPREP Meeting shall be conducted on the basis of consensus of all members, taking into account the practices and procedures of the South Pacific region. Where consensus is not possible, decisions shall be taken by a vote of the Parties.

U.S. Formula

(b) In the event that decisions are required in the SPREP Meeting, the Parties shall ensure that any such decisions are taken by consensus.

French Formula

(c) When consensus is not possible the members may agree, by consensus, that the decision shall be taken by a vote of the Parties.

42. In light of continuing difficulties, the Chair stated that the meeting must still find a way forward despite some feelings about consensus. The Chair then directed the meeting to the following proposal from Western Samoa:

The Parties shall ensure the full involvement of all members in the work of the SPREP Meeting. The work of the SPREP Meeting shall be conducted on the basis of consensus of all members, taking into account the practices and procedures of the South Pacific region. If a matter arises from the Treaty which requires a decision, it shall be taken by consensus of the Parties.

43. Nauru offered a new proposal for Article 4(3):

"3. The Parties shall ensure the full involvement of all members in the work of the SPREP Meeting. The work of the SPREP Meeting shall be conducted on the basis of consensus of all members, taking into account the practices and procedures of the South Pacific region.

"4. Decisions in the SPREP Meeting shall be taken by consensus of the Members. Any decisions in the SPREP Meeting affecting matters arising from the Treaty shall be taken by consensus by the Parties."

44. The Chair suggested that the Plenary adjourn to allow the drafting committee time to consider these proposals.

45. The Chairman of the drafting committee subsequently reported to Plenary that, despite full consideration of all the proposals before it, members of the drafting committee had still not been able to reach agreement on the text of Article 4 paragraph 3.

46. Lengthy discussions ensued, culminating in the following text being proposed by Tuvalu:

"(a) The Parties shall ensure the full involvement of all members in the work of the SPREP Meeting. The work of the SPREP meeting shall be conducted on the basis of consensus of all members, taking into account the practices and procedures of the South Pacific region.

"(b) In the event that a decision is required in the SPREP Meeting, that decision shall be taken by a consensus of the Parties. The consensus of the Parties shall ensure the views of all members of the SPREP Meeting have been properly considered and taken into account in reaching that consensus."

47. The Tuvalu proposal was accepted by acclamation.

Item 5 . Adoption of an Agreed Text

48. Agreement to the Tuvalu proposal removed the remaining area of disagreement. The Plenary then adopted the *Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)*. It was agreed that the Agreement would be open for signature for one year, until June 16, 1994. Western Samoa would be the depository.

49. The Chairman thanked all delegates for their untiring efforts to reach consensus on this difficult issue during the past two and half days. He also paid tribute to the Prime Minister and Government of Western Samoa, the Director of SPREP and his staff and all others who had contributed to the successful outcome of the meeting.

50. In response, the Premier of Niue recognised with appreciation the outstanding efforts of the Chairman and delegates also the dedication of the Secretariat.

51. The meeting then adjourned following a prayer by the Director.

Item 6 : Signature of Final Act and Treaty

52. The *Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)* was signed at Apia on 16 June 1993 by duly authorised representatives of the Governments of Fiji, France, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, the United States of America, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

53. The *Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)* was initialled at Apia on 16 June 1993 by the duly authorised representative of the Government of Papua New Guinea.

54. *The Final Act of the Meeting of Plenipotentiaries on the Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme as an Intergovernmental Organisation* was signed at Apia on 16 June 1993 by duly authorised representatives of the Governments of Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, France, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu and Western Samoa. The text of the Final Act is at Attachment 4.

Item 7 : Adoption of Record of Meeting

55. Because the Drafting Committee had been unable, in the time available, to draft a report of the Meeting's proceedings, it was decided that the notes drafted by the Secretariat would be circulated to all SPREP members as a basis for consideration and formal adoption of an Agreed Record during the Sixth SPREP IGM in Guam in September 1993. Any SPREP member having comments or suggestions on the contents of the Secretariat's notes would provide these in writing to the Secretariat as quickly as possible.

Item 8 : Close

56. Following the signing ceremony, the Chairman brought the Meeting to a close with a vote of thanks to all those who had contributed to its success.

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Attachment 2: Opening Address by the Minister of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries in Western Samoa, the Hon. Misa Telefoni.

Rev Jeremia Leau,
Premier the Hon. Frank Lui and Governor Joseph Ada,
Mr Chairman,
Cabinet Ministers,
Excellencies,
Delegates,
The Director of SPREP,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

I welcome you all to this important occasion - the opening of the meeting that will set the course for the Pacific's newest intergovernmental organisation - the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme. I wish to extend a special welcome to those delegates who are visiting Western Samoa for the first time.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to all the delegates and to your respective Governments for accepting our invitation to attend this Plenipotentiary meeting which the Fifth SPREP IGM had asked Western Samoa to convene. You have honoured us with your presence.

The very high level of representation and the composition of the delegations to this meeting have clearly demonstrated the importance of the environment to the people of the South Pacific, and constitute also a forceful testimony to the desire, particularly of the island countries, to conclude this Treaty and allow SPREP to concentrate fully on fulfilling its mandate of addressing the environment concerns of the South Pacific.

You will recall that in 1991, at the Fourth Intergovernmental Meeting, representatives of SPREP's twenty-six member governments and administrations unanimously agreed that SPREP should be established as a separate, independent, regional organisation by Treaty. They also accepted an offer by the Government of Western Samoa to host the organisation and SPREP subsequently moved to Apia last year.

1992 was a difficult year for us in the aftermath of Cyclone Val - one of Samoa's worst natural disasters in living memory. Even in those trying times, however, SPREP and my Government worked closely to establish the organisation in its temporary home at Vaitele on schedule, only eight months after the historic decision to locate the organisation in Western Samoa.

The fact that SPREP quickly filled its Vaitele premises reflects the urgent need for its services by its island members. My Government recognises SPREP's pressing requirements for adequate and permanent accommodation and has set aside a site at Vailima, close to here, on which SPREP will build a new regional headquarters. The successful conclusion of the Treaty this week will allow my Government to complete legal formalities relating to the transfer of the land and other matters such as a formal agreement with SPREP on its privileges and immunities in Western Samoa.

The Fifth SPREP IGM, held in this very room, 9 months ago, accepted a draft - which is before you - of an Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme as a basis for discussion and decision at this meeting. In doing so, it noted that full membership and participation by Territories was a particular concern. The key issues identified were, first, the urgent need to agree on a treaty which would enable SPREP to function as a separate legal entity and, second, the strong wish expressed by the Territories that they continue to have full participation in the activities of SPREP, including voting rights. There was general agreement that a solution should be found to allow SPREP to continue the full participation of all its current members.

As you know, the United States has constitutional difficulties concerning decision-making by its territories under a SPREP Treaty. France, on the other hand, maintains that its territories should retain their existing position under the new Treaty.

France and the United States in a clear demonstration of their desire and willingness to find mutually acceptable solutions, have already met more than once on the issues that separate their respective positions. I understand that they have managed to find common ground on certain matters. However, it would seem that decision making still remains unresolved, although the possibility was discussed - as I again am given to understand - of evolving a principle of decision-making by consensus. This, it appears to me, would in any event accord with actual practice in the region and may be a way forward. Other possible mechanisms likely exist, and I am sure that your meeting shall exhaustively explore them all.

It should be mentioned here that other Pacific island states also have legal and other difficulties with a treaty which gives full participation rights to all the twenty-six SPREP members. However, these island states, including Western Samoa, have exercised flexibility and they have been prepared to accept a treaty which actively involves all the people in the SPREP region, in what they believe to be in the best interests of all the people of the region in environmental matters.

The Pacific is fortunate that the United States and France, two foremost world leaders, are part of the region. These two countries are looked upon to provide leadership and direction which in part means showing innovation, enlightenment and flexibility when the Pacific is seeking to resolve problems which are in the way of developments to promote and improve the welfare of the people of the region. I am unreserved in my conviction that the United States and France fully appreciate the importance of their role in the Pacific and will take a strong lead in seeing that the SPREP Treaty will be successfully concluded in this meeting.

For SPREP, this meeting is the culmination of two years of organising, moving and re-establishing itself in another country, with a new set of circumstances to deal with. The Treaty is the final act needed to complete this complex business of moving such a large, and growing, regional programme and establishing new administrative, financial and, very importantly, legal systems to support it.

My government is committed to supporting SPREP and to finalising the Treaty at this meeting. The Treaty is important to us all in that it formally establishes the legal relationship between SPREP and its member governments, not least the host country. SPREP is mandated to assist its members to achieve environmentally-sound development and the resolution of the legal issues will allow SPREP to concentrate on that task and to address the growing environmental problems in the region. For these most important reasons, I hope that your deliberations this week will conclude satisfactorily and that the Treaty is ready for signature within the next three days, and that any outstanding difficulties can be dealt with in the spirit of cooperation and accommodation, and with imagination and flexibility.

Conclusion of the Treaty will formalise SPREP's new beginning and enables it to take its place as a significant inter-governmental organisation in the Pacific; one that can play a major role in assisting the appropriate development of our small island states as we enter the 21st century.

I wish you a successful meeting.

*I a manuia la outou fonotaga ma ia faatasi
le Atua ia outou fai filifiliga.*

Soifua.

Attachment 3: Opening Reply from the Premier of Niue, Hon. Frank Lui.

The honourable Prime Minister, Ministers, Excellencies, Heads of delegation, the Director of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Distinguished representatives, ladies and gentlemen. It is indeed an honour and privilege for me this morning to speak on behalf of all of us who are present at the opening of the meeting on the SPREP Treaty. I would like to thank the Prime Minister (through you) for your kind and warm words of welcome, *talofa lava*.

What you have expressed this morning is very important and crucial to us all. It is important because I believe that the outcome of this meeting will determine the future and the strength of our collective voice in the region and more so to the future of the agency. It will provide the foundation where all of us member countries will have a clear direction in our pursuit to deal with issues and concerns that are common and unique to the region. We have come a long way since the establishment of this programme, under the South Pacific Commission since 1980. The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme is the newest of the regional agencies. The new home is now in your country and we are proud to have supported this move which actually took place since early last year. Your honour, our presence at this meeting is our demonstration of our **continued** support to the establishment of this agency. Further, I hope that what you have expressed and provided for us in your speech this morning will form the basis of our discussion and deliberation during the three days for the meeting. It is my sincere hope that we will find a common understanding so that we will all return home with a happy feeling of success and achievement. There is no doubt that SPREP needs a status and the recognition it deserves in the region and the international scene.

Honourable Minister, may I take this opportunity to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Government of Australia that enabled some of us to come to this meeting.

Again I would like to thank you for your words of welcome and the hospitality that you have extended to us since our arrival. Lastly, you may or may not be aware that your people and culture is well known in the Pacific. We have enjoyed our stay in your country and we look forward to share our time and to participate in the many activities that you have organized for us.

We are happy and proud to be part of the Pacific Family. God Bless us all.

Faafetai lava, Monuina and Thank you.

Attachment 4: Final Act of the Meeting of Plenipotentiaries on the Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme as an Intergovernmental Organisation.

1. The Meeting of Plenipotentiaries on the Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) as an intergovernmental organisation was convened by the Government of Western Samoa pursuant to the decision of the Fifth SPREP Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) in Apia in September 1992.
2. The Meeting was held at Apia (Papauta Girls School), Western Samoa, from 14 - 16 June 1993.
3. The following states and territories participated at the Meeting:

American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, France, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Northern Mariana Islands, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, Western Samoa.
4. The South Pacific Commission (SPC) also attended the Meeting.
5. SPREP was originally established by a resolution of a Ministerial-level Meeting of the SPC in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, in 1982 as a separate entity hosted by the SPC. It was coordinated by a group consisting of the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation (now the Forum Secretariat), SPC, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). In September 1990 the Third SPREP IGM established three Working Groups to discuss general matters pertaining to finance, Action Plans, legal issues, the mandate of SPREP and its legal status, and to report to the Fourth IGM in July 1991. The Fourth IGM Ministerial-level Meeting, in July 1991, decided to establish SPREP as an independent regional organisation by treaty, with its headquarters in Apia, Western Samoa. The Fifth SPREP IGM met in Apia in September 1992 and accepted a draft produced by the Legal Subcommittee of an Agreement Establishing SPREP as an intergovernmental organisation as a basis for further discussion at a Plenipotentiary Meeting to be convened in 1993 by the Government of Western Samoa. This Meeting was held at Apia, Western Samoa, from 14 - 16 June 1993.
6. The Meeting was opened by the Honourable Tofilau Eti Alesana, Prime Minister of Western Samoa.
7. The Meeting unanimously appointed the Honourable Misa Telefoni (Western Samoa) as its Chairman.
8. The Meeting adopted the following agenda:
 - (1) Official opening
 - (2) Appointment of Chairman
 - (3) Adoption of Agenda and Working Procedures
 - (4) Deliberations on the draft Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme as an intergovernmental organisation
 - (5) Adoption of an agreed text
 - (6) Signature of the Final Act/Agreement
 - (7) Adoption of Record of Meeting
 - (8) Close.
9. The Meeting appointed the following Drafting Committee:

<i>Chairman:</i>	Leiataua Dr. Kilifoti Eteuati
 <i>Members:</i>	
Australia	Anastasia Carayanides
Cook Islands	Dr James Gosselin
Fiji	Hon. M.V. Leweniqila
France	Alain Gouhier
Guam	Barry Israel
Kiribati	Tererei Abete
New Zealand	H.E. Mr Adrian Simcock
Niue	Bradley Punu
PNG	H.E. Mr Barney Rongap
Tonga	Sione Tongilava
Tuvalu	P. Feleti Teo
USA	George Taft
Western Samoa	Helen Aikman
Western Samoa	Kosimiti Latu
Western Samoa	Mose Sua
Western Samoa	Faamausili L. Tuimalealiifano

10. The main document which served as the basis for the deliberation of the Meeting was:

The Draft Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (PM/W.P2).

11. In addition, the Meeting had before it a number of other documents that were made available by the SPREP Secretariat.

12. On the basis of its deliberations, the Meeting adopted the Agreement Establishing SPREP as an intergovernmental organisation on 16 June 1993. The Agreement is appended to this Final Act. It will be open for signature from 16 June 1993 until 16 June 1994 and shall thereafter remain open for accession.

13. The Meeting recommended that certain privileges and immunities be addressed in a Headquarters Agreement between SPREP and the Government of Western Samoa. This recommendation is appended to this Final Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Plenipotentiaries have signed this Final Act.

Opened for signature at Apia this sixteenth day of June 1993.

