

The Pacific Regional Centre for
Training and Technology Transfer for the
Joint Implementation of the
Basel and Waigani Conventions

Business Plan 2016-2017 and 2017-2018

Secretariat of the Pacific
Regional Environment Programme
(SPREP)

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Executive Summary of the Business Plan 2016-2017

This Business Plan prepared for the period 2016-2017 aims to continue the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Basel Convention to 2015, taking into account the realities and needs of developing countries in the Pacific. Driven by the ultimate goal of a Pacific region in which human health and the environment are no longer threatened by toxic chemicals and the vision of the Centre, as “*the leading institution for the countries of the Pacific in the process of capacity building, strengthening and specialization toward minimizing health and environmental risks by means of integrated hazardous waste and substances management, within a framework of sustainable development*”, the activities and projects contained in this Plan uphold the lines of the previous Business Plan and build on the experience acquired in meeting these goal and vision.

The plan is formulated based on priority issues identified by the Pacific countries in previous regional meetings and contemplating the need to conceptualise the projects, programmes and activities of an integrated hazardous waste and substances management scenario, paying attention to the life cycle of substances and products, hence, its execution is expected to contribute to facilitation of the implementation of the Basel, Waigani, Rotterdam, Stockholm and the recently adopted Minamata Conventions as an integrated activity.

The Regional Centre sees itself as a strategic actor, facilitating the processes of regional and national capacity building and strengthening through training of the key national and regional actors in environmentally sound hazardous waste and substances management, as well as the preparation and dissemination of specialized information. The execution of regional and national projects is thought to be a basic strategy for the transference of technology and successful experiences.

It is in this sense that for this period we have identified the following strategic lines of action:

- Strengthening the relationship of the *Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions (SPREP)* with the *Regional Centre with the Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Asia and the Pacific (Tsinghua University, China)* to facilitate the improved control and environmentally sound management of hazardous substances and wastes in the Pacific region;
- Development and strengthening awareness programs and outreach in the field of hazardous waste by integrating the areas covered by the Conventions;
- Completing on-ground programmes to minimize the risk to Pacific islanders of exposure to hazardous wastes;
- Strengthening national capacities of countries in the region to implement the obligations of the Conventions through training and transfer of technology for minimizing waste generation; and
- Prompting the environmentally sound management of hazardous substances and wastes, minimizing health and the environment risks and supporting synergy in the implementation of the Basel, Waigani, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions.

The budget for 2016-2017 consists of USD\$3,936,814, corresponding to the activities and projects whose execution during the term is considered possible.

Information on the Centre

A – Vision

Pacific island people depend on their natural environment for their sustenance and livelihoods. Vital resources and ecosystems are under ever-increasing pressure as our islands strive to address their economic aspirations and meet the needs of their growing populations. In particular, pollution and the growing volumes of solid and hazardous wastes are major threats to the environments and sustainable development of the Pacific islands. Globalisation is accelerating the transition of Pacific communities towards consumer economies, with increasing urbanisation, migration, and participation in international trade. This is resulting in an escalation in the generation of solid and liquid wastes, and these increase the risk of coastal and marine pollution. The lack of controls on imported chemicals, and the lack of capacity for managing pollutants threaten to undermine the quality and health of the islanders and the vulnerable ecosystems on which they depend.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) has been charged by the governments and administrations of the Pacific region with the protection and sustainable development of the region's environment. Management of hazardous wastes is seen by Member States¹ as a critical component of this work, and SPREP is mandated to take action on waste management and the control of pollution.

The Secretariat's focus is to assist Members countries improve their technical capacity to manage pollution, solid wastes and hazardous chemicals through provision of training, technical advice and support. SPREP also encourages and supports the development of national and regional waste management infrastructure and innovative funding measures, and the sharing of best practices across the region in order to support environmentally sound and sustainable waste management and reduce pollution. SPREP further supports renewed efforts in educating communities through national and other targeted awareness campaigns. With the support of bilateral and multilateral partnerships, the goal is for all members to have national waste management and pollution control policies, strategies, plans and practices in place to minimize terrestrial, atmospheric and marine pollution, hazardous waste, solid waste and other land-based sources of pollution.

B – Background

The Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions for the countries in the Pacific region, established within the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP), is located at Apia, Samoa. Just as the Waigani Convention was developed within the framework of Article 11 of the Basel Convention and thus shares common and overlapping objectives with it, the establishment of the Pacific Regional Centre is not only seen as a mechanism to improve SPREP's work as the Secretariat of the Waigani Convention in assisting the Parties in the region, but also as an opportunity to foster better cooperation with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention in the implementation of both Conventions' objectives. The establishment of the Centre is also seen as an opportunity to extend this cooperation to other secretariats of relevant multilateral environmental agreements, including the Stockholm, Rotterdam, Minamata, SAICM and IMO Conventions.

¹ American Samoa, Australia, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna

The Centre provides services for the implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions to the Parties to the Basel or Waigani Conventions consenting to be served. These includes the provision of services through capacity building activities and initiatives, specific projects and the transfer of appropriate technologies for the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, to achieve the fulfillment of the objectives of the Conventions. Any other non-Party States to the Basel or Waigani Conventions from the Pacific region may at any time express their consent to be served by the Centre through a written communication to the Centre, the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and SPREP.

The Centre services the following countries: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (See Annex 1 on Status of Ratification to the Basel and Waigani Convention).

Recent activities undertaken by the Centre include development of a Regional asbestos management strategy (2011); development of a Regional E-waste strategy (2011); development of a Regional Healthcare Waste Management strategy (2012); securing SAICM quick-start funding for better E-waste management in 3 Pacific island countries (2012-2013); securing AFD financing for integrated regional waste oil management (2011-2014); and securing AFD financing for development of regional hazardous waste management training (2011-2014), securing GEF funding for the better management of hazardous wastes and uPOPs prevention through the GEF-PAS (Global Environment Facility Pacific Alliance for Sustainability) and European Union EDF10 funding for the better management of asbestos, e-waste and healthcare waste. . Currently the Centre is endeavoring to secure funding for the better management of mercury and mercury-containing equipment in the region as part of the assessment work on the Minamata Convention.

C – Governance

The governance of the Centre through the Conference of the Parties and the Steering Committee automatically ensures direct control of the Countries party to both the Basel and Waigani Conventions over the related activities of the Centre. The agreement establishing the Centre was officially signed between the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and SPREP on the 18th December 2003, in Geneva and was recently revised and extended in June 2014. It is operated under the joint authority of the Parties to the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the Pacific region.

The Pacific Regional Centre operates under the Directorship of the Director General of SPREP and has a number of core staff that dedicate part of their time attending to the Centre's activities which assists SPREP to perform its role as the Secretariat of the Waigani Conventions. The staffing of the regional Centre is governed by the SPREP staff regulations while the activities of the Centre are carried out under the general guidance and supervision of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and SPREP who also coordinate the activities of the Centre with the relevant activities of other Basel Convention Regional Centres or of the Parties to the Basel and Waigani Conventions, as well as with international organisations, programmes and other global and regional conventions.

Subject to the agreement of the Regional Centre's Steering Committee, any non-Party State to the Basel and Waigani Conventions outside the Pacific region, non-governmental organisation, entity, private sector organisation, academic institution, or other organisation may participate in the activities of the Centre. The Centre implements activities in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Waigani Conventions and the Business Plan that is developed by the Regional Centre Steering Committee. The overall monitoring of the Center's activities against the Business Plan is the function of the Regional Centre Steering Committee. The Steering Committee advises on the development and

implementation of the activities of the Centre and to enhance national support to its work from countries served by the Centre. It is also charged with the responsibility of developing the Business Plan of the Centre and overseeing its implementation.

