



**SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

**Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee  
(STAC 2) of the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Islands  
Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the  
Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and the Management of  
Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region  
(Waigani Convention)**

**MEETING REPORT**

**Apia, Samoa  
28-29 April 2008**



## SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC 2) of the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Islands Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and the Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)

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### **Agenda Item 1: Official Opening**

1. The Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC 2) of the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention) met in Apia, Samoa on 28 and 29 April, 2008.

2. The Meeting was attended by the representatives of the following Parties: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Kiribati, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Also at attendance as observers were representatives of Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI), and Palau. A full list of participants is attached as Annex 1.

3. The Secretariat opened the Meeting with a prayer. The Director of SPREP, Mr. Asterio Takesy then made his opening remarks. He welcomed the delegates to the SPREP Headquarters and made special mention of Vanuatu being the newest member in joining the Convention on the 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2008. He encouraged the participants to utilize STAC as an avenue to address issues that are of importance to member countries, most specifically in the area of toxic chemicals. He stressed the importance of the Waigani Convention to the region as a mechanism to prevent hazardous and radioactive waste entering or being dumped in the region and urged countries to provide the Secretariat a road map on how they wanted to be served.

4. He urged the Parties to utilize partnership or synergistic approaches to tackle and manage hazardous chemicals and wastes. He stated that all sectors were inter-linked and therefore synergies were important to ensure all major stakeholders were involved. He pointed to the collaborative initiatives currently underway with institutions such as the Secretariats of the Basel and Stockholm Conventions. He stated that the SPREP as the host of the Pacific Regional Centre for the Training and Technology Transfer (PRC) has been approached by the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention to be the Pacific Regional Centre for that Convention. He acknowledged the financial assistance by Australia to the practical and successful the POPs in PICs Project. The Director reiterated that synergistic approaches ensured that addressing hazardous waste was done in a holistic manner as opposed to the current ad hoc approach.

5. He urged the Meeting to make sure that issues that affected their countries be reflected in the meeting outcomes and recommendations. The Director wished the participants a fruitful week and then declared the Meeting open. The Director's speech is at Annex 2.

## **Agenda Item 2: Organisational Matters**

### **(a) Rules of Procedure**

6. The Rules of Procedure for the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to Waigani Convention adopted at the First Conference of the Parties (COP1) apply *mutatis mutandis* to any subsidiary bodies to the Conference of the Parties (Rule 1). [refer to STAC2.WP.2]

7. The Secretariat drew the attention of the Meeting to the Rules of Procedure (Rule 22.3) on the selection of the Chair and pointed to the decision of COP1 that authorised the STAC to elect its own Chairperson and called for nominations. The rules dictate that there should be three officers elected by the Meeting: – Chair, Vice Chair and Rapporteur.

### **(b) Election of Officers**

8. PNG nominated by FSM and seconded by Australia and Cook Islands was duly elected as Chair. FSM was elected Vice Chair whilst the Rapporteur whom PNG nominated and seconded by Kiribati, was Australia.

9. The Chair thanked the Secretariat for the arrangements and in selecting PNG to be the Chair. She stated that whilst she hoped the meeting was successful she also hoped that participants achieve this through working in the spirit of understanding and friendship. She acknowledged that the majority of the participants were experienced in the workings of the STAC. She also acknowledged both the Vice Chair and Rapporteur and looked forward to receiving a comprehensive report at the end of the Meeting.

**(c) Organisation of work**

10. English was the working language of the meeting and working documents were available only in English. The Secretariat tabled the agenda and reminded the meeting that they were the technical advisory group who were to make recommendations that goes to the Conference of the Parties (COP) for a decision. Recommendations specifically under agenda item 9 were considered important for forwarding to the COP4 which is scheduled to be held in FSM in September 2008.

11. A draft summary report would be prepared by the Secretariat for the perusal and consideration of the Rapporteur and approval of the Meeting. The Chair requested that she preferred the meeting be conducted in a semi-formal approach so anyone (including observers) were permitted to ask questions during the meeting. The Committee also approved its working hours and programme of work.

**Agenda Item 3: Adoption of the Agenda**

12. The proposed agenda adopted by the Meeting is attached as Annex 3 of the report.

**Agenda Item 4: Status of STAC 1 Decisions**

13. The Secretariat introduced paper STAC2.WP.04/Atts.1 and 2 which detailed the status of decisions taken by STAC 1 and as well, reported on the status of decisions taken since COP2. The Secretariat stated that the last time the STAC met was in 2004 and the Secretariat suggested that if the Parties wanted, they could actually meet more regularly as the STAC was not tied to meeting on a particular time framework.

14. It was agreed that previous decisions noted in WP.04 be made available to all the participants for discussions on this agenda item. The Meeting was invited to note the report on the status of actions taken in relation to those items in WP.04 as well as the work undertaken with respect to these items by the Secretariat.

15. The Secretariat presented on the WP.04.Att.1 and stressed that a major issue that the Secretariat was faced with was a shortage of funding for the Waigani Convention's work programme.

16. Under WP.04.Att.1 Item 6(iv), the representative of PNG asked if there was currently a mechanism available for member Parties to provide financial assistance to the regional centre in order to implement activities under the Waigani Convention. The Secretariat stated that there was no obligation for Parties to fund PRC activities but the Secretariat re-confirmed each Parties contributions were important as they fund the activities associated with the COP. The Secretariat further stated that if the meeting felt it important to include a formal mechanism for funding assistance, then it could be included in the recommendations to take to COP4 in September 2008. FSM stated that they put in an annual contribution to the Waigani Convention but not the regional centre given that Parties were made to understand that there would be no financial obligation on them if the regional centre was brought in. The Secretariat confirmed that there was no financial obligation in relation to the regional centre but it only brought up the issue because of the suggestion by PNG.

17. FSM queried if there was a need for Parties to put in funding to run the centre. The Secretariat responded that if Parties deemed it important then it could make recommendations on this issue. The Secretariat talked about the in-kind assistance provided by SPREP (i.e.: building, existing staff, equipment etc) but to actually have funds to implement activities, the Secretariat had to actively seek funding from donors.

18. PNG asked whether the Secretariat had any success in gaining funds to implement the work. The Secretariat responded on the affirmative saying they had succeeded in getting

the regional centre to operate successfully but will need financial assistance in order to get the actual work done.

19. Australia stated that there is already a process in place where the Secretariat actively seeks funding and stated that Australia had been approached in funding elements of the work programme. Australia stated that an additional formal mechanism may be seen as an extra burden to the Secretariat and suggested that the current practice/process appeared satisfactory to attract the necessary funding for the PRC.

20. The Secretariat stated that they had been working collaboratively with Basel Convention Secretariat (SBC) who had more opportunities with donors, on some other activities. Although SPREP had not been flooded with funding, they still have managed to complete some activities under the work programme in collaboration with the Basel Convention.

21. Under WP.04.Att.1 Item 7(vi), the Secretariat clarified that the reporting and inventory development workshop was actually funded by the EU and used this as an example of seeking funds for activities that were approved by STAC & COP.

22. PNG asked what criteria was used to select countries to participate in the pilot project on harmonized legislation. The Secretariat responded that they first considered whether a country was a member of certain Conventions and further clarified that at the time of this workshop, there was also time factor involved because there were only three Parties ready at the time.