For the Government of	.....
Australia:	this day of 1993
For the Government of the	.....
Cook Islands:	this day of 1993
For the Government of the	.....
Republic of Fiji:	this day of 1993
For the Government of the	.....
Republic of France:	this day of 1993
For the Government of the	.....
Republic of Kiribati:	this day of 1993
For the Government of the	.....
Republic of Marshall Islands:	this day of 1993
For the Government of the	.....
Republic of Nauru:	this day of 1993
For the Government of	.....
New Zealand:	this day of 1993
For the Government of	.....
Niue:	this day of 1993
For the Government of	.....
Papua New Guinea:	this day of 1993
For the Government of	.....
Solomon Islands:	this day of 1993
For the Government of the	.....
Kingdom of Tonga:	this day of 1993
For the Government of	.....
Tuvalu:	this day of 1993
For the Government of	.....
United States of America:	this day of 1993

For the Government of the
 Republic of Vanuatu: this day of 1993

For the Government of
 Western Samoa: this day of 1993

Done in Apia this sixteenth day of June one thousand nine hundred and ninety three in the English and French languages, each language version being equally authentic. The original text will be deposited with the Government of Western Samoa.

*Recommendations of the Meeting concerning
 certain Privileges and Immunities to be Addressed
 in a Headquarters Agreement between
 SPREP and the Government of Western Samoa*

1. SPREP Secretariat's premises, archives and property shall be inviolable.
2. The Staff shall be entitled to immunity from suit and legal process in respect of things done or omitted to be done in the course of the performance of their official dates.
3. All Staff who are not nationals of Western Samoa shall be accorded exemption from taxes in Western Samoa in respect of salaries received from the Secretariat. They shall also be accorded exemption from taxes in Western Samoa on furniture and effects imported at the time of first taking up post.
4. The Director shall be accorded the same exemption from taxes, duties and other levies as are accorded a diplomatic agent.

Annex 5: Rules of Procedure for the SPREP Meeting

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Scope

Rule 1

These Rules shall apply to all SPREP Meetings, including committees, sub-committees and other subsidiary bodies established by the SPREP Meeting under Article 3.4 of the Agreement, where such meetings of committees, sub-committees and other subsidiary bodies are held during sessions of the Meetings.

2. The Secretariat may suspend the application of these Rules to intersessional meetings of committees, sub-committees and other subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate.

Definitions

Rule 2

For the purposes of these Rules:

- "Action Plan" means the *Action Plan for Managing the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region* adopted from time to time by the SPREP Meeting, setting the strategies and objectives of SPREP;
- "Agreement" means the *Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme* done at Apia on 16 June 1993;
- "Meeting" means any Ordinary or Special Meeting of the Members, including meetings of committees, sub-committees and other subsidiary bodies when the latter take place during sessions of Ordinary or Special Meetings.
- "Members" means the Parties to the Agreement and, with the appropriate authorisation of the Party having responsibility for its international affairs, each of the following:

American Samoa Northern Mariana Islands

French Polynesia Tokelau

Guam Wallis and Futuna

New Caledonia

- "Parties" means governments which have signed, acceded, ratified, accepted or approved the Agreement;
- "Secretariat" means the Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme established under Article 1.2 of the Agreement;
- "Sessions" means plenary sessions of the Meeting, including meetings of committees, sub-committees and other subsidiary bodies;
- "SPREP" means the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme established pursuant to Article 1.1 of the Agreement as an intergovernmental organisation;
- "SPREP Meeting" means the organ of SPREP established pursuant to Article 1.2 of the Agreement.

Venues

Rule 3

1. Each Meeting shall decide the venue and timing of the next Meeting.
2. In unforeseen circumstances, the Secretariat may, in consultation with the Chairperson and the Members, change the venue and timing of the next Meeting.
3. The Secretariat shall make all necessary arrangements for the convening of Meetings.

Dates

Rule 4

1. As provided under Article 3.2 of the Agreement, each Ordinary Meeting shall be held at such times as the Meeting may determine and shall be hosted by one of the Members or by the Secretariat.
2. A Special Meeting may be convened in accordance with Article 3.2 of the Agreement no later than six weeks after receipt by the Secretariat of a request to this effect from a majority of Members, or on a date decided upon by the Meeting.

Invitations

Rule 5

1. The Secretariat shall invite all Members to nominate representatives to each Meeting.
2. The Secretariat shall also invite the Forum Secretariat, the South Pacific Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to nominate advisers to each Meeting.
3. The Secretariat may invite any State Member of the United Nations, any United Nations Specialised Agency, any intergovernmental organisation or non-governmental organisation which has a direct concern in the protection of the natural resources and environment of the South Pacific region to nominate observers to each Meeting.
4. Invitations to representatives, advisers and observers shall be sent by the Secretariat no later than six weeks before the date of each Meeting.
5. Names of all representatives, advisers and observers shall be advised to the Secretariat before the commencement of each Meeting. Any subsequent changes shall also be notified to the Secretariat.

Participation

Rule 6

1. Plenary Sessions shall be open to those invited to attend, unless the Meeting decides otherwise.
2. Sessions of committees, sub-committees and other subsidiary bodies shall be held in closed session, unless the Meeting decides otherwise.
3. Advisers and observers may, with the consent of the Chairperson, address the Meeting and participate in its discussions.

Agenda

Rule 7

1. The Secretariat, in consultation with the Chairperson, shall prepare a Provisional Agenda for each Meeting. The Provisional Agenda shall be circulated to Members no later than six months prior to the date of the Meeting.
2. The Provisional Agenda shall include, without limitation:
 - any items which the previous Meeting has requested be included;
 - any items in respect of which the previous Meeting has not completed consideration;
 - a report by the Director on the activities of SPREP;
 - a review by the Secretariat of progress with the implementation of the SPREP work programme and an integrated work programme and budget for the next financial period;
 - a report by the Secretariat on any administrative and financial implications of new proposals; and
 - any matter proposed by a Member or the Secretariat.
3. Agenda items proposed by Members following circulation of the Provisional Agenda shall be communicated to the Secretariat no later than three months before the Meeting and shall be incorporated in a Revised Provisional Agenda. Working or background papers for such items shall also reach the Secretariat no later than three months before the Meeting.
4. The Revised Provisional Agenda shall be circulated by the Secretariat to Members with the Working Papers for the Meeting no later than six weeks before the Meeting.
5. When adopting the Agenda for a Meeting, Members may add, delete, defer or amend items.

6. The Provisional Agenda for a Special Meeting shall include only those items proposed by a Member or Member for that Meeting and shall be circulated to Members at the same time as the invitation to the Special Meeting. A Special Meeting shall deal only with items on its Provisional Agenda.

Chairperson

Rule 8

1. The Chairperson will normally be appointed from the host country's delegation to each Meeting. When a Meeting is hosted by the Secretariat, the Meeting shall appoint by consensus a Chairperson to hold office until the next Meeting.

2. The Chairperson shall remain in office until a successor is appointed at the next Meeting. At the first session of each Meeting, the current Chairperson shall preside until a successor is appointed by the Meeting.

3. The Chairperson may exercise the speaking rights of his/her Delegation in the absence of another representative of the same Delegation at the Meeting.

4. In addition to any other functions conferred by these Rules, the Chairperson shall declare the Meeting open and closed, direct discussions, ensure observance of these Rules, accord the right to speak and announce consensus and decisions.

5. In the temporary absence of the Chairperson from the Meeting, the host country, or country which provided the Chairperson, as the case may be, will nominate an acting Chairperson to assume the duties of the Chairperson in the meantime.

6. Should the Chairperson resign or otherwise become unable to complete a term of office, the host country, or country which provided the Chairperson, as the case may be, shall name a successor.

Responsibilities

Rule 9

1. The Secretariat shall be responsible for arrangements for and administration of Meetings, including secretarial and interpretation and translation services and printing and circulation of documents. It shall have custody of the archives of Meetings and shall generally perform all other work which the Meeting may require.

2. The host country shall be responsible for providing the venue for the Meeting, accommodation and transport arrangements, communications facilities, secretarial facilities and assistance and stationery and office supplies.

3. The host country shall also be responsible for meeting the direct additional costs to the Secretariat of hosting the Meeting in the host country over and above the cost of holding the Meeting at the Secretariat's Headquarters. Such additional costs would normally include airfares and per diems for the Secretariat team, and for the interpreters and translators, and airfreight costs for necessary conference equipment such as computers and simultaneous interpretation equipment.

Conduct of Business

Rule 10

1. Two-thirds of Members shall constitute a quorum.

2. In raising a point of order concerning the Meeting's procedure, a representative may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion. Any point of order shall be decided immediately by the Chairperson. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson which appeal shall immediately be put to the Meeting for decision. The Chairperson's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a consensus decision of the Meeting.

3. Substantive motions and amendments shall normally be circulated to Members with the Working Papers for the Meeting at which they are to be considered. However, unless any representative calls for a postponement, the Chairperson may permit discussion and consideration of amendments without previous circulation.

4. Subject to Rule 10.2, the following motions shall have precedence, in order, over all other proposals or motions before the Meeting:

- to suspend a sitting;
- to adjourn a sitting;
- to adjourn debate on the question under discussion; and
- to close debate on the question under discussion.

5. Permission to speak on a motion under Rule 10.4 shall be granted only to the proposer and to one speaker in favour and two against. The motion shall then be put to the Meeting for decision.

6. If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Meeting, unless it decides otherwise, shall decide on the proposals in the order in which they have been tabled.

7. Any representative may request that parts of a proposal or of an amendment be decided separately. If an objection is made to the request for a division, the Chairperson shall permit two members to speak, one in favour and the other against. The request shall then be put to the Meeting for decision.

8. If a request under Rule 10.7 is adopted, those parts of the proposal shall then be decided as a whole. If all the operative parts of a proposal or amendment have been rejected, the proposal or amendment shall be considered to be rejected as a whole.

9. A motion is considered to be an amendment to a proposal if it adds to, deletes from, or revises part of, that proposal. An amendment shall be decided before the proposal to which it relates is decided. If the amendment is adopted, the amended proposal shall then be decided.

10. If two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Meeting shall first decide on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal, then on the amendment next furthest removed, and so on, until all amendments have been decided. The Chairperson shall determine the order of decision on amendments under this Rule.

11. A proposal or motion may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before a decision has been reached, provided the motion has not been amended. A withdrawn proposal or motion may be reintroduced by any other representative.

12. When a proposal has been either adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered at the same Session, unless the Meeting decides otherwise. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to the mover and such other person as the Chairman may decide.

Decisions

Rule 11

1. In accordance with Article 4 of the Agreement, the work of the Meeting shall be conducted on the basis of consensus of all Members, taking into account the practices and procedures of the South Pacific region.

2. In the event that a decision is required, that decision shall be taken by consensus of the Parties which consensus shall ensure that the views of all Members have been properly considered and taken into account in reaching that consensus.

Reports

Rule 12

The Report adopted by each Meeting shall be printed and circulated by the Secretariat to Members as soon as possible after each Meeting.

Committees, Sub-Committees and Subsidiary Bodies

Rule 13

1. The Meeting may convene such committees, sub-committees and subsidiary bodies as may be required for the effective transaction of its business, during or between Meetings, either of representatives or of experts to consider issues of a specialised nature and to report back to the Meeting.

2. Unless otherwise decided, the Meeting shall determine the terms of reference for each such committee, sub-committee or subsidiary body and shall also appoint a convenor for each such group.

Languages

Rule 14

The working languages for Meetings shall be English and French.

Amendments

Rule 15

These Rules may be amended by consensus decision of the Meeting.

*Adopted at Tarawa, Republic of Kiribati,
this thirteenth day of October 1994.*

Annex 6: Rules of Procedure for Appointment of Director

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Scope

Rule 1

These Rules shall apply to any appointment of a Director of SPREP under Article 3 (g) of the Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme.

Definitions

Rule 2

For the purposes of these Rules:

- "Director" means the position established by virtue of Article 6 of the *Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme*;
- "SPREP" means the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme established by virtue of Article 1 of the *Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme*;
- "SPREP Meeting" means the organ of SPREP established by virtue of Article 1 of the *Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme*.

Selection Advisory Committee

Rule 3

The SPREP Meeting shall as required from time to time appoint a Selection Advisory Committee comprising:

- the current chairperson, who shall also chair the Selection Advisory Committee; and
- at least two other members of the SPREP Meeting.

Chairperson

Rule 4

The functions of the chairperson are to:

- inform Governments and Administrations of a pending vacancy;
- advertise the position;
- invite nominations;
- receive applications;
- convene the Selection Advisory Committee; and
- chair the Selection Advisory Committee.

Notices

Rule 5

1. The Chairperson shall transmit notice of a pending vacancy to all SPREP Member Governments and Administrations no later than six months prior to the expiry of the term of office of the incumbent.
2. Advertising of the position in major regional newspapers and periodicals shall be effected by the Secretariat in consultation with the chairperson no later than six months prior to the expiry of the term of office of the incumbent Director and in any case in sufficient time to enable the Selection Advisory Committee to complete its work prior to the next SPREP Meeting.
3. Applications should close no sooner than two months following such notification or advertising.

Selection Advisory Committee Functions

Rule 6

In considering applications received by the Chairperson, the Selection Advisory Committee shall:

- consider each application against the selection criteria;
- make such enquiries as it sees fit;
- draw up a shortlist;
- notify Governments and Administrations of the shortlist;
- interview shortlisted candidates; and
- make recommendations concerning the appointment to the next SPREP Meeting preceding the expiry of the term of office of the incumbent Director.

Selection Criteria

Rule 7

The following criteria shall be taken into account by the Selection Advisory when considering applications:

- applicants must be nominated by a Government or Administration;
- applicants must be nationals of the nominating Government or Administration;
- applicants must possess sound personal qualities;
- shortlisted applicants shall be selected on the basis of merit, with regard to:
 1. relevant qualifications and experience;
 2. proven management abilities; and,
 3. superior representational skills.
- members of the Selection Advisory Committee are not eligible for consideration.

Term of Appointment

Rule 8

The successful applicant shall be appointed for a period of three years in the first instance. Subject to the agreement of the SPREP Meeting, a Director may be reappointed for a further three years. The maximum length of appointment for any individual is six years.

Expenses

Rule 9

All costs associated with convening meetings of the Selection Advisory Committee and with advertising and interviewing shortlisted candidates shall be met by the Secretariat.

Amendments

Rule 10

These Rules may be amended by consensus decision of the SPREP Meeting.

Adopted at Tarawa, Republic of Kiribati, this thirteenth day of October 1994.

Annex 7: Draft Sponsorship Guidelines for the Departments of Environment and Conservation (DECs) of SPREP Member Countries

by New Zealand Department of Conservation

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1. Preamble

Traditionally the Departments of Environment and Conservation (DEC) or similar agencies, have relied principally upon Government funding, with additional assistance provided through international aid agencies and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme. However, sponsorship is seen as an opportunity to assist in the development of projects and programmes, for which funding may not otherwise be available.

In the past, sponsorship of conservation projects has been undertaken through the agency of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), rather than government departments. However, there has been an increase in the sponsorship of conservation activities as corporations and businesses seek positive environmental profiles. DEC's may, therefore, find themselves in the position where they have to at least consider sponsorship, but this should be approached with a great deal of care.

