

ATTACHMENT 1: REPORT ON THE STATUS OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2016-2017 BUSINESS PLAN SINCE COP-8

Proposed Activities	Action taken/comments
A – Maintenance of the Centre and staff training activities	
Website updates. SPREP will update the website Notification and Movement Forms as well as the annual reporting forms so that PICs can complete them on line.	<i>The updating of the website is on-going. Due to some incompatibility issues with the SPREP website, the work has been slow but the idea is to make the layout of the website very similar to that of the Basel Convention website. The updated website, when completed will have all the necessary information to assist with the implementation of the Convention at the National level, including the Waigani Convention procedure, notes on how to complete the Notification and Movement Form, as well as notes on the preparation of the national reports. Under the Basel Convention, the reporting is now done electronically and work on an electronic reporting system for the Waigani Convention is continuing and once completed, the Parties will be notified about training on how to use this facility in completing their reports and then asked to use that to complete their national reports.</i>
<u>Insurance Options for Waigani Movements.</u> SPREP to develop a list of potential insurance brokers for the transportation of E-waste as well as other forms of hazardous wastes.	<i>The necessary information required for this is being compiled but we have had some issues relating to confidentiality. Some Insurance companies are reluctant to provide the details of what they can cover which means that there are gaps in the information that has been gathered. Once all these outstanding information has been gathered and compiled, (outlining who the insurers are, what type of cover they can provide, possible costings etc.), it will then be presented to the members for their information and use in the transboundary movement of their hazardous waste.</i>
B – Activities for the implementation of the Strategic Framework and other COP-8 decisions	
<u>Attendance to COPs.</u> Recognising the need to have a voice at the sub-regional and global levels in the meetings pertaining to the regional and global BRS conventions, PICs will address this issue. Most PICs are eligible for funding from the Secretariats to attend convention COPs. This is essential that PICs are attending the COPs to adequately ensure that PICs issues are adequately addressed.	<p><i>In March 2015, a regional meeting was organized by the BRS Secretariat for the Asia-Pacific region to assist parties in the region to discuss and agree on regional positions for the BRS triple COP. This meeting was hosted by the Basel Convention Regional Centre in Jakarta, Indonesia and was attended very well by the PICs including, Cook Islands, FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau, PNG, Samoa and Tonga, where they contributed actively and admirably to the discussions.</i></p> <p><i>This gathering was also used to hold the initial discussions about possible regional projects on mercury as cover by the Minamata Convention. This initial discussions have now resulted in two national MIA projects (PNG and Samoa) and a regional one (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu). This is covered later in the agenda item.</i></p> <p><i>Last year, the Pacific was represented by three PIC parties (Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, and Tonga) at the 10th Session of the Basel Convention Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG-10) meeting in Nairobi, Kenya where a good number of issues were discussed and recommendations made for the COP to deliberate on (– see OEWG-10 Report). Australia and New Zealand were also represented.</i></p> <p><i>In all three international meetings, SPREP provided coordinating and technical backstopping roles to all PIC parties. The role that SPREP played also involved preparing intervention during the meetings, especially during the BRS triple-COP meetings.</i></p>

	<p>The Secretariat has been providing technical advice and assistance to Parties on matters relating to the transboundary movement of hazardous waste, especially in the processing of Notification and Movement Forms. However, there has also been a reported case of illegal trafficking of hazardous waste where the cargo was intercepted during trans-shipment at a transit port and returned to the port of export. The cargo was eventually allowed to be move to its destination after all the Waigani Convention paperwork was prepared and processed properly.</p>
