

## Action Taken on Matters Arising

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting (8-9 September 2022)

Agenda Items	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
<p><b>Agenda Item 6.1:</b> Audit Committee Report</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Noted</b> and approved the report of the Audit Committee for the period August 2021–July 2022.;</li> <li>2) <b>Noted</b> the reserve position though improved in 2021 when compared to 2020, is still at a critical level;</li> <li>3) <b>Requested</b> members to update their outstanding membership contributions and grateful for provision of any extra voluntary contributions in support of their Secretariat; and</li> <li>4) <b>Recorded</b> its appreciation for the cooperation and support it has received from the Director-General, management, and staff of SPREP over the past 12 months.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nett balance outstanding on Membership Contributions as at 31/12/22 was \$179,176 or 12.5% of amount due from member for 2022 contributions and previous years' arrears. This is an improvement compared to \$238,114 net arrears in 2021.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 6.3:</b> Sustainable Financing</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Noted</b> the update report;</li> <li>2) <b>Agreed</b> to await further update and guidance from the Working Group established in the 30th SPREP meeting to discuss the recommendations of the Independent Corporate Review/Mid-Term Review and Remuneration review reports particularly those which relate to Financial Sustainability of SPREP; and</li> <li>3) <b>Committed</b> to consider and support the review of the core funding percentage of membership contributions and donor funds through an independent consultancy to be undertaken to determine an appropriate Finance and Resource Sustainability Strategy for SPREP to be tabled and endorsed by members in the 31st SPREP meeting in 2023.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last meeting convened for ICR/MTR Working Group was in July 2022 to which the focus was on prioritisation exercise/risk assessment first. Hence, the outcome of future discussions by the committee should help provide further guidance relative to the area of Financial sustainability.</li> <li>• In respect of the Independent Consultancy, the tender was advertised in December 2022 and then again in January 2023 after there were no bids. Following the evaluation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> tender, the panel agreed and was approved by SPREP to go out to tender again by requesting for quotes direct from potential suppliers. RFQ is due on 8 May and will advise accordingly.</li> </ul>

## Action Taken on Matters Arising

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting (8-9 September 2022)

Agenda Items	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
<p><b>Agenda Item 6.4:</b> Working Group for the Prioritisation of Recommendations of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Independent Corporate Review and the Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the SPREP Strategic Plan</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Noted</b> the progress of the Working Group in regard the prioritisation of the ICR and MTR recommendations.</li> <li>2) <b>Endorsed</b> that more time is required for the Working Group to complete all its deliverables</li> <li>3) <b>Endorsed</b> that the Working Group report on the priority recommendations and Key Focus Areas be submitted in an out-of-cycle paper to the full SPREP Membership, by the first quarter of 2023</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SPREP ICR/MTR WG engaged an independent facilitator with funding support from Government of Australia to assist the Working Group.</li> <li>• The TOR of the Working Group developed and adopted.</li> <li>• The ICR/MTR met several times and undertook a prioritisation process of the ICR/MTR recommendations.</li> <li>• The Remuneration Review was added to the work of the Working Group as per SM decision.</li> <li>• A detailed update will be discussed in Agenda item 6.4</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 6.6:</b> SPREP Director General's Performance Assessment – closed session</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Noted</b> and <b>endorsed</b> the proposed way forward by the Troika that for this year, the focus will be on finalising the Director General's performance development plan for 2022/2023. No review is required; and</li> <li>2) <b>Invited</b> all Members through a circular to propose relevant and appropriate specific targets they wish to be included in the Director General's plan by the end of September 2022. The Troika will then discuss and finalise with the Director General his PDP targets by the end of October 2022;</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circular 22/89 was sent to Members on 3 October 2022 and the Troika were able to meet with the Director General to finalise his 2022/23 PDP on 27 October 2022.</li> </ul>

## Action Taken on Matters Arising

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting (8-9 September 2022)