23. PNG requested the Secretariat circulate further information to allow other Parties to participate in similar projects. The Secretariat pointed to the work done with Tonga as a potential model for future activities. The representative of PNG stated that this would not apply in PNG as they had a much bigger group of stakeholders and would require not just one but several activities.

24. PNG also stated that technical assistance would also be an issue in relation to conducting these in-country workshops and trainings. The Secretariat stated that the

consultants available were excellent but it's a matter of cost that the Secretariat had to take into account.

25. PNG asked that where there would be training for PNG that the Secretariat looked at conducting counterpart training as part of that assistance with the view that there would be adequate capacity on the ground after the assistance had been provided.

26. CI asked for clarification in relation to the ADB consultation and how it related to the harmonized legislation workshop in Tonga. The Secretariat explained that UNEP had preferred to keep their project separate from the ADB project.

27. Under WP.04.Att.1 Item 7(v): SI stated that they had no NIP and asked if the Secretariat was still available to assist SI. The Secretariat pointed out that the country itself had to take the formal step to access funds through the Stockholm Convention (GEF funding) but in terms of regional assistance via the Secretariat that SPREP was always willing and available to help member Parties in completing NIPs.

28. Under WP.04.Att.1 Item 8 – The Secretariat stated that they would have to review the scale of contributions as Vanuatu was not on the existing list and that the 2% may probably decrease.

29. Under WP.04.Att.1 Item 10 – PNG stated that there is still a problem of information accessibility and it needs to be solved. She also said that in PNG Customs officials needed to be included in trainings or regional meetings on this issue as the data and forms currently utilized by Customs are not compatible with the forms used by the Environment (i.e.: Waigani/Basel Convention forms). The Secretariat informed STAC2 of the upcoming regional meeting for Customs officers. This would enable their participation but the Secretariat also noted that establishing relationships was quite difficult if there are no proper working relationships established in respective Parties. The PNG Delegate stated that PNG Customs deals with consignments and if they are not aware that some substances were banned, then hazardous material could actually get into countries. PNG stressed the importance of including Customs officials in any proposed regional training and workshops.

30. Samoa suggested that a regional network be established to share information. The Secretariat reiterated that the Secretariat has established mechanisms for information sharing but the onus are on Parties to actually share the information with the Secretariat. Samoa pointed to the lack of capacity as a reason for not completing reports and subsequent information sharing.

31. The Secretariat urged the Parties to bring these issues up during the work programme discussions.

32. The representative of Cook Islands (CI) asked if this issue could also be attributed to a lack of follow-up from SPREP.

33. Kiribati stated that they had been working with Basel on these types of reporting requirement and they haven't had any problems with this but under Waigani, SPREP has never send them any guidelines on reporting requirements. The Secretariat pointed to the decision by COP that agreed to Basel & Waigani forms being utilized by one or the other Convention to lessen the burden on Parties.

34. PNG requested that perhaps copies of reminders be sent to all relevant stakeholders as opposed to just the Competent Authority. She further suggested that there needs to be a lot of awareness raising for stakeholders to understand the requirements under this programme.

35. Australia stated that they are willing, where required, to provide advice and assistance to Parties and stressed the importance of having access to the correct contact details in the relevant authorities so as to expedite the transmission of requested information. Australia stated that it was vital that as an outcome of this meeting that the list of competent authorities and focal points be updated accordingly.

36. PNG suggested that perhaps there could also be a 2<sup>nd</sup> person as a contact person in the case the first one is not available or un-contactable.

37. Australia stated they were fortunate that the Competent Authority was also the Focal Point and therefore their work on movement and tracking of, and transmission of information was actually quite efficient. He reiterated the importance of updating the contact list.

38. Vanuatu queried if their contact person was on the list and if the list could reflect their details as well.

39. Under WP.04/Att.2 Item 2: Australia again commented on the importance of having correct details to facilitate notification of CA & FPs and asked if the Secretariat had the details of all the Parties. The Secretariat pointed to the agenda item where it required Parties to revise and modify contact details as although the Secretariat knew there were changes they were legally bound to be formally advised by Focal Points. The Secretariat stated that the information should come from the Focal Point but if the participants could informally let the Secretariat know during the meeting then they would endeavour to update the list for internal consumption and only post it on the website after receipt of formal notice from the FPs. Kiribati asked if the information was required during the meeting or whether it could wait until formal notice came from the Parties. The Secretariat stated that they could make changes and not post on the website until formally informed by Parties.

40. WP.04/Att.2 Item 3: Kiribati stated that they understood the difference between the conventions (Basel & Waigani) but asked how they could be implemented on the national level. The Secretariat stated that the regimes for both conventions were the same. If transboundary movements were between two Waigani Conventions Parties, then the procedures under the Waigani Convention would be followed. But if Kiribati was dealing with countries in Asia who are Parties to the Basel Convention, then Kiribati would have to use the Basel Convention. The Secretariat added that they currently have a list of Kiribati requirements and one of their officers would travel to Kiribati at the end of May 2008 to tackle the issues identified by Kiribati.

41. WP.04/Att.2 Item 4: The Secretariat clarified that under Agenda Item 6.1 has much more elaborate information on this topic and perhaps for the Meeting to discuss this under that particular agenda.

42. WP.04/Att2 Item 5: The Secretariat pointed to a point raised by PNG in relation to a new financial mechanism to be introduced in relation to administering of PRC. As far as the decision is concerned, there is no further action required by the Parties or the Secretariat.

43. FSM reiterated their point about whether the Secretariat really needed money to run the PRC and if yes, then the Secretariat should have clear indication detailing the need for a financial mechanism for the Parties to consider. Secretariat confirmed that there is no need for a mechanism but was just following up the point raised by PNG. They further stated that the Secretariat would welcome any financial assistance by Parties if they so offered, but were not pressing Parties to make any financial assistance. PNG asked if the Secretariat had the capacity to continue to seek funding from major donors. The Secretariat responded in the affirmative.

44. The Secretariat said they were not mandated to establish a financial mechanism if it was not needed but voluntary contributions from Parties would be welcomed.

45. WP.04/Att2 Item 6 would be discussed in detail under agenda item 9.

46. WP.04/Att2 Item 8: Secretariat stated that they receive anecdotal reports but no formal reports from partners. The Chair reminded that the meeting had asked SPREP to send out reminders about when reports were due. The Secretariat said that the Parties had agreed to send all information in by 2004, but only Cook Islands had sent in their complete report. Data in usable form has been noted as a problem in country and the Secretariat will look at how that could be improved. The Chair stated that there is a need for further work both on the part of the Sect and Parties.

47. The Secretariat pointed to requirements of the Convention where reports are due over a 12 month period which means that country reports for 2007 are due in Dec. 2008.