Presuming there is acceptance at political level, the following guidelines aim to convey some of the issues that have been considered in other countries where government agencies have been involved with sponsorship proposals.

2. Introduction

There is a growing concern for the environment within the community and the private/corporate sector is increasingly willing to be associated with the 'clean, green' image which can be offered by DEC.

Sponsorship is a relationship between one party (DEC) and another party (the sponsoring agency) in which there is an exchange of benefits. It is support, requiring a return. Sponsorship may be in the form of a cash grant or "in kind" (e.g. provision of building materials) or a combination of both.

However, sponsorship is more than just securing money or goods. It is an opportunity to build a rapport with the private sector to assist DEC in achieving its objectives and to give the sponsor and the broader community a greater insight into DEC's activities.

In particular, it achieves three conservation benefits:

- a) It allows DEC to extend its work programme with the contribution of additional monies or materials;
- b) It raises the public profile of conservation through the sponsors' promotion of their efforts;
- c) It encourages a positive relationship between DEC and the business community.

All members of the community should be encouraged to contribute in appropriate ways to conservation - to whatever extent they can. In the case of the commercial sector, the sponsorship should provide the company with benefits, as well as achieving real conservation gains.

Sponsorship of conservation projects by the commercial sector should be used for work that would not normally be funded by DEC. Such sponsorship should meet the following criteria:

- to comply with DEC's statutory responsibilities and meet objectives of the National Environmental Management Strategy;
- to ensure natural values and cultural heritage are not compromised in implementation of the sponsored project; and
- to achieve specific environmental conservation goals.

3. Considerations for a Cautious Approach

Requests, either to sponsor specific projects or for projects to sponsor, may be received by DEC from private, commercial and community organisations. There will also be projects for which DEC itself is seeking external sponsorship. Uncoordinated approaches for sponsorship can cause problems such as:

- Sponsorship may be secured for short-term projects which have on-going costs which DEC may find difficult to support in the long-term;
- Large national sponsors can become involved in small local projects, which give a high profile for the company, but achieve little for conservation either financially or practically;
- Some sponsorships, because of their association, could seriously damage DEC's credibility as a natural resource manager, e.g. sponsorship by companies involved in clear felling natural forests.

- Sometimes sponsorships cost DEC more than it receives from the sponsor, in terms of servicing.

It is essential that the sponsorship project or programme is one that DEC can maintain in the long-term, once the sponsors involvement is completed.

Co-ordination of sponsorship of conservation projects means setting priorities for the types of sponsors who should be involved. Sometimes it means saying "no" to a sponsorship. It is important that all sponsorship requests and proposals are carefully assessed to ensure that:

- the highest conservation benefits are achieved;
- there is local community support for the proposed sponsorship project;
- it does not impact negatively on women or minority groups.

[See Section 7: Assessment Procedures.]

These Guidelines are intended to help SPREP member countries achieve the best results for conservation through sponsorship which is well-directed and co-ordinated.

4. The Scope for Sponsorship

Sponsorship is a business relationship which offers benefits to both parties and is designed to achieve mutual objectives.

Companies are interested in sponsoring conservation projects for a number of reasons. The most common of these are:

- a) To be seen as a company that is concerned about the environment;
- b) To identify as an international company with a particular relationship within the South Pacific;
- c) To identify as a national company with national interests;
- d) To encourage more people to buy their products or visit their outlets;
- e) To add value, interest and good associations to an otherwise ordinary product;
- f) To provide access to politicians.

Sponsorships are often offered with several of the above objectives in mind.

Sponsorship may assist DEC through special conservation projects related to:

- threatened species;
- biological diversity;
- protecting and restoring natural areas and cultural sites
- environmental education
- sustainable tourism
- ecologically sustainable development.

Conservation sponsorships do not have such a high profile as some other types of sponsorship e.g. major sporting events. With conservation projects, sponsors usually have to spend their own money to publicise their involvement. They offer fewer opportunities for social functions (compared to sport or arts sponsorship, for example). As a result, conservation sponsorships tend to attract smaller amounts of money and fewer companies. Those companies that are interested in sponsorship may have a particular need to improve their image, so caution is necessary to ensure the functions of DEC are not compromised.

As a government department, DEC acts in the public interest doing conservation work to protect the natural heritage, and encourage sustainable development and environmental protection. This is DEC's greatest strength in attracting sponsorships.

To support DEC's advantages in attracting sponsors there is a need to:

- a) Maintain conservation integrity (i.e. not just take money from anybody);
- b) Ensure that sponsorships are for real conservation work or advocacy that supports conservation;
- c) Ensure co-ordination of, and support for regional sponsorships.

International companies may be interested in a regional approach to sponsorship i.e. sponsoring similar projects in two or more Pacific Island countries, e.g. environmental issues with a regional dimension (sea turtles). This would require a co-ordinated approach to achieve the best benefits for all parties (see Section 7, Regional Sponsorships).

5. Guidelines

To ensure that the conservation and environmental objectives of DEC are not compromised, the following guidelines have been developed for all sponsorship projects:

- Sponsorship should be targeted at projects other than those that would normally be undertaken by DEC through Government funding (i.e. not 'core' work).
- Sponsorship projects should be of high priority.
- Projects should have clearly defined objectives and implementation procedures to allow for monitoring and evaluation.
- All sponsorship contracts are unconditional, i.e. DEC will not compromise its conservation/environmental role;
- Sponsors whose operations have major negative impacts on the environment must provide evidence that they are implementing procedures to significantly reduce those impacts as a co-requisite of the sponsorship contract;
- Companies that contravene government policy will not be considered suitable sponsors.
- No tobacco or alcohol company will be accepted as a sponsor for projects or programmes targeted for children;
- There shall be no direct conflict between the activities of a sponsor and the conservation/environment mandate of DEC;
- Negotiations will be treated as commercially sensitive information and will be regarded as confidential. Final sponsorship agreements, however, will be publicly available documents;
- All publicity related to a sponsorship must be approved by DEC prior to its release;
- Funds for publicity should be additional to the amounts available for the sponsorship project.

The following questions should be considered for any sponsorship proposal.

- Is the proposal compatible with the mission and objectives of DEC?
- Does it have ministerial approval if this is required.
- Is there any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict of interest?
- Is DEC over-commercialising its image by undertaking too many sponsored projects?

- Will the sponsorship enhance public perception of conservation issues and DEC's image through education, international and/or safety related information?
- Is it clear that the sponsorship does not suggest endorsement by DEC of the corporation's product or service?
- Is the sponsor willing to subject all advertising, press releases etc to DEC for approval.

6. Sponsorship Priorities

Two factors establish the framework for sponsorship:

- a) The sponsorship should be to fund additional, rather than core conservation tasks already being undertaken by DEC, except where it is additional funding for these activities.
- b) Sponsorship funds should be sought for the highest priority projects.

While sponsorship should not be sought for core conservation tasks, it is still important that it is used for work of the highest possible priority. This is to avoid a situation where non-essential work is funded, leaving more important work undone. Sponsors prefer to assist in important work. Combining the two factors will usually lead to a DEC/sponsor partnership on high priority work.

A New Zealand example is sponsorship of the kakapo programme. The kakapo is one of New Zealand's threatened species and the project is so important that the Department of Conservation would carry it out anyway. Sponsorship, in this case, is "linked" to the largest priority core tasks, not to replace funding of those tasks but to supplement it. The sponsor's contribution increases the funding available and allows much more work to be done, increasing the chances of success.

The following is an outline of a framework for establishing sponsorship priorities, criteria for selecting projects, and flexibility to respond to sponsors' needs, as well as meeting DEC priorities.

6.1 Priority-setting Criteria

The criteria for prioritising potential sponsorship projects include:

- a) Conservation significance: importance of projects, conservation values protected, amount of conservation work achieved;

It is better to concentrate on a few large sponsorships than many small ones. This is because it takes a lot of staff time to liaise with sponsors and service contracts. It also makes DEC sponsorship projects seem more exclusive and desirable.

- b) Attractiveness of a project to a sponsor: there are a wide range of reasons a sponsor might find a project attractive - marketing, advertising opportunities, positioning of company, staff involvement, corporate responsibility and/or image, community relations;
- c) Ability to identify a project or parts of the project as semi-autonomous, i.e. not core government funding.
- d) Increasing the understanding of, and commitment to conservation through ways outside DEC's normal role. Sometimes increased public awareness will be the greatest conservation benefit from a sponsorship.
- e) Opportunities to involve outside commercial, NGO and community groups in taking responsibility for conservation.

These criteria should be used as a guide to ranking sponsorship proposals. Proposed sponsorship projects should be ranked according to their priority - high, medium or low.

Using these criteria assists in two ways. Sponsors are usually more interested in a specific conservation project and the task is to find one option that best meets their needs. Setting priorities gives a 'shopping list' to work from. It gives a flexible approach. Sponsors seeking support for one type of project may be refused, but their support gained for a different type of project. One of DEC's strengths in approaching sponsors is the range of projects that can be offered.

Setting priorities also helps to decide which projects are worth the most effort for attracting sponsorship. There will be occasions when a sponsor wants to support a particular project. If this is not a top priority, other high priority projects can be set before them instead. If they remain interested, their support will be beneficial.

7. Assessment Procedures

Assessment procedures will be required to ensure proposed projects are carefully considered and these will probably be specific to each country. Issues have been highlighted in this paper. (Section 3: Considerations for a Cautious Approach; Section 6: Sponsorship Priorities.)

The assessment should include:

- compliance with DEC's statutory responsibilities and NEMS objectives;
- priority level of the conservation task;
- environmental record of the company/organisation, both nationally and internationally;
- publicity and promotion should be educational and appropriate to the level of sponsorship.

It must be emphasised that the promotion should be appropriate to the level of the sponsorship. In a recent case, an international corporation provided a minor sponsorship, but took out full page advertisements in major daily newspapers to promote their activity. This was inappropriate and should be avoided.

Government agencies and NGOs are sometimes competing for the same sponsorship dollar. It is important, therefore, that agencies / organisations seeking sponsorship not undercut each other. One way of achieving this is through the establishment of a joint trust between the government agencies and NGOs.

In New Zealand there is a trust fund set up just for conservation sponsors. The Threatened Species Trust is a partnership between the Department of Conservation, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, and New Zealand Conservation Authority, which seeks links with the corporate sector for sponsorship.

All potential major sponsorships are assessed and accepted or declined through this trust. Thus the decision on suitability of sponsor and other issues is made by the trust. A trust account has been established to handle all sponsorship funds, thus keeping them separate from the department's financial allocation.

8. Promotion and Publicity

To maintain the integrity of both DEC and the sponsor, the associated promotion and publicity should be kept in proportion to the value of the sponsorship. It is inappropriate for large amounts of money to be spent on promoting a very small sponsorship that makes a relatively small contribution to conservation.

The preliminary discussions leading up to a sponsorship are very important. A clear understanding of what the sponsor wants to do to publicise its involvement is essential and the sponsor needs a clear understanding of what DEC considers appropriate and acceptable for each project. Sometimes very large organisations will claim a great deal of environmental credit for very small conservation projects.

In all cases, expectations about and procedures for the handling of promotion and publicity about the sponsorship should be agreed at the time of negotiating the deal. **It is important that DEC approve all publicity relating to a sponsorship.** The publicity implications of high profile or potentially controversial sponsorships should be considered, even if only small amounts of money are involved.

9. Regional Sponsorships

Sponsorship projects in Pacific Island countries may be inter-related (e.g. conservation of threatened species) and an international sponsor could be interested in sponsoring similar projects in two or more countries. This approach has greater potential benefits for the sponsor, providing a high profile marketing opportunity and improving the corporate image. However, negotiation and co-ordination mechanisms need to be established, with the same priorities being set on a regional rather than a national basis i.e. the particular countries involved would need to agree to common conservation priorities, and sponsorship objectives. Negotiation of the contract would have to be undertaken jointly, as would agreement to the level of promotion related to the sponsorship.

Where an international agency has approached, or is being approached by a SPREP member country, the Director of SPREP should be advised. The Director should assess whether the proposed project has benefits for other member countries. These countries should then be approached to gauge interest in a co-ordinated sponsorship. There are then two approaches that may be taken:

- a) An individual agreement negotiated within each country between a representative of the sponsoring agency and a designated official of DEC.
- b) An agreement negotiated with the Head Office of the sponsoring agency and by a formally appointed agent representing the interests of the SPREP member countries concerned.

In both cases, agreed objectives must be established by participating countries together with clear channels of consultation and communication. Where a representative is to be appointed as in (b) above, this should be a designated official from a Government agency of a SPREP member country.

10. Administration

It is important that there is not an ad hoc approach to sponsorship. For this reason, one DEC officer should be designated responsible for co-ordinating sponsorship proposals. This officer would be responsible for ensuring the conservation priorities set by DEC are met, that the sponsor is an appropriate funding source and the level of publicity is appropriate to the level of sponsorship.

Sponsorship proposals should be approved by the Director of DEC and all sponsorships recorded on a register. Draft forms for approval and registration are attached (Appendix 1 and 2).

11. Sponsorship Agreement

A sponsorship agreement is essential so that both parties understand their commitments and obligations.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is a useful way of detailing the commitment being made both by DEC and the sponsoring agency. In particular, it will outline the promotional activity to be undertaken and require that all printed and audio-visual materials be approved by the Director of DEC.

An MOA will also be essential if a regional sponsorship is being considered, and a model MOA is attached (Appendix 3).

12. "How to" Sponsorship Guide

A successful proposal for sponsorship requires effort and attention. Appendix 4 provides some tips and guidance on how to prepare a sponsorship proposal, the content of a proposal, presenting the proposal, and securing the sponsorship. These are intended to be a resource to new sponsorship-seekers. They will not guarantee results but should assist in minimising unproductive effort.

Acknowledgements

The following agencies are thanked for their support and for the provision of policy statements which have assisted in the compilation of these guidelines:

- New Zealand Department of Conservation.
- Australian Nature Conservancy Agency.
- Australian Department of Arts, Heritage and Environment.
- WWF Australia.
- The Nature Conservancy, USA.
- National Parks Service, United States Department of the Interior.
- National Parks and Wildlife Foundation of NSW, Australia.

Appendix 1: Sponsorship Approval Form

(To be completed for all sponsorships.)

PROJECT:	
TITLE:	
DESCRIPTION:	
(attach objectives, outcomes and implementation schedules including timelines.)	
PROJECT MANAGER:	
LOCATION:	
TOTAL BUDGET/VALUE OF SPONSORSHIP:	TERM OF SPONSORSHIP:
CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT:	
PUBLICITY OPPORTUNITIES/STRATEGIES:	
SPONSOR OR POTENTIAL SPONSOR(S):	
APPROVAL REQUIRED:	YES / NO

1. Approved/Not Approved: _____ 2. Further Action Required: _____

Director 3. Register

Department of Environment and Conservation 4. File

Dated: ___/___/___

Appendix 2: Sponsorship Register

SPONSOR	VALUE \$	DESCRIPTION OF SPONSORSHIP	DATE OF AGREEMENT/DURATION OF SPONSORSHIP
			Date: Duration: Contact Person:
			Date: Duration: Contact Person:
			Date: Duration: Contact Person:

Appendix 3: Model Sponsorship Agreement**ARTICLE I: BACKGROUND**

AGREEMENT made this _____ day of _____ 19____.

