

## Thirty Second SPREP Meeting of Officials

2-4 September 2025

Sheraton Aggie Greys Hotel & Bungalows  
Apia, Samoa

“Sustaining our Pacific Environment in Harmony with our Cultures”

### **Agenda item 9.4.1: Pacific Island Roundtable for Sustainable Development (PIRSD) Terms of Reference**

#### **Purpose:**

1. To seek Members’ endorsement of the draft Terms of Reference of the Pacific Island Roundtable for Sustainable Development (PIRSD) attached as WP 9.4.1/Att.1.
2. To seek Members’ endorsement of the draft Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee of Pacific Island Roundtable for Sustainable Development (SC-PIRSD) attached as WP 9.4.1/Att.2.

#### **Background:**

3. At its fourth meeting in September 2024, the SPREP Executive Board endorsed the establishment of a Pacific Island Roundtable for Sustainable Development (PIRSD) before the end of 2025 as a SPREP-led regional coordination mechanism.
4. The objectives of the Pacific Island Roundtable for Sustainable Development are:
  - a) To facilitate the sharing of knowledge, lessons learnt and scaling up of best practice on environmental governance and sustainable development issues for the Pacific Islands region.
  - b) To facilitate and maintain effective partnerships for enabling and enhancing access to sustainable financing, technical support, capacity building opportunities and expertise for addressing environmental governance and sustainable development issues in the region.
  - c) To embed and retain learnings and achievements of environmental governance and sustainable development initiatives for the Pacific Islands region.
  - d) To harmonise and maximise efforts and support of SPREPs technical partners for SPREP Members.
5. The PIRSD represents a pioneering strategic, value-added regionally coordinated approach for addressing sustainable development issues in a holistic manner. Based on SPREPs existing regional roundtable experience, the PIRSD will facilitate partnerships, coordination, sharing of knowledge and information and promoting best practice in four key themes:
  - i. Sustainable Development
  - ii. Environment assessment/Environmental and social safeguards
  - iii. Environmental Data for monitoring and reporting
  - iv. Blue Economy and Oceans

6. It is proposed that Roundtable will be led by a Steering Committee (SC-PIRSD). The purpose of the Steering Committee is to provide guidance and oversight on the governance of the Roundtable, including on its organisation, operation, programme development and long-term strategic planning.
7. The SC-PIRSD will determine the approach and modality of engaging with government sector, private sector, practitioners, donors, civil society, NGOs, academic and research institutions in ensuring that the objectives of the Roundtable are met.

#### **Terms of Reference Review Process Undertaken.**

8. The draft terms of reference were shared and presented for review through the following processes and comments received were factored into the draft terms of reference as annexed.
  - a) Presented for review and discussions by SPREP Member Countries and partners who attended the Biodiversity Climate Change Nexus subregional workshop held at the Pacific Climate Change Center in May 2025.
  - b) Presented for review and discussions by SPREP Member Countries who attended the subregional workshops on Transboundary Assessments and Climate Data/GIS Workshop held in Apia in June 2025.

#### **Way Forward**

9. The Secretariat will be approaching partners to provide financial support to the Secretariat to convene its inaugural meeting before the end of the year 2025.

#### **Recommendation:**

10. The Meeting is invited to:
    - 1) **Endorse** the draft Terms of Reference of the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Sustainable Development (PIRSD); and
    - 2) **Endorse** the draft Terms of Reference of the Roundtable Steering Committee (SC-PIRSD)
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