48. The Secretariat reminded that this issue could be discussed under the Work Programme agenda item so that the Secretariat could use it as a guide in the implementation of the work of the Secretariat

49. WP.04/Att2 Item 9: The Secretariat pointed out that some activities under this area were more in-country work. PNG asked if there was a hard copy of the manual available as there is a perception that all Parties have access to internet. Kiribati agreed with PNG and suggested perhaps instead of hard copies that they be made available on CD. The Secretariat stated that all these documents were actually put on CDs and given out at all waste meetings but participants at these meetings do not share it once they get into countries. PNG stated that hard copies are important because they can be passed to the FPs and as well they use them to deposit in their libraries and requested both CD & hard copies be made available. The hard copy is usually accompanied by a covering letter from SPREP which makes it more formal.

50. Samoa asked if the Secretariat could work with members to undertake a research on the scope or nature of traffic and any illegal patterns in the region. This could ascertain the actual problem and thereby Parties would be able to improve upon reporting requirements. The Secretariat pointed to the obligation under the Convention that required nationals to establish mechanisms to record this type of data. The Chair stated that perhaps a way forward is for countries to seek technical assistance to identify illegal traffics.

51. Australia supported the point by the Secretariat and as well the idea posed by Samoa on asking the Secretariat for capacity building and support.

52. Samoa suggested that capacity building through research would be useful as they would know how to deal with the problem. This could also help the country identify illegal trafficking.

53. Solomon Islands suggested that the STAC should set a timeframe for Parties to hand in their outstanding reports. The Secretariat pointed out that reporting requirements are

clearly articulated under the Convention and that the Secretariat welcomed the reports as soon as possible.

54. PNG asked if the reporting formats for Basel, Stockholm, Rotterdam & Waigani could all be harmonised as the different requirements puts a strain on member countries. The Secretariat stated that there is an initiative currently underway globally to synergise different Convention reports. For Waigani & Basel, the reporting requirements are the same but there is work at hand to try and harmonise all other convention reporting requirements. The Secretariat pointed out that Tonga has drafted an act on this issue but they have yet to see if it will be implemented.

55. RMI asked who in country compiled the actual report – Focal Point or the Ministry responsible. The Secretariat stated that the report should be sent by the FP but the compilation of the report is done by the ministry that is responsible for the technical implementation of the programme. In the case of RMI, OEPPC & RMI EPA would work together to compile the report then it would go to the Foreign Affairs to send to the Secretariat.

56. RMI stated that they were confused as every time they asked for information, they would always be referred to the Focal Point.

57. The Secretariat stated that in order to implement legal and technical assistance they required country reports whilst the implementation also relied heavily on the availability of funding to conduct these in-country reports. The Secretariat had noted the concern from member Parties in relation to data collecting systems and would endeavour to look at capacity building activities to solve these issues.

58. The representative of PNG requested the Secretariat to consult further with individual Parties to identify further areas that required assistance or strengthening in order to meet the reporting requirement and that these consultations be done on a country level to ensure individualities of Parties were addressed.

59. Australia stated that in respect to reporting requirements, they noted at the July 2006 SPREP workshop on waste management not all Parties had the capability to complete these reports. Australia also pointed out that although filling in the forms were easy, it was the gathering and recording of information in order to collate the final report that Parties found difficult. Australia agreed that human capacity building was an important factor in ensuring that the reporting requirements of Parties were fulfilled and perhaps this could also be supported bilaterally or some synergies with other institutions to help implement Parties meeting their reporting requirements.

60. Cook Islands wondered about the commitment of Parties in relation to obligations under the Conventions and stressed the importance of SPREP sending out constant reminders and follow ups. PNG suggested that Parties should put this in national work plans and programmes so that it becomes a national responsibility. The delegate from PNG pointed to PNG DEC having incorporated reporting timeframes into their national work plans but due to high staff turnover in-country and this may result in a gap in reports being sent to the Secretariat. She also made a point about the timing when sending out emails to member Parties.

61. Kiribati asked what sort of legal assistance Kiribati could receive from the Secretariat after all the assessments had been made and whether Kiribati could ask for capacity building on enforcement or legislation drafting.

62. Australia stated that they did not think it was the role of the Secretariat but rather by several other Convention partners and that Australia was happy to provide information where needed. National bodies were more attuned of the enabling legislations in existence and so the responsibility of establishing mechanisms was the responsibility of the country as opposed to the Secretariat.

63. Australia suggested that it would be useful for all Parties to hear about difficulties in areas of waste streams and that Parties could come up with 3 or 4 issues that the meeting could focus on and which would allow Parties to assist each other as well as identifying problems and areas that the Secretariat could assist with.

64. PNG also brought up the option of bilateral assistance available to Parties themselves and that perhaps on the national level, Parties could also look at that avenue as a way of getting the technical assistance needed.

65. The Secretariat invited the SDA to present on the EU initiated MEA Hub for the Pacific region and funding opportunities available for member Parties through the SAICM QSP fund and the FAO Pesticide Programme. His presentation is at Annex 4.

### **Agenda Item 5: Competent Authorities and Focal Points**

66. The Secretariat drew the attention of the Meeting to STAC2.WP.05 Att.1 and requested the Meeting to review the list and if there were changes, to inform the Secretariat in accordance with agreed procedures.

67. The list was revised accordingly and is attached as Annex 5.

### **Agenda Item 6.1: Cooperation with other Institutions**

68. The Secretariat introduced STAC2.WP.06 Att.1 which was produced in accordance with a request by COP1 to show the status of institutional cooperation on critical issues for the implementation of the Waigani Convention. The request was to ensure there was no duplication in between institutions and to promote synergies.

69. The Meeting was invited to note the Report of the Secretariat STAC2.WP.06.Att.1 is attached as Annex 6.

70. The PNG representative queried why there was little or no participation of NGOs at the country level. She then enquired what the Secretariat could do to engage more NGOs at the national level. The Secretariat responded that there has been work conducted under the Stockholm Convention where the Secretariat had done some work with NGOs. He further stated that the funding agencies usually are behind the push to include NGOs but assured the meeting that the Secretariat will look at engaging more NGOs in the future.

71. The Secretariat also stated that a lot of NGOs in the Pacific do a lot of awareness raising and campaigning but pointed to the Secretariat's mandate which would clash with some of the NGO mandates (e.g.: Green Peace). The Secretariat will look at utilizing international meetings where a lot of NGOs attend as another avenue of engaging NGOs to the work of the Waigani Convention.

72. Australia thanked the Secretariat for its work with the Stockholm Convention and encouraged the Secretariat to continue its collaboration with it and also looked forward to receiving more reports on their collaborative efforts.

73. Tonga stated that capacity building efforts at national level was not good and asked if GEF funding for POPs activities could also be utilized as it was related to the issue discussed. The Secretariat responded that there was funding available through the GEF process but countries had to be a party to be able to access funds. Tonga & Palau had not yet ratified the Stockholm Convention so the countries would find it hard to access the funds. The Secretariat added that Tonga was eligible for SAICM QSP project and stated that there were a lot of other opportunities for countries and that SPREP as an organization could not apply on behalf of the countries, that this was a responsibility of the country itself.

74. The rep of Tonga, pointed to a regional proposal that SPREP had sent GEF and stated Waigani as a Convention could tap into that funding opportunity. The Secretariat stated that countries are the ones eligible for GEF funding and not SPREP as an organization. SPREP would assist in putting together proposals for the national activities but won't be able to apply directly to GEF PAS. Secretariat also pointed to the MEA hub based in SPREP which could also assist countries.

