



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.

Twelfth meeting of the Noumea Convention

Twelfth 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)

Majuro, Marshall Islands

26 September 2014

Agenda Item 7.3: Regional reception facilities plan

Purpose

1. To seek endorsement of the *Regional Reception Facilities Plan*.

Background

2. The *International Convention for the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)* places an obligation on all Parties to provide adequate ship's waste reception facilities for ships calling at their ports. For some Parties meeting this obligation is an issue to the extent of preventing some countries becoming a Party to the Convention.

3. In March 2012, with a significant contribution from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) member states in particular Australia, the United States, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands and Vanuatu, the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) at its 63rd session approved the necessary amendments to the MARPOL Convention Annexes I, II, IV, V and VI to include *regional arrangements for port reception facilities*. The amendments states that such *regional arrangements for port reception facilities* shall be limited to Small Island Developing States when such arrangements are the only practical means to satisfy MARPOL obligations to provide reception facilities because of their unique circumstance. The amendments also provide for IMO to be consulted in establishing such regional arrangements.

4. At the 11th Conference of the Parties for the Noumea Convention, held in Noumea, New Caledonia, the Parties noted the amendments to MARPOL and its Annexes on regional arrangements for reception facilities and directed the Secretariat to develop a *Regional Port Waste Facilities Plan* for the SPREP region based on the IMO Guidelines and for members to provide assistance where possible in its development.

5. The Secretariat in partnership with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) conducted five analyses of international shipping hub ports, throughout the Pacific in accordance with, IMO *Resolution MEPC.83(44) Guidelines for Ensuring the Adequacy of Port Waste Reception Facilities*. The objective of this was to carry out a gap analysis on the adequacy of waste reception facilities provided at these five selected hub ports. The ports included Port of Suva (Fiji), Port Autonome Noumea (New Caledonia), Port Autonome Papeete (French Polynesia), Port of Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea) and Apia Port (Samoa). These hub ports were analysed with a view to those ports being identified as *Regional Ships Waste Reception Centres* in the Regional Reception Facilities Plan for the SPREP Region. There are 57 international ports located in the Pacific and SPREP will in the future when funding is available, conduct gap analysis audits on all key international ports, throughout the Pacific.

6. The analysis provides an inventory and assessment of the adequacy of reception facilities in each port. An additional outcome of the gap analyses was a series of recommendations to provide a basis for Governments to improve existing facilities as well as develop environmentally appropriate and effective regional waste reception facilities' arrangements that meet the needs of international ships calling at their ports and terminals. Whilst conducting the analysis the audit teams interviewed a number of stakeholders, including maritime agencies/organisations, port authorities, oil and shipping industry representatives, government agencies and other stakeholders.

7. A summary of the waste streams that can be landed along with a summary of the high level recommendations made by the gap analysis team.

	Apia	Suva	Port Moresby	Noumea	Papeete
Oil Tankers: Oily tank washings or oily ballast water	No	Limited	Yes	Limited	No
All ships: oily bilge water, sludges, used lube oils	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chemical tankers: NLS ⁺	No	No	No	No	No
Sewage	Domestic ships only	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes**
Garbage - Domestic vessels	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Garbage -recyclables	Yes*	Limited types ⁺⁺	No	Limited types ⁺⁺	Yes
Garbage -Fishing gear	Yes*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Quarantine Waste – all garbage from international vessels	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ozone Depleting Substances	No	No	No	Yes	No
Exhaust gas cleaning system residues	No	No	No	No	No
<p>* subject to quarantine</p> <p>**Sewage from international waste is currently prohibited by the Food Quality and Veterinary Action Department</p> <p>+ Note there is currently no chemical tanker traffic into these ports, so there is no need for reception facilities.</p> <p>**Generally no direct collection from ships, but arrangements may be made to deposit recyclables at depot or collection point.</p>					

8. It is hoped that this plan once endorsed and IMO is informed at its next MEPC Meeting, of the SPREP regional arrangements, that this will enable more PICs to sign up to the MARPOL and its Annexes.

Recommendations

9. The Parties are invited to:

- **endorse** the *Regional Reception Facilities Plan developed by the Secretariat*.

Annex 1: Regional Reception Facilities Plan – “Will be made available at the end of August”

19 August, 2014