



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Board Meeting

2 – 4 September 2020

### Agenda Item 9.3: Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks

#### Purpose of paper

1. To present SPREP's proposal for refocusing Country and Territory Action Plans at a more strategic and practical level on the concept and process of Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks.

#### Background

2. 28SM agreed to the development of Country and Territory Action Plans within PIPs as a response to a request from Members for strategic bilateral engagements between the Secretariat and Members in the Mid-term Review of the SPREP 2011– 2015 Strategic Plan.
3. Discussion during 28SM considered the concept and agreed that Action Plans should be documented and appended to PIPs but left unresolved specific parameters of the Plans. Further definition was recommended for the 2020/2021 PIP. Relevant text from the SPREP Strategic Plan 2017-2026 and recommendations of 28SM <sup>1</sup> provide the mandate for Country and Territory Action Plans.
4. A series of SMT bilateral visits in 2019 focused attention on the Country and Territory Action Plan approach, and in June SMT agreed that 'Action Plans' implied a level of detail likely to require significant transaction costs on both PICTs and the Secretariat and instead proposed a more strategic and high-level approach more appropriately entitled "Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks.

#### Summary

5. The Secretariat appreciates the desire of PICT Members to have focused guidance to their ongoing bilateral engagements with the Secretariat and recognises that strategic guidance will better focus and streamline Secretariat interactions with PICTs.

---

<sup>1</sup> **Mandate for Country and Territory Action Plans:**

1. SPREP Strategic Plan 2017-2026:  
"[PIPs to] establish simple and flexible Country Action Plans, which describe the agreed priorities for each Member country that will be delivered during the two-year period;"
2. SM28:
  - **noted** the responsibility of Pacific Members to drive country and territory plans;
  - **agreed** to greater involvement of Members in reporting to the SPREP Meeting; and
  - **agreed** that the scope and content of the action plans will be further developed in the 2020-21 PIP.

6. The Secretariat proposes that the Membership consider the potential for Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks to provide practical and appropriately focused guidance to Secretariat support to, and interactions with PICTs.

### **Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks**

7. Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks should:
  - be high-level guides to all interactions between the Secretariat and individual SPREP PICT Members;
  - confirm mutual commitments to existing and planned strategic priorities and actions;
  - take account of other development partner engagements in each PICT development plan;
  - Align with the Partnership Principles of the SPREP Partnership, Engagement and Resource Mobilisation Strategy (refer Working Paper 9.2);
8. A process proposed for joint PICT/Secretariat development and implementation of Country and Territory Strategic Partnership Frameworks is annexed as Attachment 1.

### **Implementation planning**

9. In order to stage the development of Strategic Partnership Frameworks for all 21 PICTs, the Secretariat proposes to begin in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2021 with host country Samoa and those countries visited by SMT in late 2019 (Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Palau and RMI). A timetable for working with remaining PICTs will be developed and shared

### **Recommendations**

10. The Executive Board Meeting is invited to:
  1. **Endorse** the concept and process for developing Pacific Strategic Partnership Frameworks; and
  2. **Consider** and advise on next steps.

---

31 July, 2020

