PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT FORTY-EIGHTH PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM Apia, Samoa, 5 - 8 September, 2017 FORUM COMMUNIQUÉ		Designated SPREP staff lead	SPREP status reporting on Leaders Communique & SIS Leaders Decisions (10 August 2018)
8. Leaders reiterated their support for existing regional ocean policy and declarations, and strengthening of the Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner for coordination and advocacy of cross-sectoral ocean issues. Leaders called for the commencement of the negotiations in the UN for a new Implementing Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity on Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction.	Commencement of the negotiations in the UN for a new Implementing Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity on Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction.	Blue Team (Oceans), IOE, EMG	SPREP participated in the AOSIS BBNJ Workshop held in New York from 29 May to 1 June 2018. SPREP presented on EIA and Capacity Building Challenges in the Pacific. These challenges will be used by the AOSIS negotiators to flag SIDS positions in the BBNJ negotiation in September 2018. SPREP also made presentations on Marine Genetic Resources, Area Based Management Tools and Institutional arrangements. Met with PSIDS New York based representatives and they will be communicating with regional agencies such as SPREP, PIFS, and SPC to provide technical advice on the BBNJ negotiation package in preparation for the September 2018 BBNJ Meeting.
9. Leaders committed to fast track the development of policies to ban the use of single-use plastic bags, plastic and styrofoam packaging and called on Pacific Rim partners to join and commit to action on addressing marine pollution and marine debris, to maintain the environmental integrity of the Pacific Ocean for people, planet and prosperity.	Fast track development of policies to ban the use of single-use plastic bags, plastic and styrofoam packaging commit to action on addressing marine pollution and marine debris	WMPC, Blue Team (Oceans)	Development of Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan to address marine plastics and microplastics to be finalised in August 2018 which will include a model policy and legislation. Providing technical assistance to Vanuatu in their efforts to ban plastics by the 1st July 2018 through legal advice on the development of the plastic ban legislation, as well as the development of a communication and media strategy. Providing technical assistance by way of policy and communication to Samoa to develop legislation to fully ban single use plastic shopping bags, Styrofoam and plastic packaging. Providing assistance to countries in the implementation of the 2017/04 Conservation Management Measure (CMM) for MARPOL compliance that comes into force in 1st Jan 2019. Providing assistance to countries to implement the circular economy for plastics through the Moana Taka Partnership with Swire Shipping for free freight shipment of plastics from islands to Australia, New Zealand, Asia and west coast U.S. for recycling. Provided assistance to the Raka7s plastic free tournament in Fiji to address behavioural change towards plastics and use sporting champions to advocate the Say No to plastic message. The Raka7's has since won the Global Green Sports Alliance award.

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10. Leaders called for a united regional effort that establishes and secures international recognition of the permanent protection and integrity of the maritime zones and sovereignty from the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise. Leaders noted the leadership of Cook Islands, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Palau	Regional effort that establishes and secures international recognition of the permanent protection and integrity of maritime zones and sovereignty from the impacts of climate change and sea-level rise.	Blue Team (Oceans), IOE, EMG, CCR	Providing assistance to green and make plastic free future high profile events such as the APEC Meeting in Port Moresby in November 2018, the Pacific Games in Samoa in July 2019 and the inaugural MSG Games in PNG in 2020. SPREP Legal Counsel attended a special seminar on this topic in Singapore this year
and Vanuatu toward integrated ocean management of their maritime and exclusive economic zones. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES 14. In endorsing the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable	Endorsed the PRSD, Leaders reinforced the	• SPREP	The SPREP EMG Program through the Director coordinated the
Development (PRSD), Leaders reinforced the centrality of the FPR in contextualising global commitments under the 2030 Agenda and the SAMOA Pathway. Leaders acknowledged with appreciation the work of the SDG Taskforce and all key stakeholders in preparing the PRSD. Leaders committed to focusing their national as well as regional collective efforts to ensure that "no one is left behind" and requisite resources are secured. Leaders recognised that the five elements of the Roadmap provided the requisite guidance for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda by the region. Specifically, the elements are: (i) leadership and coordination; (ii) advocacy and communications; (iii) regional monitoring and indicators; (iv) integrated reporting; and (v) supporting the means of implementation. (b) Climate Change and Resilience	centrality of the FPR in contextualising global commitments under the 2030 Agenda and the SAMOA Pathway. Recognised that the five elements of: (i) leadership and coordination; (ii) advocacy and communications; (iii) regional monitoring and indicators; (iv) integrated reporting; and (v) supporting the means of implementation.	• EMG	drafting of the PSDR Environment Section zero draft which is compiled by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. The environment section focus specifically on Oceans, Biodiversity, Climate Change and Waste Management. Additionally, SPREP has also provided and submitted input on the SAMOA Pathway progress report which will inform the first quadrennial Pacific Sustainable Development Report. SPREP presented on the draft environment section of the PSDR at the SAMOA Pathway preparatory meeting in Tonga in June 2018.