75. The Meeting acknowledged the work of the Secretariat and encouraged countries to work closely with the Secretariat especially through projects like the GEF, SAICM QSP.

## **Agenda Item 6.2: Pacific Regional Centre for the Stockholm Convention**

76. The Secretariat reported to the Meeting decisions reached by the Conference of Parties for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in relation to ensuring the enhancement of cooperation and coordination among the three conventions at the administrative and programmatic levels.

77. It further informed the Meeting of decision SC-2/9 of the Conference of the Parties for the Stockholm Convention which adopted terms of reference for regional and sub-regional centres for capacity-building and transfer of technology under the Stockholm Convention as well as criteria for evaluating their performance.

78. The Secretariat pointed to the COP-3 of the Stockholm Convention where it *invited* nomination by regions, through the regional representatives on the bureau, of institutions, including Basel Convention regional centres or other relevant existing institutions, to serve as Stockholm Convention regional centres or subregional centres.

79. In tabling STAC2.WP.06.2 and STAC2.WP.06.2/Atts.1 and 2, the Secretariat requested the Meeting to discuss and make a recommendation to the COP on the issue of the establishment of the Pacific Regional Centre for the Stockholm Convention within SPREP. This would involve extending the role of the Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions, to also serve as the Pacific Regional Centre for the Stockholm Convention.

80. The Meeting thanked the Secretariat for the report and stated that the issue had been discussed heavily in meetings prior to STAC1. Countries had acknowledged that SPREP was the best placed organization to take on this role. The Chair acknowledged that not all countries attend the COPs so this Meeting would provide the opportunity to discuss the SPREP's nomination.

81. Tonga stated that STAC should also look at the AOSIS, SIDS and G77 and China and seek assistance from these groups to support the Pacific's proposal.

82. The Chair asked the Secretariat to explain the UN System of groupings and to explain why the Pacific was classified under the Asia-Pacific. The Secretariat stated that at the

last Stockholm Convention COP, Australia and New Zealand argued that the Pacific should be seen as a separate entity from the Asian continent. The proposal did not get enough support from the plenary session so the Pacific region has to put formal nominations through the Bureau members which are Iran and China. But in doing so, the STAC can still seek the support of the groups mentioned by Tonga.

83. FSM queried whether there were existing statistics showing how the region would benefit from the establishment of such a centre. And if yes, if the Secretariat could provide supporting documents and annex it to the recommendation to the COP for the establishment of such a centre. The Secretariat pointed to the global level conventions and how they have already established an ad-hoc working group on synergies and that the centre will only extend its role to take on the responsibilities of the Stockholm Convention. Having a single mechanism to cover the three different conventions would be beneficial to the countries. If there was a combined agreed work programme for the 3 Conventions, then there was also a possibility of receiving programmatic funding. The Secretariat also asked that the meeting consider that the regional centre uses SPREP resources and so countries should also consider if this centre should have a designated director.

84. The Secretariat made reference to the movement of waste from countries to Australia under the POPs in PICs project as an example of these synergistic approaches to tackle this movement. Therefore, the establishment of this combined centre would help countries.

85. The PNG representative pointed to having one centre in one roof as an advantage as even if there are different questions, the one centre could provide information without having to go to another source. The POPs in PICs project was also acknowledged because of the one-stop-shop approach through having the center. Referring to the process of official nomination, this would have to be done at the country level by the Foreign Affairs Department.

86. The Secretariat also pointed out that whatever the meeting decides, it would go to the Waigani COP in September and whatever it decides, the Secretariat will implement.

87. Australia supported making a recommendation for the Waigani COP's endorsement on this issue and pointed out that there appeared to be some benefits for the region should the centre be based in SPREP.

88. Solomon Islands suggested perhaps the STAC recommendations to the Waigani COP could also include a recommendation about allocating resources to allow someone to be hired to coordinate the work of the centre. The Secretariat responded that a recommendation could be made but the decision and endorsement would come from the COP.

89. Tonga suggested asking other donors for extra resources. Vanuatu supported SPREP hosting the centre but asked whether the centre could detail exactly the kind of assistance it could offer countries. The Secretariat responded that the centre would use what countries had put into the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention (NIPs) and part of the assistance would be to help countries finalise NIPs for forwarding to the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention. The Secretariat stated that its mandate was simply to work with countries and to provide technical advice and assistance where needed.

90. PNG stated that the Secretariat did not really know what the countries needed so the onus was on the country to make clear to the Secretariat what they needed done. It could be a request for a regional or national workshop and SPREP so far has been responsive to requests for technical assistance from PNG. She stated that PNG sometimes handled their own problems first before contacting the Secretariat for further assistance. She urged the members to do their part and utilize the personnel at the Secretariat when needed and not just wait for the Secretariat to contact them.

91. Tonga said they were not familiar with the Stockholm Convention grouping asking why the Pacific was under the Asia-Pacific given that other fora do not use the Asia-Pacific as a grouping. The Secretariat stated that the UN had 5 geographic regions but the groupings are based on specific interests, not on geography make up. For example, Chemicals, CBD and Waste conventions were grouped under similarity of issues and that

countries usually try to band together with a cluster or group that the respective country thinks would be able to lobby their issues properly at the UN level.

92. Tonga reiterated that the STAC should look at the best group to contact for supporting their recommendations during the Stockholm Convention COP. The Secretariat stated that the COP had already agreed to the 5 groupings and its processes and so any nomination from the Pacific would have to go through the Asia-Pacific grouping but lobbying for support for the STAC recommendations will certainly be sought from other groups such as AOSIS, SIDS and G77 and China.

93. The Meeting agreed to the expansion of the existing Waigani/Basel regional centre role to encompass the Stockholm Convention as well as the inclusion of a request for additional resources to fund a person to coordinate the work of the centre on the basis that SPREP comes up with a detailed clarification on the benefits of the centre to the Parties. The technicalities of the position (e.g.: salary) would be left to the decision of the COP. These recommendations would be forwarded to the COP in September 2008.

### **Agenda Item 7: Reporting and Transmission of Information**

94. In introducing STAC2.WP07, the Secretariat recalled that the COP2 had adopted Draft *Reporting and Transmission of Information* forms to be filled out annually by Parties and that the Parties were requested to meet their reporting obligations under the Waigani Convention beginning from the 2004 calendar year using the forms adopted.

95. Under an understanding with the Basel Convention Secretariat, the reporting information provided, whether under the Basel or under the Waigani Convention would be acceptable to both Secretariats.

96. The Secretariat further informed the Meeting that only Cook Islands had formally submitted a report to the Basel Secretariat whilst other countries had made only partial progress with their forms.

97. The Meeting was invited to discuss and review the status of Party reporting and to make recommendations on ways in which it could be improved.

98. Tonga said that the problem was networking and suggested the Secretariat look for resources to establish a clearinghouse network for all the Conventions. He further stated that capacity building was okay but there was a serious need for a database or network to centralize all information about the different Conventions that the countries are Party to. The Secretariat pointed to information available on the SPREP website but acknowledged the need raised by Tonga and Kiribati and the Secretariat will endeavour to set one up after the STAC2.