The Steering Committee is composed of five (5) members nominated by the countries to be served by the Centre through a process of consultation, for a period of four (4) years with the members being experts of recognized standing and with experience in the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes. The representative of SBC, SPREP and the Director of the Centre will participate in the meetings of the Committee *ex officio*. The members of the Committee elect by consensus the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee from among its members for a period of four (4) years. The Chairperson, in consultation with SBC, SPREP and the Director of the Centre, convene the ordinary meetings of the Committee at least every two years. Extraordinary meetings may be convened by the Chairperson, when required, in consultation with SBC and SPREP.

The current members of the Steering Committee are: Chair: Tonga; Vice-Chair: Fiji; Fiji (representing the Melanesian sub-region), Kiribati (representing the Micronesian sub-region) and Tonga (representing the Polynesian sub-region). Australia and New Zealand were absent at the last meeting while PNG and Cook Islands were invited to continue their tenure.

The funding of the basic activities of the Centre are primarily through mechanisms set up by the Waigani financial regulations and financial mechanisms under the Basel Convention. The voluntary funding envisaged under the Basel Convention and the Waigani Convention' Financial Regulations affect the stability needed for a smooth operation of the Centre according to a longer-term workplan.

D – Contact information

The Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions key contact is:

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II – The Centre and the Basel Convention

A – Performance of the core functions

The Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions work in cooperation with the countries in the region to effect the core functions of the Basel Convention Regional Centres established in decision VI/3 of the Conference of the Parties.

Although the impact of the Centre has never been formally assessed, it is estimated that the current level of support of the countries served by the Centre indicates that the activities coordinated by the Centre are having a positive impact in the region. Among the main achievements of the Centre is the acquisition of significant funding to support improved

hazardous waste management in the Pacific region; completion of on-ground projects to reduce potential impacts of hazardous waste, preparation of workshops concerning different hazardous wastes topics; and provision of hazardous waste management advice on request. The Centre also has served as a facilitator for technology transfer within the region, specifically through the preparation of technical guidelines and regional Action Plans for waste management streams such as asbestos, healthcare waste and e-waste.

B – Opportunities for improvement

Challenges faced by the region are complex and immense, and often implementation of the Conventions by Parties of the region is often either non-existent or only partial. Essential improvements are needed across the region in terms of human resources; improved expertise and knowledge, including legal expertise; increased financial support; increased capacity to conduct trainings ('train the trainers'); improved judicial capacity; improved awareness within relevant National authorities (Ministries and their specialized department/agencies, customs officers, etc.); and increased political willingness, from the relevant national authorities, to prioritise the Chemicals and Waste agenda, and therefore the Conventions implementation. In addition, a mechanism needs to be developed to sustainably co-finance the activities of the Centre including a Waigani Trust fund, a Basel Trust Fund and Basel technical Trust Fund. This will need to be formalized in project documents signed by Secretariat of the Basel Convention (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the Waigani Convention (SPREP).

C – Cooperation with the Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions

The Waigani, Basel, Minamata, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions are key international agreements that regulate the use and trans-boundary movement of hazardous chemicals and wastes in the Pacific. Countries signed to these conventions have undertaken to manage or track the importation and movement of hazardous chemicals and wastes in the region to ensure that they are disposed of properly and not dumped in the region. However, country officials are often untrained in these procedures, which place the Pacific region at risk. To improve this situation, SPREP have established working relationships with the Secretariats of all these global conventions and have undertaken a number of activities in the region.

D – Joint activities

Ozone depleting substances (ODS) and refrigerants contained in air conditioner and refrigerator gases are highly destructive to the earth's ozone layer which protects us from harmful radiation from the sun. Pacific island countries are progressively working towards better regulation or banning of these types of gases. In 2013, as part of its activities in assisting PICs to develop and enforce a quota system for the import/export of HCFCs in consultation with UNEP, SPREP provided support for 248 refrigeration and air conditioning technicians from 8 Member countries to access training in best practice refrigerant management through the Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC) in Samoa. In addition SPREP provided support to 11 Pacific island countries to help fulfill their national Hydrochlorofluorocarbon Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) obligations under the Montreal Protocol. This support provided further training in border protection, refrigerant management and community awareness-raising.

Agriculture is an important component of Pacific island economies as well as a critical source of local foods. Unfortunately, modern farming techniques have resulted in the use of a range of pesticides to increase production, including the use of persistent pesticides such as DDT and dieldrin. Unused stocks were often buried or kept in unmanaged stores around the region when these pesticides were banned for use in the 1980s. SPREP in partnership with FAO, under the GEF funded uPOPs project have completed negotiations to undertake a regional project to train officers and practitioners in the Pacific on better management of pesticide containers and

management of stockpiles. The project will be conducted concurrently with the other components of the GEF-PAS uPOPs project.

III – Regional Needs Assessment

Waste and pollution have significant impacts on the region's environment, as well as on public health, drinking water quality, fisheries, agriculture, and tourism and on the quality of life in general. Poor waste management and pollution are also major threats to sustainable development in Pacific Island Countries and Territories. Building a better regional skills base and technical capacity, and increasing awareness of waste management and pollution control issues are central to the Centre's and SPREP's role in assisting Pacific island countries and territories to manage waste and pollution to protect public health while at the same time protecting the environment and encouraging economic growth. However, economic sustainability is often perceived as the first priority, usually at the cost of the environment and social structures. While most Pacific island countries have made significant steps towards protecting the environment, much remains to be done. There are also a number of legacies of the past that are to be addressed, and one of those legacies is the result of mismanagement of chemicals and hazardous wastes.

In recent times, a significant amount of work in the area of waste management has been undertaken in the region. The following regional plans have been put in place to address the various components of the waste stream and are now being implemented. These include:

- The Pacific Ocean Pollution Prevention Programme (PACPOL); 2010-2014
- The Pacific Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy; 2010-2015
- Regional Asbestos Management Plan (2011)
- Regional E-waste Management Plan (2012)
- Regional Healthcare Waste Management Plan (2012)
- National Solid Waste Management Strategies

There is currently no regional plan for dealing with hazardous waste at both the regional and national levels but this will be addressed in 2015 when the Secretariat, with financial support from JICA, will undertake to develop the new Regional Waste Management Strategy. The new strategy will be a holistic waste management strategy in that it will include hazardous waste together with solid waste management issues. In the meantime, there are many activities that are being undertaken to manage hazardous waste, many under the various projects implemented at the regional and national levels under the Conventions. These projects have often highlighted the barriers and priorities of issues that were pertinent to the management of these types of wastes. These include:

- A. Barriers to improved management of chemicals and hazardous wastes:
- Lack of knowledge of chemicals and hazardous wastes issues
 - Lack of targeted and user-friendly information on chemicals and hazardous wastes issues
 - Lack of adequately trained personnel and the need for much more institutional strengthening
 - Lack of in country trainers
 - Lack of coverage of new emerging issues in existing educational curricula
 - Poor systems in countries for chemical handling, storage and use, and information management
 - Lack of guidelines and manuals to deal with specific waste streams generated in the Pacific region
 - Lack of data on fate and transportation of chemicals and hazardous wastes in the region
 - Lack of appropriate legislation in some countries
 - Lack of knowledge on alternatives to certain toxic chemicals

- Lack of established control systems for managing chemicals and hazardous wastes including import information
 - An absence of appropriate disposal facilities and is expensive to move them to another country for disposal purposes
 - PICs still learning about the requirements of regional and international MEAs such as Waigani, Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions and the procedures therein
- B. Priority needs and issues for chemical and hazardous waste management
- Education, Training, Community Awareness and Participation
 - Chemical management systems, Technology, Information and Research with a focus on synergistic approaches to management systems at the national levels
 - Guidelines and manuals dealing with specific waste streams generated in the Pacific region
 - Adequate funding and improved cooperate funding arrangements
 - Appropriate legislation development and drafting training
 - Compilation of expertise list in the region
 - Relevant capacity building activities through need specific training
 - Activities to support the reduced used of hazardous and toxic chemicals in the Pacific including the promotion of cleaner production and integrated pest management

Due to its infancy, many of the countries are only now beginning to put in place Action Plans to address many of these barriers and issues. The countries have also recognised the benefits of taking a synergistic approach to chemical and hazardous waste management by integrating the relevant MEAs and frameworks such as Waigani, Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions.

