



Seventeenth meeting of the Noumea Convention

Seventeenth ordinary meeting of the contracting parties to the convention for the protection of the natural resources and environment of the South Pacific Region and related protocols (Noumea Convention)

Apia, Samoa
31 August 2023

Agenda Item 4.1: Secretariat report on the activities undertaken in the biennium period of July 2021 to June 2023

Purpose of paper

1. To table the Report by the Secretariat under Rule 12(vi) of the Rules of Procedure of the Noumea Convention outlining work achieved from July 2021 to June 2023 in fulfillment of the provisions of the Noumea Convention.

Background

2. The Noumea Convention was negotiated under the framework of UNEP's Regional Seas Programme and was adopted in 1986. The Convention and its two related Protocols (Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the South Pacific Region by Dumping; Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution Emergencies in the South Pacific Region) entered into force on 22 August 1990.
3. The Convention provides a comprehensive umbrella agreement for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment of the Pacific Islands' region, and addresses pollution from all sources and the need for environmental impact assessments.
4. The Protocols to the Convention are in recognition of the danger and threats of pollution to the marine environment caused by dumping of waste or other matters. Further, the exploration, development and use of offshore and near shore minerals and the use of hazardous substances as well as related vessel traffic, pose the threat of significant pollution emergencies in the Pacific region.

Recommendation

5. The Parties are invited to:
 - 1) **adopt** the report of the Secretariat on the activities undertaken during the biennium period of July 2021 to June 2023 (WP4.1.1).