Agenda Item 6.6: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Purpose

1. To provide an update on progress towards implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Background

2. The SDGs consist of 17 Goals and 169 targets which continue the global development agenda initiated by the MDGs that ended in 2015. Not all targets are relevant for the region and indicators will be selected or tailored to the Pacific context.

3. The SDGs comprise the 3 threads of social, economic and environmental goals with SPREP’s focus on the latter. The “environmental agenda” consists of:
   - Goal 12 responsible consumption and production
   - Goal 13 climate action
   - Goal 14 oceans
   - Goal 15 terrestrial biodiversity

4. Other Goals are categorised as economic: 1,7,8,9,10,11; social: 2,3,4,5,6; and means of implementation: 16,17. From these, those that are strongly related to environmental Goals are:
   - Goal 6 clean water and sanitation
   - Goal 7 affordable clean energy
   - Goal 11 sustainable cities and communities

5. The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat having assisted with the monitoring framework for the MDGs is continuing this role in relation to the SDGs through a representational stakeholder group called the Pacific SDGs Task Force (PST). SPREP is a member of the PST.

6. Due to several parallel processes and in order to avoid duplication and make reporting manageable the PST has drafted a document called the Roadmap that will:
   - address the “unfinished business” of the MDGs;
   - prepare regional indicators;
   - develop a process for integrated regional reporting;
   - provide assistance to member countries requesting support for SDGs/SAMOA Pathway monitoring, reporting and implementation; and
   - identify key elements for implementation of the SDGs in the Pacific, including the role of the National Sustainable Development Strategies Partnership Group (NSDSPG) and development partners in supporting follow-up and the review process of the SDGs, SAMOA Pathway and Framework for Pacific Regionalism.
7. Implementation of the Roadmap will be addressed by assessing and mapping countries’ existing strengths and gaps in capacities and institutions and will build on existing global and regional initiatives to strengthen country systems, institutions and capacities. Identified areas of focus are: financing for development, capacity building, statistics for development and partnerships for development.

8. The Secretariat’s normal work programme is already contributing towards fulfilling the environmental Goals in Member countries.

9. The timeline is for the draft Roadmap to be endorsed in 2016 at the Forum Leaders’ Meeting and the final version to be endorsed at the 2017 Leaders’ Meeting.

**Recommendation**

10. The Meeting is invited to:

- **note** progress with the SDG process; and
- **endorse** SPREP’s involvement with the environmental agenda and other closely related Goals.

2 September, 2016