BETWEEN the ([*title of authorised signatory*]) for and on behalf of the Departments of Environment and Conservation ("the Department") of the one part AND _____
 _____ ("the Company") of _____
 _____ of the other part, covering sponsorship which is intended to achieve [*list objectives of sponsorship*].

The Department will receive [*cite benefits*] through this programme and these benefits are consistent with the policies and objectives of the Department.

Nothing in this Agreement shall affect or interfere with the fulfilment of the statutory obligations or exercise of the statutory authority of the Department. The Department recognises this sponsorship effort and wishes to ensure the appropriate and accurate portrayal of the Department's policies and objectives in this effort.

ARTICLE II: RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES

The parties agree, therefore, as follows:

1. The sponsorship shall commence on [*day, month, year*] and be completed on [*day, month, year*] unless otherwise negotiated.
2. The Department recognises the Corporation as an organisation suited to sponsor [*name the project*] which properly reflects the policies of the Department, conveys an educational message, promotes appropriate and responsible behaviour in park areas, and/or encourages continued public support and conservation of natural resources.

The Department will make available such information and data as may reasonably be required and is generally available to support the development of promotional materials, and to inform corporate personnel and others about the status of plans for the projects and on-going activities.

3. The Corporation intends to [*describe primary features of the sponsorship*]. The sponsorship will occur under the following terms and conditions:
 - a) the promotion of the sponsorship will be compatible with the mission of the Department. The campaign, in consultation with the Department, will disseminate information about the Department that is accurate and supportive of its policies and objectives;
 - b) any materials prepared for the promotion, or any other form of advertising or publicity will be submitted to the Director of the Department for approval prior to its release.
4. The Department will present ([*six monthly or an appropriate timeframe*]) reports to the Corporation on the status of the sponsorship project together with a final report on its completion.
5. The promotion of the sponsorship will not in any way suggest endorsement by the Department of a product or service. No advertising or promotional materials will carry the Department's logo or other official text or emblems that might suggest product endorsement.

All costs of the promotion of the sponsorship campaign shall be borne by the Corporation.

While the Corporation is recognised as a sponsor of [*name project*] in accordance with the terms and purposes enumerated in this Understanding, the Department may choose to enter into similar arrangements with other agencies.

ARTICLE III: TERM OF AGREEMENT AND TERMINATION

This Memorandum of Agreement shall be effective when signed by both parties and shall remain in effect for [*period of time*], subject to renewal by mutual agreement for any such further period as may be agreed upon by all the parties.

ARTICLE IV: KEY OFFICIALS

Key Officials

Department: Director
Department of Environment and Conservation
[address]

Corporation: [representative and address]

ARTICLE V: GENERAL

Funds donated as a result of this sponsorship shall be used solely on behalf of and to benefit the projects and activities set forth above.

Dated the [day] day of [month, year].

This agreement has been signed on the day and year aforementioned.

Director, Department of Environment and Conservation

[representative, Corporation]

Appendix 4: Sponsorship - A "How to" Guide

This document aims to provide a resource of tips and guidelines for sponsorship-seeking.

There are many conservation projects which are suitable for sponsorship at all levels. Below are some guidelines to assist in raising funds through sponsorship.

Sponsorship - Fund Raising

Sponsorship is one of several ways to attract funds for specific projects or activities. Other ways include seeking donations and applying for grants.

Fundraising requires skills to determine how funds will be generated for the various projects or activities. These skills include the ability to:

- promote the conservation ethic;
- identify projects or activities suitable for sponsorship;
- identify potential sponsors or donors;
- plan and work to reach potential sponsors or donors;
- make a professional presentation to get a positive response.

Sponsorship - A Business Deal

Sponsorship is a business deal between two parties where both parties benefit. It is an agreement or contract with specific terms. Value must be given by both sides. It is not acceptable to approach a company and ask for something without providing a return.

Preparing a Sponsorship Proposal

Before you prepare a proposal, you must know:

- What is DEC's image amongst the community and business organisations? If it is poor, it may be difficult to secure a sponsor.
- What companies meet DEC's requirements? (Refer to Section 4 : Guidelines)
- What companies best match the image of DEC and its projects? For example, The Body Shop has a reputation for being a "green" company internationally, while Cadbury's target their products to young people and like to be involved in large events.
- What is the 'best' project for seeking sponsorship and is it attractive to prospective sponsors?

- What opportunities can be offered a sponsor? e.g. recognition, community involvement, good positive public profile, contact with a target market, etc.
- What is the project's timing? e.g. seasonal peaks, or conflicts with similar events/projects.

A proposal can be:

- written;
- verbally presented;
- produced on video!

General Proposal Format

A sponsorship proposal should always contain the following information:

- **The proposal request** - the purpose of the sponsorship and what you want from the sponsor; e.g. \$10,000 over 4 years for
- The **benefits** for that company to be linked with DEC e.g. the image of 'green and clean', outdoors, health, fun, action, natural beauty, etc.
- What DEC will be offering e.g. advertising and promotional opportunities, direct access to participants, television/press coverage, etc.
- Clearly stated objectives of the proposed sponsorship.
- Level of community support.
- Details about the programme e.g. the conservation project and methods of implementation, venue/ location, public/ sponsor participation etc. Implementation schedules and timelines should be appended.
- The programme budget, which should detail DEC's contribution as well as the areas for which sponsorship is required.
- Background to the project - history, image, participation.
- Future goals for the project.

Attach other information such as promotional booklets, plans, demographic figures on your existing and/or prospective audience, press coverage, etc.

The order of presentation is important. Some companies want to see the full proposal first, and examine the detail. Others like to build up to what is being proposed. Find out which will be required.

An executive summary should be included at the front of the proposal which:

- Identifies DEC as the sponsorship applicant.
- Outlines the need/problem to be addressed.
- Identifies the major objective of the sponsorship.
- Outlines the method of implementation and the timeframe.
- Includes the amount being requested.

The executive summary should summarise in one or two concise sentences each section of the proposal.

Presenting a Sponsorship Proposal

- Companies often allocate sponsorship monies on an annual basis. It is important to find out the timeframe for sponsorship allocations and send the proposal well in advance.
- Find out who to send the proposal to, spell the name and address correctly. Make an appointment to "sell" the proposal in person.
- Always type the proposal and take care with the layout.
- Be accurate and precise with information; companies do not want to spend hours reading your proposal to try to find out what is being sought and offered.
- Obtain an insight, if possible, into the value of a sponsorship to a potential sponsor. This provides a stronger negotiating position.
- Be well prepared when making the presentation. Have supplementary information to support the proposal.

Securing the Sponsorship

You may have done your 'homework' and all the preparation. However, the proposal may still be turned down. Be realistic. There is a lot of competition for the sponsorship dollar and another organisation may be a better match with that particular company's image. Be sure to write to each sponsor who refuses, thanking them for their time. They may be worth a try on another occasion.

At last, you secure the sponsor. Keep them! Look after your sponsor. Keep them informed of progress. Keep a file of all newspaper references and notes on radio/television coverage [*what time, day, programme*] to show them. They may decide to stay with you and continue sponsoring DEC in other areas. Remember sponsorship is a business deal and the company wants to get value for its investment. Continually look for further avenues to promote your sponsor. Always remember the thank you's and personal invitations to special events, the memorabilia, photographs, certificates and media coverage.

Remember to present progress reports (if required) on time. On conclusion of the project a final report should be presented which documents:

- the successes (and failures) of the project;
- all media coverage; and
- any shortfalls in providing sponsorship benefits.

Use quotes (preferably from unbiased observers) commenting on the sponsorship project to highlight public perception of benefits accruing from the sponsored project. This reflects favourably on the sponsor and may influence future involvement.

Maintain an on-going communication with the sponsor after the project is completed — they may be willing to sponsor another project at a later date.

Annex 8: Ammended Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific: 1994 - 1998

by South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and World Conservation Union (IUCN)

Foreword

Nature conservation is of fundamental importance to the sustainable development of the Pacific Island countries. This is because the interlinkages between the social, cultural and economic well-being of people and biological diversity are most pronounced and intimate on inhabited small islands and their associated marine ecosystems. Consequently the conservation of biological diversity is, anthropocentric as it may seem, an inherent aspect of sustaining people's livelihood and culture. It must therefore be pursued with the highest priority and urgency, using new approaches that are more effective and appropriate in the context of the South Pacific.

The importance of having a workable strategy in this context cannot be overstated. Previous strategies were well endowed with rich ideas appropriately sensitised to fit the peculiarities of the region. Yet after a decade of increasing development pressure on natural resources and the environment in all South Pacific countries, we are again faced with the challenge of devising an action strategy tailored to new circumstances.

This *Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific* offers a clear focus and priorities with measurable outputs during its 1994-1998 timeframe. It is also designed to conserve biological diversity using a "people first" approach. To implement this strategy more vigilance and consultation will be required than ever before.

The Strategy is based on the wide array of views and comments received during the Fifth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the South Pacific held in Tonga in 1993, reviews of previous strategies and planning documents, and consultations with many of the region's experts in nature conservation.

While the views and ideas cannot be attributed to a single or few individuals, the actual task of formulation and putting them into readable form fell on a few people. The contribution of Audrey Newman and Sam Sesega in this regard is gratefully acknowledged. Thanks also goes to The Nature Conservancy for supporting Ms Newman's involvement.

SPREP & IUCN look forward to working closely with South Pacific countries, key non-governmental and government agencies, and especially local communities, to implement this Action Strategy. We anticipate greater progress in nature conservation in the South Pacific as a result of it.

Dr. Vili A. Fuvao

Director

IUCN signatory

Acronyms

EC	European Community
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EU	European Union
GBRMPA	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
IUCN	World Conservation Union
NEMS	National Environmental Management Strategy
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NSW	New South Wales
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPBCP	South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme
SPC	South Pacific Commission
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USP	University of the South Pacific

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1. Introduction

The South Pacific is a vast region occupying 30 million square kilometres of the Pacific Ocean, an area more than three times larger than the United States of America or China. Of this, only 2% is land, scattered over a myriad of large and small islands with a total land area of only 500,000 square kilometers. The region is also home to an incredibly diverse range of peoples and their cultures, with three commonly recognised subregional constituents - Micronesia, Polynesia and Melanesia.

On land, geographic and ecological isolation has led to the evolution of unique species and communities of plants and animals, many of which are adapted to only one island or island group and found nowhere else in the world. On some islands more than 80% of species are endemic. The region's marine environment comprises an even greater array of diversity, including the most extensive and diverse reef systems in the world and the deepest oceanic trenches.

Unfortunately, the extraordinarily high and unique biological diversity of South Pacific islands is among the most critically threatened in the world. Rapid population growth, habitat destruction from increasing demands on limited land and coastal marine resources, and competition and predation by introduced species have combined to put pressure on natural environments and native species. In their report to UNCED in 1992, the Pacific island developing countries highlight deforestation, land degradation for subsistence and commercial agriculture, mining, introduced pests and uncontrolled disposal of wastes as key threats to the region's biological resources. Overharvesting of fish and wildlife resources, for both commercial and subsistence use, is also a major problem in some areas.

In the nine years since the first *Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific*, there has been significant conservation activity by many island countries, regional institutions and the international community. Yet the overall situation in the South Pacific is largely unchanged. Since 1985, the number of areas with some level of "official" protection has grown from approximately 95 to more than 200 (see Annex A). However, most of these areas are still without active management or protection from encroachment.

Community ownership of land means that the creation of national systems of local protected areas is almost entirely dependent on landowners in some countries. In general, their resources are also poorly known, making it impossible to assess what percentage of the region's diversity is currently represented.

However for the first time, there are regional and international programmes in place to support and evaluate a community-based "conservation area" approach to biodiversity protection that will empower local people to control and wisely manage their own resources. (See the Approach section for more discussion of "conservation areas".) A number of projects are underway throughout the region.

In other ways, effective action is more possible now than ever before:

- most Pacific island countries have clear, comprehensive and practical National Environmental Management Strategies (NEMS),
- there are regional conservation programmes for endangered marine turtles, marine mammals and avifauna in the region,
- the concept of "sustainable development" is receiving broad international acceptance; with an internationally agreed framework for island in the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island States,
- regional, national and local organizations have recruited specialists in population dynamics, microenterprise, and other social disciplines to help conservation managers understand and address the critical human and economic factors,
- numerous surveys have been initiated or completed; databases are underway in many countries; and conservation information and skills are being spread more widely, more consistently and in more effective "grassroots" ways,
- organisations, particularly NGOs, are launching community-centred conservation area projects in several Pacific island countries, and
- countries of the region are developing an interest in ecotourism, its relationship with conservation protection and management, and its potential to generate local income and employment.

While many of the efforts of the past four years have not yet resulted in measurable conservation on the ground, they have added significantly to the infrastructure and capacity for conservation in the region. While still very limited, hopefully this foundation will be adequate to support more direct, on-the-ground conservation action in the next four years.

1.1 A New Action Strategy

The Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific Region has been recast based on recommendations and discussions during the Fifth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation & Protected Areas conducted in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, 4-8 October 1993. While recognizing the value of the comprehensive approach taken by past strategies, the conference participants agreed that a simpler and more focused approach was needed. After adopting a clear mission statement and six major objectives, the Plenary directed the drafters to:

- set measurable objectives for next 4-5 years
- prioritise key actions to accomplish these objectives
- identify how (or by whom) these actions will be implemented
- develop a way to regularly measure progress toward these objectives

Hence, the Action Strategy for 1994-1998 aims to provide an ambitious, achievable work programme for nature conservation in the South Pacific region. In substance, it draws from key elements of the previous strategy and many other relevant and current planning documents, including the NEMS, the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP), the IUCN/EC proposal to strengthen institution capacity for biodiversity protection, the SPREP Action Plan, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and the Biological Diversity Convention.

The resulting 1994 Strategy places a stronger emphasis on:

- the role of communities and traditional knowledge in conservation;
- conservation of marine systems;
- long-term funding mechanisms to support implementation;
- prevention of biodiversity loss;
- monitoring as an integral part of all objectives/activities;

The 1994 Strategy departs from the previous two strategies in some significant ways. Most notable is absence of any reference to establishing "a representative system of conservation areas to ensure the effective conservation of island ecosystems and species". While this continues to be the ultimate goal for SPREP and others in the region, experience has shown that only incremental progress will be possible in the next four years. Therefore, the Strategy focuses action in three areas to build toward a representative system -- 1) establishing some new conservation areas; 2) planning and implementing protection plans for the most endangered and threatened ecosystems and species in the region; and 3) developing ways to address the region's most serious and widespread environmental threats.

