Twenty Fifth SPREP Meeting of Officials

Majuro, Marshall Islands
30 September – 2 October 2014

Agenda Item 7.3: Business Plan

Purpose

1. To obtain Members’ endorsement for the SPREP Business Plan 2013 - 2015 which aims to support implementation of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2011 – 2015.

Background

2. The SPREP Strategic Plan 2011 - 2015 required the development of a Business Plan to ensure: how priorities and targets will be achieved; review of Secretariat structure required to achieve goals and meet targets; organisational funding strategy, including linkages to donor multi-year programmatic and project funding agreements; as well as the development of a monitoring and evaluation framework, and risk management plan.

3. The Strategic Plan was approved by the SPREP Meeting in 2010 and came into force in January, 2012. The Risk Management Plan and the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework were approved in 2012. The development of the Business Plan is part of the ongoing process for achieving the goals and targets of the Strategic Plan. A draft Business Plan was developed in 2012 with the assistance of the Frankfurt School of Business, as part of the GEF accreditation process, and the final draft Business Plan is attached for consideration by the 2014 SPREP Meeting.

4. Despite the earlier absence of the Business Plan the Secretariat has achieved an increase in funding from USD 7.6 million in 2009 to USD 22.1 million in 2014. The increase in funding has been mostly allocated to in country programmatic activities for the direct benefit of PICT Members. The Business Plan will harness the many processes that are already in practice and be greatly assisted with the recent appointment of the M&E Adviser in August 2014.
5. To ensure the continued provision of relevant and high quality services to Members the Business Plan recognises that the Secretariat requires an increased and more flexible core funding budget, with less reliance on project funding. The Business Plan will ensure that SPREP continues to pursue this through strengthening partnerships with IGO and MEA partners, progressing its accreditation with international financing instruments, and transitioning to 3 year budget planning process with Members. It is noted that the level of membership contributions and multi-year funding for SPREP from Metropolitan Members also are key elements of increased core funding.

6. The Business Plan will support accelerated implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, as well as enhancing project management, quality assurance, knowledge management and outcome reporting processes and capabilities. This will require partnership, co-operation and co-ordination between SPREP Members and the Secretariat through the implementation of the M&E Framework. Furthermore, SPREP recognises the importance of communicating outcomes at national and community levels that outline the organisation’s niche and value added to Members.

7. The Business Plan is a dynamic document that will be updated to reflect new opportunities and reflect corporate developments in response to evolving priorities, emerging issues and Members’ needs. Updates on progress in implementing the Business Plan will be provided at each SPREP Meeting.

Recommendation

8. The Meeting is invited to:

- **endorse** the SPREP Business Plan 2013-2015.

18 August 2014