Agenda Items	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
<p><b>Agenda Item 7.1:</b> UNEA 5.2 Strategic Outcomes</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Acknowledged</b> with appreciation the leadership, support and effort by Members (Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Palau, Samoa, Tuvalu, United States of America, United Kingdom) as well as Civil Societies and NGOs particularly the Centre of International Law (CIEL), Environment Investigation Agency (EIA), Massey University, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the University of Newcastle;</li> <li>2) <b>Reaffirmed</b> our commitment as SPREP Members to the INC process to negotiate a global legally binding treaty to address plastic pollution;</li> <li>3) <b>Acknowledged</b> the financial support from the Government of Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to support the engagement of Members in the INC process; and</li> <li>4) <b>Requested</b> the Secretariat to assist and support to Members towards achieving the commitments made at UNEA5.2</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided assistance to Members to participate in INC-1 in Uruguay and INC-2 in France to fully engage in the intergovernmental negotiating committee discussions to develop an internationally legally binding global instrument to address plastic pollution with funding support from the Government of Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.</li> <li>• Similar assistance will be provided to Members for INC-3, 4 and 5.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 7.3:</b> Ocean Related Events and Engagement</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Noted</b> the work of the Secretariat on Oceans which is an overarching priority of the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017–2026; and</li> <li>2) <b>Encouraged</b> Members to work together with the Secretariat on strategic engagement on global ocean events to amplify Pacific voices and priorities.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Secretariat provided support for the BBNJ negotiations in New York at IGC 5 in August 2022 and February 2023 as part of the CROP team coordinated by OPOC. The negotiations concluded in February 2023 with a final text which is now to be agreed to by Parties in New York in June 2023.</li> </ul>

## Action Taken on Matters Arising

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting (8-9 September 2022)

Agenda Items	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The CBD COP 15 included Agenda Item 19 on coastal and marine Issues. The Secretariat provided support to Members during these agenda items. The work on EBSAs will continue and SPREP will continue to support Members in this work. SPREP is also supporting Members in the AHTEG on the CBD monitoring framework to ensure that indicators are relevant to ocean issues. SPREP will also speak at the Sustainable Ocean Initiative meeting on resource mobilisation needs to implement the Kunming Montreal GBF targets in relation to oceans.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 7.5:</b> Update on Pacific's journey to CBD COP15 and next chapter.</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Noted</b> the progress in preparation for the CBD COP15;</li> <li>2) <b>Proposed</b> ways in which the Secretariat can support countries to implement the Global Biodiversity Framework; and</li> <li>3) <b>Directed</b> the Secretariat to continue to support countries in developing and/or reviewing National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plans; and implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continued to provide support in leadup and during the CBD COP15 for the Pacific island countries as noted in Agenda item 8.2 (CBD Paper for SPREP meeting)</li> <li>▪ SPREP will be convening a series of webinars and workshops in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat and partners to unpack the new Kunming-Montreal GBF and identify support for countries with the process to review and update NBSAPs.</li> <li>▪ Continue to work with countries as requested to support the implementation of the GBF and update of NBSAPs.</li> </ul>

## Action Taken on Matters Arising

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting (8-9 September 2022)

Agenda Items	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
<p><b>Agenda Item 7.6:</b> Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm COP Strategic Outcomes</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Encouraged</b> Members that are Parties to the BRS Conventions to attend future COPs and related meetings to amplify Pacific voices and priority needs;</li> <li>2) <b>Noted</b> with appreciation the support from Australia, New Zealand and NGOs;</li> <li>3) <b>Reaffirmed</b> our commitment as SPREP Members to meeting our obligations to the BRS Conventions in making our region safe from the impacts of chemicals and hazardous wastes; and</li> <li>4) <b>Requested</b> the Secretariat to work with Members to ensure the commitments made at the COPs are achieved.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided assistance to Members to actively engage in the BRS Convention COPs in May 2023. Details is provided in 31SM Agenda item 8.3</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 8.1:</b> Implementing the Pacific Leaders Agenda – includes the 2050 Strategy</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Noted</b> the 2021 CROP Annual Report to Pacific Islands Forum Leaders;</li> <li>2) <b>Noted</b> the endorsement of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent by the 51st Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting in Suva, Fiji</li> <li>3) <b>Endorsed</b> the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and the Secretariat's ongoing engagement in the implementation of the Leaders decisions including the implementation of the 2050 Strategy; and</li> <li>4) <b>Requested</b> the Secretariat consider arrangements for engagement of the European Union and other key partners at SPREP Meetings</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Secretariat is convening the inaugural SPREP Partnership Dialogue on the 4<sup>th</sup> September which precedes the 31<sup>st</sup> SPREP Meeting of Officials. The purpose of the partnership dialogue is to bring together Members, Secretariat, and Partners to share information and discuss opportunities for strategic engagement, collaboration, cooperation, and partnerships. It is also an opportunity for those donors and partners like the EU who do not have any formal engagement in the SPREP Meeting to dialogue with SPREP Members.</li> </ul>

## Action Taken on Matters Arising

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting (8-9 September 2022)