Two other departures are worth noting:

1. Research, resource inventories and other information gathering are presented as fundamental components of all conservation activities, rather than appearing as a separate objective. In this Strategy, they are linked with the conservation actions that they support (e.g. decision-making and implementation of conservation or development projects) in order to focus research efforts on urgent applied information needs.
2. Community-based conservation areas that include some form of sustainable development are pursued aggressively in this Strategy as the most promising approach for broad-based conservation in the Pacific. (These conservation areas equate to IUCN's Protected Area Categories IV, V and VI described in Annex A.) This is not intended to discourage the creation of new parks and stricter reserves (as represented by IUCN Categories I, II and III), where feasible. Rather it recognizes that these approaches are probably most appropriate in special circumstances in the South Pacific, such as large unpopulated areas or extremely vulnerable habitats for endangered and threatened species. However, the community-based conservation area approach appears to best accommodate the unique land and resource ownership patterns found throughout the region.

1.2 Who Uses the Strategy

The Strategy is intended to be used by any organization or individual interested in helping to protect the rich biological diversity of the South Pacific. Key players include the environmental and development agencies in each country and territory; individual and community resource owners; SPREP and its partners; public and private donors; non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including churches, women and youth groups; and formal or informal community leaders and groups. Together, these are the people responsible for achieving conservation on the land and in the sea.

2. Mission Statement

The **mission** of this Action Strategy is:

To protect the rich natural heritage of the South Pacific forever through the conservation and sustainable management of its natural resources and biodiversity for the benefit of the peoples of the South Pacific and the world.

This mission and its six major objectives were defined and adopted by the Plenary of the Fifth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the South Pacific Region on 4 - 8 October 1993.

Major Objectives for 1994-1998:

1. To develop National Environmental Management Strategies (NEMS) or equivalents for all countries and territories within the region and to begin implementing priority conservation and sustainable resource management actions from the NEMS in at least half the countries and territories.
2. To develop and advocate appropriate funding mechanisms for the sustained support of conservation and sustainable resource management activities at the local, national and regional levels.
3. To identify and address the most urgent threats to the region's biodiversity and protect the region's plants, animals and ecosystems for future generations.

4. To involve communities and landowners in cooperative natural resource management and conservation that recognises and strengthens local resource owners' rights and uses environmentally sound customs, and develops mechanisms for distributing resource benefits as equitably as possible throughout communities.
5. To strengthen local expertise and technical ability in planning and implementing sustainable natural resource management and conservation programmes for marine and terrestrial environments through programmes of training and extension that utilize local expertise wherever possible.
6. To improve environmental awareness and information sharing and to build working partnerships at the local, national, regional and international levels in support of conservation activities.

3. Approach

The Strategy builds on previous ones and on the accumulated experience of Pacific Islanders over the past several decades in natural resource management and biodiversity conservation. It recognizes the fundamental and historical reliance of Pacific Island peoples on natural resources, the intricate linkages between customary resource ownership and biodiversity, and the traditional practices in resource management and conservation that have served them well over the decades.

The Strategy also responds to the emerging consensus that dedicating land and the sea to national parks and strict reserves is generally inappropriate for Pacific islands. Thus it reflects the continuing shift toward community-based conservation areas that integrate the protection and use of natural resources and biodiversity in a sustainable manner as a means of achieving the dual objectives of conservation and development. The more conventional protected area approach is emphasized less, though it still plays an important role in some areas and in the protection of endangered, threatened and vulnerable species and ecosystems.

3.1 Community-based Conservation Areas

The community-based conservation area approach seeks to achieve a balance between the conservation and use of biological resources to provide for the cash and subsistence needs of the resident communities while conserving the special ecological or biological features of the area. For purposes of the Strategy, "conservation area" is the same as "integrated conservation and development" (ICAD) area used in other parts of the world. This approach is being embraced by communities and organisations throughout the region, and is receiving significant support from the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme (SPBCP), and the Integrated Conservation and Development Project based in Papua New Guinea.

The Strategy recognizes the difficulties of reconciling the objectives of conservation and development. Local resource owners are often faced with the dilemma of choosing between immediate incomes from uses that are unsustainable, or delayed and less tangible benefits in the future through conservation activities. Overcoming this problem is the great challenge to conservation in the South Pacific, and the primary aim of this Strategy.

Past strategies addressed this problem by emphasising environmental education and awareness, assuming that greater understanding and awareness of the values of conservation will result in positive conservation action. However, experience has not proven this assumption correct.

In addressing this problem, the Strategy recognises that awareness and appreciation of the need to conserve natural resources is not enough. On Pacific islands, most resource owning communities exist under trying socio-economic conditions that can drive them to choose short term unsustainable resource use despite a clear understanding of its adverse environmental consequences. For Pacific islanders to forego immediate benefits can mean jeopardizing their immediate existence. Therefore conservation objectives can be achieved only through an approach that also meets the needs of local resource owners.

The challenge for conservationists and resource managers is to:

- find new and better methods of generating benefits for communities while maintaining resource use at sustainable levels and protecting biodiversity
- empower communities to plan for, manage and monitor their own resources.

The focus of the Strategy is therefore as much on people as on natural resources. Conserving biological resources may require changes in people's consumption patterns. To achieve this, it is necessary that communities see conservation options as providing viable economic alternatives. While these conservation options may not always result in the same high financial returns that could be obtained from short-term exploitation of natural resources, they must at least be able to meet the resource owners' short-term economic needs. In addition, conservation options should not deprive communities of the control they traditionally exercise on their property. Communities must also be equipped with the right skills and information to participate fully in management.

At the national level, supportive institutional arrangements are also needed to transfer information and technology, provide training, mobilise and direct resources, coordinate and integrate activities, facilitate cooperative management, generate and enforce sustainable resource policies, develop appropriate legislative frameworks, and to facilitate participatory planning and implementation.

The Strategy seeks to be simple and brief to maintain focus on the most critically needed actions rather than being a shopping list of possible activities. Each objective has:

- a brief description of the current situation
- key actions at the local, national, regional (including subregional), and international levels
- measures for gauging successful implementation.

The final outcome is a prioritised agenda for nature conservation action over the next four years. The region's success in accomplishing this agenda will depend on many factors -- the social, economic and geographic situation of each island state; the support for conservation already in place; and the political commitment of regional, national and local leaders to conservation and sustainable development.

Implementation of this Strategy will depend on the efforts of organisations and individuals throughout the region. To accurately reflect these efforts (current and planned), SPREP will survey the region to identify coordinating agencies and key partners prepared to take the lead in implementation of each key action. The results of this implementation survey will be sent as an addendum to the Strategy.

4. How to Use the Action Strategy

This Action Strategy is a tool for planning and evaluating nature conservation work in the South Pacific. It summarizes the actions that conservation and community experts throughout the South Pacific consider most urgent for conservation of biodiversity in the region over the next four years. However, this Action Strategy will only be effective if it is used.

The 1993 Conference participants stressed the need to monitor progress on the elements of the Strategy regularly. Since the Conference only meets every four years, the Plenary felt that another mechanism needs to be developed to accomplish this. Corporate planners say that the "shelf-life" of a plan is 3-4 months. By this they mean that managers must review their plans and progress at least every 3-4 months. If not, the plan will usually be forgotten, while the manager reacts to numerous daily demands. Typically, a long-term plan or strategy is kept "alive" by developing an annual work programme from it. Then the annual work programme is detailed further in specific tasks to be accomplished and reported on each quarter or 3-month period.

Building on this approach, people in the region should refer to the Strategy when developing priorities for annual work programmes and reviewing annual progress. It can also be used for project plans and funding proposals. It can be used within one organisation and with partners to identify the activities that each will implement in the coming year. This is meant to help not hinder. Difficulties in completing certain key actions should trigger more regional discussion. Similarly, successes and new ideas should lead to welcome new actions and approaches.

To share information on the overall progress in the region during the four-year term of this Strategy, SPREP will provide a summary of key national and regional accomplishments on the Action Strategy in its quarterly newsletter. The National Environmental Updates called for in Objective 1 should serve the same purpose for the NEMS priorities.

4.1 Measuring Progress

To monitor progress more objectively, the Measures of Success sections include a table for recording the current status and future progress on each measure. This format can be used by regional, national and local organizations to provide a quick overview of progress on their selected priorities each year, with text to clarify or highlight certain activities.

If this reporting format proves useful, SPREP will compile the individual progress reports each year to provide everyone with a regional overview of progress (and difficulties encountered) in implementing the Action Strategy. Hopefully, this approach will also help us all evaluate the effectiveness of this Strategy and guide our revision during the Sixth Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the South Pacific Region in 1998.

5. Action Strategy Objectives and Key Actions

5.1 National Environmental Management Strategies (NEMS)

Objective 1:

To develop National Environmental Management Strategies, or equivalents, for all countries and territories within the region and to begin implementing priority conservation and sustainable resource management actions in at least half the countries and territories.

Current Situation:

There is an increasing awareness in the region that environmental management and development are linked and that adverse impacts from development projects can often be mitigated or avoided with advance environmental planning. As of June 1994, fifteen Pacific Island countries had completed or initiated National Environmental Management Strategies (NEMS) or an equivalent planning process (referred to generally as NEMS in this Strategy).

For each country, the NEMS includes practical recommendations to:

- integrate environmental considerations in economic development- including legislation, policies, and environmental impact assessment (EIA);

- strengthen institutional capabilities
- improve environmental awareness and education
- manage and protect natural resources and biodiversity
- improve waste management and minimisation measures and pollution control

Most of these NEMS were developed with broad participation by government agencies, education institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the community, and they are endorsed by the national government. Often, they were led by a task force comprising the senior government officials and other national leaders. This process laid the foundation for coordinating conservation and development activities and planning to achieve sustainable development (See Annex B for more details). This approach is endorsed in Agenda 21 and will be supported by UNDP's *Capacity 21 Programme of Capacity Building for Sustainable Development in the South Pacific*.

Local and National Key Actions:

1. Establish & maintain an active interagency committee (e.g. NEMS Task Team) of senior officials and community representatives to develop NEMS and to coordinate and monitor implementation.
2. Fully integrate NEMS with the national development plan, and combine them as one plan for environmental protection and sustainable development in future planning cycles.
3. Facilitate bilateral and multilateral funding for conservation projects, including those in the NEMS, by working with national aid coordination ministries to include conservation projects in government aid requests.
4. Support training and additional staff for environmental agencies and cooperating agencies/organizations that are needed to implement the NEMS.
5. Introduce environmental considerations at the earliest stages of development, investment and import/export application procedures.
6. Develop an appropriate environmental and conservation legislation framework.

7. Assess major changes and trends in the natural resource base through periodic assessments -- such as aerial photography, water measurements (quality and quantity), and marine stock assessments -- and through monitoring harvest and export rates.
8. Prepare a biannual National Environmental Update to the highest policy-making body and the public which:
 - a. updates the State of the Environment report
 - b. summarizes and evaluates progress on the NEMS implementation
 - c. highlights priorities for the coming two years.
9. Become parties to international and regional conservation conventions of greatest importance to the South Pacific, which are the Convention on Biodiversity and the Apia Convention. Where appropriate, support, CITES, the World Heritage Convention, the SPREP Convention and other conservation-related conventions including the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Flora and Fauna and the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling.

Note: In December 1992, the World Heritage Committee adopted revised Operational Guidelines for both Natural and Cultural sites under the World Heritage Convention. Reference to human / community interaction was deleted from the Natural site criteria while the Cultural site criteria, were amended to accommodate the concept of cultural landscapes, partly to recognise South Pacific concerns that the previous Operational Guidelines did not adequately accommodate living cultures such as those of the South Pacific.

Regional and International Key Actions:

10. Secure and coordinate regional and international funding and expertise for the development and implementation of the NEMS.
11. Provide technical assistance and training to countries to undertake environmental programs, especially environmental impact assessment and monitoring.
10. Encourage multilateral and bilateral donors to recognize and support NEMS priorities, including the use of EIAs and sustainable resource practices in their project design and execution.

11. Assist remaining seven territories in preparing NEMS.

Measures of Success - NEMS

By the end of 1998, the following would have been produced or achieved:

- Each country and territory has a NEMS developed with broad participation by government, non-government, community and business organizations.
- NEMS priorities are placed among the annual national budget priorities in order to attract bilateral and multilateral aid in each country.
- Substantial progress has been made on the environmental priorities identified in the NEMS, with continued participation by public and private agencies & organizations involved in resource management, conservation and development.
- Each country and territory has an effective high-level interagency committee (NEMS Task Team or equivalent) that meets regularly and works cooperatively to update and accomplish the nation's environmental and development goals. This committee also presents a National Environmental Status Update to the public and government every two years.
- Environmental impact assessment is used prior to all development projects that are likely to significantly affect the environment, and potential impacts are identified and avoided or minimised in the planning phase.
- Each country and territory has assessed its forest, water and marine resources at least twice in order to detect major changes and to measure the effectiveness of environmental programs in maintaining the natural resource base.
- At least half of the Pacific island countries have signed the Biodiversity Convention and the Apia Convention and some have ratified and begun implementing the terms.

Measures of Success: NEMS	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Comments
By the end of 1998, the following would have been produced or achieved:						
⇒ Each country and territory has a NEMS developed with broad participation by government, non-government, community and business organizations.						
⇒ NEMS priorities are placed among the annual national budget priorities in order to attract bilateral and multilateral aid in each country.						
⇒ Substantial progress has been made on the environmental priorities identified in the NEMS, with continued participation by public and private agencies & organizations involved in resource management, conservation and development.						
⇒ Each country and territory has an effective high-level interagency committee (NEMS Task Team or equivalent) that meets regularly and works cooperatively to update and accomplish the nation's environmental and development goals. This committee also presents a National Environmental Status Update to the public and government every two years.						
⇒ Environmental impact assessment is used prior to all development projects that are likely to significantly or cumulatively affect the environment, and potential impacts are identified and avoided or minimised in the planning phase.						
⇒ Each country and territory has assessed its forest, water and marine resources at least twice in order to detect major changes and to measure the effectiveness of environmental programs in maintaining the natural resource base.						
⇒ At least half of the Pacific island countries have signed the Biodiversity Convention and the Apia Convention and some have ratified and begun implementing the terms.						

Key: 0 = No Progress; 1 = Action(s) Underway; 2 = Completed.

5.2 Funding Mechanisms

Objective 2:

To develop and advocate appropriate funding mechanisms for the sustained support of conservation and sustainable resource management activities at the local, national and regional levels.