99. The Meeting recalling Day 1's discussion on STAC1 decisions, requested the need for capacity building, Secretariat to assist countries in tracking illegal traffic and to research why countries are not able to report their obligations.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Illegal Traffic**

100. In introducing STAC2.WP.08, the Secretariat recalled the importance of reporting by Parties of instances of illegal traffic and invited the Meeting to share with the Secretariat and other Parties their experiences with any instances of illegal traffic to enable the Secretariat to fulfill its obligations under Articles 9.6 and 14(j) of the Waigani Convention.

101. The Secretariat advised that this issue tied in with reporting and transmission of information and pointed to the case of Tonga sending batteries via NZ without realizing that it came under illegal trafficking.

102. The Meeting taking into account discussions undertaken in Agenda Item 1, passed Agenda Item 8 without comments.

#### **Agenda Item 9: Consideration of Other Issues and Prioritisation**

103. STAC2.WP.09 drew the attention of the Meeting to the difficulty faced by the Secretariat in implementing the Work Programme (STAC2.WP.09.Att.1) because of lack of

funds. The Secretariat informed the Meeting that recent indication shows donors such as GEF and EU having large amounts of funding available commencing in 2008. It also asked the Meeting that when discussing this agenda item, to take into account discussions over the past day in order to draw up a comprehensive work programme in line with available resources.

104. The Meeting was invited to consider and prioritise, in addition to the foregoing agenda items, other issues such as Offshore disposal of waste such as in the POPs in PICs project; Legal and Technical Assistance; Attendance at International Meetings and Fund raising. The decision of the Meeting will guide the Secretariat in the implementation of the Work Programme.

105. The Meeting revised the Work Programme & Budget for 2009/2010 and is attached as Annex 7.

#### **Agenda Item 10: Other Matters**

106. No other matters were posed at the Meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 11: Date and Venue of next Meeting**

107. The Meeting agreed to hold the next STAC Meeting in Apia, Samoa in 2010. The exact date of the Meeting will be worked out by the Secretariat and Parties would be informed accordingly.

#### **Agenda Item 12: Adoption of the Meeting Record**

108. Australia and seconded by Vanuatu moved for the record of the meeting to be adopted. The Meeting adopted the record of the Meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 13: Closure of Meeting**

109. The Chair thanked the participants for their constructive comments and the work put in to make the meeting a success. The representative of Australia thanked the Chair as well as the Secretariat for all the arrangements in hosting the meeting.

110. The Secretariat thanked the participants for their input and also thanked Australia for assisting with funding two of the participants. Special thanks were also made to the Chair for her guidance and input in ensuring the success of the meeting.

111. The representative of Tonga said a prayer and the Chair then closed the Meeting.

*Annex 1*



**Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee  
(STAC 2) of the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Islands  
Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the  
Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and the Management  
of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani  
Convention)**

**SPREP Headquarters, Apia, Samoa  
28–30 April 2008**

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Mrs. Rosanna Galuvao-Ah Ching – Personal Assistant to the Pacific Futures Programme Manager

*Annex 2*

SPEECH FOR DIRECTOR ASTERIO TAKESY

**OFFICIAL OPENING FOR THE SECOND MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC 2) OF THE CONVENTION TO BAN THE IMPORTATION INTO FORUM ISLANDS COUNTRIES OF HAZARDOUS AND RADIOACTIVE WASTES AND TO CONTROL THE TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES AND THE MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES WITHIN THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION (WAIGANI CONVENTION)**

*Addressee:*

Distinguish delegates from the Parties to the Waigani Convention, invited observers, my fellow SPREP officers, ladies and gentlemen:

I have the honor and privilege to stand before and formally welcome you all once again to the SPREP Headquarters for this the Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee or STAC for short, of the Waigani Convention. I thank you all for making the sacrifice to leave your work and the comforts of your homes and families behind to come here and be part of the growing process of this Convention – faafetai tele lava!

Before I continue, let us all put our hands together to welcome our newest member, Vanuatu, who only became a Party to the Convention on February 17<sup>th</sup> this year.

I am sure you will all appreciate that the Waigani Convention is a young Convention (entered into force on October 21 2001) and is still going through its ‘teething’ phase and your participation through the various activities such as this meeting, as directed by the Conference of Parties and organized by your Secretariat, gives us the encouragement that the Parties to the Convention are genuine in their commitment to the Convention. This is your Convention and the Secretariat is only here to serve you but if we are to serve you properly and effectively, you the Parties, need to give us a road map or plan on how you want to be served. The STAC is the avenue through which you can tell us what your needs are – this is where I encourage you all to take time to engage in healthy debates of the issues that are before you in this meeting. Be critical, analytical and strategic in your interventions but above all, be sensitive to the needs of others and assist the Secretariat in putting together what your real needs are so we can come out and help you in your countries with your problems.

At SPREP we have a vision – a Pacific region in which human health and the environment are no longer threatened by toxic chemicals.

I point out that I refer to “toxic chemicals” – not all chemicals are bad. Chemicals are part of our daily lives, and many will be necessary for achieving sustainable development.

But the use of some is clearly not sustainable in some cases. The Waigani Convention which is the regional mirror to the globally orientated Basel Convention was put in place to address Pacific specific issues on hazardous waste with the purpose to:

- reduce or eliminate trans-boundary movements of hazardous and radioactive wastes into and within the Pacific Forum region;
- minimise the production of hazardous and toxic wastes in the Pacific Forum region;
- ensure that disposal of wastes is done in an environmentally sound manner and as close to the source as possible; and
- assist Pacific Forum developing countries in the environmentally sound management of hazardous and other wastes they generate.

The scope of this Convention is wide – it covers toxic, poisonous, explosive, corrosive, flammable, ecotoxic, infectious and radioactive wastes – which translate that much work needs to be put in if we are to fulfill the purpose of this Convention and manage all these wastes.

There are many reasons why the Waigani Convention is important for our region:

- It provides an effective protective mechanism to stop waste traders from making the Pacific an international waste dump;
- It will prevent ships from using the Pacific as a highway for hazardous waste;
- It will create a regional mechanism to facilitate the clean up of hazardous and radioactive wastes in the region – such as the very practical and successful POPs in PICs project – for which we are thankful to the Government of Australia for the generous financial assistance.

The major benefit will be the establishment of a system to prevent hazardous and radioactive waste entering the region or being dumped in your country. A significant but less tangible direct benefit will be the reduced risk from a potential hazardous and nuclear waste disaster. Parties will feel secure in the knowledge that the risk of a shipping disaster will be far less likely.

Our work over the next couple of days is to progress this work.

In our region, waste volumes are rising with our economic growth. More importantly, the waste is also increasing in its toxicity and non-biodegradability as we leave traditional lives and materials behind. Unfortunately, as you all know too well, waste is not a problem that we can fix – we must manage it and its negative impacts every day, for now and forever. That unrelenting nature of waste often seems insurmountable, but surmount if we must, or else we will get buried by it.

Because in environmental protection in the real world, no one group, approach or action in isolation can achieve the goal. This is where partnerships or synergistic approaches are necessary in managing hazardous chemicals and wastes.

In the environment, everything is linked. And so the actions to deal with threats to the environment must also be linked. And all sectors and the community must be involved.

