**THE CLEAN PACIFIC ROUNDTABLE (CPRT)**

**Concept Note**

# Background

The inaugural Clean Pacific Roundtable was held in Suva, Fiji in July 2016. It was a successful event which attracted more than 100 stakeholders in the waste sector of the Pacific. An Outcome Statement was released after the event outlining the priorities in the sector. This statement was noted during the 27th Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Meeting held in Niue in September 2016. The same meeting also endorsed the conduct of the Roundtable biennially and the creation and implementation of the Technical Working Groups.

The next Clean Pacific Roundtable is planned from the 20th to 25th August 2018 in Suva, Fiji back to back with the J-PRISM Steering Committee meeting, PacWaste Plus Inception Workshop (to be confirmed) and the Introductory Training on Waste Monitoring System. While the inaugural Roundtable covered the whole scope of the Cleaner Pacific 2025 (*Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy 2025),* this Roundtable will be limited to priority issues identified during various international and regional meetings with a view to gain support from donor partners.

The enormousness and diversity of the aspirations during the Inaugural Clean Pacific Roundtable without realising the limitation in both human and financial resources did not allow achievement of some of the expected outcomes agreed upon by the stakeholders. For one, none of the Technical Working Groups were formally launched. This created a gap which, hopefully, can be addressed in the next Roundtable.

The Waste Management and Pollution Control (WMPC) Division of SPREP spent considerable time and effort in developing projects that will benefit the Pacific Region. The PacWaste Plus through the EU EDF11 funding mechanism is likely to commence mid 2018. This builds up from the EDF10 Pacific Hazardous Waste Project (PacWaste). An AFD funded regional waste programme is also proposed (awaiting approval). The usual assistance and collaboration from JICA through the J-PRISM project is now ongoing. These donor-funded projects commonly aim to assist Pacific Island countries in delivering safe and sustainable waste management practices. The International maritime Organisation (IMO) has been a consistent partner in addressing pollution-related issues. UNEP also put in considerable investment to assist PICs in addressing uPOPs issues. Through these development assistances, a number of notable initiatives have been implemented successfully. The sharing of information during the CPRT will allow learning from lessons and challenges and building up on successes for future actions.

# PURPOSE

The next Clean Pacific Roundtable (CPRT) will reach out to a wide network of government sector, practitioners, donors, private sector, NGOs, academic and research institutions and will espouse similar objectives as in the inaugural Roundtable. These are as follows:

* To enable the monitoring and progress reporting of Cleaner Pacific 2025;
* To facilitate dialogue and networking in the region on waste issues and initiatives and explore additional investments and funding opportunities towards a safer and sustainable waste management systems; and
* To coordinate donor mechanisms in the region and optimize use of investment and funding allocation for the waste and pollution sector.

# Expected Outcomes

* Timely implementation of agreed implementation plan in the Cleaner Pacific 2025.
* Better understanding of gaps and opportunities, and mobilisation of technical and financial resources to fill the gaps.
* Establishment and facilitation of specific regional networks in the waste and pollution sector for more coordinated actions.
* Formal organisation of the Clean Pacific Roundtable with supporting Technical Working Groups.
* Resolution/Statement of future prioritized activities based on information from the Roundtable.

# Date and venue

**Date**s: 20 to 25 August 2018 (back to back with associated events such as PacWaste Plus Inception Workshop, J-PRISM2 SC meeting, Launch of the Regional Waste Monitoring, and the Marine Litter and Microplastics Data Collection Training)

**Location**: Suva, Fiji

# Outline of topics:

**Theme:** Pathways to a Pollution-free Pacific

**Topics**: (not in order of preference)

1. **Coordinated actions to combat marine debris**

Marine debris including plastics and microplastics slipping into the marine waters from land-based pollution has been a hot topic in recent international meetings. The impacts of marine litter have become very evident in the Pacific with a number of studies revealing significant ingestion and entanglement impacting on fish resources. Urgent actions to minimize sources and mitigate impacts have been called for by the international and regional community. A number of initiatives have been implemented by Pacific Island countries to combat this issue. It will be very useful if these countries or communities taking the lead in this respect can share challenges, lessons and experiences in addressing this issue.

