Eleventh Meeting of The Noumea Convention

Eleventh ordinary meeting of the contracting parties to the convention for the protection of the natural resources and environment of the South Pacific Region and related protocols (Noumea Convention)

Noumea, New Caledonia
30 August 2012

Agenda Item 8.4: Noumea Convention Amended Protocols

Purpose

1. To encourage members to become parties to the Noumea Convention new Oil & HNS Protocols and the amended Dumping Protocol.

Background

2. The 2006 Noumea Convention COP8 adopted two (2) new protocols – Protocol on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation in the Pacific Region (Oil Protocol) and the Protocol on Hazardous and Noxious Substances Pollution, Preparedness, Response and Cooperation in the Pacific Region (HNS Protocol). The COP11 also adopted the amended Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Pacific Region by Dumping (Dumping Protocol).

Protocols entering into Force

3. Following the 17th SPREP Meeting in Noumea the Depositary, the Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, has been open for signatories. Parties were invited to indicate ratification, accession or acceptance by depositing an Instrument of Ratification, or an Instrument of Accession or an Instrument of Acceptance with the Depository for the relevant protocols.

4. For the new protocols (Oil and HNS Protocol) to enter into force five (5) Instruments of Ratification or Accession need to be deposited with the Depositary. The old Protocols would nevertheless remain in force for those Parties that neither ratified nor acceded to the new Protocols.

5. The amended Dumping Protocol would enter into force following depository of an Instrument of Acceptance with the Depositary of three quarters of the Parties (i.e. 8 Parties from the total of 12). The old Protocols would nevertheless remain in force for those Parties that did not accept the amended Protocol.

Recommendation

7. The Meeting is invited to:

- **Note** the status of the Convention and Protocols; and
- **Encourage** members to sign up to the Noumea Convention amended Dumping Protocol and the new Oil and HNS Protocol by COP14 in 2018.

18 July 2012