IV – Proposed activities

The Pacific Regional Centre Business Plan for 2016-2017 will continue work commenced in 2012/2013 and continued in 2014/2015 and concentrate on the following Strategic Focus Areas:

A – Maintenance of the Centre and staff training activities

Website updates. SPREP will update the website Notification and Movement Forms as well as the annual reporting forms so that PICs can complete them on line.

Insurance Options for Waigani Movements. SPREP to develop a list of potential insurance brokers for the transportation of E-waste as well as other forms of hazardous wastes.

B – Activities for the implementation of the Strategic Framework and other COP-11 decisions

Attendance to COPs. Recognising the need to have a voice in the conventions, PICs will address this issue. Most PICs are eligible for funding from the Secretariats to attend convention COPs. This is essential that PICs are attending the COPs to adequately ensure that PICs issues are adequately addressed.

Technical Assistance. Noting the assistance available to PICs by the Secretariats, PICs will address this issue and make a conscious effort to request for technical assistance from SPREP and UNEP.

National Development Plans. Recognising the available bilateral funding opportunities directed at country priorities, PICs will ensure the inclusion of hazardous chemicals and waste in their National Development Plans.

Funding on-ground improvements.

Project: Improving management of used lubricants and oils
Countries: Region wide
Time frame: 2 years (2016-2017)

Project: Regional Assessment of asbestos in the Pacific
Countries: Region wide
Time frame: 24 months (2016-2017)

Project: Management of non-POPs wastes including laboratory chemicals and healthcare waste (expired pharmaceuticals)
Countries: Region wide
Time frame: 5 years (2013-2017)

Project: Training of focal points, competent authorities and relevant staff and other stakeholders on various aspects of the implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions
Countries: Region wide
Time frame: 2 years (2016-2017)

Project: Management of medical wastes in the Pacific
Countries: Region wide
Time frame: 3 years (2013-2016)

Project: Management of mercury and mercury-containing equipment
Countries: Region wide
Time frame: 2 years (2016-2017)

C – Synergies activities (optional)

Funding Opportunities. Noting the various funding opportunities available for PICs for implementation of these conventions, PICs will address this issue. The potential funding opportunities are: GEF Stockholm (\$400K), NIP Updates (\$250K), GEF 6 Chemical and Waste window (recommend proposals less than \$1M), and bilateral funding opportunities. The Secretariats will assist wherever possible with country proposals upon request.

D – Other capacity building activities (optional)

Capacity Building – Train the trainer. Noting one of the objective of the training workshop – “*To improve knowledge of International and Regional conventions dealing with hazardous chemicals and wastes and their impact on pollution minimization and management*” PICs will address capacity building at the national level through train-the-trainer program with technical assistance from the Secretariats.

Legislation Development. Recognising that most PICs do not have appropriate legislation that addresses hazardous chemicals and waste, PICs request SPREP & UNEP to assist them in domesticating Tonga and Samoa legislations. This will ensure adequate border control through the customs authority and port state control mechanisms. None of the PICs currently have this PSC and border control mechanism in place.

V – Financial information

A – Main sources of funding

European Union (Confirmed)
Global Environment Facility (Confirmed)
FAO (Confirmed)
UNEP (Confirmed)
Australian Government (Unconfirmed)

B – Key partners and stakeholders

FAO
UNEP

Parties in the region

Secretariat of the Basel Convention
 Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention
 Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention
 Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention
 Regional training institutions such as the University of the South Pacific

C – Proposed budget for activities (2016-2017)

BCRC estimate budget for the year 2016-2017:

<u>ESTIMATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE</u>			
FOR 2014/2015			
<u>INCOMES (ESTIMATE)</u>	2016	2017	Total
Partner funds (countries)	0	0	0
From Basel Convention (Technical Cooperation Trust Fund)	0	0	0
From other MEAs	0	0	0
From donors	2,087,302	1,759,512	3,846,814
SPREP	70,000	20,000	90,000
Total Incomes	2,157,302	1,779,512	3,936,814
EXPENDITURES (ESTIMATE)			
<u>CORE</u>			
Personnel			
Subcontracts			
Travel and Subsistence	0	0	0
Training/Learning			
Equipment, supplies and premises			
General operating expenses (telephone, internet, electricity, etc)			
<u>PROJECTS</u>			
Regional E-waste Management	185,663	682,328	867,991
Regional Asbestos Management	815,903	590,516	1,406,419
Regional Medical Waste Management	188,236	196,668	384,904
Regional Waste Oil Management	130,000	10,000	140,000
Used Pesticide Container Management	200,000	200,000	400,000
Contaminated Site Remediation	100,000	100,000	200,000
Mercury Management	100,000		100,000
<u>WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES</u>			
Regional Convention Training	150,000		150,000
Regional Laboratory Chemicals Training	160,000		160,000

Regional Chemical Strategy Training	100,000		100,000
Regional Used Oil Training	27,500		27,500
Total Expenditures	2,157,302	1,779,512	3,926,814

Annex 1:

STATUS OF RATIFICATION/ACCESSION TO THE WAIGANI CONVENTION

Done at Waigani, Papua New Guinea 16 September 1995
Entered into Force 21 October 2001
Status 27 March 2015
Depositary Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat [PIFS]
Secretariat Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme [SPREP]

Party	Signed		Ratified		In Force	
Australia	16 September	1995	17 August	1998	21 October	2001
Cook Islands	17 September	1995	30 October	2000	21 October	2001
Micronesia, Fed. States	17 September	1995	26 January	1996	21 October	2001
Fiji	16 September	1995	18 April	1996	21 October	2001
Kiribati	16 September	1995	28 June	2001	21 October	2001
France	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marshall Is, Rep	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nauru	16 September	1995	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	16 September	1995	30 November	2000	21 October	2001
Niue	16 September	1995	22 July	2003	21 August	2003
Palau	16 September	1995	-	-	-	-
Papua New Guinea	16 September	1995	11 December	1995	21 October	2001
Samoa	16 September	1995	23 May	2001	21 October	2001
Solomon Islands	16 September	1995	7 October	1998	21 October	2001
Tonga	16 September	1995	22 May	2003	21 June	2003
Tuvalu	-	-	21 September	2001	21 October	2001
USA	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vanuatu	16 September	1995	18 January	2008	17 February	2008

Annex 2:

STATUS OF RATIFICATION/ACCESSION TO THE BASEL CONVENTION

Done at Basel, Switzerland	22 March 1989
Entered into Force	5 May 1992
Status	27 March 2015
Depositary	Secretary General of the United Nations
Secretariat	United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP]

Party	Signed		Ratified		In Force	
Australia			5 th February	1992		
Cook Islands			29 th April	2004		
Micronesia, Fed. States			6 th September	1995		
Fiji	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kiribati			7 th September	2000		
France	22 nd March	1989	1 st July	1991		
Marshall Is, Rep			27 th January	2003		
Nauru			12 th November	2001		
New Zealand	18 th December	1989	20 th December	1994		
Niue	-	-	-	-	-	-
Palau			8 th September	2011		
Papua New Guinea			1 st September	1995		
Samoa			22 nd March	2002		
Solomon Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tonga			26 th March	2010		
Tuvalu	-	-	-	-	-	-
USA	22 nd March	1990	-	-	-	-
Vanuatu	-	-	-	-	-	-

Annex 3:

**COMPETENT AUTHORITIES AND FOCAL POINTS
TO THE WAIGANI CONVENTION**

PARTY	COMPETENT AUTHORITY	FOCAL POINT
Australia Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 17 August 1998 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 25 June 2014)	Director, Hazardous Waste Section Department of the Environment GPO Box 787 2601 Canberra ACT Australia Tel: (61 2) 62 74 14 11 Fax: (61 2) 62 74 11 64 E-mail: hwa@environment.gov.au	Director, Hazardous Waste Section Department of the Environment GPO Box 787 2601 Canberra ACT Australia Tel: (61 2) 62 74 14 11 Fax: (61 2) 62 74 11 64 E-mail: hwa@environment.gov.au
Cook Islands Signed: 17 Sept 1995 Ratified: 30 October 2000 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 28 June 2014)	Mr. Vaitoti Tupa Director, National Environment Service PO Box 371 Rarotonga Cook Islands Tel: (682) 21256 Fax: (682) 22256 Email: resources@cookislands.gov.ck vaitoti.tupa@cookislands.gov.ck Website: www.environment.gov.ck	Mrs. Myra Patai Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Immigration PO Box 105 Rarotonga Cook Islands Tel: (682) 29347 Fax: (682) 21247 Email: secfa@cookislands.gov.ck Website: www.mfai.gov.ck
Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Signed: 17 Sept 1995 Ratified: 26 January 1996 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 25 June 2014)	Mr. Andrew Yatilman Director Office of Environment and Emergency Management (OEEM) PS 69 FSM National Government 96941 Palikir, Pohnpei Micronesia (Federated States of) Tel: (691) 320 8814/8815 Fax: (691) 320 8936 Email: andrewy@mail.fm , climate@mail.fm	Hon Lorin S Robert Secretary Department of Foreign Affairs PO Box 123 96941 Palikir, Pohnpei Federated States of Micronesia Tel: (691) 320 2613 Fax: (691) 3202933 Email: foreignaffairs@mail.fm ; Lsrobert123@gmail.com
Fiji Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 18 April 1996 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated:)	Director of Environment Ministry of Local Government Housing and Environment PO Box 2131 Government Buildings SUVA, Fiji Telephone: (679) 311 699 Fax: (679) 312 879 Email: aminiasi.qareqare@environment.gov.fj	Director of Environment Ministry of Local Government Housing and Environment PO Box 2131 Government Buildings SUVA, Fiji Telephone: (679) 311 699 Fax: (679) 312 879 Email: aminiasi.qareqare@environment.gov.fj
Kiribati Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 28 June 2001 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 10 May 2014)	Mr. Timi Kaiekieki Secretary Ministry of Environment, Lands, and Agriculture Development (MELAD) PO Box 234, Bikenibeu, Tarawa Kiribati Tel: (686) 28647/28211 Fax: (686) 28334 E-mail: timikb@gmail.com	Mr. Timi Kaiekieki Secretary Ministry of Environment, Lands, and Agriculture Development (MELAD) PO Box 234, Bikenibeu, Tarawa Kiribati Tel: (686) 28647/28211 Fax: (686) 28334 E-mail: timikb@gmail.com
New Zealand Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 30 November 2000 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated:)	Hazardous Substances Environmental Protection Authority PO Box 1473 Wellington 6140 NEW ZEALAND Tel: (644) 916 2426 Fax: (644) 914 0433 Email: importexport@epa.govt.nz	Mr. Penny Race Waigani Convention Focal Point International Climate and Environment Ministry for the Environment PO Box 10362 Wellington NEW ZEALAND Tel: (644) 439 7400 Fax: (644) 439 7700 Email: waigani@mfe.govt.nz

<p>Niue Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 22 July 2003 In Force: 21 Aug 2003</p> <p>(Updated:)</p>	<p>Mr Sauni Tongatule Director Department of Environment Telephone: (683) 4021 E-mail: sauni.tongatule@mail.gov.nu</p>	<p>Office for External Affairs Premier's Department PO Box 40 Alofi Niue Tel: (683) 4200 Fax: (683) 4206/4232 Email: christine.external@mail.gov.nu</p>
<p>Papua New Guinea Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 11 Dec. 1995 In Force: 21 Oct 2001</p> <p>(Updated: 18 June 2014)</p>	<p>Secretary Department of Environment and Conservation 1st Floor, B-Mobile House PO Box 6601 Boroko, NCD PAPUA NEW GUINEA Tel: (675) 3014500 Fax: (675) 325 0182 E-mail: guntherjoku@gmail.com</p>	<p>Secretary Department of Environment and Conservation 1st Floor, B-Mobile House PO Box 6601 Boroko, NCD PAPUA NEW GUINEA Tel: (675) 3014500 Fax: (675) 325 0182 E-mail: guntherjoku@gmail.com</p>
<p>Samoa Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 23 May 2001 In Force: 21 Oct. 2001</p> <p>(Updated: 5 June 2014)</p>	<p>Chief Executive Officer Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment. Private Mail Bag APIA Samoa Tel: (685) 23701 Fax: (685) 23176 Email: amataga.penaia@mnre.gov.ws</p>	<p>Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs PO Box L1859 APIA Samoa Tel: (685) 63333 Fax: (685) 21504 Email: mfa@mfa.gov.ws</p>
<p>Solomon Islands Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 7 October 1998 In Force: 21 Oct 2001</p> <p>(Updated: 3 July 2014)</p>	<p>Director Environment and Conservation Division Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology PO Box 21, Honiara Solomon Islands Telephone: (677) 28611 Fax: (677) 22824 E-mail: horokoujoe@gmail.com</p>	<p>Dr. Melchior Mataki Permanent Secretary Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology PO Box 21, Honiara Solomon Islands Telephone: (677) 27751/23031 E-mail: psmataki@mecm.gov.sb</p>
<p>Tonga Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 22 May 2003 In Force: 21 June 2003</p> <p>(Updated: 7 July 2014)</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment , Energy, Climate Change, Disaster Management, Meteorology, Information & Communications (MEECCDMMIC) PO Box 917 Nuku'alofa Tonga Tel: (676) 25050/28170 Fax: (676) 25051/24861 E-mail: paulm@mic.gov.to</p>	<p>Secretary Ministry of Environment, Energy, Climate Change, Disaster Management, Meteorology, Information & Communications (MEECCDMMIC) PO Box 917 Nukua'alofa Tonga Tel: (676) 25050/28173 Fax: (676) 25051/24861 E-mail: paulm@mic.gov.to</p>
<p>Tuvalu Acceded : 21 Sept 2001 In Force : 21 Oct 2001</p> <p>(Updated 1 July 2014)</p>	<p>Ms. Susana Taupo Director of SWAT Ministry of Home Affairs Funafuti Tuvalu Tel: +688 20 164 Email: swat@gov.tv; stelakau@gov.tv or susey84@gmail.com</p>	<p>Pasuna Tuaga Assistant Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade, Tourism, Environment and Labour. Government of Tuvalu Funafuti Tuvalu Tel: +688 20 117 Email: ptuaga@gov.tv or marx.prince@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Vanuatu Signed: Ratified: 17 Feb 2008 In Force: 17 Feb 2008</p> <p>(Updated 25 June 2014)</p>	<p>Mr. Trinison Tari Acting Director Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation George Pompidou Building PMB 9063 Port Vila, Vanuatu Telephone: (678) 5333830 Fax: (678) 22227 E-mail: ttari@vanuatu.gov.vu</p>	<p>Mr. Trinison Tari Acting Director Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation George Pompidou Building PMB 9063 Port Vila, Vanuatu Telephone: (678) 5333830 Fax: (678) 22227 E-mail: ttari@vanuatu.gov.vu</p>

