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

Fourteenth meeting of the Noumea Convention

Fourteenth 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)

Apia, Samoa
14 September 2017

Agenda Item 7.2: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Purpose

1. To update Parties on progress in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Background

2. In 2015, the Leaders of the Pacific Island Forum made a commitment to the full implementation of the SDGs, giving particular attention to the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and called for support of development partners in delivering the promise of the SDG.
3. The Leaders called for:
 - an open and inclusive process to identify regional indicators that account for national priorities; and
 - regional indicators that can be used to jointly monitor national progress on the SDGs, the *Framework for Pacific Regionalism* (FPR), and implementation of the *Samoa Pathway*.
4. The Pacific SDGs Taskforce (PST) was established in 2016 to give effect to the directives of the Leaders. The PST is chaired by the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat. SPREP is a member of the Taskforce.
5. The PST was tasked to produce a roadmap to guide and consolidate the region's efforts to implement, monitor and report on the *2030 Agenda* and the Sustainable Development Goals, the *SAMOA Pathway* and the *FPR*.



Progress

6. The PST meetings in June and November 2016 agreed to:
 - progress the development of the Pacific SDGs Roadmap for endorsement at the 48th Forum Leaders Meeting in September 2017, noting that:
 - FPR and the SAMOA Pathway focus are closely linked to the 2030 Agenda/SDG targets and indicators, and that regional priorities from sectoral frameworks, strategies and Leaders directives should be aligned to SDG indicators (for example the 2016 Forum Communique in which Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to issues of gender and poverty, linked to SDG Goal 1)
 - SPC progressing its work with partners and countries to develop a set of regional sustainable development targets and indicators to complement the efforts of Governments to monitor and report on the performance of the national development plans and strategies and the use of data to inform policy and legislative development and reform
7. A subset of indicators have been identified and assessed for measurability and relevance to the Pacific Context, however, much work is required to further strengthen data collection, analysis and localization of the indicators.
8. The SPREP Strategic Plan 2017-2026 is aligned to the FPR, SAMOA Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals reflecting the commitment of the Secretariat to the priorities and direction of Parties. As a member of the PST, the Secretariat is assisting Parties in strengthening the development of SMART SDG regional and national environment goals and indicators in alignment with national planning frameworks.
9. Through the GEF-UNEP project for "Building National and Regional Capacity to Implement Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEA) by Strengthening Planning and State of Environment Assessment and Reporting in the Pacific" (Inform project), the Secretariat will establish a Pacific Island Country (PIC) network of national and regional databases for monitoring, evaluating, and analysing environmental information and data to support environmental reporting at all levels. This will contribute to national and regional reporting on SDGs.

Recommendation

10. The Parties are invited to:
 - **note regional** progress in the implementation of the SDGs ; and
 - **note** the Secretariat's contribution in assisting with the monitoring and reporting on SDGs.
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