



Ad Hoc Meeting of the Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region and related Protocols (Noumea Convention) – June 2023



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Review of the Convention for the Protection of Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region (1986): Noumea Convention





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A Reflection



- Adopted in 1986, the Convention and its related Protocols entered into force in 1990.
- Fourteenth Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Noumea Convention (COP14) in 2017, the conference agreed for the Secretariat to carry out a review of the Noumea Convention after considering an information paper on Strengthening Membership and Effectiveness of the Convention.
- COP14 decision - the Secretariat firstly undertakes further background research and development of future options
- The TOR
 - Evaluate how the Convention is being implemented at all levels;
 - Determine whether the objectives of the Convention are being met by the actions of the Parties; and
 - Evaluate the effectiveness of the Secretariat.
- Desktop Analysis and findings presented in COP15- 2019



Outcomes Presented to COP 15 - 2019

- Increased resourcing to administer the Convention
- Greater commitment from Parties to meet requirements of the Convention
- Rotational system for hosting COPs that includes a field trip to demonstrate a project
- An award for best project/initiative within the reporting period
- Increased scope of the Convention to include emerging issues such as plastic pollution
- Adoption process for protocols to be either by definitive signature or tacit acceptance.



The COP 15 Decision

- Parties deferred any decision on the review and tasked Secretariat to consult the Parties.
- This triggered the 2021 review which commenced in July and concluded in November 2021.
- The 2021 review was broader in scope than the first review and more regional/national-focused.



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Objectives of the review:

- ❖ *Governance and operation of the Noumea Convention*
- ❖ *Implementation of the Noumea Convention –*

Review recommendations:

- ❖ List of 20 Recommendations that will guide the project in consultations with the Parties.
- ❖ Per COP16 decision, an intersessional meeting will convene for the Parties to discuss the recommendations from the review.

Some key recommendations:

- ❖ That the Noumea Convention be more clearly and explicitly linked with key regional frameworks
- ❖ That the profile and awareness of the Noumea Convention be more targeted through increased communications and awareness campaigns
- ❖ That a sustainable financing strategy is developed for the Noumea Convention
- ❖ A dedicated, permanent staff position for the Noumea Convention Secretariat is established within SPREP
- ❖ For Parties to consider 2 options: (1) no substantive changes to the Convention; (2) substantive changes to be made to the Convention.

2021 review





**SPREP
PROE**

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Thank You