Agenda Items	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
<p><b>Agenda Item 8.4:</b> Enhancing Pacific Island Countries and Territories access and use of environmental data</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Supported</b> the proposed Pacific Environmental Data project concept that will scale up the outcomes and results of the Inform Project</li> <li>2) <b>Urged</b> Members to continue to promote and use the national environmental data portals and national processes established over the past four years; and</li> <li>3) <b>Endorsed</b> the contribution of a portion of Member countries' national GEF 8 STAR (Global Environment Facility System for Transparent Allocation of Resources) allocation to support the implementation of the proposed Pacific Environmental Data Project.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued to provide support and raise awareness to Members on the use of the regional and national environmental data portal to support reporting. This includes focus training for Cook Islands, Vanuatu and Samoa and internally with SPREP programmes.</li> <li>• Circular 22/99 dated 7 November 2022 to SPREP Focal Points on Country GEF 8 STAR Allocation Support Letter- Enhancing access and use of Environmental Data in the Pacific. Received letter of support from Cook Islands, Palau, Republic of Marshall islands, and Solomon islands.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 9.2.1:</b> Sustainability Plan – SPREPs Programme of Support for Protected Areas</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Endorsed</b> the Sustainability Plan for SPREPs Programme of Support for Protected Areas (SPREP-PA)</li> <li>2) <b>Encouraged</b> Members and Partners to commit to, and support the implementation of the Plan;</li> <li>3) <b>Directed</b> the Secretariat to prioritise donor engagement to encourage support to allow for the continued operation of SPREP-PA and implementation of the sustainability plan; and</li> <li>4) <b>Directed</b> the Secretariat to support implementation of the Plan by Members</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The SPREP-PA Sustainability Plan and the work of the SPREP-PA has been promoted with partner organisations, through the Pacific Islands RoundTable for Nature Conservation/Pacific Area-based Conservation Network (PACoN), and at international fora (ie – the Fifth International Marine Protected Areas Congress – IMPAC5, February 2023, Vancouver), thus, implementing recommendation no. 16 outlined in section 4.6.3 of the Plan.</li> <li>▪ Focus of implementing the plan has been on immediate actions that can be easily executed, this has mainly been on addressing suggested improvements to the informational platform of the SPREP-PA, the Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal (PIPAP) outlined in section 3.5.2 of the Plan.</li> <li>▪ A secondary ranking of the Plan's 25 recommendations has been carried out to clearly determine those that require the most immediate attention.</li> </ul>

## Action Taken on Matters Arising

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting (8-9 September 2022)

Agenda Items	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1391 328 2063 528">▪ The Sustainability plan recommendations constitute the workplan of activities over the approved 2 year no-cost extension (June 2023-June 2025) of the BIOPAMA Programme, therefore, active implementation of the plan's more substantial recommendations will increase over this period.</li> <li data-bbox="1391 555 2063 895">▪ Complementary funding assistance for the Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal has been allocated under the ACP-EU Pacific BioScapes Programme for 2024-2025, and additional activities of the SPREP-PA have been implemented through funding support of the ACP MEAs phase 3 programme, thus, demonstrating partnerships with other EU- funded programmes at SPREP and partially implementing recommendation no. 9 and no.12 outlined in sections 4.5.2, 4.5.6, and 4.6.2 of the Plan.</li> <li data-bbox="1391 922 2063 1161">▪ Planning and implementation of tailored capacity building activities which address recommendation no.4 outlined in section 4.3 of the plan continue on protected area management effectiveness, accessing protected areas information, tools and guidance (through the Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal), and protected area-related geospatial skills.</li> </ul>

## Action Taken on Matters Arising

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Board Meeting (8-9 September 2022)

Agenda Items	Meeting decisions / Member requests	Key actions taken
<p><b>Agenda Item 9.4.1:</b> Draft Guidance Note for Coastal Engineering Good Practice in Environmental Impact Assessment for Pacific Island Countries and Territories</p>	<p>The Executive Board Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Approved</b> the Regional Guidance Note on Coastal Engineering Good Practice in Environmental Impact Assessment for Pacific Island Countries and Territories; and</li> <li>1) <b>Urged</b> Members to promote and use the approved Guidance note as a planning tool to systematically evaluate the environmental coastal engineering projects.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Regional Guidance Note on Coastal Engineering Good Practice in Environmental Impact Assessment for Pacific Island Countries and Territories was published and socialised with Members and partners and shared through the Pacific Network of Environmental Assessment platform. A Poster on the guidance note was presented during the International Association of Impact Assessment (IAIA) conference held in Kuching, Malaysia in May 8, 2023.</li> </ul>