

FILE: ORG 1/33 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 20 January 2021
CIRCULAR: 21/03
SUBJECT: Building a Resilient Blue Pacific: 2020 CROP Annual Report to Pacific Islands Forum Leaders

Dear Members,

It is my pleasure to share with you all '[Building a Resilient Blue Pacific: 2020 CROP Annual Report to Pacific Islands Forum Leaders](#)'.

The report provides an update on the work of CROP since August 2019, to deliver on decisions from the 50th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting held in Tuvalu. The report also includes an update on:

- responses to address the impacts of COVID-19;
- a summary of ongoing work by CROP to progress existing Forum Leader priorities;
- a CROP financial summary; and
- an overview of CROP's work to deliver on the Smaller Island States (SIS) Strategy.

The CROP strategic work agenda as agreed to by Governing Council Chairs and CROP Heads in 2019 articulates the objectives, activities, and coordination mechanisms for CROP to deliver on the decisions of Forum Leaders. For 2020, the strategic work agenda focused on nine priority areas:

1. 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and review of the regional architecture
2. Climate change and disaster resilience
3. Regional security
4. Sea level rise, maritime boundaries, and baselines
5. Legacy issues of nuclear testing
6. Biological Diversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)
7. Regional mechanism to address oil spills
8. Regional fisheries
9. Regional health issues

As Members may recall the Secretariat reported to the 2nd SPREP Executive Board Meeting in September on the implementation of Leaders decisions, which are pertinent to the 2020 CROP Report:

- [Agenda Item 6.1: Blue Pacific vision and the 2050 Strategy](#)
- [Agenda Item 6.2: Implementation of the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders and SIS Leaders decisions](#)

The Secretariat places great importance on the role of CROP in serving the Pacific region and collectively building with our Members, a Resilient Blue Pacific.

Kind regards,



Roger Cornforth
Acting Director General