1. **Enhancing proper management of hazardous wastes**

The inadequacy of capacity of the Pacific to properly collect, handle, store and transport hazardous wastes from the point of view of health and safety and transboundary movement compliance has been recognized by two huge donor partners, UNEP through the GEFPAS UPOPs Reduction Project and EU through the EDF10 PacWaste Project. Both projects will be completed during the 1st semester of 2018. It will be very valuable if successes, challenges and lessons can be shared with the Roundtable. This will pave the way for connectivity with the next GEFPAS and EDF11 (PacWaste Plus) funding cycle.

1. **Regional coordination in recycling**

Through consultations, countries have indicated preference to initiate recycling activities although there is a bit of reluctance due to the high logistical costs and unprofitable business which is not attractive to both the public and the private sector. With the involvement of the donor-driven Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility (PRIF) in resource circulation initiatives and the potential attendance and involvement of the private sector including the shipping sector in the Roundtable, this can provide a good opportunity for more concrete discussions on the likelihood of more coordinated recycling activities in the region.

1. **Planning and responding to disaster wastes**

The past historical events which plagued the Pacific, more recently TC Winston and Cyclone Pam triggered countries to consider a more planned approach to managing disaster wastes. Vanuatu’s Bouffa Landfill was filled to capacity with incoming disaster wastes. Recovery efforts were hampered by the inadequacy of coordinated actions to remove debris on affected areas apart from interrupted delivery of waste services. Although support from donor countries are pouring in the aftermath of these events, utilization of available resources need to be optimized to facilitate and ensure greater recovery. There is an ongoing initiative to develop a Pacific Regional Disaster Waste Management Guideline through support from Kyoto Universitybuilding up on the Fiji guidelines which was an output of a previous project on Integrated Climate Change Adaptation Initiative funded through DFAT. A discussion on the essence of more planned approaches to disaster waste management will encourage countries to plan and respond more appropriately to disaster waste issues.

1. **Boosting eco-tourism through proper waste management**

There is a growing concern from the tourism industry on the fate of the environment as a result of public littering and illegal dumping along the recreational beaches and hiking trails in the Pacific. This is putting tourists off which significantly impacts the economic base of countries. Tourism, apart from agriculture and remittances constitute a greater source of income in the Pacific Region. With evident links to human and environmental health, waste management can be a likely contributor to either the growth or failure of tourism. The discussion can open up opportunities to put waste management within the perspective of eco-tourism development.

1. **Ensuring more informed decisions through waste data management**

More evident-based information generated and processed from routine data collection will assist in improving and sustaining successful initiatives in waste and pollution management in Pacific. The underlying principle of “better management when measured” will provide more informed decisions. This aspect is not well implemented in the Pacific Region which prompted the proposed development of a Waste Monitoring System to capture, process and disseminate vital information that will feed into future projects and activities and ensure effectiveness and efficiency and greater likelihood of successful initiatives. Discussions surrounding this topic may also feed into the regional objectives of J-PRISM2, PacWaste Plus and the INFORM projects.

1. **Further enhancement of regional capacity in waste management**

While there have been a great deal of time, money and effort invested in enhancing the capacity of the waste sector in the region through technical assistance from partners and donors, the sustainability of knowledge uptake is still uncertain. In some cases, people trained change roles or leave the institutions because they do not have accredited skills to entice them to stay on their roles. The intention of the session is to explore mechanisms to attract more skills into the waste sector. With the involvement of the academe in the Roundtable such as the regional university (USP) and other academic institutions in the Pacific region, there may be opportunities arising in terms of further enhancement of human capacity in the region’s waste sector.

**Mode of Delivery:**

1. Country/stakeholder reporting – successful initiatives
2. Plenary presentations
3. Roundtable discussions
4. Speed meeting
5. Side meetings

**Potential Side and Associated Events**:

1. GEF-PAS Conclusion
2. PacWaste Plus Inception
3. J-PRISM2 Steering Committee meeting
4. Launch of the Practical Guide to SWM in the PICTs
5. Research initiatives – UoN postgraduate programme in the Pacific
6. Creation of the Samoa Waste Management and Recycling Association
7. Marine Litter & Microplastics Data Collection Training
8. Other specific topics to be presented during lunch breaks

# potential Budget sources

1. J-PRISM – to support airfares and per diem of 8 member countries and other identified stakeholders
2. PacWaste Plus Project – airfares and per diem of the remaining PICTs and other identified stakeholders
3. Fonds Pacifique (to be confirmed) – airfares and per diems of OCTs
4. SPREP – venue and meals of non-funded participants and other logistics
5. Side event organisers – lunch during the CPRT
6. Other funding sources sought from donors

