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The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement and the Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)

Apia, Samoa
15th September 2017

Agenda item 4.2: SCPRC-5 Report

Purpose:

1. To adopt the draft report of the fifth meeting of the Steering Committee for the Pacific Regional Centre for the joint implementation of the Waigani and Basel Conventions (SCPRC-5).

Background:

2. The first Conference of the Parties to the Waigani Convention accepted the principle of a joint Centre of the Basel and Waigani Conventions integrated with SPREP and further requested the Secretariat to conduct a survey assessing the capacity of SPREP to perform such a role and the full implications of such a venture.
3. The Secretariat, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention, conducted a feasibility study and the conclusions were presented at Basel COP 6 (held in December 2002) which "welcomed the establishment in principle of a Pacific Joint Regional Centre for the countries in the Pacific Region, within SPREP..."
4. The Basel Convention Secretariat was also requested to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SPREP for the operation of the Joint Regional Centre. The MOU for the Centre was signed between the Director of SPREP and the Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention Secretariat on the 18th of December 2003, thus establishing the Pacific Regional Centre for the joint implementation of the Waigani and Basel Conventions. The MOU defines, *inter alia*, the work programme of the Centre, the sources of financing of agreed activities, as well as the role of the respective Secretariats in guiding, coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the work of the Centre.
5. In addition, Parties noted the need for the Centre to address waste management in an integrated manner to avoid unnecessary duplication related to the various waste management initiatives that were being undertaken. The need to consider activities also being undertaken by other related Conventions in a synergistic manner was highlighted.

6. The main purpose of the Pacific Regional Centre would be to strengthen the capacity of Pacific island Parties to the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the technical requirements of environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes including the minimisation of their generation as well as the legal and institutional aspects of implementing both Conventions.
7. The SCPRC has met a total of

Meeting	Venue
1 st Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre 2008	Samoa
2 nd Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre 2010	Samoa
3 rd Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre 2014	Samoa
4 th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre 2015	Samoa
5 th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre 2017	Tonga

Recommendation

8. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **adopt** the draft report of the draft report of the fifth meeting of the Steering Committee for the Pacific Regional Centre for the joint implementation of the Waigani and Basel Conventions (SCPRC-5)
