

Tenth meeting of the Waigani Convention

Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement and the Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)

Apia, Samoa
30 August 2019

AGENDA ITEM 7.1: Review of the Waigani Convention

Purpose

1. A review of the Waigani Convention was commissioned by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to:
 - a. evaluate how the Convention is being implemented at all levels;
 - b. determine whether the objectives of the Convention are being met by the actions of the Parties; and
 - c. evaluate the effectiveness of the Secretariat.
2. The review has been undertaken in conjunction with a review of implementation of the *Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region and related protocols* (Noumea Convention).
3. This paper and the report (attached as Attachment 1) summarises the review and proposes next steps for Parties to consider. The recommendations were the same for both Conventions.

Background

4. At the 9th Meeting of the Parties to the Waigani Convention (2017), SPREP proposed a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Waigani Convention including whether its objectives were being met by the actions of the parties and the effectiveness of the Secretariat, with the intention of providing recommendations on how these could be improved. Parties directed the Secretariat to progress the matter.
5. The review was undertaken in July and August 2019 and consisted of a desktop analysis of outputs and achievements under the Convention over the past ten years.

Action

6. The report represents the outcome of the review. The report contains a series of recommendations for Parties to consider. These range from increased resourcing to administer the Convention and greater commitment from Parties to meet the requirements of the Convention, an award for best project/initiative within the reporting period, a rotational system for hosting COPs that includes a field trip of a demonstration project by the host country, increased scope to include emerging issues such as plastic pollution, amendment procedures to be carried out by tacit acceptance.

Recommendation

7. The Parties are invited to:

1. **consider** the attach report including recommendations; and
 2. **endorse** the report and commit to the implementation of the recommendations.
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