18. Leaders reaffirmed their call for the Framework for the Resilient Development of the Pacific (FRDP) to be fully elaborated to reflect the outcomes of the Paris	Leaders reaffirmed their call for the FRDP to be fully elaborated to reflect the outcomes of the Paris Agreement	CCR	The mandate for undertaking this work was given to PIFS, not SPREP. As the FRDP has been adopted it was not clear from the decision whether this meant a full revision process was being
Agreement and called on the Forum Secretariat to undertake a process for this elaboration.	. a greenene		requested by Leaders. Questions around this to PIFS have not resulted in any clear direction. The FRDP as it stands can be seen as

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			compatible with the Paris Agreement. Further reflection of PA in the FRDP could perhaps be most usefully accomplished through the work of the PRP Task Force.
19. Leaders supported, on a trial basis for an initial period of two years, the proposed Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) governance arrangements agreed by the PRP Working Group to ensure effective implementation of the FRDP while encouraging flexibility to allow the participation of Members in the Task Force; and committed the Forum Secretariat to support the successful implementation of the FRDP.	Supported, on <u>trial basis for an initial period of two years</u> , the proposed PRP governance arrangements agreed by the PRP Working Group to ensure effective implementation of the FRDP while encouraging flexibility to allow the participation of Members in the Task Force	CCR	SPREP is represented in the PRP Task Force (on behalf of CROP) and in its Support Unit. SPREP will be developing the communications strategy for the PRP Task Force which gives the first opportunity to highlight climate change concerns. Decisions have yet to be made on the technical working groups, but SPREP has recommended that the PCCR and PMC working groups be considered.
21. Leaders welcomed the early entry into force of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change in November 2016, at the twenty-second Conference of the Parties (COP 22), in Marrakech, and reaffirmed the Pacific Islands Forum's commitment to continue to work with others who remain steadfast on their obligations under the Paris Agreement. Leaders welcomed the adoption of the Kigali amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer ("Montreal Protocol") and urged countries to accede to the	Reaffirmed the Pacific Islands Forum's commitment to the Paris Agreement. Leaders welcomed the adoption of the Kigali amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer ("Montreal Protocol") and urged countries to accede to the amendment.	CCR WMPC	SPREP has continued to support PICs in the negotiations as well as in developing proposals for how to assist with PA implementation (NDC Hub, transparency, NAPs support, etc). SPREP has dialogued with potential donors for these initiatives. There are clear climate change benefits from the Kigali Amendment coming into force, thus SPREP will encourage acceding to Kigali through a circular to Members and climate change focal points.
amendment. 22. Leaders recognised the unique opportunity that the twenty-third Conference of the Parties (COP 23) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change provides to the Pacific, building up on the outcome of the UN Ocean Conference, and expressed their support towards Fiji's COP 23 Presidency.	Expressed support towards Fiji's COP 23 Presidency.	CCR	SPREP provided support to all PICs in the process and specifically to the Fiji Presidency through briefing papers and advice developed. SPREP also secured funding support for delegates to COP23. SPREP through CROP Plus team provided inputs to briefings for all the five priority areas. SPREP engaged in discussions with PICs and AOSIS on all areas at COP23. However, much of this work is ongoing leading to COP24, and support will be continued.
23. Leaders acknowledged Fiji's five key priorities for the COP 23 presidency, namely: (i) facilitative dialogue; (ii) implementation guidelines and the Paris Agreement Rule Book; (iii) Gender, local communities and indigenous peoples' platform; (iv) Adaptation and loss and damage;	Fiji's five key priorities for the COP 23 presidency, namely: (i) facilitative dialogue; (ii) implementation guidelines and the Paris Agreement Rule Book; (iii) Gender, local communities and indigenous peoples platform; (iv) Adaptation and loss and damage;	CCR, IOE, Blue Team (Oceans)	SPREP through CROP Plus team provided inputs to briefings for all the five priority areas. SPREP engaged in discussions with PICs and AOSIS on all areas at COP23. However, much of this work is ongoing leading to COP24, and support will be continued.

PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT FORTY-EIGHTH PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM Apia, Samoa , 5 - 8 September, 2017 FORUM COMMUNIQUÉ		Designated SPREP staff lead	SPREP status reporting on Leaders Communique & SIS Leaders Decisions (10 August 2018)
and (v) Oceans pathway through 2020 that strengthens the ocean-climate change nexus.	and (v) Oceans pathway through 2020 that strengthens the ocean-climate change nexus.		
24. Recognising the significant vulnerability of Forum Island Countries to the adverse impacts of climate change, Leaders called for urgent, ambitious action from the global community to address climate change, including the provision of finance to implement the Nationally Determined Contributions, finalising the Paris Agreement Guidelines by 2018, and launching an inclusive process to elaborate the Facilitative Dialogue.	Urgent, ambitious action from global community to address climate change, including the provision of finance to implement the Nationally Determined Contributions, finalising the Paris Agreement Guidelines by 2018, and launching an inclusive process to elaborate the Facilitative Dialogue.	CCR	SPREP established the PCU to assist PICs with the development of proposals for projects and readiness, and provided advice to the PICs engaged in developing guidance to the GCF on simplified access. SPREP partnered with SPC, GIZ, GGGI and the global NDC Partnership to establish the Pacific NDC Hub, as a means of supporting review and enhancement of NDCs, and to provide support to securing funding for NDC implementation. SPREP has also supported the Talanoa Dialogue by preparing submissions, and assisting PICs with their preparations at the Bonn meetings in May 2018.
25. Leaders tasked the Forum Secretariat to coordinate, in consultation with Members, the work of CROP agencies in preparations leading up to the COP 23 in Bonn, Germany. Leaders agreed to remain fully engaged in the upcoming regional and global preparatory meeting, including the pre-COP meeting to be held in Nadi from 17 – 18 October.	Coordinate, in consultation with Members, the work of CROP agencies in preparations leading up to the COP 23 in Bonn, Germany.	CCR	While this mandate was also given to PIFS, SPREP continued to take the lead in coordinating the CROP Plus Team in support of PICs at COP23. SPREP has developed the draft 'One CROP-Plus Coordination Framework' for the UNFCCC COP 24: 3 – 14 December 2018, Katowice, Poland. SPREP will continue, to coordinate as the lead coordination agency for the One CROP-Plus support for Pacific island member parties of the UNFCCC in close collaboration with other CROP agencies. To enable early preparation, the strategy has been developed to seek input from One CROP Plus agencies. The IMPACT Ministerial and negotiators workshop scheduled for 31 October-2 November 2018 will provide an important forum to prepare for COP24 and also an opportunity to coordinate roles and responsibilities within the One CROP Plus Group. The work plan for 2019 will be subject to the outcomes of COP24.

PACIFIC ISLANDS FOR FORTY-EIGHTH PACIFIC Apia, Samoa , 5 - 8 S FORUM COMI	CISLANDS FORUM eptember, 2017	Designated SPREP staff lead	SPREP status reporting on Leaders Communique & SIS Leaders Decisions (10 August 2018)
26. Leaders supported eligible Member's application to the Green Climate Fund, including that of Nauru.	Supported eligible Member's application to the GCF, including Nauru.	CCR, PCU	SPREP is currently actively working with 6 Pacific Island Countries (including RMI, Niue, FSM and Kiribati) to implement and / or access GCF (and Adaptation Fund) Project funds. This also includes readiness funds which can be utilised for preparing to become National Implementing Entities. SPREP continues to be actively engaged in climate change finance discussions, including in the context of GCF events. SPREP is also coordinating the GCF Pacific Consultation in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.