The different players may take different approaches, but it is important that these approaches are coordinated, are in step, and that each knows what the other is doing – at

both the national and regional levels. This is where you as national coordinators or facilitators come in.

At the regional level, much work has already taken place to make this happen. As you will see in the discussions, the Secretariat on your collective behalf has established partnerships and collaborative initiatives with institutions such as the Secretariats of the Basel and Stockholm Conventions, SAICM, WHO, UNITAR and USP. Many of you will also be aware that SPREP is the host of the Pacific Regional Centre for the Training and Technology Transfer (PRC) for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions and has been approached by the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention to be the Pacific Regional Centre for that Convention as well – these will help Pacific Island countries develop the capacity to manage their wastes in an environmentally sound manner.

It is these synergistic approaches that will help in addressing the hazardous waste issues in a more holistic manner instead of the current ‘piece meal’ or ad hoc approaches.

It is worth remembering that the Waigani Convention like the Basel Convention provides the framework for dealing with the hazardous waste issue, and the Stockholm Convention sets out what needs to be done about the latter while the Rotterdam Convention provides a framework that deal with chemical trade issues among other things.

As in the real world, we have participants from differing sectors with different interests and responsibilities but the main aim is to make sure that issues that affect your countries are well reflected in the meeting outcomes and recommendations.

I thank you once again for your commitment and effort and wish you all a successful and productive week.

Soifua...



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**Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee  
(STAC 2) of the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum  
Islands Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to  
Control the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and the  
Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region  
(Waigani Convention)**

Apia, Samoa  
28-30 April 2008

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Provisional Agenda

- Agenda Item 1:** Official Opening of the Meeting
- Agenda Item 2:** Organisational Matters
- Rules of Procedure
  - Election of Officers
  - Organisation of work
- Agenda Item 3:** Adoption of the Agenda
- Agenda Item 4:** Status of STAC 1 decisions
- Agenda Item 5:** Competent Authorities and Focal Points
- Agenda Item 6:** Cooperation with other institutions
- Agenda Item 7:** Reporting and Transmission of Information
- Agenda Item 8:** Illegal Traffic
- Agenda Item 9:** Consideration of Other Issues and Prioritisation
- Agenda Item 10:** Other Matters
- Agenda Item 11:** Date and venue of the next Meeting
- Agenda Item 12:** Adoption of the Meeting record
- Agenda Item 13:** Closure of the meeting



EC MEA Presentation by SPREP SDA



## EC Program on Capacity Building for MEA Implementation in ACP Countries

- Broad parameters
- Capacity building activities
- Budget, institutional arrangements
- Next steps
- SAICM QSP & Obsolete Pesticides

Secretariat of the  
Pacific Regional  
Environment  
Programme



### Broad Parameters

**Goal:** Promote environmental sustainability through enhancing capacity to implement MEA obligations

**Component 1:** Regional Hubs - AUC (Africa)

CARICOM (Caribbean)

SPREP (Pacific)

**Component 2:** (i) CDM /UNEP (ii) Desertification /GM-UNCCD  
(iii) Chemicals /SAICM-UNEP (iv) Pesticides /FAO

**Executing agency:** UNEP

**Duration:** 4-5 years; start 2008

**Total cost:** €21.45 million; Pacific Hub approx €1.3M

**Current status:** Grant Application being reviewed for approval by EC

**Next steps:** Inception phase - detailed programming and needs assessment

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Pacific Regional  
Environment  
Programme



## Pacific Hub (SPREP)

### Goal

- Enhance SPREP's capacity in order to deliver quality capacity-building services to the PICs

### Expected results

- Improved national and regional capacity on MEAs understanding, negotiation, follow-up and coordination
- Increased awareness, knowledge and understanding of Pacific countries on MEAs
- Improved exchange & utilisation of data on natural resources and trends
- Improved coordination (and centralization of information) between all MEAs
- Improved capacity for mainstreaming of MEAs into NSDS
- Increased exchange of experiences on MEAs both at the regional and the ACP levels
- The Pacific hub is functional and integrated into the relevant institutional processes

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## Pacific Hub (SPREP) - Activities

- 1) **Detailed needs assessment**
  - inventory of existing MEA-related frameworks to id gaps & needs
  - reference NCSA, NAPs, etc
- 2) **Policy & advisory support services & technical assistance**
  - development of national strategies, action plans
  - drafting national legislation or regulations
- 3) **Harmonize, streamline national reporting to MEAs**
  - to build on Australian initiative related to CBD reporting
  - reference current SPREP review of SOE reporting

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### Pacific Hub (SPREP) - Activities

- 4) **Improved information management and utilization**
  - develop web based tools
  - acquire, install IT hardware & software
  - regional workshop; in-country visits to support establishment, maintenance & development of systems & processes
  - training attachments for country personnel
- 5) **Negotiations skills training**
- 6) **Project management training**
- 7) **Develop/strengthen approaches for mainstreaming MEAs into NSDS and regional frameworks**

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### Pacific Hub (SPREP) - Activities

- 8) **Develop, test & disseminate normative tools**
  - guidelines, manuals, handbooks for MEA implementation
  - prosecution manual; compilation of case studies from other jurisdictions
- 9) **Build capacity of relevant stakeholders thru training, train the trainers & awareness raising**
- 10) **Develop capacity of network of professionals**
  - regional centers of excellence
- 11) **Develop curriculum & training modules**
  - that could provide credit into university courses
- 12) **Develop/strengthen sub-regional & regional mechanisms**
  - to facilitate info exchange & promote technology transfer

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## 2(i) Clean Development Mechanism - DTIE/URC

**Goal:** enable participating countries to fully participate in the global carbon market

### Activities:

- practical training in formulation of CDM portfolio - project id, design, monitoring & implementation
- assist operationalize DNA
- design national CDM website
- id innovative approaches to benefit community from CDM projects
- facilitate participation at Carbon Expo & other investment options
- facilitate info exchange, lessons & experiences

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## 2(ii) Desertification - GM/UNCCD

**Goal:** Countries equipped with skills & tools for integrating UNCCD issues into national & regional plans/policies

### Activities

- Strengthen technical & institutional capacities for integrated SLM to combat land degradation, desertification & drought
- Develop and adopt national & regional land use guidelines & policies
- Develop laws related to water resources management
- Support development & implementation of national, subregional & regional action plans under the Convention
- Promote awareness and facilitate participation of CSOs in implementation of Convention

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### 2(iii) Chemicals - UNEP/SAICM

**Goal:** enhance capacities of ACP countries to meet obligations under chemicals-related MEAs

#### Activities

- establishment and/or strengthening of inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholders consultations and coordination mechanisms
- development of national chemicals policies, programmes and legislation
- id of capacity for impl. & enforcement obligations under MEAs
- undertake training and strengthening of institutional capacities for the sound management of chemicals

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### 2(iv) Pesticides - FAO

**Goal:** Existing obsolete pesticide stocks eliminated and opportunities for reduction of reliance on synthetic chemical pesticides explored

