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The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

Twenty Fourth SPREP Meeting of Officials

17th – 19th September 2013
Apia, Samoa

AGENDA ITEM 5.1: Presentation of Annual report for 2012 and Director General's Overview of Progress since the Twenty-Third SPREP Meeting

Purpose of the Paper

1. The purpose of the paper is to present the 2012 SPREP Annual Report to Members and provide SPREP Members with an overview report from the Director General on progress since the 2012 SPREP Meeting.

Background

2. Over the last 4 years SPREP has implemented an ambitious change management process which has increased the level of practical and tangible support to SPREP Pacific Island Members, while also improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the Secretariat. The results of this change management process include:

- ✓ increasing SPREP support to Pacific Island countries and territories during the past year, as can be clearly seen through the list of all projects SPREP implemented in Pacific Island countries and territories in 2012 (refer Annex A of the Director General's report);
- ✓ doubling SPREP's direct financial and technical support for member countries over the 2010-2012 period, with SPREP's direct financial support to Pacific Island countries and territories increasing from US\$ 2.4 million in 2010 to US\$ 5.4 million in 2012, while support for SPREP Member regional level activities increased from US\$ 6.8 million in 2010 to US 8.3 million in 2012;
- ✓ increasing the SPREP budget from USD7.6 million in 2009 to USD18.8 million in 2013, with another significant increase anticipated in 2014. Over this period, salary costs as a percentage of the total SPREP budget have dropped from 49% in 2009 to 27 % in 2013. The major increase in the funding for SPREP has thus been mostly allocated to practical programmes in Pacific Island countries and territories; and
- ✓ SPREP has responded clearly and effectively to the directions from members, including through implementing the majority of decisions from the 2012 SPREP meeting and implementing all recommendations from the 2008 Independent Corporate Review.

3. Specific achievements and practical outcomes from the SPREP change management process are detailed in the attached Director General's report.

Recommendations

4. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **note** the report