SECURITY			
(a) Radioactive contaminants in the Republic of the Mars 28. Leaders recalled that the Republic of the Marshall Islands was placed by the international community under the trusteeship of the United Nations administered by the United States of America, both of which therefore have ongoing obligations to encourage a final and just resolution for the Marshallese people. Leaders welcomed the recommendations in the Special Rapporteur's report submitted to the UN Human Rights Council in September 2012, and that the statement of the UN Secretary-General on 14 August 2017 that "finding a solution to this issue is critical for the future of the Republic of the Marshall Islands" and his assurance that the relevant United Nations entities stand ready to respond to requests for assistance.	a) Radioactive contaminants in the Republic of the Marshall Islands "finding a solution to this issue is critical for the future of the RMI"	WMPC	Refer to update below
30. Leaders recalled their decision from 2016 and reaffirmed that the Forum Secretariat coordinate assistance by CROP Agencies to the Republic of the Marshall Islands in addressing ongoing impacts of nuclear testing, including, inter alia, human rights, environmental contamination, and health impacts. Leaders further tasked the Forum Secretariat to report to the 49th Pacific Islands Forum on actions taken in this regard.	Forum Secretariat to coordinate assistance by CROP to RMI in addressing ongoing impacts of nuclear testing, including, inter alia, human rights, environmental contamination, and health impacts. Leaders further tasked the Forum Secretariat to report to the 49th Pacific Islands Forum on actions taken in this regard.	WMPC	PIFS, SPC and SPREP have established a dialogue with the RMI National Nuclear Commission (NNC), which has been designated by the RMI Government as the lead agency for discussions with CROP on the nuclear issues. The NCC is a new agency and in the early stages of national consultations to ascertain priority issues, and required assistance. Key forms of support to RMI so far: Coordination of political representations (PIFS); Sourcing of technical assistance to undertake cancer-mapping (SPC);

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			Sharing of scientific reports on radioactivity in RMI (SPREP).
COUNTRY INITIATIVES			
(a) Insurance Facility		T	
47. Leaders considered the concept of a Pacific Island Climate Change Insurance Facility (PICCIF) to cover the impacts of Climate Change and noted a taskforce would be established to further elaborate it. Leaders further supported the idea that the taskforce would report to the Forum Economic Ministers Meeting in 2018 and later to the Leaders meeting.	Leaders considered the concept of a PICCIF to cover the impacts of Climate Change and noted a taskforce would be established to further elaborate it. Leaders further supported the idea that the taskforce would report to the FEMM in 2018 and later to the Leaders meeting.	CCR	The mandate for organising the task force was given to PIFS., SPREP had facilitated the first regional dialogue on the PICCIF in 2017. SPREP has been active on the task force at its meetings in 2018, and has sought resources from partners to implement aspects of the task force recommendations, which were reported to the FEMM in 2018 and endorsed. SPREP is awaiting the confirmation of the next task force meeting as well as from partners' decisions on supporting this work. There are clear linkages from the work of the task force to date to the PCCC.
48. Leaders also received an update on the establishment of the PCRAFI initiative which is now operational.	Establishment of the PCRAFI initiative which is now operational	CCR	PCRAFI has been engaged in the PICCIF task force, in order to capitalise complimentary work.
(e) United Nations Climate Change Displacement Resoluti	on		
52. Leaders considered a proposal for a UN General Assembly Resolution to Give Protection to People Displaced by Climate Change.	Proposal for a UN General Assembly Resolution to Give Protection to People Displaced by Climate Change.	CCR	SPREP is willing to provide support to the PSIDS delegations negotiating this issue at the level of the UNGA.
OTHER BUSINESS			
(a) Smaller Island States Leaders Outcomes			
53. Leaders noted the SIS Leaders' Summary of Decisions.			
(c) Hurricane Irma in the Caribbean			
56. Leaders recalled the impact of recent cyclones in the Pacific and in particular the significant destruction to infrastructure and economies of small states. Leaders reiterated the importance for the international community to recognise the 'existential threat' climate change poses to the Pacific, the Caribbean and throughout the Commonwealth and the critical need to provide the necessary support as small states continue to adopt resilient and innovate approaches to pursue a development agenda and to meet the goals of the SDGs.	Leaders reiterated the importance of the international community recognising the 'existential threat' climate change poses to the Pacific, the Caribbean and throughout the Commonwealth.	CCR	SPREP has continued to recommend that this terminology be maintained, including recently in the PALM Outcome Statement.

PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT FORTY-EIGHTH PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM Apia, Samoa , 5 - 8 September, 2017 FORUM COMMUNIQUÉ SIS Leaders Summary of Decisions (4 September 2017)		Designated SPREP staff lead To be actioned by with lead	SPREP status reporting on Leaders Communique & SIS Leaders Decisions (10 August 2018) To action by/ status reporting
11. Leaders called on CROP agencies yet to integrate the SIS Regional Strategy into their respective work programme, to do so.	Leaders called on CROP agencies yet to integrate the SIS Regional Strategy into their respective work programme, to do so.	Executive	This has been actioned by SPREP
12. Leaders called for a review of CROP agencies work on climate change, to identify United States' funded activities that may be affected with the United States' withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and report back to Leaders before COP23.	Review of CROP agencies work on climate change, to identify United States' funded activities that may be affected with the United States' withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and report back to Leaders before COP23.	CCR	Report back by October, 2017 United States withdrawal from the Paris Agreement has resulted in an immediate reduction of USD 21 million from expected US assistance to the region. This included cuts to the ISACC project, termination of the READY project, and removal of funding that was expected to be channelled directly to PICs for project development or co-financing.