Current Situation:

There is general recognition that achieving conservation and sustainable development goals will require substantial investments initially and in the long-term. Most conservation activities in the region are supported, at least in part, by donor countries and organizations. However, donors are usually enthusiastic about funding new projects and hesitant to commit to the ongoing support needed to build and sustain effective conservation programmes on the ground. Funding agencies need to be encouraged to provide reliable support for long-term conservation goals. At the same time, there is great interest in developing site-specific and national funding mechanisms that can eventually provide

financial independence for at least some conservation and sustainable resource management projects and programmes.

There is general consensus that the costs of conservation should be shared by all the communities that benefit from it: local, national and international. Each of these sources should contribute to the long-term support of conservation agencies and programmes in the Pacific. To accomplish this, new funding initiatives and other forms of support must be developed

Local and National Key Actions:

1. Establish appropriate in-country and site-specific sources of new revenue dedicated to support conservation and sustainable resource management:

Possibilities include:

- a. Nature-based enterprises -- e.g. handi-crafts, food products, etc.;
- b. Resource Rentals and/or Royalties -- e.g. commercial fishing, logging, mining;

- c. User fees for recreational activities -- e.g. sportfishing, diving, nature-based tourism;
 - d. Environmental bonds to ensure responsible resource use by development and resource extraction projects; and,
 - e. Special taxes for visitors/tourists -- e.g. addition to airport tax, hotel room tax, aviation fuel tax.
2. Assist individuals and community groups with planning and starting small scale, sustainable nature-based businesses, possibly including creation of conservation loan programmes.
 3. Develop in-country capacity (government and non-government) to identify financial needs, secure funding and manage budgets effectively to ensure accountability required by donors and the public.
 4. Develop trust funds that can help ensure the long-term viability of local and national conservation programmes.
 5. Develop private support and donations from individuals, businesses and industry groups for implementing national conservation priorities, including local co-management, in-kind services, conservation memberships, cause-related marketing.
 6. Prepare a funding plan for the country's top conservation priorities and plan for self-funding core costs from locally and nationally controlled sources within 5-10 years wherever possible. Identify long-term international cost-sharing agreements needed.

Regional and International Key Actions:

7. Work with countries to secure support from multilateral and bilateral donors for:
 - a. implementing national conservation priorities
 - b. establishing trust funds to ensure long-term security for conservation and sustainable resource management programmes, and
 - c. giving first priority for conservation and sustainable resource management business ventures in economic development aid programmes.
8. Provide technical and financial assistance to local communities and resource owners to launch sustainable, nature-based businesses, including help with identifying and designing desirable products, market information, small business training, pursuing new markets, developing effective cooperatives, and securing financing.
9. Provide technical assistance and materials to assist countries and territories in establishing appropriate funding mechanisms to support conservation programmes.
10. Investigate the potential for regional contracts with pharmaceutical, industrial and other biotechnology firms, incorporating appropriate criteria for protection of intellectual property rights.
11. Provide a critical review of sustainable income generation projects developed around the world suitable for conservation areas in the Pacific.
12. Compile sample statistics on the contributions of nature-based businesses to local and national economies and their contributions to achieving nature conservation/environmental goals for presentation at the Sixth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. (NGOs).

Measures of Success - Funding Mechanisms

By the end of 1998, the following would have been produced or achieved:

- Both government and non-governmental organisations are able to develop, secure and manage substantial funds from existing and new sources.
- Individuals and groups seeking to start a nature-based business have access to adequate information, training, finances, technical assistance, and regionwide marketing programs.
- Each country and territory has one or more dedicated sources of support for conservation and sustainable resource management from nature-based enterprises, resource rentals, royalties, user fees, special taxes or other funding mechanisms levied in-country.
- At least one conservation area in the region is self-funded, meaning it is generating sufficient revenues to sustain local management and community development activities from dedicated local or national income sources without additional government or donor support. "Dedicated" sources could include income from tourism, sale of products in-country and export, user fees, special taxes, etc.

- At least one local, national or regional trust fund has been established and funded to support ongoing conservation programmes.
- Each country and territory has a conservation financial plan, including self-funding strategies for appropriate projects.

Measures of Success - Funding Mechanisms	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Comments
By the end of 1998, the following would have been produced or achieved:						
⇒ Both government and non-governmental organisations are able to develop, secure and manage substantial funds from existing and new sources.						
⇒ Individuals and groups seeking to start a nature-based business have access to adequate information, training, finances, technical assistance, and regionwide marketing programs.						
⇒ Each country and territory has one or more dedicated source of support for conservation and sustainable resource management from nature-based enterprises, resource rentals, royalties, user fees, special taxes or other funding mechanisms levied in-country.						
⇒ At least one conservation area in the region is self-funded, meaning it is generating sufficient revenues to sustain local management and community development activities from dedicated local or national income sources without additional government or donor support. "Dedicated" sources could include income from tourism, sale of products in-country and export, user fees, special taxes, etc.						
⇒ At least one local, national or regional trust fund has been established and funded to support ongoing conservation programmes.						
⇒ Each country and territory has a conservation financial plan, including self-funding strategies for appropriate projects.						

Key: 0 = No Progress; 1 = Action(s) Underway; 2 = Completed.

5.3 Biodiversity Protection

Objective 3:

To identify and address the most urgent threats to the region's biodiversity and protect the region's plants, animals and ecosystems for future generations.

Current Situation:

Island biological diversity, with its high degree of endemism, is among the most critically threatened in the world. It is estimated that about 75% of the mammals and birds that have become extinct in recent history were island-dwelling species, with more extinctions likely in the future. The greatest threats to the region's biodiversity are deforestation, land degradation for agriculture, habitat loss from poorly planned development, introduced pests, and overharvesting of terrestrial and marine resources.

Mining poses serious threats where it occurs and could significantly damage marine and terrestrial resources if it expands without proper safeguards. Despite great conservation efforts by some island countries, only a small fraction of the region's resources are in officially protected areas (including conservation areas), and many of these are not actively managed or safe from encroachment and degradation.

The expanding needs of growing populations drive many of these destructive activities. The 1989 and 1993 Conferences clearly recognized that the successful protection and management of natural areas will depend on the involvement and active support of local communities. This has led to a new focus on integrating conservation and development to promote biodiversity protection.

However all forms of protected areas have a role in the region, and all would benefit from local community involvement in the design, management and monitoring. In addition, regional conservation programmes for marine turtles, marine mammals and birds have started to focus conservation work at the national and local levels on the

endangered and threatened species of the region.

For many reasons, protected area establishment will continue to be slow, and the vast majority of each country's natural resources will remain outside of established protected areas. This gives a special urgency to ensuring that all natural resources are managed sustainably and to focussing research on the crucial question -- when is resource use truly sustainable? As the parameters of sustainable development are better understood, environmental agencies and agencies responsible for resource use must work together to incorporate the principles of environmental sustainability into policy, law and practice for all resource use.

Substantial work in support of this objective is being undertaken through the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme.

Local and National Key Actions:

1. Establish at least one model conservation area under community management to demonstrate biodiversity protection, sustainable use of natural resources and community economic development, preferably including terrestrial and marine resources. Jointly begin management and periodic monitoring.
2. Identify immediate, major threats to the endangered, threatened or vulnerable ecosystems and species in the country and implement management, protection and education projects to address or avoid them, including the possible use of sanctuaries, strict reserves, ex-situ conservation and advocating sound laws, regulations, and policies with the relevant government agencies.
3. Integrate population and conservation programmes to promote:
 - a. better understanding of population trends and resource needs
 - b. land use planning at the local level for projected population growth
 - c. eventual reduced population growth and sustainable resource use.
4. Review and modify current laws, regulations and policies that currently allow unsustainable resource use to:
 - a. identify, require and enforce sustainable harvest rates;

- b. set standards for minimizing indirect impacts; and
- c. provide support for on-site monitoring, on-site resource management and off-site conservation areas.

Include community representatives in developing this legislation and strive for local enforcement, wherever possible. (NOTE: Legal reviews completed for ten countries.)

5. Develop a prioritized list of introduced plant and animal pests that threaten the country's biodiversity, and work with regional and international agencies to develop and implement effective control and prevention programmes.
6. Identify good indicator species or other measures for monitoring the condition of marine and terrestrial resources in at least one conservation area or area of high ecological value and regularly assess the status of these indicators.

Regional and International Key Actions:

7. Building on the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme, work closely with countries to develop a series of conservation areas that demonstrate protection of biodiversity, ecologically sustainable use of natural resources, and community economic development. Include projects that address key threats to the region's biodiversity and offer sustainable alternatives.
8. Develop specific regional strategies and national management plans for endangered threatened or vulnerable ecosystems and species. Use the existing regional and national information base and ecosystem classification to develop criteria, set priorities, and conduct additional surveys to provide information essential to decision-making or implementation.
9. Work closely with resource development agencies and the private sector to design and test sustainable approaches to major resource extraction activities outside of conservation areas, including forestry, fisheries, agriculture, infrastructure development, mining and petroleum extraction, and waste management.
10. Identify potential and established introduced plant and animal pests in the region and work with the countries to develop and implement effective prevention and control programmes, including port-of-entry/exit inspection, quarantine, and public awareness.

11. Provide technical assistance in developing laws, regulations and policies that protect biodiversity, and provide technical and infrastructure support for enforcement, as appropriate.

12. Develop standard, repeatable survey methods for monitoring terrestrial and marine resources of high ecological value; use or adapt existing standards wherever possible. Prepare a manual and in-country training course for local communities and resource managers.

13. Develop methods to strengthen the social, cultural and demographic analyses in environmental impact assessment to detect and address potential impacts on affected populations and their natural resources. Incorporate population considerations into policy discussions and formal and informal training programmes.

Measures of Success - Biodiversity Protection

By the end of 1998, the following would have been produced or achieved:

- Model community-based conservation areas are underway in most countries and territories, and early results indicate that some of the economic development projects are sustainable.

- SPREP and the member countries have developed and started implementation of a specific plan (with prioritized target areas and/or management activities) to protect the endangered, threatened and vulnerable ecosystems and species in the region.

- Sustainable resource extraction techniques are being tested in at least one site in the region for each major commercial resource.

- At least one project has successfully integrated population planning into a conservation programme, with promise of reducing population pressure on a priority area.

- A regionwide program to prevent and control the spread of at least the five highest priority plant and animal pest species is underway.

- A legal and regulatory framework is in place in most countries to identify and protect priority ecosystems and species from overharvesting, pollution, conversion to other uses and other destructive activities.

- Standard monitoring techniques are used regularly for marine and terrestrial resources that are intensively used and in countries with high marine or terrestrial biodiversity.

Measures of Success - Biodiversity Protection	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Comments
By the end of 1998, the following would have been produced or achieved:						
☞ Model community-based conservation areas are underway in most countries and territories, and early results indicate that some of the economic development projects are sustainable.						
☞ SPREP and the member countries have developed and started implementation of a specific plan (with prioritized target areas and/or management activities) to protect the endangered, threatened and vulnerable ecosystems and species in the region.						
☞ Sustainable resource extraction techniques are being tested in at least one site in the region for each major commercial resource.						
☞ At least one project has successfully integrated population planning into a conservation programme, with promise of reducing population pressure on a priority area.						
☞ A regionwide program to prevent and control the spread of at least the five highest priority plant and animal pest species is underway.						
☞ A legal and regulatory framework is in place in most countries to identify and protect priority ecosystems and species from overharvesting, pollution, conversion to other uses and other destructive activities.						
☞ Standard monitoring techniques are used regularly for marine and terrestrial resources that are intensively used and in countries with high marine or terrestrial biodiversity.						

Key: 0 = No Progress; 1 = Action(s) Underway; 2 = Completed.

5.4 Local Communities and Customs

Objective 4:

To involve communities in cooperative natural resource management that recognizes and strengthens local resource owners' rights and uses environmentally sound customs.

Current Situation:

Most of the protected areas in the South Pacific are not effectively managed. These are often protected as national parks and reserves that prohibit sustainable resource use by local populations, and the exclusion of traditional resource owners is generally pointed to as the underlying cause for the lack of management.

More flexible and appropriate concepts embodying landowner involvement and allowing sustainable use of resources are required. Local communities and resource owners should be given priority in establishing sustainable resource-based business enterprises, including ecotourism. The conservation area approach incorporates these principles, and several initiatives in this direction are currently underway in the Federated States of Micronesia (Pohnpei), Solomon Islands and Western Samoa.

The extent of actual community involvement in planning and management is generally inadequate. A constraint to improving this situation is the lack of project planning, business, and management skills among communities and a general failure to adapt the planning process to use customary decision-making methods.

The need for greater involvement of communities and resource owners is vital to the success of conservation areas in the immediate and long term. To make this process meaningful, all participants will need to acquire appropriate skills.

Local and National Key Actions:

1. Involve local communities in all phases of natural resource and development planning and management by:
 - a. including community representatives in all relevant committees & consultations;
 - b. ensuring, by legislation, their consultation in environmental and social impact assessments of major resource development projects;
 - c. fostering closer relations and regular dialogue with government agencies and NGOs; and,
 - d. providing training to community representatives, resource owners and NGOs.
2. Recognize community resource ownership and encourage communities to manage their own resources by:
 - a: assisting them to develop and implement their own plans through a community consultation processes;
 - b. empowering local communities to control their resources through legislative and policy measures, where needed; and,
 - c. providing economic incentives for conservation, where appropriate.
3. Support local communities in negotiations with donors and developers through:
 - a. access to sound and up-to-date technical and scientific advice and information;
 - b. independent legal advice, resource valuation and financial expertise; and,
 - c. assistance with identifying and addressing the social and cultural impacts of proposed projects.
4. Continue to recognize and strengthen the special role of women, youth and church groups in all aspects of resource management and conservation and ensure their representation on the NEMS Task Team and other relevant committees.
5. Adopt or strengthen appropriate policies and or legal instruments that protect indigenous intellectual and cultural property rights.
6. Ensure that all conservation activities (research, resource inventories, management, monitoring, etc) undertaken by expatriate experts include:
 - a. active participation of local counterparts and a requirement for hands-on training;
 - b. integration of local knowledge into the results;
 - c. direct presentation of findings and reports to the communities directly involved or affected; and,
 - d. documentation of all findings (preliminary and final), with copies provided to all appropriate agencies and information databases in the country and the region.

7. Identify, document and promote the wider use of customary knowledge and environmentally sound customary practices, including the medicinal uses of fauna and flora. Adapt customary practices or develop new appropriate technologies, where needed.
8. Integrate training programmes and conservation area management planning with local knowledge and practices.

Regional and International Key Actions:

9. Require the involvement of local communities and resource owners in biodiversity conservation programmes as a prerequisite for funding by multilateral and bilateral donors.
10. Support the development of adequate and effective legal mechanisms for protecting intellectual property rights of local and indigenous people, including traditional resource owners.
11. Develop and support regional programmes for the collection and recording of traditional knowledge and the development of a regional information base on customary resource management.

