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

Twenty Sixth SPREP Meeting of Officials

Apia, Samoa
22nd – 24th September 2015

Agenda Item 2: Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair

Purpose of Paper

1. The "Rules of Procedure of the SPREP Meeting" (Rules 8.1 and 8.2), provides that where the Meeting is hosted by the Secretariat, the Chair shall rotate alphabetically, and where the Meeting is not hosted by the Secretariat, the Chair shall be provided by the host country.
2. Accordingly, the **Chair** of the Twenty-Sixth SPREP Meeting shall be **New Zealand** the next in alphabetical order since the Secretariat last hosted the SPREP Meeting (24SM, Apia 2013).

Background

3. Rule 8.3 also provide that the Vice-Chair shall rotate alphabetically whether or not the Meeting is hosted by the Secretariat. The Vice-Chair of the Twenty-Fifth SPREP Meeting was **Australia**. Under the principle of alphabetical rotation, therefore, **Cook Islands** should be appointed **Vice-Chair** of the Twenty-Sixth SPREP Meeting.

Recommendation

4. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **confirm** the Representative of **New Zealand** as **Chair**; and
 - **confirm** the Representative of **Cook Islands** as **Vice-Chair**.