<p><u>Technical Assistance.</u> Noting the assistance available to PICs by the Secretariats, PICs will address this issue and make a conscious effort to request for technical assistance from SPREP and UNEP.</p>	<p><i>Following the decision on technical assistance at the COP-6 meetings in Majuro, Marshall Islands in 2013, resources had been made available to assist PIC parties on any technical issue(s) that they needed help with in regards to the implementation of the Waigani Convention. To date, only one request was received from Tuvalu for assistance on training on the Waigani Convention procedure and on the role of Customs Officer in the transboundary movement of waste scheduled under the Waigani and Basel Conventions. On the training of Customs officers in Tuvalu, the Secretariat was supported by the Customs Fiji who provided technical skills training.</i></p> <p><i>At the regional level, a training workshop was ran in July 2015 on the Waigani Convention procedure as well as the roles of Customs in the implementation of Convention. This training also witnessed the participation of two of the French Territories (French Polynesia and New Caledonia) for the first time and the exercise proved to be a great one as PIC parties learnt that even though the territories were not party to the Waigani Convention, the movement of their hazardous waste under the Basel Convention (to which their mother-country is a party to), can still be facilitated by the Waigani Convention. Soon after the training, the Secretariat received requests from Tuvalu and Kiribati on how to handle the Notification Form from Wallis and Futuna. The region is gradually improving collectively in the management of the transboundary movement of hazardous waste under the Waigani (and Basel) Conventions.</i></p> <p><i>At the COP-8 meeting in Apia, Samoa in 2015, all PIC parties were reminded of the obligation of National Report. The Secretariat was pleased to receive a report from Fiji for the period 2003-2015. This report came about following the regional training held in July 2015 where the importance of record keeping was discussed and the important role that Customs Offices play keeping these records. Although the reports are not completed exhaustive, it provided a starting point from which future reports can be developed and improved over time. Australia and New Zealand as always were the other two countries that provided their annual reports. These reports are posted on the Convention website for public consumption.</i></p>
<p><u>National Development Plans.</u> Recognising the available bilateral funding opportunities directed at country priorities, PICs will ensure the inclusion of hazardous chemicals and waste in their National Development Plans.</p>	<p><i>As part of their obligation to the Convention, each party under Article 4(e) is to develop a national hazardous wastes management strategy which is compatible with the SPREP Pacific Regional Pollution Prevention, Waste Minimization and Management Programme. The third iteration of the SPREP regional waste management strategy (Cleaner Pacific 2026) was endorsed by the SPREP Meeting last year in Niue and is now available to be used to develop the Waste Management component of their National Development Plan. A number of PICs have developed a Waste Management strategy as part of their National Development Plans but these focus on the management of solid waste and are developed independently from the Regional</i></p>

<p><u>Funding on-ground improvements.</u> Project: Improving management of used lubricants and oils Countries: Region wide Time frame: 3 years (2016-2017)</p> <p>Project: Regional Assessment of asbestos in the Pacific Countries: Region wide Time frame: 12 months (2016-2017)</p>	<p><i>Strategy on Waste Management and its programmes.</i></p> <p><i>The hazardous waste related projects that are currently implemented in the region show that there are common issues that can be addressed collectively as a region while other issues may be specific to individual jurisdictions. For example, under the EU-funded PacWaste project, issues relating to e-waste management, healthcare waste management, asbestos waste management and Atoll waste management are addressed at the regional levels while the GEF-funded GEFPAS uPOPs project focuses on the waste oil, training on solid and hazardous waste. Many of these issues can also be addressed through the National Development Plans but they need to be aligned with the regional programme if these are to be funded from the regional projects.</i></p> <p><i>On the inclusion of hazardous chemicals and waste in the National Development Plans, the Secretariat stand ready to and is always available to assist in developing national hazardous chemical and waste management plans to manage these at the local levels. Again, all PIC parties are encouraged to utilize these assistance to meet their individual obligations under the convention.</i></p> <p><i>As part of the regional mechanism for gather information on chemicals and hazardous wastes for planning purposes, requests were sent out to countries to provide information on how these materials are managed at the national level but the response was quite poor. The requested information was to allow the Secretariat to collate this information and then work with countries to development their National Plans on the management of chemicals and hazardous waste. The Secretariat has had to resort to this method of gathering information because Parties have not been submitting National Reports for the Waigani and Basel Conventions. For now, no action has been taken and again, this will be partially addressed under the GEF-funded GEF-PAS uPOPs reduction project</i></p> <p><i>The AFD-funded project on waste management and the on-going GEF-PAS uPOPs projects have carried out cost-benefit analysis in three countries (Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu) including regional audit of the used oil volumes and usage and disposal options. The uPOPs project has also development a Waigani Convention guideline on how waste/used oil can be properly exported to another country for environmentally sound management or destruction of the oil. The current work is based around helping participating countries to set up their Used/Waste oil Steering Committees to draw up plans to manage these waste at the local and national levels. So far, only two countries have established Steering Committees.