# provisional agenda

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| Date and Time | Schedule |
| Day 1: 20 August 2018 |
| Session 1.1: Opening Programme |
| 9:00am – 9:45am | Opening Programme of the CPRT |
| 9:45am – 10:00am | Photo Session |
| 10:0am – 10:30am | Coffee Break |
| Session 1.2: Stakeholder Involvement in Waste Management (Plenary Roundtable) |
| 10:30am – 11:15 | Keynote Address |
| 11:15am – 12:30pm | Enhancing Social Responsibility in Waste Management (TBC by 2018 Organising Committee) Chair and Moderator: TBC by 2018 Organising Committee |
| 12:30pm - 1:30pm  | Lunch Break and Side Event #1 (TBC) |
| Session 1.3: Emerging Waste Streams (Parallel Roundtables) |
| 1:30pm – 4:00pm(concurrent sessions) | Parallel Session 1.3.A: Coordinated actions to combat marine debris Chair and Moderator: TBC by 2018 Organising Committee | Parallel Session 1.3.B: Planning and Responding to Disaster WastesChair and Moderator: TBC by 2018 Organising Committee  | Session 1.3.C: Enhancing proper management of hazardous wastes Chair and Moderator: TBC by 2018 Organising Committee  |
| 4:00pm – 5:00pm | Organisation of the 2020 Clean Pacific Roundtable (CPRT) and Technical Working Groups (TWGs) |
| 5:00pm – 5:15pm | Synthesis of Day 1: Country Representative (TBC) |
| 5:15pm onwards | Breakout meetings of TWGs  |
| 7:00pm | Welcome Dinner (to be hosted by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) |
| Day 2: 21 August 2018 |
| Session 2.1: Sustainable Waste Management (Plenary Roundtable) |
| 8:30am – 9:15am | Keynote Address |
| 9:15am – 10:15am | Ensuring Sustainable Mechanisms in Waste Management (TBC by 2018 Organising Committee) |
| 10:15am – 10:45am | Coffee Break |
| Session 2.2: Coordinated Actions in Waste Management |
| 10:45am – 12:30pm | Session 2.2.1: Regional Coordination in Recycling Chair and Moderator: TBC by 2018 Organising Committee  |
| 12:30pm – 1:30pm | Lunch Break and Side Event #2: Outcomes of the Resource Circulation Investigation (PRIF) - TBC |
| Session 2.3: Enabling Systems in Waste Management (Parallel Roundtables) |
| 1:30pm – 4:00pm(concurrent sessions) | Session 2.3.A: Boosting eco-tourism through proper waste managementChair and Moderator: TBC by 2018 Organising Committee | Session 2.3.B: Further Enhancement of Regional Capacity in Waste Management Chair and Moderator: TBC by 2018 Organising Committee | Session 2.3.C: Ensuring More Informed Decisions in Waste ManagementChair and Moderator: TBC by 2018 Organising Committee |
| 4:00pm – 4:15pm | Synthesis of Day 2: Donor Representative (TBC) |
| 4:15pm onwards | Meeting of the 2020 CPRT Steering Committee |
| 6:00pm – 8:00pm | Cocktails and Side Event #3: Launching of the Pacific SWM Guidebook |
| Day 3: 22 August 2018 |
| Session 3.1: Resolution and Outcomes (Plenary Roundtable) |
| 8:30am – 11:30am | Chair’s Summary of Roundtable Discussions and Way Forward (Resolutions and Outcome Statement) Chair and Moderator: CPRT Steering Committee |
| 11:30am – 12 noon | Closing Programme of the CPRT |
| 12noon – 1:00pm | Lunch Break and Side Event #4 (TBC) |
| Session 3.2: Launching of the Regional Waste Monitoring System  |
| 1:00pm – 5:00pm | Launching of the Regional Waste Monitoring SystemFacilitators: Ma. Bella Guinto/Mahmoud Riad/Yasuko Onoue |
| Day 4: 23 August 2018 |
| Session 4: PacWaste Plus Inception Workshop  |
| 8:30am – 5:00pm | PacWaste Plus Inception WorkshopFacilitators: EU Delegation and WMPC Team |
| Day 5: 24 August 2018 |
| Session 5: J-PRISM2 2nd Steering Committee Meeting  |
| 8:30am – 5:00pm | J-PRISM2 2nd Steering Committee MeetingFacilitators: Shiro Amano and J-PRISM Project Team |
| Day 6: 25 August 2018 |
| Session 6: Marine Litter and Microplastics Data Collection Training |
| 8:00am – 12noon | Marine Litter and Microplastics Data Collection TrainingFacilitator: Anthony Talouli & Heidi Taylor (Tangaroa Blue Foundation) |

