

---

**AGENDA ITEM 12.1.2:**

**Report on UNFCCC COP24 and preparations for COP25**

**Purpose of Paper**

1. To report on the outcomes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP24) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and to inform on preparations for the 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP25).
2. To seek the support and commitment of Members and development partners to the activities planned for the One CROP Plus team for COP 25.

**Background**

3. In response to country requests, SPREP developed a COP 24 Action Plan for the coordination and collaboration of support to member countries by the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) agencies working on climate change issues.
4. A One CROP Plus approach was taken in support of Pacific delegations to the UNFCCC process and COP24. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Pacific Community (SPC), University of the South Pacific (USP) and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), joined by UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) provided coordinated support to Pacific island Members and implemented the One CROP COP 24 Action Plan in the lead up to, and during COP 24. This report provides a post-COP24 update and will inform the support for Pacific island Members in the lead up to COP25 and associated processes. The engagement of the One CROP Plus team at COP24 was led by SPREP.
5. The One CROP+ team met in support of senior officials in connection with the Climate Action Pacific Partnership event in 25 to 27 July in Fiji to further develop cooperative approaches and contribute to the drafting of position papers, briefs and other information for delegations. This was supplemented by email correspondence and conference calls on a regular basis of the team. Support was provided to the Pacific Small Islands Developing States at the FCCC inter-sessional meeting in Bangkok in 31 August to 9 September.
6. A full preparatory meeting was held in Nadi from 31 October to 3 November, in partnership with Climate Analytics (through the IMPACT Project) and the Fiji COP23 Presidency, and organised by SPREP. At that meeting position papers and briefings were finalised and compiled for distribution to delegates to COP24. Materials included detailed briefings as well as shorter "Pacific Beats", and also included a pocket sized "COP24 Compass" with ease of access to key points and general advice on the COP.

7. The SPREP proposal to manage the Pacific Koronivia Pavilion at COP 24 was selected by the COP23 Presidency Secretariat, for the Government of the Republic of Fiji and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of New Zealand. An estimated total of 6000 visitors attended 52 side events, launches (4) and activities. All sessions were streamed live and an event app to provide updates and information was developed with over 600 active users.

#### **Outcomes of COP24**

8. The Katowice Climate Change Conference convened from 2-15 December 2018 in Katowice, Poland. It was preceded by preparatory meetings of the Least Developed Countries from 26-27 November, Alliance of Small Islands States (AOSIS) from 28-29 November and G-77 from 30 November – 1 December. The conference included the three governing bodies of the UNFCCC, of the Kyoto Protocol, and of the Paris Agreement, as well as the three constituted subsidiary bodies (SBI, SBSTA, and APA). COP24 had over 22,000 participants, 64% of whom were government officials, and the rest represented UN bodies and agencies, intergovernmental organisations, civil society and media.
9. COP24 was tasked with delivering on the Paris Agreement Work Programme (PAWP) essentially a rule book for the Paris Agreement, and largely met this objective by adopting a package of decisions to help facilitate countries' efforts to implement the Paris Agreement. However, it was less successful in facilitating greater ambition in emission reductions called for in light of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on 1.5°C.
10. With the focus on completing work on the PAWP, a set of decisions (The Katowice Climate Package) to operationalise the Paris Agreement were adopted. The Katowice Climate Package was approved and covers decisions on nearly all of the issues mandated as part of the PAWP, including on:
  - Mitigation: further guidance in relation to nationally determined contributions (NDCs), common time frames, and modalities, work programme, and functions under the Paris Agreement of the forum on the impact of the implementation of response measures;
  - Adaptation: further guidance on adaptation communication;
  - Finance: identification of the information to be provided by parties in accordance with Agreement Article 9.5 (ex-ante finance transparency), matters relating to the Adaptation Fund, and setting a new collective quantified goal on finance;
  - Technology: scope of and modalities for the periodic assessment of the Technology Mechanism, and the technology framework;
  - The modalities, procedures, and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support;
  - The global stocktake; and
  - Modalities and procedures for the effective operation of the committee to facilitate implementation and promote compliance. SPREP analysis of COP24 decisions in early 2019, and noted that while the PAWP was to a large extent adopted and approved, there were several ancillary issues that will need to be discussed in the lead up to COP25 and resolved prior to 2020 to avoid negatively impacting on the operationalization of the Paris Agreement. This includes issues such as: common time frames (5 year, 5 year plus 5 year, or 10 year), which has significance for the comparability of NDCs and issues relating to markets (specifically, the share of proceeds to go to the Adaptation Fund).

## Preparations for COP25

11. SPREP developed the "COP 25 *Pacific Voyage*" - *One CROP Plus Plan* for the 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention to Climate Change and beyond. It is intended that this will lead into an updated strategy for 2020 - *Charting a course for the Pacific region towards a 1.5 Degree Celsius future*.
12. SPREP will continue to lead coordination for One CROP-Plus support for Pacific island Member parties of the UNFCCC in the lead up to COP 25 and beyond in close collaboration with the other One CROP-Plus partners.

Members will receive expert technical advice and support to help them achieve their national and regional goals during the list of meetings and events, and drawing on individual agency input as resources, and sources of expertise and assistance permit.

13. SPREP will lead the One CROP Plus team in preparatory activities for COP25 and in operationalising the *Pacific Voyage to the 25th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention to Climate Change*. This includes organising a Pacific pre-COP meeting in cooperation with Climate Analytics and the PSIDS Chair, arranging briefings for and at other key events during the year, and technical assistance and support at COP25. This will include fund raising for participation.
14. Discussions have commenced for a Pacific Pavilion at COP 25 to support and further amplify Pacific action on climate change.

## Recommendation

15. The Meeting is invited to:
  1. **note** the outcomes of COP24;
  2. **note** that further work will be needed to operationalise the Katowice Climate Package;
  3. **welcome** the support being provided by the One CROP Plus team led by SPREP;
  4. **support** the leadership of SPREP in developing and operationalising *the COP 25 Pacific Voyage - One CROP Plus Plan* for the 25th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention to Climate Change; and
  5. **advocate** for support to be provided to ensure adequate representation of PSIDS in COP25.