Measures of Success - Local Communities and Customs

By the end of 1998, the following would have been achieved:

- Community representatives participate in the NEMS Task Team and a number of other similar committees.
- At least one conservation area project in each country is managed under a cooperative arrangement involving resource owners.
- Sustainable resource management practices are integrated in the management of at least one conservation area in the region.
- Women, youth and church groups, are involved in some aspects of natural resource management at the national level, including their representation in the NEMS Task Teams and other groups.
- Legislation and policies are in place requiring cooperative management of natural resources and conservation projects, involving local resource owners.
- Policies or legal instruments are in place for protecting intellectual and cultural property rights.
- The public has greater access to information and data on natural resources and biodiversity. Appropriately packaged information is also readily available.

Measures of Success - Local Communities & Customs	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Comments
By the end of 1998, the following would have been achieved:						
☞ Community representatives participate in the NEMS Task Team and a number of other similar committees.						
☞ At least one conservation area project in each country is managed under a cooperative arrangement involving resource owners.						
☞ Sustainable resource management practices are integrated in the management of at least one conservation area in the region.						
☞ Women, youth and church groups, are involved in some aspects of natural resource management at the national level, including their representation in the NEMS Task Teams and other groups.						
☞ Legislation and policies are in place requiring cooperative management of natural resources and conservation projects, involving local resource owners.						
☞ Policies or legal instruments are in place for protecting intellectual and cultural property rights.						
☞ The public has greater access to information and data on natural resources and biodiversity. Appropriately packaged information is also readily available.						

Key: 0 = No Progress; 1 = Action(s) Underway; 2 = Completed.

5.5 Training and Extension

Objective 5:

To strengthen local expertise and technical ability in planning and implementing sustainable natural resource management programmes for marine and terrestrial environments through programmes of training and extension that use local expertise wherever possible.

Current Situation:

Pacific Islands do not have sufficient capacity to implement sustainable development. In the area of resource management and biodiversity conservation, most Pacific countries now have small environment and conservation agencies but they generally have few staff, often with very little training and experience. For example, a 1992 estimate placed the number of trained park rangers at 20-25 for the entire region, with only 2 marine conservation officers. NGOs and communities are now expected and encouraged to play an important role in conservation area management, but both lack planning and management skills. Virtually no effort has been made to harness the community's traditional skills and capacity for conservation and sustainable development.

Local and National Key Actions:

1. Assess specific training needs of government agencies, NGOs and local communities responsible for managing and monitoring terrestrial and marine environments as a basis for formulating a prioritized training program.
2. Conduct in-country training courses for government agencies, NGOs, community representatives, and resource owners, using local experts as trainers and resource people wherever possible, to strengthen their skills in:
 - a. community-based resource planning, management and monitoring;
 - b. terrestrial and marine conservation operations and techniques;
 - c. proposal and report writing, using formats from major funding agencies; and,
 - d. other skills identified by each country's training needs assessment.

3. Develop special training courses on conservation for extension and social workers who deal directly with human welfare, particularly for communities adjacent to conservation areas and other important ecological areas.
4. Encourage and facilitate the participation of community representatives, NGOs and resource owners in training programmes in-country and abroad, including programmes currently managed by or for government agencies.
5. Strengthen extension services of appropriate government agencies (forestry, fisheries, agriculture and environment) through recruitment of additional staff, training and logistics assistance to ensure effective and reliable technical support for communities.

Regional and International Key Actions:

6. Assist with the assessment of country training needs.
7. Provide financial and technical support for priority in-country training identified in the training needs assessment and identified in national actions.
8. Conduct regional training courses on identified priority skills required for the effective implementation of terrestrial and marine conservation programmes.
9. Assess the feasibility of establishing a training centre and/or mobile training units within the region to build natural resources management and biodiversity conservation skills. If feasible, support establishment.

Measures of Success - Training and Extension

By the end of 1998, the following would have been achieved:

- Representatives from relevant government agencies, NGOs, and resource owning communities have been trained in the different aspects of natural resource management and biodiversity conservation in at least half of the countries and territories.
- At least 10 training courses have been conducted on identified priority topics.
- A prioritised assessment of national training needs in sustainable development in general and biodiversity conservation in particular is completed for all countries and territories.

Measures of Success - Training and Extension	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Comments
By the end of 1998, the following would have been achieved:						
☞ Representatives from relevant government agencies, NGOs, and resource owning communities have been trained in the different aspects of natural resource management and biodiversity conservation in at least half of the countries and territories.						
☞ At least 10 training courses have been conducted on identified priority topics.						
☞ A prioritised assessment of national training needs in sustainable development in general and biodiversity conservation in particular is completed for all countries and territories.						

Key: 0 = No Progress; 1 = Action(s) Underway; 2 = Completed.

5.6 Environmental Awareness, Information Sharing and Partnerships

Objective 6:

To improve environmental awareness and information sharing and to build working partnerships at the local, national, regional and international levels in support of conservation activities.

Current Situation:

Throughout the South Pacific, conservation programmes and activities typically involve partnerships between the national environmental agency, SPREP and often an international donor. More and more, non-governmental organisations are joining these efforts, bringing new skills, networks and resources. The 1993 Tonga Conference emphasized the need to invest in and commit to making these partnerships work and to reach out to include resource owners, local communities, businesses and others who can help. Despite impressive progress in many countries, environmental education and awareness continue to be a high priority in every NEMS, and some countries are described as having a dearth of relevant resource information. People are successfully trying new "grassroots" ways to share environmental information, and the new challenge is to include traditional knowledge and practices in the conservation message.

Local and National Key Actions:

1. Implement NEMS priorities to improve environmental awareness and education in a compelling and more effective way, using the arts, theatre, music, media and attractive visual and print materials. Materials should incorporate local customs in resource management and should use local language(s) as much as possible.
2. Involve government, NGOs, businesses, local communities, and technical resource people in planning, implementing and evaluating conservation activities and programmes.
3. Require that resource people and researchers provide results and information to affected local communities and environmental management staff in a useful way. Require copies of all publications, reports, and original data for in-country use.
4. Ensure easy public access to resource data and information necessary to design, implement, monitor and evaluate conservation programmes.
5. Assess national environmental awareness and involvement through periodic surveys or polls.
6. Develop local interpretive skills and establish facilities (if appropriate) in at least one accessible conservation area or area of high ecological value to improve public awareness of the need for conservation and the role of traditional knowledge and customs in resource management.

7. Work with other countries to share experiences and expertise in all aspects of conservation and sustainable development work, including both successes and failures.

Regional and International Key Actions:

8. Support information and experience exchange to communicate successes and failures (and develop guidelines) for key aspects of conservation and sustainable resource management (e.g. nature-based enterprises, community awareness community-based resource management and monitoring).
9. Develop and maintain a regional information base with current information on island ecosystems and species for conservation, major threats, and sustainable development opportunities. Establish linkages with existing networks and among island countries to encourage information exchange.
10. Assist with the development of appropriate in-country resource databases to help guide conservation and sustainable development, decision-making and implementation.
11. Conduct a study on the effectiveness of specific educational tools (e.g. written material, posters, T-shirts, slides, videos, etc) for the two key audiences in the Pacific (local villagers and national decision-makers), and develop guidelines for targeting educational efforts for maximum effect.
12. Develop and use a set of consensus principles to build public and private partnerships that provide optimal support and technical assistance to countries and local communities for achieving their conservation priorities.
13. Provide support and technical assistance to the region's:
- network of environmental journalists
 - teachers, schools and education departments for curriculum development
 - national and community groups in media & publications
14. Periodically poll the region to gather data on access to information and services, progress on this Action Strategy, and the effectiveness of other regional activities.

15. Disseminate scientific/technical information and traditional/customary knowledge on conservation and resource management through the publication of meeting reports, topic studies, bibliographies and a register of Pacific resource people.

16. Continue to produce and distribute educational materials on regional environmental issues in an interesting and informative way, where possible in local languages.

Measures of Success - Environmental Awareness & Partnerships

By the end of 1998, the following would have been produced or achieved:

- Each country holds at least one popular environmental awareness event each year and has regular features on environmental issues in the media, with a resulting substantial increase in environmental awareness and involvement by the public as measured by surveys.
- Most conservation projects and programmes have a broad-based group of public and private advisors to assist with planning, implementation and monitoring. All proposals for new conservation efforts include evidence that a broad-based advisory group assisted with the project design.
- People with local cultural knowledge are an integral part of all environmental awareness, education, research, resource management and monitoring activities.
- There are good examples of new, more effective ways to provide scientific and technical information for local and national use.
- Essential information for conservation and sustainable resource management is available through appropriate databases, publications or resource people, and this information is used by the governments, non-governmental organisations, businesses and communities in conservation and development planning and implementation.

Measures of Success - Environmental Awareness & Partnerships	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Comments
By the end of 1998, the following would have been produced or achieved:						
☞ Each country holds at least one popular environmental awareness event each year and has regular features on environmental issues in the media, with a resulting substantial increase in environmental awareness and involvement by the public as measured by surveys.						
☞ Most conservation projects and programmes have a broad-based group of public and private advisors to assist with planning, implementation and monitoring. All proposals for new conservation efforts include evidence that a broad-based advisory group assisted with the project design.						
☞ People with local cultural knowledge are an integral part of all environmental awareness, education, research, resource management and monitoring activities.						
☞ There are good examples of new, more effective ways to provide scientific and technical information for local and national use.						
☞ Essential information for conservation and sustainable resource management is available through appropriate databases, publications or resource people, and this information is used by the governments, non-governmental organisations, businesses and communities in conservation and development planning and implementation.						

Key: 0 = No Progress; 1 = Action(s) Underway; 2 = Completed.

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Annex A: Protected Areas of the South Pacific

Notes for Annex A:

Annex A1.

Number of protected areas, total land area, protected land area and percentage land protected from Paine 1993; IUCN categories I-VI included. IUCN 1991 included information on total/protected land areas that differed from Paine 1993 for some areas. No comparable information was available for marine protected areas.

Annex A2.

Number and list of protected areas from IUCN 1991 with additions from Farago 1993 and Action Strategy reviewer comments. All IUCN categories (I-VI) are included. Paine 1993 reports 98 protected areas in IUCN categories I-V. This is probably the basis for the figure cited in Farago 1993 and in previous strategies.

IUCN categories of protected areas

- I Scientific Reserve/Strict Nature Reserve
- II National Park
- III Natural Monument/Natural Landmark
- IV Managed Nature Reserve/Wildlife Sanctuary
- V Protected Landscape or Seascape
- VI Resource Reserve

Abbreviations Used:

Cons	Conservation Reserve
Ecol	Ecological
FR	Forest Reserve
Is	Island(s)
MP	Marine Park
MR	Marine Reserve
NA	Natural Area
NHP	Nat'l Historic Park
NMS	Nat'l Marine Sanctuary
NNL	Nat'l Natural Landmark
NP	National Park
NR	Nature Reserve
NWR	Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
Pk	Park
Prov	Provincial
Rec	Recreational
Res	Reserve
Sanct	Sanctuary
SBR	Special Botanical Res
SFFR	Special Fauna & Flora Reserve
SFR	Special Fauna Reserve
SMR	Special Marine Reserve
SNR	Strict Nature Reserve
Terr	Territorial
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
WR	Wildlife Reserve
WS	Wildlife Sanctuary
WHS	World Heritage Site

Annex A1: Summary of Terrestrial Protected Areas of the South Pacific region

South Pacific States	No. of Protected Areas (See Note 1)	Total Land Area (sq km) (see Note 2)	Protected Land Area (sq km)	% Land Protected
American Samoa	11	197	48	24.4
Cook Is	4	233	2	0.9
Easter Is	1	68	67	98.5
Federated States of Micronesia	1	702	0	0.0
Fiji	17	18,330	291	1.6
French Polynesia	7	3,940	135	3.4
Guam	11	450	85	18.9
Kiribati	11	684	587	85.8
Marshall Is	0	181	0	0.0
Nauru	0	21	0	0.0
New Caledonia	52	19,105	7,038	36.8
Niue	0	259	0	0.0
North Marianas	4	471	15	3.2
Palau	23	365	15	4.1
Papua New Guinea	37	462,840	9,866	2.1
Pitcairn Is	1	42	0	0.0
Solomon Is	8	29,790	26	0.0
Tokelau	0	10	0	0.0
Tonga	10	699	35	5.0
Tuvalu	0	25	0	0.0
U.S. Minor Is	4	658	542	82.4
Vanuatu	6	14,765	1	0.01
Wallis-Futuna Is	2	255	0	0.0
Western Samoa	5	2,840	41	1.4
Other	2	NA	NA	NA
TOTAL	217	556,930	18,794	3.4
Hawaii	103	16,760	2,866	17.1

Annex A2: Established protected areas in the South Pacific**American Samoa (11)**

American Samoa National Parks*
 Rose Atoll National Wildlife Refuges*
 Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuaries*
 Anunu'u Island National Natural Landmarks
 Cape Taputapu NNL
 Fogama'a Crater NNL
 Leala Shoreline NNL
 Matafao Peak NNL
 Rainmaker Mountain (Mt. Pioa) NNL
 Vaiava Strait NNL

Cook Islands (4)

Aitutaki Trochus Sanct*
 Manuae Lagoon Trochus Sanct*
 Palmerston Lagoon Trochus Sanct*
 Suvarrow Atoll NP

Easter Island (1)

Rapa Nui NP

Federated States of Micronesia (1)

Trochus Sanctuaries - Pohnpei*

Fiji (17)

Colo-i-Suva Forest Park
 Draunibota & Labiko Is NR
 JH Garrick Memorial Reserve
 Lololo Amenity Reserves (AR)
 Lomolomo AR
 Nadarivatu NR
 Namenalala Island NR
 Naqarabuluti NR
 Nukulau Island and Reef (AR)
 Ravilevu NR
 Saweni Beach (AR)
 Sigatoka Sand Dunes NP & Res
 Tavakubu (AR)
 Tomaniivi NR
 Vunimoli NR
 Vuo Island NR
 Yadua Taba Island Crested Iguana Reserve

French Polynesia (7)

Atoll de Taiaro (W.A. Robinson) Biosphere & NR
 Eiao Island Nature Reserve
 Hatutu Island Nature Reserve
 Mohotani
 Sable Island (Motu One)
 Scilly Atoll (Manuae) Reserve
 Vallee de Faaiti Nature Reserve

Guam (10)

Anao Cons. Reserves*
 Bolanos (Chalan Palii CR) Cotal
 Haputo Ecological Reserve Areas*
 Masso River Reservoir Area Natural Reserves*
 Orote Peninsula Ecological Reserve Areas*
 Pati Point Natural Areas*
 Guam Territorial Seashore Park*
 Schroeder
 War in the Pacific*
 Y-Piga

Kiribati (11)

