



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.

Eighth Meeting of The Waigani Convention

Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement and the Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)

Apia, Samoa
18th September 2015

Agenda item 6: Focal Points and Competent Authorities

Purpose:

1. To update Members on the current list of Competent Authorities and Focal Points under the Convention.

Background:

2. Article 5 of the Convention on Competent Authorities and Focal Points, states that to facilitate the implementation of this Convention, each Party shall designate or establish one Competent Authority and one Focal Point. The purpose for their designation or establishment is to handle all necessary administrative and technical matters pertaining to the implementation of the Convention in its national jurisdiction.

3. The Competent Authority is responsible for the implementation of notification procedures for transboundary movement of hazardous wastes in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of this Convention while the Focal Point is responsible for transmitting and receiving information in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 of this Convention.

4. As required by the Convention, the Parties need to inform the Secretariat, within three months of the date of the entry into force of this Convention for them, which authorities they had designated or established as their Competent Authority and Focal Point.

5. At the Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2004, it was agreed that Parties should inform the Secretariat in writing through the National Focal Point for the Convention of designated Competent Authorities and Focal Points, or changes to these positions.

6. However, over the years, many of these designated or established Focal Points and Competent Authorities have changed but the Secretariat has not been kept informed of these changes hence the list of Focal Points and Competent Authorities has regularly become outdated. Consequently, information pertaining to the implementation of the Convention may often have been sent to incorrect addresses which may result in the requests not being attended in time leading in some cases to non-compliance.

7. It is crucial to inform the Secretariat of any changes that have been made in the personnel and contact details of the designated or established Focal Points and Competent Authorities for each Party. This will ensure that all important information relating to the implementation of the Convention are sent to the designated or established Focal Points and Competent Authorities at their correct addresses.

8. The most recent list of Competent Authorities and Focal Points is attached as 8WC/WP.6.1

Recommendation

9. The Meeting is invited:

- to **review** the list and, if there are changes, to **inform** the Secretariat in accordance with the agreed mode.