#### Activities

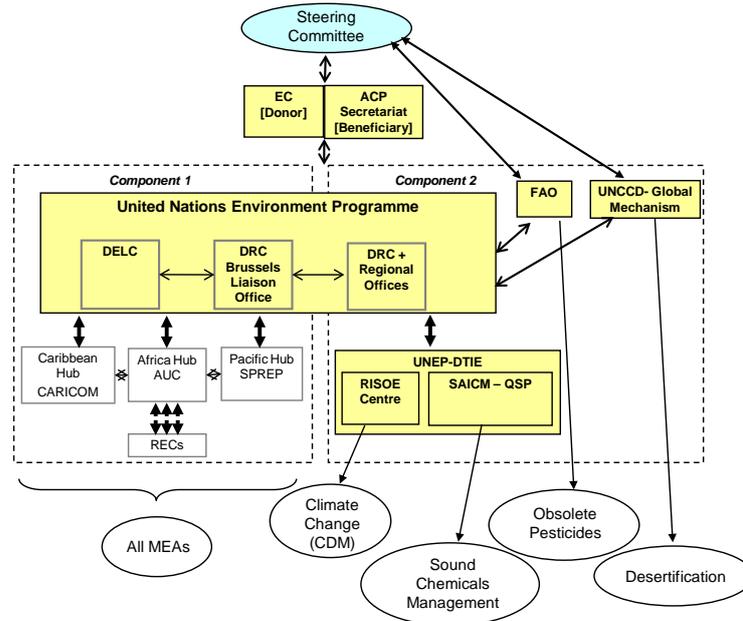
- analysis & review of the obsolete pesticides problem
- detailed national inventory of obsolete pesticides
- program established for safe removal/elimination of stocks
- capacity building for handling, storage & stock management of pesticides
- establishment of waste management systems
- gap analysis of laboratory capacity

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	Total indicative budget
<b>Component 1</b>	<b>M 6.5 €</b>
Coordination (UNEP)	M 0.6 €
Africa	M 3.3 €
Caribbean	M 1.3 €
Pacific	M 1.3 €
<b>Component 2</b>	<b>M 14.65 €</b>
CDM (UNEP)	M 4.35 €
Desertification (UNCCD-GM)	M 3.25 €
Chemicals (UNEP)	M 2.15 €
Pesticides (FAO)	M 4.90 €
<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>M 0.2 €</b>
<b>Audit</b>	<b>M 0.1 €</b>
<b>Contingency</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>M 21.45 €</b>

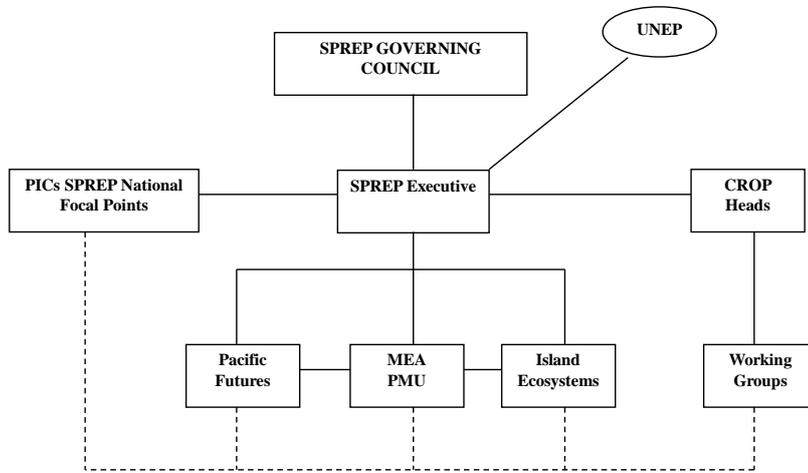
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### SPREP and EC/UNEP MEA Project Organizational Chart



Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme



### Next Steps

- Contribution Agreements btw EC and UNEP, GM-UNCCD, FAO
- MOU betw UNEP and SPREP, AUC, CARICOM
- Inception phase (1<sup>st</sup> 6 months) - needs assessment and detailed specific activities defined and workplans; institutional arrangements set up, etc
- Implementation phase to follow

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

Annex 5



**SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC 2) of the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Islands Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and the Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)

Apia, Samoa  
28-30 April 2008

**Waigani Convention Competent Authorities and Focal Points**

<b>PARTY</b>	<b>COMPETENT AUTHORITY</b>	<b>FOCAL POINT</b>
<b>Australia</b> Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 17 August 1998 In Force: 21 Oct 2001	Assistant Secretary Chemicals and the Environment Branch Environment Quality Division Environment Australia GPO Box 787 Canberra, ACT 2601 Australia Tel: (6126) 250 02 70 Fax: (6126) 250 03 87 Email: <a href="mailto:peter.burnett@ea.gov.au">peter.burnett@ea.gov.au</a>	Assistant Secretary Chemicals and the Environment Branch Environment Quality Division Environment Australia GPO Box 787 Canberra, ACT 2601 Australia Tel: (6126) 250 02 70 Fax: (6126) 250 03 87 Email: <a href="mailto:peter.burnett@ea.gov.au">peter.burnett@ea.gov.au</a>
<b>Cook Islands</b> Signed: 17 Sept 1995 Ratified: 30 October 2000 In Force: 21 Oct 2001	Mr Vaitoti Tupa Director National Environment Service PO Box 371 Rarotonga Cook Islands Tel: (682) 21256 Fax: (682) 22256 Email: <a href="mailto:vaitoti@oyster.net.ck">vaitoti@oyster.net.ck</a>	Mr Edwin Pittman Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Immigration PO Box 105 Rarotonga Cook Islands Tel: (682) 29347 Fax: (682) 21247 Email: <a href="mailto:secfa@foraffairs.gov.ck">secfa@foraffairs.gov.ck</a>
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<b>Nauru</b> Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified:	Mr. Tyrone Deiye Secretary Department of Economic Development Government Offices Yaren District Nauru	



## SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Second Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC 2) of the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Islands Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and the Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)

Apia, Samoa  
28-30 April 2008

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### Cooperation with other Institutions

The Secretariat has continued to strengthen its working relationship with various institutions relating to chemical management. It has collaboratively worked with the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention in undertaking a Case Study to assess and determine the suitability and competence of SPREP to serve as a regional Center for the Stockholm Convention. This is consistent with Paragraph 4 of Article 12 of the Stockholm Convention which states in part that as part of the arrangements for the purpose of providing technical assistance and promoting the transfer of technology to developing Parties and Parties with economies in transition relating to the implementation of the Convention, regional and sub-regional centers be set up to assist with such assistance. It is for this reason that the Interim Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention approached SPREP to undertake this case study. The report of the case (along with other similar case studies) was tabled at the Stockholm Convention COP-2 and discussed. The COP-2 agreed to establish a contact group, to be chaired by Mr. Karel Blaha (Czech Republic) and Mr. Frederick Sikabongo (Namibia), to consider the issues raised during the discussion and prepare a draft decision for the consideration of the Conference.

The Secretariat has established good working relationships with the Secretariats of the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions and is continuing to work with these Secretariats in exploring ways in which the synergistic and integrated approaches to the environmentally sound management of chemicals and hazardous waste can be done at the regional and national levels in our region. The Secretariat has also been approached by the Secretariat of the Strategic Approaches for International Chemical Management (SAICM) to work with it in the implementation of the SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy in the Pacific region.