Birnie Island WS
 Cook Islet Closed Area (Kiritimati WS)
 Kiritimati WS
 Malden Island (Closed Area)
 Motu Tabu Islet Closed Area (Kiritimati WS)
 Motu Upua Closed Area (Kiritimati WS)
 McKean Island
 Ngaontetaake Islet Closed Area (Kiritimati WS)
 Phoenix Island (Rawaki)
 Starbuck (Closed Area)
 Vostok Island

New Caledonia (52)

Amoa/Tchamba
 Aoucpinies SFR
 Boulouparis-Bourail Branch Nord Dumbea et Couvelee
 Col d'Amieu FR
 Chutes de Madeleine SBR
 Foret de Sailles SBR
 Haute Doutio
 Haute Yate SFR
 Koumac
 Kuebini FR
 La Dieppoise SMR
 Lagon Sud Terr Pk (5units)
 L'entange de Koumac SFR
 L'Ile Pam SFR
 L'Ilot Lepredour SFR
 L'Ilot Maitre SFFR
 "Michael Corbasson"
 Mont Do SFFR
 Mont Humboldt SBR
 Mont Mou FR
 Mont Mou SBR
 Mont Panie SBR

Montagne des Sources NR	Moitaka WS
Nord Cote Est	Mojirau (I)*
Ora Peninsula	Namanatabu Historic Reserves
Ouenarou FR	Nanuk Island Park*
Ouen-Toro Terr Pk	Ndrolowa (I)*
Paita-Dumbea-Mt Dore	Neiru (I)
Pic Ningua SBR	Nuserang (I)*
Ponerihouen	Oia-Mada Wa'a (I)
Pouembout	Paga Hill ScR
Povilla FR	Pirung (I)
Riviere Bleue Terr Pk	Pokili (I)
Southern SBR (7 units)	Ranba (I)*
Tangadiou FR	Sawataetae (I)*
Tango FR	Siwi Utame (I)
Tiponite FR	Talele Islands (Bismarck Archipelago) NR
Tournante de Marine Faune SMR	Talele Islands Park*
Thy Terr Pk	Tonda (I)*
"South" of New Caledonia FR	Varirata
Yves Merlet SMR	Zo-Oimaga (I)
North Marianas (4)	Pitcairn Is. (1)
Asuncion Is Preserve	Henderson Is WHS (not incl. in Paine 1993)
Guguan Is Preserve	Solomon Is (8)
Maug Is Preserve	Queen Elizabeth NP
Uracas Island Preserve (aka Farallon de Pajaros)	Arnavon WS or Arnavon Marine Cons Area
Palau (3)	Tulagi Bird Sanct
Ngerukewid Is	Kolombangara FR
Trochus Sanctuaries (21)	Dalakalau
Ngerumckaol Grouper Spawning Area	Dalakalonga
Papua New Guinea (37)	Mandoleana
Bagiai (I)* WMA	Oema Is
Baiyer River S	Tonga (10)
Balek (III) WMA	Eua NP
Baniara Island (II) WMA	Fanga'uta & Fanga Kakau Lagoons Marine Res
Cape Wom International Memorial Park*	Ha'atafu Beach Res
Crown Island (III) WMA	Hakaumama'☉ Reef Res
Garu (I)* WMA	Malinoa Is Res
Horseshoe Reef MP	Monuafe Is Res
Iomare (I) WMA	Mui Hopo Hoponga Res
Jimi Valley National Parks	Pangaimotu Reef Res
Kokoda Trail NP	Mounu Reef Sanct
Lake Lavu (I) WMA	Ha'amonga Trilithon Pk
Long Island (III)	U.S. Minor Islands (4)
McAdam NP	Baker Is NWR
Maza (I)*	Howland Is NWR
Mt Gahavisuka Park*	Jarvis Is NWR
Mt Kaindi*	Johnston Atoll NWR
Mt Wilhelm NP	

Vanuatu (6)

Naomebaravu-Malo Res
President Coolidge & Million Dollar Point Res
Whitesands Res
Narong MR*
Aore Rec Pk
Bucaro Aore Rec Pk

Wallis-et Futuna (2)

Wallis Toafa FR
Lalolalo Vao Tupu (aka Forbidden Forest)

Western Samoa (5)

O Le Pupu Pu'e NP
Tusitala Historic & NR (3 units)
Palolo Deep Res
Togitogiga Rec Res
Falealupo Forest

Other (2)

Lord Howe Is Group WHS (Australia)
Kermadec Is NR (New Zealand)

* *Protected area identified by Action Strategy review; not listed in IUCN 1991.*

Annex: B: NEMS Country Priorities for Action and Nature Conservation and Protected Areas.

Extract from Wendt, N. 1993. "National Environmental Management Strategies". In Fifth South Pacific Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas. Vol 1. Conference Report. 4-8 October, 1993, Nukualofa, Tonga. Apia. pp27-34.

Relationship Between NEMS and Biodiversity Conservation

The *Legislative/Policy/Institution Reviews* undertaken in each of the countries to assist the process of NEMS development have clearly shown that there is a need for comprehensive nature preservation legislation and even where such legislation does exist, there is a need for enforcement. As well, the Reviews highlight the need for strengthened institutional structure with trained staff to oversee protected area and species conservation and for the need for more open participatory mechanisms to involve traditional land-owners in protected area management.

The *Education/Community Awareness Reviews* undertaken in many countries in support of the NEMS process have also shown a dearth of relevant resource material to educate the community both through the formal and non-formal education systems.

During the process of National Environmental Management Strategy development, each country has identified:

- (i) Strategies; and,
- (ii) Programme Profiles (specific projects) which will serve to put the strategy into action.

The Programme Profiles have been incorporated into SPREP's Work Programme for which funds are being actively sought. A brief analysis of the Strategies and Programme Profiles for each of the countries concerned, shows a **strong emphasis on biodiversity conservation, especially involving community participation.**

Below is a country-by-country breakdown of specific Strategies and Programme Profiles which clearly shows a large number of specific activities aimed at nature and species protection.

Strategies and Programme Profiles from NEMS Related to Nature Conservation and Protected Areas

Cook Islands (Cabinet-endorsed NEMS)

Strategy 2.2: Preserve traditional knowledge management systems

- Upgrade documentation of traditional environmental knowledge and practices.

Strategy 3.2: Support sustainable use of marine resources

- Development of policies and procedures to minimise over fishing of reefs and lagoons

Strategy 3.4: Establish and manage protected areas

- Development of tourism-based conservation areas.
- Application of traditional knowledge to resource conservation.

Federated States of Micronesia (Cabinet-endorsed NEMS)

Strategy 4: Improve environmental awareness and education

- Development of a "grass-roots" community education programme.
- Documentation and application of traditional knowledge and management systems.

Strategy 5: Manage and protect natural resources

- Resource Information System development.
- Reef and lagoon resources survey for Chuuk State and the Outer Islands of Yap and Pohnpei States.
- Nan Madol Master Plan.
- Endangered species and habitat action plan.
- Participation in regional and international biodiversity programmes.
- Programme to preserve traditional forest knowledge and raise landowner awareness of forest values.
- Total species marine preserve pilot project.
- Conservation programme for marine turtles.

Kiribati (Draft NEMS)**Strategy 5: Development and Protection of the Resource Base**

- Protection of special habitats and species.
- Conservation and management of mangroves.
- Review and improve conservation arrangements for the Phoenix and Line Islands.
- Establishment of an arboretum of traditional cultural and medicinal plants of Kiribati.
- Training workshops on the conservation and management of reefs and marine living resources in Kiribati.

Marshall Islands (Cabinet-endorsed NEMS)**Strategy 6: Managing Marine and Coastal Resources for Sustainability**

- Developing marine resource conservation regulations.
- Developing marine biodiversity conservation programme.
- Promoting giant clam and trochus mariculture.

Strategy 8: Protecting special areas and species

- Developing nature conservation legislation.
- Establishing network of protected areas.
- Creating interagency conservation body.
- Developing eco-tourism.

Strategy 9: Protecting Cultural Values and Practices

- Developing cultural resource management plans.
- Developing cultural resource regulations.
- Establishing historic site register.
- Developing cultural resource education programmes.
- Assessing modern applications of traditional knowledge.
- Documenting cultural resources.
- Establishing network of cultural preservation officers.

Niue (Draft NEMS)**Strategy 5: Strengthening the resource database**

- Ecological surveys of terrestrial vertebrate fauna.
- Systematic botanical survey.
- Marine resource survey.
- Computerised resource database.

Strategy 6: Protecting areas of high ecological, wilderness and cultural values

- Development of a conservation area system for Niue.
- Identification of areas of conservation significance.
- Development of a model conservation area with full landowner participation.
- Participation in regional and international biodiversity programmes.
- Population survey of birds and other species of fauna.
- Study of costs and benefits of biodiversity conservation in Niue.
- Establishment of conservation areas on customary lands.

Strategy 8: Sustainable use and management of land resource

- Community forestry awareness and traditional knowledge programme.
- Development of government forest police and awareness programme.
- Expanded reforestation programme.
- National tree planting programme.

Strategy 9: Sustainable use and management of marine resources

- Impose seasonal sanctions on endangered reef resources.

Palau (Comprehensive Conservation Strategy)

- Development of a National Conservation Law Enforcement Programme.
- Documentation of natural resource habitat needs and establishment of core Preserve Areas.
- Support for the Palau Wildland and Forest Management Act.
- Assistance to States to designate Preserve sites under the Natural Heritage Reserve System Act.

- Continuation of work to support the concept of Bioserve Planning for specific sensitive areas with The Nature Conservancy (TNC).
- Development of a management and enforcement framework for existing and planned Reserves (incorporating local involvement in the planning and management of reserve areas).
- Utilisation of traditional and local knowledge.
- Baseline studies and research on endangered species and endemic plants.
- Marine resource stock assessment.
- Terrestrial resource status assessment.
- Enforcement support for traditional management systems.

Papua New Guinea (Strategic Plan)

Programme 9: Conservation

Objective 1: To build effective systems for accumulating, storing and using knowledge of the natural, historical and cultural resources of PNG so as to identify conservation needs.

Objective 2: To build effective systems for accumulating, sorting and using knowledge of the way natural, historical and cultural resources are used by local communities so as to identify appropriate methods.

Objective 3: To examine existing conservation methods and experiment with new conservation methods so as to discover those most suitable for Papua New Guinea and its peoples, seeking in particular methods which are grounded in local tradition and/or which foster participation by local communities and landowners in conservation management.

Objective 4: To create an effective system for identifying conservation opportunities in the field, and to deliver the follow-up actions required to get new areas and/or resources into the conservation system.

Objective 5: To improve management of the existing conservation areas, strengthen protection of the protected species and increase the Division's capability to undertake all the other conservation roles and responsibilities entrusted to it.

Objective 6: To build up a strong network of co-operative working relationships with Government agencies at all levels, with NGOs both national and international, with universities, with donor agencies and with any other groups or individuals who can help achieve the Programme objectives.

Objective 7: To put mechanisms for conservation advocacy in place in order to ensure that conservation options will be considered whenever significant planning or resource management decisions are being made.

Other activities include:

- Establishment of a Conservation Resource Centre (CRC) to achieve an immediate "capacity boost"
- Conservation Needs Assessment to assess biological resources of PNG and taking into account factors including biodiversity and threats to conservation, prepare guidelines for identifying priority areas and resources for inclusion in the Conservation System.

Solomon Islands (Cabinet-endorsed NEMS)

Strategy 4: Improving environmental awareness and education

- Documentation of traditional knowledge and management systems.
- Application of traditional knowledge and management systems.

Strategy 5: Strengthening the resource base

- Ecological survey of terrestrial vertebrate fauna.
- Systematic botanical survey.
- Dugong survey.
- Reef, estuary and lagoon resources survey.

Strategy 6: Protecting areas of high ecological wilderness and value

- Development of a conservation areas system.
- Participation in regional and international biodiversity programmes.
- Identification of areas of conservation significance.
- Development of a model conservation area with full landowner participation (Komarindi Conservation Area).
- Nature sites development.
- Proposed World Heritage Sites: Lake Te Nggano and Marovo Lagoon.

- Regulation and monitoring of wildlife trade.
- Population survey of parrot species currently subject to trade.
- Costs and benefits of conservation of biological diversity in Solomon Islands.

Strategy 9: Sustainable use of forest resources

- Customary landowner forestry awareness and traditional knowledge programme.

Strategy 10: Sustainable use of marine resources

- Conservation of marine turtles.
- Crocodile population monitoring.
- Creation of marine reserves.

Strategy 11: Coastal environment management

- Mangrove case study and community education.

Tonga (Cabinet-endorsed Action Strategy)

Strategy 7: Improve and update basic data on natural resources.

- Develop a national resource information system (TONGRIS).
- Natural resources and ecosystems survey.

Strategy 8: Protect the Kingdom's biological diversity

- Strengthen wildlife management capability in the Kingdom.
- Replanting traditional, medicinal and culturally important plants.
- Management planning for protection of 'Eua National Park.
- Preservation of key natural and cultural sites in Vava'u.
- Royal Memorial Botanic Gardens.
- Pilot programme for the control of rats and feral cats on selected outer islands.

Vanuatu (National Conservation Strategy)

National Conservation Goal 3.1: Change the way Vanuatu values natural resources.

National Conservation Goal 3.2: Improve community understanding of environmental processes.

National Conservation Goal 3.5: Ensure biological resources are used sustainably.

Western Samoa (Cabinet-endorsed NEMS)

Target Environmental Component 3: Protection of the sea and marine resource.

- Coral Reef / Mangrove Ecological Monitoring.

Target Environmental Component 7: Conservation of Biological Diversity

- Ecological Survey of Midslope and Upland Forests.
- Conservation and sustainable management of mangroves and environs at Saanapu-Sataoa.
- Protection and sustainable use of the lowland forests of Aopo-Letui-Sasina. Planning for protection and sustainable use of the lowland forests and islands of the Aleipata District.
- Development of a National Biodiversity Garden.
- Establishment of a Biodiversity Database.
- Birds survey and conservation.
- Compilation and publication of a Flora of Samoa.

Annex C: List of Reviewers

The following people reviewed the draft 1994 Action Strategy for Nature Conservation in the South Pacific Region.

Drafting Committee

Mr. Joe Reti (Chair), SPREP
 Mr. Herson Anson, Pohnpei
 Mr. Ernest Bani, Vanuatu
 Mr. Moses Biliki, Solomon Islands
 Ms. Jaquetta Bradshaw, New Zealand Foreign Affairs & Trade
 Mr. Jacky Bryant, Atuatua te Natura
 Ms. Nancy Daschbach, American Samoa
 Mr. Paul Dingwall, IUCN
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 Mr. Richard Kenchington, GBRMPA
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 Ms. Audrey Newman, The Nature Conservancy
 Mr. Birandra Singh, National Trust for Fiji
 Mr. Peter Thomas, The Nature Conservancy
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 Mr. Lafcadio Cortesi, Greenpeace
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 Mr Gary Spiller, Biodiversity (Conservation Areas)
 Ms. Neva Wendt, NEMS