# Annex 1: The Clean pacific roundtable (CPRT) organisation

Technical Working Groups

## Framework

The conceptual framework for the organised CPRT can be demonstrated below:

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**Issues, information, experiences**

Resolutions, Outcome Statement, Activity Matrix

The creation of the CPRT is endorsed by the SPREP member countries during the 27th meeting in Niue. The same meeting endorsed the conduct of the biennial meeting from the inaugural meeting in July 2016 as well as seeking the assistance of Technical Working Groups to be formally created and launched.

## Principles of Membership

The CPRT is led by a steering committee approved during the roundtable meeting which will function for a period of two years. The Steering committee members will include:

* Chair of the CPRT to be elected during the biennial meeting by a majority vote;
* SPREP (Coordinator, CPRT Secretariat);
* A representative from each of the sub-regions: Micronesia, Melanesia and Polynesia; and
* A representative each from relevant CROP agencies, civil society (NGO), private sector, academic/research sector, and development partners (donor agencies).

The members of the CPRT:

* Shall be constituted from the government, private sector, donors, regional organisations, academic and research institutions, NGOs/community representatives, practitioners, and other key stakeholders in the waste and pollution sector. SPREP will act as the Secretariat and facilitator with funding assistance from projects and donors.
* Shall be committed to the objectives of the CPRT;
* Are required to fully participate in the functions of CPRT as specified in these Terms of Reference and must be willing to commit the time required and serve on CPRT as reasonably required ;
* Must be willing to objectively and respectfully consider the views of the other members;
* Must be willing to interact and communicate with other members of the CPRT in an open, honest and respectful manner; and
* May, as appropriate, bring experts to provide additional information and share experiences in the meetings of the CPRT.

## Functions of the CPRT

The functions of the CPRT are:

* To enable bi-ennial meetings (every two years) for information and knowledge sharing on national, regional and international programmes in waste and pollution management.
* To assist in the development and maintenance of a comprehensive list of waste and pollution interventions throughout the region, which can be used to guide future planning.
* To collect and share information and progress on waste and pollution management programmes and projects in PICTs through each member’s network.
* To advise SPREP on measures to improve the monitoring of the Cleaner Pacific 2025.
* To provide input and advice to SPREP on the design and implementation of regional waste and pollution management projects and activities such as data management, resource circulation and when required.
* To assist in facilitating communication and liaison between the PICTs.
* To promote donor co-ordination in the development and implementation of programmes and projects in PICTs including
* To improve the dissemination of outcomes and experiences in waste and pollution management.
* To enhance human capacity through regional coordination/collaboration of integrated waste and pollution management training programmes
* To develop and promote options for private and public sector partnerships (PPP) on waste and pollution management.
* To strengthen the regional network through the establishment of technical working groups (TWGs) under the CPRT on focused aspects of waste and pollution management, e.g. Landfilling, waste collection, recycling, etc.

## Secretariat and administrative support

Within available resources, SPREP will provide for administrative and secretariat services required by the CPRT including coordination of meetings, arrangement of video and tele-conferences, taking meeting minutes, maintenance of records, and circulation of documents.

## Methods of Work and Delivery

The CPRT shall determine its own methods of work, including preparation of its agenda, establishment of special groups, keeping of records and other procedures, and reporting during the roundtable and TWG meetings.

## Meetings

The CPRT shall be held biennially after the inaugural meeting in July 2016.

The CPRT steering committee will endeavour to meet virtually or face to face (if opportunity arises) at regular intervals, but no more than once every quarter. Extraordinary meetings may be called when required. Face-to-face meetings will be arranged and conducted as the situation permits, such as attendance by The CPRT members at common events such as the SPREP Meeting, Waigani or Noumea COP meetings, other relevant international, regional and sub-regional conferences, and meetings conducted by donors and partners.

Following each meeting, the Secretariat shall provide the members with a draft report of the meeting to check for accuracy before finalisation.

Meetings will be conducted in English only.

## Decision-making

The CPRT will strive to operate by consensus and collaboration. Decision-making will be through a process of problem identification, assembling of facts, brainstorming, evaluating solutions, obtaining commitment to solutions, and continuous improvement.