NON –PARTIES to Waigani Convention but Basel Convention Parties

Marshall Islands Signed: Ratified: In Force: (Updated:)	Ministry of Foreign Affairs P.O. Box 1349 96960 Majuro Marshall Islands Telephone: +692 625 31 81 Fax: +692 625 49 79 Email: mofapol@ntamar.net	Ministry of Foreign Affairs P.O. Box 1349 96960 Majuro Marshall Islands Telephone: +692 625 31 81 Fax: +692 625 49 79 Email: mofapol@ntamar.net
Nauru Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: In Force: (Updated:)	Secretary Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment Government Office Building Yaren District Republic of Nauru Tel: 674 5573133 E-mail: elkoga28@gmail.com	Secretary Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment Government Office Building Yaren District Republic of Nauru Tel: 674 5573133 E-mail: elkoga28@gmail.com
Palau Signed: Ratified: In Force: (Updated:)	Hon. Billy G. Kuartei Minister of State The National Capitol Ngerulmud Republic of Palau 93939 Tel: (680) 767-2490/2509 Fax: (680) 767-2443 Email: minister@palaumos.net	Hon. Billy G. Kuartei Minister of State The National Capitol Ngerulmud Republic of Palau 93939 Tel: (680) 767-2490/2509 Fax: (680) 767-2443 Email: minister@palaumos.net

The Pacific Regional Centre for
Training and Technology Transfer for the
Joint Implementation of the
Basel and Waigani Conventions

Business Plan 2018-2019

Secretariat of the Pacific
Regional Environment Programme
(SPREP)

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Executive Summary of the Business Plan 2018-2019

This Business Plan prepared for the period 2018-2019 aims to continue the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Basel Convention to 2019, taking into account the realities and needs of developing countries in the Pacific. Driven by the ultimate goal of a Pacific region in which human health and the environment are no longer threatened by toxic chemicals and the vision of the Centre, as “*the leading institution for the countries of the Pacific in the process of capacity building, strengthening and specialization toward minimizing health and environmental risks by means of integrated hazardous waste and substances management, within a framework of sustainable development*”, the activities and projects contained in this Plan uphold the lines of the previous Business Plan and build on the experience acquired in meeting these goal and vision.

The plan is formulated based on priority issues identified by the Pacific countries in previous regional meetings and contemplating the need to conceptualise the projects, programmes and activities of an integrated hazardous waste and substances management scenario, paying attention to the life cycle of substances and products, hence, its execution is expected to contribute to facilitation of the implementation of the Basel, Waigani, Rotterdam, Stockholm and the recently adopted Minamata Conventions as an integrated activity.

The Regional Centre sees itself as a strategic actor, facilitating the processes of regional and national capacity building and strengthening through training of the key national and regional actors in environmentally sound hazardous waste and substances management, as well as the preparation and dissemination of specialized information. The execution of regional and national projects is thought to be a basic strategy for the transference of technology and successful experiences.

It is in this sense that for this period we have identified the following strategic lines of action:

- Strengthening the relationship of the *Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions (SPREP)* with the *Regional Centre with the Basel Convention Coordinating Centre for Asia and the Pacific (Tsinghua University, China)* to facilitate the improved control and environmentally sound management of hazardous substances and wastes in the Pacific region;
- Development and strengthening awareness programs and outreach in the field of hazardous waste by integrating the areas covered by the Conventions;
- Completing on-ground programmes to minimize the risk to Pacific islanders of exposure to hazardous wastes;
- Strengthening national capacities of countries in the region to implement the obligations of the Conventions through training and transfer of technology for minimizing waste generation; and
- Prompting the environmentally sound management of hazardous substances and wastes, minimizing health and the environment risks and supporting synergy in the implementation of the Basel, Waigani, Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions.

The budget for 2018-2019 consists of USD\$3,520,000, corresponding to the activities and projects whose execution during the term is considered possible.

Information on the Centre

A – Vision

Pacific island people depend on their natural environment for their sustenance and livelihoods. Vital resources and ecosystems are under ever-increasing pressure as our islands strive to address their economic aspirations and meet the needs of their growing populations. In particular, pollution and the growing volumes of solid and hazardous wastes are major threats to the environments and sustainable development of the Pacific islands. Globalisation is accelerating the transition of Pacific communities towards consumer economies, with increasing urbanisation, migration, and participation in international trade. This is resulting in an escalation in the generation of solid and liquid wastes, and these increase the risk of coastal and marine pollution. The lack of controls on imported chemicals, and the lack of capacity for managing pollutants threaten to undermine the quality and health of the islanders and the vulnerable ecosystems on which they depend.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) has been charged by the governments and administrations of the Pacific region with the protection and sustainable development of the region's environment. Management of hazardous wastes is seen by Member States² as a critical component of this work, and SPREP is mandated to take action on waste management and the control of pollution.

The Secretariat's focus is to assist Members countries improve their technical capacity to manage pollution, solid wastes and hazardous chemicals through provision of training, technical advice and support. SPREP also encourages and supports the development of national and regional waste management infrastructure and innovative funding measures, and the sharing of best practices across the region in order to support environmentally sound and sustainable waste management and reduce pollution. SPREP further supports renewed efforts in educating communities through national and other targeted awareness campaigns. With the support of bilateral and multilateral partnerships, the goal is for all members to have national waste management and pollution control policies, strategies, plans and practices in place to minimize terrestrial, atmospheric and marine pollution, hazardous waste, solid waste and other land-based sources of pollution.

B – Background

The Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions for the countries in the Pacific region, established within the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP), is located at Apia, Samoa. Just as the Waigani Convention was developed within the framework of Article 11 of the Basel Convention and thus shares common and overlapping objectives with it, the establishment of the Pacific Regional Centre is not only seen as a mechanism to improve SPREP's work as the Secretariat of the Waigani Convention in assisting the Parties in the region, but also as an opportunity to foster better cooperation with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention in the implementation of both Conventions' objectives. The establishment of the Centre is also seen as an opportunity to extend this cooperation to other secretariats of relevant multilateral environmental agreements, including the Stockholm, Rotterdam, Minamata, SAICM and IMO Conventions.

² American Samoa, Australia, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna

The Centre provides services for the implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions to the Parties to the Basel or Waigani Conventions consenting to be served. These includes the provision of services through capacity building activities and initiatives, specific projects and the transfer of appropriate technologies for the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, to achieve the fulfillment of the objectives of the Conventions. Any other non-Party States to the Basel or Waigani Conventions from the Pacific region may at any time express their consent to be served by the Centre through a written communication to the Centre, the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and SPREP.

The Centre services the following countries: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu (See Annex 1 on Status of Ratification to the Basel and Waigani Convention).

Recent activities undertaken by the Centre include development of a Regional asbestos management strategy (2011); development of a Regional E-waste strategy (2011); development of a Regional Healthcare Waste Management strategy (2012); securing SAICM quick-start funding for better E-waste management in 3 Pacific island countries (2012-2013); securing AFD financing for integrated regional waste oil management (2011-2014); and securing AFD financing for development of regional hazardous waste management training (2011-2014), securing GEF funding for the better management of hazardous wastes and uPOPs prevention through the GEF-PAS (Global Environment Facility Pacific Alliance for Sustainability), securing GEF funding for the better management of mercury and mercury-containing equipment in the region as part of the assessment work on the Minamata Convention and European Union EDF10 funding for the better management of asbestos, e-waste and healthcare waste. . Currently the Centre is endeavoring to secure funding from the EDF-11 funding cycled for the better management of a number of hazardous materials.

C – Governance

The governance of the Centre through the Conference of the Parties and the Steering Committee automatically ensures direct control of the Countries party to both the Basel and Waigani Conventions over the related activities of the Centre. The agreement establishing the Centre was officially signed between the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and SPREP on the 18th December 2003, in Geneva and was recently revised and extended in June 2014. It is operated under the joint authority of the Parties to the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the Pacific region.

The Pacific Regional Centre operates under the Directorship of the Director General of SPREP and has a number of core staff that dedicate part of their time attending to the Centre's activities which assists SPREP to perform its role as the Secretariat of the Waigani Conventions. The staffing of the regional Centre is governed by the SPREP staff regulations while the activities of the Centre are carried out under the general guidance and supervision of the Secretariat of the Basel Convention and SPREP who also coordinate the activities of the Centre with the relevant activities of other Basel Convention Regional Centres or of the Parties to the Basel and Waigani Conventions, as well as with international organisations, programmes and other global and regional conventions.