Options for Joint SIS Proposals to the Green Climate Fund			
23. Leaders acknowledged that joint SIS proposals will not preclude SIS Members from working individually and/or joining other Pacific joint programmatic proposals.	SIS proposals will not preclude SIS Members from working individually and/or joining other Pacific joint programmatic proposals.	CCR, PCU	Noting GCF proposals should be country driven and aligned with GCF Country Programmes, SPREP is working with Niue and RMI as part of a broader Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Resilience Programme for the GCF. SPREP is also working with Niue and RMI to implement GCF Readiness Projects.
24. Leaders agreed on (i) infrastructure resilience, (ii) sustainable transport, and (iii) climate change insurance facility as the three priority thematic areas for joint SIS proposals to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).	Leaders agreed on (i) infrastructure resilience, (ii) sustainable transport, and (iii) climate change insurance facility as the three priority thematic areas for joint SIS proposals to the GCF.	CCR, PCU	SPREP's level of accreditation does place some limits on the type of project that can be supported with heavy infrastructure projects likely unfeasible. Through RMI and Niue GCF Readiness Projects, SPREP will support the two countries to explore options in these areas through development of a Country Programme. There is also a need for greater details on the first two areas, while the third will need to await the outcomes of the PICCIF task force.
25. Leaders tasked the Secretariat to consult with SIS countries, in particular their National Designated Authority, to further develop project ideas based on the agreed three thematic areas and to coordinate with Accredited Implementing Entities to prepare the project concept(s) for submission to the GCF.	Tasked Secretariat to consult with SIS countries, in particular their NDA, to further develop project ideas based on the agreed three thematic areas and to coordinate with Accredited Implementing Entities to prepare the project concept(s) for submission to the GCF.	CCR, PCU	SPREP has raised this instruction with PICs during GCF discussions, and will do so again during the two upcoming GCF events in FSM and Fiji. SPREP is delivering two Readiness Projects (Niue and RMI) to assist in the development of a Country Programme. The country driven approach will be crucial in specifying priorities for progressing, and to determine whether SPREP is an eligible entity to deliver the projects.

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26. Leaders further tasked the Secretariat to coordinate with Accredited Implementing Entities, national designated authorities, and the GCF Secretariat to progress this work immediately.	Tasked the Secretariat to coordinate with Accredited Implementing Entities, national designated authorities, and the GCF Secretariat to progress this work immediately.	CCR, PCU	SPREP has convened discussions with IEs during GCF events and will continue to do so. PCU is in regular contact with GCF to follow up on country requests and questions.
Pacific Island Climate Change Insurance Facility 31. Leaders considered the need for a Pacific Island Climate Change Insurance Facility (PICCIF) and agreed to the concept for a PICCIF and the establishment of a taskforce to further elaborate on it.	Agreed to the concept for a PICCIF and the establishment of a taskforce to further elaborate on it.	CCR	SPREP stands ready to continue assisting in this work. See Leaders note 47 and 48 above.
32. Leaders further supported the idea that the taskforce should report to the Forum Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM) in 2018 with the view to proposing a full proposal for endorsement by FEMM and later by the Pacific Island Forum Leaders in 2018 in Nauru.	Supported idea that the taskforce should report to the FEMM in 2018 with the view to proposing a full proposal for endorsement by FEMM and later by the Pacific Island Forum Leaders in 2018 in Nauru.	CCR	See Leaders note 47 and 48 above. Report to the FEMM in 2018
United Nations General Assembly Resolution to Give Prote	ction to People Displaced by Climate Change and Othe	r Anthropogenic Envi	ronmental Impacts
33. Leaders considered the proposal for a United Nations General Assembly Resolution to Give Protection to People Displaced by Climate Change and agreed to support the Resolution with the inclusion of people displaced by other anthropogenic environmental impacts.	UNGA to Give Protection to People Displaced by Climate Change and agreed to support the Resolution with the inclusion of people displaced by other anthropogenic environmental impacts.	CCR	See Leaders note 52 above
37. Leaders called for a process to elaborate the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific in order to incorporate the Paris Agreement.	Process to elaborate the FRDP in order to incorporate the Paris Agreement.	CCR	See Leaders note 18 and 19 above