</i></p> <p><i>The EU-funded PacWaste project has carried out audits in most PICs on the management of asbestos and have published the outcomes of these audits (these are available on the SPREP website). The outcomes are being used by the Secretariat and in collaboration with the PIC parties, drawing up plans to address the issue of managing e-wastes in an environmentally sound manner. The project has also provided some much needed resources to a number of countries including Kiribati, Nauru and Niue in the removal of the asbestos from affected buildings and shipping them off island.</i></p>
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<p>Project: Management of non-POPs wastes including laboratory chemicals and healthcare waste (expired pharmaceuticals) Countries: Region wide Time frame: 5 years (2013-2017)</p>	<p><i>Recently, training was also conducted in Nauru to training workers on the finer details of asbestos removal and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) in this work.</i></p> <p><i>This management of non-POPs wastes including laboratory chemicals and healthcare waste was addressed through the GEF-funded uPOPs project and the EU-funded PacWaste project. The PacWaste project as part of its healthcare waste management component ran a pilot project in Kiribati while at the regional level, procured 26 healthcare waste incinerators. The uPOPs project provided technical training through the FNU (on solid and hazardous wastes) and USP (on hazardous waste). Both programmes are complimentary and helped trained over 300 waste management personnel/chemical handlers as well as key policy development personnel from the region. These programmes have established training modules that the trainees can now use nationally to provide sector specific training. The Secretariat again stand ready to provide technical backstopping in assisting the local trainers in delivering these trainings.</i></p>
<p>Project: Training of focal points, competent authorities and relevant staff and other stakeholders on various aspects of the implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions Countries: Region wide Time frame: 2 years (2012-2014)</p>	<p><i>As explained earlier, although resources for assisting countries with this work was approved at the COP-7 in Majuro, Marshall Islands, only one country (Tuvalu) has received assistance at the national level through a formal request although regional training was conducted to train senior government officials on the Waigani Convention procedure. The PICs are still encouraged to utilize this assistance in areas that they assistance on.</i></p>
<p>Project: Management of medical wastes in the Pacific Countries: Region wide Time frame: 4 years (2012-2016)</p>	<p><i>The assistance provided to all the countries in the region in the management of medical waste is done through the EU-funded PacWaste project. The project had procured 26 medical waste incinerators and undertaken the following training in the region:</i></p> <p><i>Fiji – Lautoka Monday 20th July 2015</i> <i>Fiji – Colonial War Memorial Tuesday 21st July 2015</i> <i>Fiji – Labassa Thursday 23rd July 2015</i> <i>Fiji – Nadi Monday 27th July 2015</i> <i>Kiribati – Tungaru Hospital Friday 16th October 2015 (1st session)</i> <i>Kiribati – Tungaru Hospital Monday 19th October 2015 (2nd session)</i> <i>Nauru – Thursday 3rd November 2016</i> <i>Port Moresby – Friday 14th October 2016</i> <i>Samoa – Tupua Tamasese Meaole Hospital Wednesday 29th June 2016</i> <i>Samoa – Savaii Friday 1st July 2016</i> <i>Tonga – Vaiola Hospital Tuesday 16th August 2016</i> <i>Tonga – Prince Ngu Wednesday 17th August 2016</i> <i>Vanuatu – Port Vila Central Hospital Monday 15th February 2016</i> <i>Vanuatu – Northern Provincial Hospital Wednesday 17th February 2016</i> <i>Vanuatu – Lolowai Hospital Friday 19th February 2016</i> <i>Vanuatu – Norsup Hospital Monday 22nd February 2016</i> <i>Vanuatu – Lenekal Hospital Thursday 25th February 2016</i></p> <p><i>In addition to the technical training with regards to HCWM, other matters attended to included developing</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>healthcare waste audit guidelines for staff;</i> • <i>Action Plans prepared for all hospitals that training has already been delivered</i> • <i>Data collection and reporting proforma prepared for hospitals</i> • <i>The preparation of a sample Hospital Healthcare Waste Policy and Procedures Manual</i>
C – Synergies activities (optional)	