Subject to the agreement of the Regional Centre's Steering Committee, any non-Party State to the Basel and Waigani Conventions outside the Pacific region, non-governmental organisation, entity, private sector organisation, academic institution, or other organisation may participate in the activities of the Centre. The Centre implements activities in accordance with the

relevant decisions of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel and Waigani Conventions and the Business Plan that is developed by the Regional Centre Steering Committee. The overall monitoring of the Center's activities against the Business Plan is the function of the Regional Centre Steering Committee. The Steering Committee advises on the development and implementation of the activities of the Centre and to enhance national support to its work from countries served by the Centre. It is also charged with the responsibility of developing the Business Plan of the Centre and overseeing its implementation.

The Steering Committee is composed of five (5) members nominated by the countries to be served by the Centre through a process of consultation, for a period of four (4) years with the members being experts of recognized standing and with experience in the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes and other wastes. The representative of SBC, SPREP and the Director of the Centre will participate in the meetings of the Committee *ex officio*. The members of the Committee elect by consensus the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee from among its members for a period of four (4) years. The Chairperson, in consultation with SBC, SPREP and the Director of the Centre, convene the ordinary meetings of the Committee at least every two years. Extraordinary meetings may be convened by the Chairperson, when required, in consultation with SBC and SPREP.

The current members of the Steering Committee are: Chair: Tonga; Vice-Chair: Fiji; Fiji (representing the Melanesian sub-region), Kiribati (representing the Micronesian sub-region) and Tonga (representing the Polynesian sub-region). Australia and New Zealand were absent at the last meeting while PNG and Cook Islands were invited to continue their tenure.

The funding of the basic activities of the Centre are primarily through mechanisms set up by the Waigani financial regulations and financial mechanisms under the Basel Convention. The voluntary funding envisaged under the Basel Convention and the Waigani Convention' Financial Regulations affect the stability needed for a smooth operation of the Centre according to a longer-term workplan.

D – Contact information

The Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions key contact is:

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Waste Management and Pollution Control Division
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
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Tel +685 21929
Fax +685 20231

II – The Centre and the Basel Convention

A – Performance of the core functions

The Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions work in cooperation with the countries in the region to

effect the core functions of the Basel Convention Regional Centres established in decision VI/3 of the Conference of the Parties.

Although the impact of the Centre has never been formally assessed, it is estimated that the current level of support of the countries served by the Centre indicates that the activities coordinated by the Centre are having a positive impact in the region. Among the main achievements of the Centre is the acquisition of significant funding to support improved hazardous waste management in the Pacific region; completion of on-ground projects to reduce potential impacts of hazardous waste, preparation of workshops concerning different hazardous wastes topics; and provision of hazardous waste management advice on request. The Centre also has served as a facilitator for technology transfer within the region, specifically through the preparation of technical guidelines and regional Action Plans for waste management streams such as asbestos, healthcare waste and e-waste.

B – Opportunities for improvement

Challenges faced by the region are complex and immense, and often implementation of the Conventions by Parties of the region is often either non-existent or only partial. Essential improvements are needed across the region in terms of human resources; improved expertise and knowledge, including legal expertise; increased financial support; increased capacity to conduct trainings ('train the trainers'); improved judicial capacity; improved awareness within relevant National authorities (Ministries and their specialized department/agencies, customs officers, etc.); and increased political willingness, from the relevant national authorities, to prioritise the Chemicals and Waste agenda, and therefore the Conventions implementation. In addition, a mechanism needs to be developed to sustainably co-finance the activities of the Centre including a Waigani Trust fund, a Basel Trust Fund and Basel technical Trust Fund. This will need to be formalized in project documents signed by Secretariat of the Basel Convention (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the Waigani Convention (SPREP).

C – Cooperation with the Rotterdam, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions

The Waigani, Basel, Minamata, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions are key international agreements that regulate the use and trans-boundary movement of hazardous chemicals and wastes in the Pacific. Countries signed to these conventions have undertaken to manage or track the importation and movement of hazardous chemicals and wastes in the region to ensure that they are disposed of properly and not dumped in the region. However, country officials are often untrained in these procedures, which place the Pacific region at risk. To improve this situation, SPREP have established working relationships with the Secretariats of all these global conventions and have undertaken a number of activities in the region.

D – Joint activities

Ozone depleting substances (ODS) and refrigerants contained in air conditioner and refrigerator gases are highly destructive to the earth's ozone layer which protects us from harmful radiation from the sun. Pacific island countries are progressively working towards better regulation or banning of these types of gases. In 2013, as part of its activities in assisting PICs to develop and enforce a quota system for the import/export of HCFCs in consultation with UNEP, SPREP provided support for 248 refrigeration and air conditioning technicians from 8 Member countries to access training in best practice refrigerant management through the Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC) in Samoa. In addition SPREP provided support to 11 Pacific island countries to help fulfill their national Hydrochlorofluorocarbon Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) obligations under the Montreal Protocol. This support provided further training in border protection, refrigerant management and community awareness-raising.

Agriculture is an important component of Pacific island economies as well as a critical source of local foods. Unfortunately, modern farming techniques have resulted in the use of a range of pesticides to increase production, including the use of persistent pesticides such as DDT and dieldrin. Unused stocks were often buried or kept in unmanaged stores around the region when these pesticides were banned for use in the 1980s. SPREP in partnership with FAO, under the GEF funded uPOPs project have completed negotiations to undertake a regional project to train officers and practitioners in the Pacific on better management of pesticide containers and management of stockpiles including the development of appropriate legislation to facilitate this. The project is being conducted concurrently with the other components of the GEF-PAS uPOPs project.

III – Regional Needs Assessment

Waste and pollution have significant impacts on the region's environment, as well as on public health, drinking water quality, fisheries, agriculture, and tourism and on the quality of life in general. Poor waste management and pollution are also major threats to sustainable development in Pacific Island Countries and Territories. Building a better regional skills base and technical capacity, and increasing awareness of waste management and pollution control issues are central to the Centre's and SPREP's role in assisting Pacific island countries and territories to manage waste and pollution to protect public health while at the same time protecting the environment and encouraging economic growth. However, economic sustainability is often perceived as the first priority, usually at the cost of the environment and social structures. While most Pacific island countries have made significant steps towards protecting the environment, much remains to be done. There are also a number of legacies of the past that are to be addressed, and one of those legacies is the result of mismanagement of chemicals and hazardous wastes.

In recent times, a significant amount of work in the area of waste management has been undertaken in the region. The following regional plans have been put in place to address the various components of the waste stream and are now being implemented. These include:

- The Cleaner Pacific 2025 – The Regional Waste Management Strategy (2016-2015)
- The Pacific Ocean Pollution Prevention Programme (PACPOL); 2010-2014
- Regional Asbestos Management Plan (2011)
- Regional E-waste Management Plan (2012)
- Regional Healthcare Waste Management Plan (2012)
- National Solid Waste Management Strategies

There are many activities that are being undertaken to manage hazardous waste, many under the various projects implemented at the regional and national levels under the Conventions. These projects have often highlighted the barriers and priorities of issues that were pertinent to the management of these types of wastes. These include:

- C. Barriers to improved management of chemicals and hazardous wastes:
- Lack of knowledge of chemicals and hazardous wastes issues
 - Lack of targeted and user-friendly information on chemicals and hazardous wastes issues
 - Lack of adequately trained personnel and the need for much more institutional strengthening
 - Lack of in country trainers
 - Lack of coverage of new emerging issues in existing educational curricula
 - Poor systems in countries for chemical handling, storage and use, and information management
 - Lack of guidelines and manuals to deal with specific waste streams generated in the Pacific region
 - Lack of data on fate and transportation of chemicals and hazardous wastes in the region
 - Lack of appropriate legislation in some countries
 - Lack of knowledge on alternatives to certain toxic chemicals
 - Lack of established control systems for managing chemicals and hazardous wastes including import information
 - An absence of appropriate disposal facilities and is expensive to move them to another country for disposal purposes
 - PICs still learning about the requirements of regional and international MEAs such as Waigani, Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions and the procedures therein
- D. Priority needs and issues for chemical and hazardous waste management
- Education, Training, Community Awareness and Participation
 - Chemical management systems, Technology, Information and Research with a focus on synergistic approaches to management systems at the national levels
 - Guidelines and manuals dealing with specific waste streams generated in the Pacific region
 - Adequate funding and improved cooperate funding arrangements
 - Appropriate legislation development and drafting training
 - Compilation of expertise list in the region
 - Relevant capacity building activities through need specific training
 - Activities to support the reduced used of hazardous and toxic chemicals in the Pacific including the promotion of cleaner production and integrated pest management

Due to its infancy, many of the countries are only now beginning to put in place Action Plans to address many of these barriers and issues. The countries have also recognised the benefits of taking a synergistic approach to chemical and hazardous waste management by integrating the relevant MEAs and frameworks such as Waigani, Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions.

