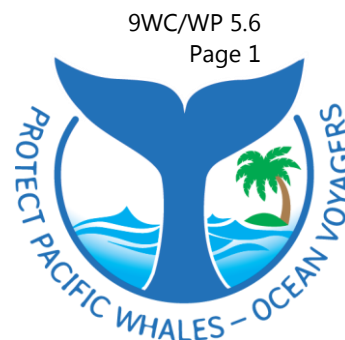




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The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

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 5.6: Financial Resources

Purpose:

1. To inform the meeting of the current financial resources that the Secretariat has mobilized to support the work of the Convention;
2. To seek the guidance from the Meeting on how the financial resources may be mobilized in the future;

Background:

3. The Financial Rules for the administration of the Waigani Convention were adopted in the first session of this meeting in 2002. In adopting the rules, the meeting noted that the contributions were to be based on a scale of contributions that was formally approved in its second session in 2004;
4. The first meeting also requested the 13th SPREP Meeting to consider the projects under the Waigani Convention as part of the broader SPREP Work Programme where appropriate, which it did;
5. The first meeting further invited the Director of SPREP to establish a Trust Fund for the Waigani Convention, in accordance with Financial Rule 5 for the administration of the Waigani Convention and encouraged Parties and non-Parties to make voluntary contributions into the Trust Fund to ensure the smooth implementation of the decisions of the Conference;
6. Since 2004, due to the limited resources available through the Waigani Convention Trust Fund, minimal work has been undertaken using this fund. The fund has been used primarily to assist parties to attend the STAC and related meetings, both regionally and internationally;
7. The major work undertaken for the implementation of the Convention has been funded through the financial resources secured by the SPREP Secretariat as part of its work under the Waste Management and Pollution Control Division, particularly the Hazardous Waste Management section. These have come primarily through programmatic funding received through our major donors, in particular, Australia and New Zealand and through the major projects that the Secretariat has successfully secured and implemented in the region.

8. The establishment of the Pacific Regional Centre (BCRC SPREP) in 2003 had also opened up some opportunities where financial resources were secured through the collaborations with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention (SBC) and more recently, the collaborations with the BCRC China hosted at the Tsinghua University. This have been presented in previous meeting through the Business Plan of the BCRC SPREP.
9. The Convention itself does not have a dedicated financial mechanism to support its core work and this paper is presented to inform the meeting of the current financial resources that the Secretariat has mobilized to support the work of the Convention and to seek the guidance from the Meeting on how the financial resources may be mobilized in the future;

Recommendation:

10. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **discuss** the notion of a dedicated financial mechanism for the implementation of the Waigani Convention;
 - **explore** ways in which the financial mechanism can be established and utilized; and
 - **direct** the Secretariat on what needs to be done to progress this matter.