



PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa
E: sprep@sprep.org
T: +685 21929
F: +685 20231
W: www.sprep.org



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

Twenty Fifth SPREP Meeting of Officials

Majuro, Marshall Islands
30 September – 2 October 20014

Information Paper 1: Nansen Initiative

Purpose of Paper

1. To inform Members of the work undertaken by the Nansen Initiative Secretariat to build the awareness of measures to reduce the risk of displacement within the context of natural hazards and the impacts of climate change.

Background

2. In May, 2013 by request of the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands the Secretariat assisted the Government and the Nansen Initiative Secretariat host the first regional meeting on “Human Mobility, Natural Disasters, and Climate Change in the Pacific.”

3. Following the conclusion of meeting a report of the meetings proceedings (<http://www.nanseninitiative.org/pacific-regional-consultation>) and recommended actions for consideration has been written and distributed to participants as well as the 2013 Pacific Climate Change Roundtable participants.

4. Succeeding the meetings outcome a secondment was established and agreed to by the Secretariat and the Nansen Initiative, with support from the Government of the Cook Islands, to be the central point of facilitation for information regarding the Nansen Initiative, and support the Secretariats climate change adaptation team based at SPREP.

5. An audio video presentation from the Government of the Cook Islands is available from the following Nansen Initiative website and the following link (<http://www.nanseninitiative.org/pacific-regional-consultation>).

6. The Prime Minister of the Cook Islands tabled the report of the regional consultation at the 2013 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) Leaders Meeting in the Marshall Islands. The report was endorsed by the leaders and noted in the communiqué. The 2014 PIFS meeting will note the progress of work undertaken on displacement and migration.

7. In the final quarter of 2013 the Nansen Initiative contracted three research assignments guided by the outcomes of the regional meeting on 1) Pacific Land Laws, 2) Pacific Land Laws and Disaster Mobility; and a discussion paper on a 3) Pacific Strategy for Human Mobility. The published findings of these assignments will be completed in 2014 for distribution amongst Members and interested stakeholders.

8. In 2014 the Nansen Initiative has applied to host a side-event at the UNSIDS conference submitted by the Government of Norway. Partners in the event include the governments of Switzerland and Kiribati, the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) Pacific Regional Office, the Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC), then Nansen Initiative and SPREP.

9. The Nansen Initiative has co-hosted a regional Civil-Society Organisations (CSOs) workshop on climate-induced migration with partners, the Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC), from the 18-20 August, 2014.

10. In 2015 the Nansen Initiative will convene a global conference to agree on a response that prevents and/or reduces the risk of displacement within the context of natural hazards and the impacts of climate change to enhance the resilience and protection of communities.

Recommendation

11. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** the work carried out by the Nansen Initiative in partnership with the Secretariat
- **note** the 2015 global meeting, dates and venue to be circulated to Members once confirmed.

21 August, 2014