<p><u>Funding Opportunities.</u> Noting the various funding opportunities available for PICs for implementation of these conventions, PICs will address this issue. The potential funding opportunities are: SAICM (\$250K), GEF Stockholm (\$400K), NIP Updates (\$250K), GEF 5 Chemical window (recommend proposals less than \$1M), and bilateral funding opportunities. The Secretariats will assist wherever possible with country proposals upon request.</p>	<p><i>Expect for the assistance provided for the GEF 5 and GEF 6 funding cycles, no requests were received from parties wanting assistance to access funding from the other facilities regarding chemicals and hazardous wastes.</i></p> <p><i>PNG and Samoa took the invitation with the assistance of UNEP and UNDP respectively, submitted proposals for national project on the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) projects which are now being implemented. In addition to these, the Secretariat in collaboration with UNEP developed a region MIA project consisting of five countries (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga and Vanuatu). The region project will be launched on Thursday 23 February. A second regional project did not eventuate due to the lateness in a number of countries submitting their letters of endorsement and guarantee.</i></p> <p><i>The Secretariat is in the process of developing funding proposals for work to be carried out in the areas of waste management including hazardous waste management through the EDF-11 process (EU funding) and the GEF. In addition, the J-PRISM 2 project will be commencing in the next month and while the focus is on solid waste, there are elements that will contribute to the management of hazardous waste as well.</i></p>
D – Other capacity building activities (optional)	
<p><u>Capacity Building – Train the trainer.</u> Noting one of the objective of the training workshop – “To improve knowledge of International and Regional conventions dealing with hazardous chemicals and wastes and their impact on pollution minimization and management” PICs will address capacity building at the national level through train-the-trainer program with technical assistance from the Secretariats.</p>	<p><i>This project was implemented through three different projects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>AFD-funded and GEF-PAS uPOPs project – in collaboration with Fiji National University (FNU) and Griffith University (GU), a training programme on the management of solid and hazardous waste was established and delivered through the FNU. This course has now been institutionalized through the FNU academic program and will be used to train more waste management workers in the years to come;</i> • <i>GEF-PAS uPOPs project – a second training program was developed through the USP which concentrated on chemicals and hazardous waste management. The training program was rolled in all 14 PICs with great feedback from the participants;</i> • <i>EU-funded PacWaste project – This project has three major components – asbestos, e-waste and medical waste. All three component undertook training in each of the components as shown above for healthcare waste.</i> • <i>GEF-PAS project – the project conducted a regional training on the implementation of the Waigani Convention, especially the procedure and the roles that are played by the Focal Points, Competent Authorities and the Customs officers. The training was also extended to cover the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions and how these conventions can be used in an integrated manner in the management of chemicals and hazardous waste.</i>

<p><u>Legislation Development.</u> Recognizing that most PICs do not have appropriate legislation that addresses hazardous chemicals and waste, PICs request SPREP & UNEP to assist them in domesticating Tonga and Samoa legislations. This will ensure adequate border control through the customs authority and port state control mechanisms. None of the PICs currently have this PSC and border control mechanism in place.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Apart from the regional trainings and the national training in Tuvalu, no other requests had been received from any of the parties for assistance.</i> <p><i>No requests were received from any of the parties for assistance so no progress on this work.</i></p>
<p>A – Main sources of funding European Union (Confirmed) Global Environment Facility (Confirmed) FAO (Confirmed) UNEP (Confirmed) Australian Government (Unconfirmed)</p> <p>B – Key partners and stakeholders FAO UNEP Parties in the region, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention Regional training institutions such as the University of the South Pacific and the Fiji National University</p>	<p><i>With the exception of the funding from the Australian Government, which was unconfirmed, all the other funding that had been confirmed were received.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The EU funds were used to fund the PacWaste project concentrating on asbestos, e-waste, healthcare waste issues and a small component on Atolls Waste Management;</i> • <i>The GEF funds were used to fund the uPOPs project activities;</i> • <i>The FAO funds were also used to fund one component of the uPOPs project on the management of pesticides containers;</i> • <i>The UNEP funds will be used to fund the mercury project in the region;</i> • <i>The Australian Government funds were not secured as we did not meet the time deadline for the program that we had applied for.</i> <p><i>FAO, UNEP, the regional institutions (USP/FNU) have been very active partners in the implementation of the work in this biennium. The parties have been key stakeholders while the BRS Secretariat together with the interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention have been key in supporting the global work on hazardous waste.</i></p>