

## 31<sup>st</sup> SPREP MEETING OF OFFICIALS

5, 6, and 7 September 2023, Apia, Samoa

### Agenda item 8.1 – UNFCCC COP27 outcomes and update on COP28 preparations

#### Purpose of paper:

1. To inform SPREP Members of UNFCCC COP27 outcomes for Pacific Small Islands Developing States (PSIDS) Parties at the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) meeting in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt in November 2022; and
2. To inform SPREP Members of the progress of preparations being carried out by SPREP and the One CROP to support PSIDS Parties at the Twenty Eighth Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP28) in Dubai, UAE, from 30 November – 12 December 2023.

#### Background:

3. SPREP's Climate Change Resilience Programme has provided technical support and advice to Pacific SIDS that are Parties to the UNFCCC and leads the One CROP team (including PIFS, SPC, FFA and USP) in implementing the Pacific Voyage Plan up to and beyond COP28.
4. COP27 was the culmination of a year's worth of support and planning on behalf of all PSIDS, supported by OneCROP. As well as facilitating a post-COP26 analysis meeting and a pre-Bonn intersessional preparation meeting, SPREP organized seven online in-depth analysis sessions to help prepare negotiators for COP27. Finally, an in-person preparatory meeting was held at the Pacific Climate Change Centre, with support from Climate Analytics and the One CROP team, which culminated in an agreed PSIDS COP27 negotiations strategy and the development of tools such as the delegates compass and Beats series on key topics for high level interventions.

#### Outcomes of COP27

5. The Pacific presence at COP27 was significantly higher than the previous Covid19-affected COP26 in Glasgow, with 14 Pacific delegations - including 268 PSIDS delegates - attending.
6. The Government of New Zealand provided necessary resources for both the Moana Blue Pacific Pavilion and the Pacific Delegation Office which was the centre for daily coordination of the PSIDS.
7. The Government of Ireland supported the development of all materials for the PSIDS use in Sharm el-Sheikh as well as the associated preparatory meetings.

8. Effective support for the 14 PSIDS for COP 28 was provided through substantial coordination with ground support, including: the hosting of regular lead negotiator and Ministerial briefings, coordination of thematic groups alongside lead negotiators, policy and logistical support for Pacific Champions, briefs to support interventions and inform the status of thematic areas and regular bilateral meetings.
9. This technical work was supported by the hosting of a Pacific delegation room and the Moana Pacific Pavilion which hosted 70 side events and provided a “home away from home” for Pacific representatives and provided space and opportunity for high level bilaterals and for negotiators and partners to meet and strategise.
10. This was supplemented by the “1.5 to Stay Alive” digital media campaign which amplified the Pacific voice and the Mana Moana Pacific Voices campaign where poems from Pacific Island poets were showcased on film and across COP27. Both these campaigns garnered significant social media attention.
11. The most substantial positive outcome for PSIDS at COP27 was the landmark establishment of a fund for addressing loss and damage as part of a decision to establish new funding arrangements for assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change in responding to loss and damage. This was the culmination of 30 years of effort on behalf of PSIDS.
12. A Transitional Committee was established to operationalise the loss and damage fund and make recommendations for adoption at COP28. PSIDS, supported by OneCROP, have engaged with the work of the committee throughout 2023.
13. Another positive outcome was agreement to initiate the development of a framework for the global goal on adaptation, which included key PSIDS elements, including an adaptation planning cycle, means of implementation and key sectors aligned to IPCC Assessment Report 6 language.
14. Despite the advances in Loss and Damage, not all other key agenda item outcomes were as positive for PSIDS. Despite strong efforts for advocating increased mitigation ambition, COP27 only saw the reaffirmation of COP26 outcomes on mitigation, meaning there was no significant backsliding, but no increased ambition. Seeing advances in this agenda item is a priority for 2023.

#### Preparations for COP28

15. Immediately following the closing of COP27, preparations commenced for COP28. A COP27 Summary Report was produced in February, identifying key COP27 outcomes and lessons learned.
16. This was followed by the PSIDS Post COP27 meeting, convened virtually from 28 February – 2 March 2023 and attended by all parties. This meeting addressed the state of play of the UNFCCC negotiations and key issues; provided updated information on the key related UNFCCC Meetings for 2023; and discussed initial planning for PSIDS activities in the lead up to the Subsidiary Bodies session in Bonn in June 2023 and COP28 in November.

17. In May, SPREP hosted a Pre-Bonn meeting, preparing members for the Subsidiary Bodies meeting in June. Technical briefs were also developed on key thematic areas to support preparations. Coordination and technical support were provided on the ground in Bonn.
18. A regional Loss and Damage dialogue, bringing together government, civil society, academia, NGOs and the private sector to collectively discuss experiences with loss and damage in the Pacific and options to address loss and damage in the region, will be hosted by SPREP in Samoa in July.
19. SPREP continues to lead the work of the One CROP and is working with the PSIDS Chair-Palau, to support PSIDS through the implementation of the Pacific Voyage Plan.
20. A communication strategy and calendar of events have been developed to further guide preparations toward COP28, including planning for a COP28 Moana Pacific Pavilion and Pacific delegation office.
21. Further technical workshops will be convened from September and will culminate with the PSIDS final COP28 preparatory meeting, which is scheduled for October 10-13, 2023.

**Recommendation:**

22. The Meeting is invited to:

- 1) **Note** the outcomes of PSIDS engagement in COP27; and
- 2) **Note** the progress of preparations by SPREP and One CROP in the lead up to and at the UNFCCC COP28.

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6 June 2023