IV – Proposed activities

The Pacific Regional Centre Business Plan for 2016-2017 will continue work commenced in 2012/2013 and continued in 2014/2015 and concentrate on the following Strategic Focus Areas:

A – Maintenance of the Centre and staff training activities

Website updates. SPREP will update the website Notification and Movement Forms as well as the annual reporting forms so that PICs can complete them on line.

Insurance Options for Waigani Movements. SPREP to develop a list of potential insurance brokers for the transportation of E-waste as well as other forms of hazardous wastes.

B – Activities for the implementation of the Strategic Framework and other COP-11 decisions

Attendance to COPs. Recognising the need to have a voice in the conventions, PICs will address this issue. Most PICs are eligible for funding from the Secretariats to attend convention COPs. This is essential that PICs are attending the COPs to adequately ensure that PICs issues are adequately addressed.

Technical Assistance. Noting the assistance available to PICs by the Secretariats, PICs will address this issue and make a conscious effort to request for technical assistance from SPREP and UNEP.

National Development Plans. Recognising the available bilateral funding opportunities directed at country priorities, PICs will ensure the inclusion of hazardous chemicals and waste in their National Development Plans.

Funding on-ground improvements.

Project: Training of focal points, competent authorities and relevant staff and other stakeholders on various aspects of the implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions

Countries: Region wide

Time frame: 2 years (2018-2019)

Project: Management of mercury and mercury-containing equipment

Countries: Region wide

Time frame: 2 years (2018-2019)

Project: Management of e-waste in the Pacific

Countries: Region wide

Time frame: 2 years (2018-2019)

Project: Management of medical wastes in the Pacific

Countries: Region wide

Time frame: 2 years (2018-2019)

Project: Continued assessment and improved management of asbestos in the Pacific

Countries: Region wide

Time frame: 2 years (2018-2019)

Project: Assessment of chemical management in 4 PICs

Countries: Region wide

Time frame: 2 years (2018-2019)

Project: Improving management of used lubricants and oils

Countries: Region wide

Time frame: 2 years (2018-2019)

Project: Management of uLABs in the Pacific

Countries: Region wide

Time frame: 2 years (2018-2019)

C – Synergies activities (optional)

Funding Opportunities. Noting the various funding opportunities available for PICs for implementation of these conventions, PICs will address this issue. The potential funding opportunities are: GEF Stockholm (\$400K), NIP Updates (\$250K), GEF 6 Chemical and Waste window (recommend proposals less than \$1M), and bilateral funding opportunities. The Secretariats will assist wherever possible with country proposals upon request.

D – Other capacity building activities (optional)

Capacity Building – Train the trainer. Noting one of the objective of the training workshop – *“To improve knowledge of International and Regional conventions dealing with hazardous chemicals and wastes and their impact on pollution minimization and management”* PICs will address capacity building at the national level through train-the-trainer program with technical assistance from the Secretariats.

Legislation Development. Recognising that most PICs do not have appropriate legislation that addresses hazardous chemicals and waste, PICs request SPREP & UNEP to assist them in domesticating Tonga and Samoa legislations. This will ensure adequate border control through the customs authority and port state control mechanisms. None of the PICs currently have this PSC and border control mechanism in place.

V – Financial information

A – Main sources of funding

European Union (Unconfirmed)

Global Environment Facility (Confirmed)

UNEP (Confirmed)

B – Key partners and stakeholders

FAO

UNEP

BRS Secretariat

Parties in the region

Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention

Regional training institutions such as the University of the South Pacific, Fiji National

University, University of Papua New Guinea, Newcastle University.

C – Proposed budget for activities (2018-2019)

BCRC estimate budget for the year 2018-2019:

Annex 1:

STATUS OF RATIFICATION/ACCESSION TO THE WAIGANI CONVENTION

Done at Waigani, Papua New Guinea 16 September 1995
Entered into Force 21 October 2001
Status 27 March 2015
Depositary Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat [PIFS]
Secretariat Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme [SPREP]

Party	Signed		Ratified		In Force	
Australia	16 September	1995	17 August	1998	21 October	2001
Cook Islands	17 September	1995	30 October	2000	21 October	2001
Micronesia, Fed. States	17 September	1995	26 January	1996	21 October	2001
Fiji	16 September	1995	18 April	1996	21 October	2001
Kiribati	16 September	1995	28 June	2001	21 October	2001
France	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marshall Is, Rep	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nauru	16 September	1995	-	-	-	-
New Zealand	16 September	1995	30 November	2000	21 October	2001
Niue	16 September	1995	22 July	2003	21 August	2003
Palau	16 September	1995	-	-	-	-
Papua New Guinea	16 September	1995	11 December	1995	21 October	2001
Samoa	16 September	1995	23 May	2001	21 October	2001
Solomon Islands	16 September	1995	7 October	1998	21 October	2001
Tonga	16 September	1995	22 May	2003	21 June	2003
Tuvalu	-	-	21 September	2001	21 October	2001
USA	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vanuatu	16 September	1995	18 January	2008	17 February	2008

Annex 2:

STATUS OF RATIFICATION/ACCESSION TO THE BASEL CONVENTION

Done at Basel, Switzerland	22 March 1989
Entered into Force	5 May 1992
Status	27 March 2015
Depositary	Secretary General of the United Nations
Secretariat	United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP]

Party	Signed		Ratified		In Force	
Australia			5 th February	1992		
Cook Islands			29 th April	2004		
Micronesia, Fed. States			6 th September	1995		
Fiji	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kiribati			7 th September	2000		
France	22 nd March	1989	1 st July	1991		
Marshall Is, Rep			27 th January	2003		
Nauru			12 th November	2001		
New Zealand	18 th December	1989	20 th December	1994		
Niue	-	-	-	-	-	-
Palau			8 th September	2011		
Papua New Guinea			1 st September	1995		
Samoa			22 nd March	2002		
Solomon Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tonga			26 th March	2010		
Tuvalu	-	-	-	-	-	-
USA	22 nd March	1990	-	-	-	-
Vanuatu	-	-	-	-	-	-

Annex 3:

**COMPETENT AUTHORITIES AND FOCAL POINTS
TO THE WAIGANI CONVENTION**

PARTY	COMPETENT AUTHORITY	FOCAL POINT
Australia Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 17 August 1998 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 25 June 2014)	Director, Hazardous Waste Section Department of the Environment GPO Box 787 2601 Canberra ACT Australia Tel: (61 2) 62 74 14 11 Fax: (61 2) 62 74 11 64 E-mail: hwa@environment.gov.au	Director, Hazardous Waste Section Department of the Environment GPO Box 787 2601 Canberra ACT Australia Tel: (61 2) 62 74 14 11 Fax: (61 2) 62 74 11 64 E-mail: hwa@environment.gov.au
Cook Islands Signed: 17 Sept 1995 Ratified: 30 October 2000 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 28 June 2014)	Mr. Vaitoti Tupa Director, National Environment Service PO Box 371 Rarotonga Cook Islands Tel: (682) 21256 Fax: (682) 22256 Email: resources@cookislands.gov.ck vaitoti.tupa@cookislands.gov.ck Website: www.environment.gov.ck	Mrs. Myra Patai Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Immigration PO Box 105 Rarotonga Cook Islands Tel: (682) 29347 Fax: (682) 21247 Email: secfa@cookislands.gov.ck Website: www.mfai.gov.ck
Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Signed: 17 Sept 1995 Ratified: 26 January 1996 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 25 June 2014)	Mr. Andrew Yatilman Director Office of Environment and Emergency Management (OEEM) PS 69 FSM National Government 96941 Palikir, Pohnpei Micronesia (Federated States of) Tel: (691) 320 8814/8815 Fax: (691) 320 8936 Email: andrewy@mail.fm , climate@mail.fm	Hon Lorin S Robert Secretary Department of Foreign Affairs PO Box 123 96941 Palikir, Pohnpei Federated States of Micronesia Tel: (691) 320 2613 Fax: (691) 3202933 Email: foreignaffairs@mail.fm ; Lsrobert123@gmail.com
Fiji Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 18 April 1996 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated:)	Director of Environment Ministry of Local Government Housing and Environment PO Box 2131 Government Buildings SUVA, Fiji Telephone: (679) 311 699 Fax: (679) 312 879 Email: aminiasi.gareqare@environment.gov.fj	Director of Environment Ministry of Local Government Housing and Environment PO Box 2131 Government Buildings SUVA, Fiji Telephone: (679) 311 699 Fax: (679) 312 879 Email: aminiasi.gareqare@environment.gov.fj
Kiribati Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 28 June 2001 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 10 May 2014)	Mr. Timi Kaiekieki Secretary Ministry of Environment, Lands, and Agriculture Development (MELAD) PO Box 234, Bikenibeu, Tarawa Kiribati Tel: (686) 28647/28211 Fax: (686) 28334 E-mail: timikb@gmail.com	Mr. Timi Kaiekieki Secretary Ministry of Environment, Lands, and Agriculture Development (MELAD) PO Box 234, Bikenibeu, Tarawa Kiribati Tel: (686) 28647/28211 Fax: (686) 28334 E-mail: timikb@gmail.com
New Zealand Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 30 November 2000 In Force: 21 Oct 2001	Hazardous Substances Environmental Protection Authority PO Box 1473 Wellington 6140 NEW ZEALAND Tel: (644) 916 2426	Mr. Penny Race Waigani Convention Focal Point International Climate and Environment Ministry for the Environment PO Box 10362 Wellington

(Updated:)	Fax: (644) 914 0433 Email: importexport@epa.govt.nz	NEW ZEALAND Tel: (644) 439 7400 Fax: (644) 439 7700 Email: waigani@mfe.govt.nz
Niue Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 22 July 2003 In Force: 21 Aug 2003 (Updated:)	Mr Sauni Tongatule Director Department of Environment Telephone: (683) 4021 E-mail: sauni.tongatule@mail.gov.nu	Office for External Affairs Premier's Department PO Box 40 Alofi Niue Tel: (683) 4200 Fax: (683) 4206/4232 Email: christine.external@mail.gov.nu
Papua New Guinea Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 11 Dec. 1995 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 18 June 2014)	Secretary Department of Environment and Conservation 1 st Floor, B-Mobile House PO Box 6601 Boroko, NCD PAPUA NEW GUINEA Tel: (675) 3014500 Fax: (675) 325 0182 E-mail: guntherjoku@gmail.com	Secretary Department of Environment and Conservation 1 st Floor, B-Mobile House PO Box 6601 Boroko, NCD PAPUA NEW GUINEA Tel: (675) 3014500 Fax: (675) 325 0182 E-mail: guntherjoku@gmail.com
Samoa Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 23 May 2001 In Force: 21 Oct. 2001 (Updated: 5 June 2014)	Chief Executive Officer Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment. Private Mail Bag APIA Samoa Tel: (685) 23701 Fax: (685) 23176 Email: amataga.penaia@mnre.gov.ws	Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs PO Box L1859 APIA Samoa Tel: (685) 63333 Fax: (685) 21504 Email: mfa@mfa.gov.ws
Solomon Islands Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 7 October 1998 In Force: 21 Oct 2001 (Updated: 3 July 2014)	Director Environment and Conservation Division Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology PO Box 21, Honiara Solomon Islands Telephone: (677) 28611 Fax: (677) 22824 E-mail: horokoujoe@gmail.com	Dr. Melchior Mataka Permanent Secretary Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology PO Box 21, Honiara Solomon Islands Telephone: (677) 27751/23031 E-mail: psmataka@mecm.gov.sb
Tonga Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: 22 May 2003 In Force: 21 June 2003 (Updated: 7 July 2014)	Ministry of Environment , Energy, Climate Change, Disaster Management, Meteorology, Information & Communications (MEECCDMMIC) PO Box 917 Nuku'alofa Tonga Tel: (676) 25050/28170 Fax: (676) 25051/24861 E-mail: paulm@mic.gov.to	Secretary Ministry of Environment, Energy, Climate Change, Disaster Management, Meteorology, Information & Communications (MEECCDMMIC) PO Box 917 Nukua'alofa Tonga Tel: (676) 25050/28173 Fax: (676) 25051/24861 E-mail: paulm@mic.gov.to
Tuvalu Acceded : 21 Sept 2001 In Force : 21 Oct 2001 (Updated 1 July 2014)	Ms. Susana Taupo Director of SWAT Ministry of Home Affairs Funafuti Tuvalu Tel: +688 20 164 Email: swat@gov.tv ; stelakau@gov.tv or susey84@gmail.com	Pasuna Tuaga Assistant Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade, Tourism, Environment and Labour. Government of Tuvalu Funafuti Tuvalu Tel: +688 20 117 Email: ptuaga@gov.tv or marx.prince@yahoo.com
Vanuatu Signed: Ratified: 17 Feb 2008	Mr. Trinison Tari Acting Director Department of Environmental Protection and	Mr. Trinison Tari Acting Director Department of Environmental Protection and

In Force: 17 Feb 2008 (Updated 25 June 2014)	Conservation George Pompidou Building PMB 9063 Port Vila, Vanuatu Telephone: (678) 5333830 Fax: (678) 22227 E-mail: ttari@vanuatu.gov.vu	Conservation George Pompidou Building PMB 9063 Port Vila, Vanuatu Telephone: (678) 5333830 Fax: (678) 22227 E-mail: ttari@vanuatu.gov.vu
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NON –PARTIES to Waigani Convention but Basel Convention Parties

<p>Marshall Islands Signed: Ratified: In Force: (Updated:)</p>	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs P.O. Box 1349 96960 Majuro Marshall Islands Telephone: +692 625 31 81 Fax: +692 625 49 79 Email: mofapol@ntamar.net</p>	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs P.O. Box 1349 96960 Majuro Marshall Islands Telephone: +692 625 31 81 Fax: +692 625 49 79 Email: mofapol@ntamar.net</p>
<p>Nauru Signed: 16 Sept 1995 Ratified: In Force: (Updated:)</p>	<p>Secretary Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment Government Office Building Yaren District Republic of Nauru Tel: 674 5573133 E-mail: elkoga28@gmail.com</p>	<p>Secretary Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment Government Office Building Yaren District Republic of Nauru Tel: 674 5573133 E-mail: elkoga28@gmail.com</p>
<p>Palau Signed: Ratified: In Force: (Updated:)</p>	<p>Hon. Billy G. Kuartei Minister of State The National Capitol Ngerulmud Republic of Palau 93939 Tel: (680) 767-2490/2509 Fax: (680) 767-2443 Email: minister@palaumos.net</p>	<p>Hon. Billy G. Kuartei Minister of State The National Capitol Ngerulmud Republic of Palau 93939 Tel: (680) 767-2490/2509 Fax: (680) 767-2443 Email: minister@palaumos.net</p>