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

Twenty Fourth SPREP Meeting

17th -19th September 2013
Apia, Samoa

AGENDA ITEM 9.2.1: 2013 Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR)

Purpose

1. To report to Members the outcomes of the 2013 PCCR.
2. To seek Member endorsement of PCCR outcomes.
3. To seek Member endorsement of SPREP's activities linked to the outcomes.

Background

4. The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) is the bi-annual climate change coordination mechanism for the Pacific and is the premium mechanism in the region to coordinate and facilitate climate change dialogue, networking and coordination in the region. SPREP provides secretariat functions for the PCCR through a steering committee comprising of country representatives, CROP agencies, regional NGOs and donor and UN agencies representatives.

5. The PCCR coordination role supports the monitoring and reporting on progress made in the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change (PIFACC) as well as supporting regional organisations' coordination in support of Pacific Islands Countries and Territories (PICTs) climate change priorities for actions linked to national development agendas.

6. The theme for the 2013 PCCR is "Building Resilience to Climate Change through Collaboration". The PCCR steering committee decided on this theme as it speaks to where the Pacific is placing emphasis on certain climate change issues as well as being reflective of lessons learned at different levels - global, regional and national. Sub-themes were taken up within the working groups of the PCCR, namely on mitigation, adaptation, resources and knowledge management. A decision was also taken to establish a new working group on loss and damage.

7. Building resiliency or achieving a state of resilience is specific to each country or community depending on capacity (including labour force, governance/political, socio-economic and ecological (environment and biological)) exposure, type of hazards and physical/geological characteristics. The process for building capacity therefore has to be tailor made for each PICTs. In some cases delivery methods could be similar for a group of countries or communities, such as training a group of planners on how to assess and analyse disaster risk related to climate change.

8. One common element in building resiliency for PICTs is the role of “collaboration” with an aim to build resilience from climate change impacts at the global, regional and national levels. For example, collaboration is key to expediting new global commitments to reducing green house gas emissions. Similarly, collaboration on climate change finance either through pledging or for the PICTs to access those finances is of priority to PICTs adaptation and mitigation.

PCCR Meeting Key Outcomes

9. The PCCR developed a statement to the joint meeting between the PCCR and the Pacific Disaster Platform. This is annexed as attachment A and was presented to the joint meeting. A key outcome of the CCR was the reaffirmation of the working groups modality, albeit with the addition of one working group on loss and damage. Recommendations were made by each working group on their priority areas for the coming year.

10. A session was also held on innovative tools for adaptation and mitigation, whereby new initiatives on tropical cyclone risk assessment and on the use of science for informing integrated planning were presented. These linkages were further discussed in the adaptation working group. Climate change financing discussions were focused on the use of cost benefit analysis, climate public expenditure reviews, the finance assessment framework and its trial in Nauru, as well as the SPREP experience applying for regional implementing status with the Adaptation Fund.

11. Increased resilience against climate and disaster risk also focused on innovative tools, community approaches and ecosystem based adaptation (EbA). The adaptation working group agreed to make EbA a priority for future projects and programmes.

12. The linkages with the regions meteorological needs strengthening, and a presentation from the Pacific Meteorological Council highlighted that enhanced data and information management were crucial to climate change adaptation programmes in the region. The opportunities that are arising under the WMO Global Framework for Climate Services was also noted.

13. The final report of the PCCR is being compiled and will be circulated to the SPREP Meeting. SPREP will continue to support all of the working groups, either as an assistant coordinator or as secretariat to the working groups. A matrix of recommendations and conclusions from PCCR will be developed and posted on the Pacific Climate Change Portal for continual updating by stakeholders.

Recommendations

14. The meeting is invited to:

- **note** the outcomes of the PCCR in particular the statement to the joint meeting; and
- **endorse** SPREP's activities for progressing the PCCR outcomes