In organizing regional activities, the Secretariat has also invited and involved NGOs to participate with the view that through these interactions, the Secretariat can be able to implement the Convention through the established networks of these NGOs. In fact, in 2003, the Secretariat organised two regional Stockholm Convention NIP training workshops to run in parallel with an NGO-organised regional workshop on how the POPs issue can be brought to the general public using existing NGO networks. At the Stockholm Convention Regional Centre Case Study undertaken in 2004, three NGOs participated and made presentations on how they could add value to what the Secretariat was already doing. These were Greenpeace, Live and Learn, and Pacific Concerns Resource Centre (PCRC). At another Stockholm Convention regional training workshop

in Vanuatu in 2004, two NGOs participated as well – they were Live and Learn and Taporoporoanga Ipukarea Society Inc from Cook Islands. Invitations were sent out to two NGOs for the recent regional training on Reporting and Inventory of Hazardous waste but there were no responses.

This activity is part of SPREP's Strategic Program. Since 2001 the Secretariat has work collaboratively with the Stockholm Convention Secretariat to organising a number of regional training workshops to assist the countries with the development of their respective NIPs. The Secretariat has also directly assisted a number of countries in the region at various stages of their NIP development. This service is still available to region and will extend to the implementation phase of these NIPs.

A number of proposals have been developed in conjunction with the Secretariats of the Basel and Stockholm Conventions to raise funds to assist countries in the region in the implementation of the Conventions. An example of this association is the recent completion of a national regulatory framework for the synergistic implementation of the 3 chemical conventions (Basel, Stockholm, and Rotterdam) developed and trialed in Tonga. The securing of funds from the Japanese Government through the SBC to implement an e-waste project in the region is another example of the Secretariat's efforts in raising funds for Convention related activities.

In July 2007, the Secretariat signed an MOU with the World Health Organisation (WHO) with the purpose to allow collaboration and strengthen the cooperation between the two institutions and where feasible incorporate areas of work that are of mutual interest to both institutions. A direct result of the implementation of this MOU was the convening of a Health care waste management training workshop held in November 2007 with the objective to:

- To provide participants with the knowledge and experiences to develop, implement, and maintain a national integrated health care waste management system.
- To provide participants with financial and budgeting techniques and tools for implementation of national integrated health care waste management plans.
- To provide participants with key input into the development of Regional Health Care Waste Management Policy, and the tools to develop National, Provincial, and Local level policy.
- To discuss and recommend actions to promote the adoption of National Integrated Health Care Waste Management Plans in countries of the Region.
- To review the experiences of countries in obtaining National endorsement.
- To review current practices and share experiences in Health Care Waste Management.

The Secretariat has also established good working relationship with the Secretariat of SAICM. In May 2007, at the first Asia-Pacific regional meeting on SAICM, held in Bangkok, the Pacific Island participants sought assistance from the SAICM secretariat and SPREP so that small island developing States in the Pacific region could engage better in the SAICM process and develop their understanding of SAICM.

SPREP undertook to work with the SAICM secretariat to organize a sub-regional meeting to raise awareness of SAICM in the Pacific region. In addition, the Secretariat of the

Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) expressed interest in the meeting as an opportunity to discuss implementation of the Convention's Effectiveness Evaluation in the Pacific region.

The SAICM workshop was organized with the objective of providing Pacific Island stakeholders with an introduction to SAICM and guidance on initial implementation, including through the Quick Start Programme. It was held immediately after a regional priority setting workshop on solid waste management organised by SPREP and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and at the same time, in parallel to a workshop on Health Care Waste Management organised by the World Health Organization and SPREP. The juxtaposition of all workshops and the integration of sessions relating to the Stockholm Convention aimed to encourage a synergistic approach to chemicals management by Pacific Island Government officials and other stakeholders.

The SAICM Pacific Island workshop was held in November 2007 at the SPREP Headquarters and was attended by representatives of the Governments of Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu, of one civil society representative from the Island Sustainability Alliance, as well as representatives of the Oceania Customs Organization (OCO), SPREP, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Institute for Research and Training (UNITAR).

The Secretariat has had a long standing working relationship with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and these has been further strengthened by the recent agreed work program between the two organizations. There are various components of the Conventions that are administered by the IMO where hazardous chemicals on ships and their operations are also dealt with and as such, these are incorporated into the overall waste management work here at the Secretariat.

The Secretariat is also in the process of establishing a Pacific regional hub that will deal with a number of MEAs and one of these involves the managements of chemical related MEAs. Although in its infancy, the governance structure of this hub has already attracted the Secretariat of SAICM to be involved in the mobilization of the resources.

Annex 7



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**2009/2010 Work Programme & Budget**

Output	Outcome	Activities	Performance Measure	Timeframe	Estimated Budget (USD)
1. Development of adequate national legislation on the management of hazardous wastes	Convention implemented through national legislation	Review of national legislation; consultation with relevant stakeholders; awareness raising and drafting of national legislation	Five Parties provided with adequate national legislation on the control system for the transboundary movement and management of hazardous wastes	2007/2008	85,000
2. Information effectively managed, disseminated and exchanged	Surveys of information needs; development of information systems; training (workshop/attachments)	1. Strengthening of national and regional clearinghouse mechanisms in synergy with existing national and regional clearinghouse(s) such as PEIN, SIDsNet, and SPREP; 2. Training with respect to the clearinghouse mechanisms	<b>1. Clearinghouse mechanism initiated at national and regional level;</b>  2. Key enforcement staff trained in analytical use of clearinghouse mechanism.	2007 – 2008	50,000
3. Training of competent authorities and focal point	Competent authorities and focal points able to implement responsibilities under the convention	Workshop on the reporting requirements of the Waigani and Basel Conventions, with reference to developing national inventories of hazardous wastes.	<b>1. Inventories initiated in-country.</b>  2. Parties report as required under the Conventions	2007/2008	65,000
4. Relevant stakeholders effectively implementing the Convention	Familiarisation of enforcement staff with the obligations under the Convention	National workshops in five countries to train customs, police, port, environment, and legal officers	Workshops are held; Officers of national agencies trained	2007 – 2008	50,000
5. Promotion of ratification and implementation to the Waigani/Basel Conventions	Broader representation and participation of Pacific Island Countries in the Conventions	Development of fact sheets, briefings papers, booklets, press kit.	3 more ratifications to the Waigani Convention; Increased awareness of politicians and community to issues concerning hazardous waste management (eg e-waste)	2007/2008	5,000

<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Estimated Budget (USD)</b>
6. Collaboration with the Basel Convention and relevant institutions	Development of complementary approach to hazardous waste management in the Pacific region	Promotion of the Waigani Convention and the Pacific Regional Centre to facilitate implementation of related chemicals Conventions	Waigani and Pacific Regional Centre effectively used to facilitate the implementation of related Chemical Conventions	2007/2008	2,000
7. Effective operation of the Pacific Regional Centre	Regional Centre facilitating implementation of the Waigani and Basel Conventions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop joint business plan for Regional Centre with Basel Secretariat</li> <li>2. Maintenance of Regional Centre fund raising</li> </ol>	Business plan implemented	2007/2008	80,000
					<b>\$337,000</b>