



Outcome Statement

4th Clean Pacific Roundtable 2024

Clean Environment. Resilient Oceans. Healthy Communities.

At the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable hosted by Tuvalu and held from 5 to 9 August 2024 in Funafuti, we the participants adopted the following Outcomes Statement.

Drawing strength from our deep cultural and historical connection, the Pacific Ocean sustains our societies, economies, and binds our islands together.

Acknowledge the unprecedented threats facing the Blue Pacific, from the triple planetary crises: climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

Restate our commitment to the “2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent” and the Cleaner Pacific 2025 (CP2025) Strategy.

Recognise the achievements made through the implementation of the CP 2025 Strategy and commit to the development of the Cleaner Pacific 2035 (CP 2035) Strategy.

Maintain that securing a healthy and resilient Blue Pacific is critical to overcoming the challenges we face, including national capacity limitations, ensuring the well-being of both our ocean and our communities.

Recall the commitments made by SPREP Ministers’ High-Level Talanoa 2021 to act now to achieve a resilient Blue Pacific, and the successful outcomes of previous Clean Pacific Roundtables as platforms for regional and national cooperation in the waste and pollution sector.

Acknowledge responsibilities under Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) for record keeping and reporting, and the value of monitoring and evaluation to assist with informed decision making.

Recognise the progress made towards implementing the Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter 2019-2025 (PMLAP).

Agree that while several activities have progressed towards implementing the PMLAP the growing magnitude of plastic pollution means that continuing concerted action is required.

Express alarm that plastic pollution flowing into the Pacific Ocean, can be traced back to Pacific rim countries, emphasising the need for an international legally binding instrument to effectively address this worsening problem.

Express disappointment with the position of plastic producers and distributors refusing to curtail production and supply of plastics and agree to mandatory control measures for problematic and avoidable plastics, and chemicals of concern.



Committed to securing an ambitious International Legally Binding Instrument to End Plastic Pollution including the Marine Environment that includes adequate and ongoing technology transfer, capacity building, and financial assistance to the region.

Encourage the Pacific Island Countries and Territories to join alliances such as the High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution, which Pacific Leaders at the 52nd Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting supported, as a regional collective action in the 2050 Strategy Implementation Plan, and as a Pacific Partnership for Prosperity.

Encourage Pacific Island Countries and Territories to sign the Bridge to Busan Declaration, to ensure an effective treaty to end plastic pollution, is achieved.

and, in relation to the following topics the outcomes of the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable are as follows:

Reflections on Cleaner Pacific 2025

Celebrate the significant progress made towards achieving the CP2025 goals, including waste management initiatives, enhanced regional cooperation, effective private sector and community engagement.

Recognise the ongoing challenges such as resource limitations, capacity constraints, and logistical issues, highlighting the need for stronger regulatory frameworks, enforcement, compliance, and continuous capacity building.

Emphasise the importance of enhanced data collection and analysis, monitoring, and reporting systems, and the necessity for adaptive strategies to address emerging issues and changing circumstances, ensuring the continuous improvement and sustainability of CP2025 goals into CP2035.

Acknowledge the need for planning to ensure technologies for waste management and pollution control (including alternative fuels for the shipping industry), energy security, and water security, to ensure they do not become an emerging waste issue at their end of life.

Acknowledge the importance of sustained behaviour change campaigns to deliver the CP2025.



Plastic Pollution

Call on the global community to recognise the global crisis of plastic pollution continues to degrade the marine and terrestrial environments, disproportionately impacting Pacific peoples, who rely on the Blue Pacific for food security, livelihoods, health, cultural, and social well-being.

Call for enhanced coordination among key stakeholders involved in the implementation of the PMLAP, especially in the shipping, aviation, fishing, tourism, hospitality, public service sectors, waste management and collection service providers, and Maritime Administrators as regulators for shipping.

Agree to convene a technical working group including experts, organised by the SPREP Secretariat, to inform inclusion of plastics and their management in the CP2035 to the SPREP Meeting in 2025 for consideration and approval.

Call on Pacific Small Island Development States attending intersessional meetings and Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee meetings to ensure that the positions of Pacific SIDS are fully reflected in any legally binding global instrument to address plastic pollution, including in the marine environment.

Adopt robust regulatory measures at the national level to prevent leakage of plastic pollution into the marine environment, including the development or enhancement of laws, policies, and economic instruments (such as Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes and trade restrictions).

Encourage and support actions to refuse, reduce, return, and recycle plastics.

Encourage and support actions to refuse, reduce, and replace problematic and avoidable plastics with sustainable and affordable substitutes, including traditional products and materials.

Encourage and support research initiatives, creativity, innovation, and cultural knowledge sharing, to find and produce local natural substitutes which are reusable, compostable, or recyclable, to replace dependency on single-use plastics.

Encourage and support the production sectors of local raw materials useful for the creation of natural substitutes to replace dependency on single-use plastics.

Call upon donor and development partners to support Pacific Island Countries and Territories to implement the Treaty to End Plastic Pollution, once ratified.



Circular Economy

Identify and Implement available, appropriate, and affordable options to incorporate circular solutions that provide positive outcomes for waste and pollution control, with due consideration of potential perverse outcomes.

Identify and resource infrastructure, investment needs, and assistance required for incorporating circular solutions for efficient product management and waste management and pollution control outcomes.

Strongly support the design and adoption of regulated sustainable financing and EPR / Product Stewardship schemes for problematic waste products, and to incentivise the use of local sustainable substitutes.

Encourage the development of circular approaches for product management, including improvements to resource recovery, repair, and recycling industries.

Strongly encourage the implementation of composting or organics management solutions that divert organic material from landfill and burning activities, to create valuable resources for food and water security.

Recognise the establishment of the *Pacific Recyclers Alliance* which includes membership of the six existing National Recyclers Associations to harmonise waste management and pollution control activities across the Pacific.

Encourage Pacific Island Countries and Territories to establish National Recyclers Associations and increase membership and representation in the *Pacific Recyclers Alliance*.

Support the important role that Collection Pillars of Recycling (CPR) provide to members States.

Improve the structure, function, role, and number of shipping organisations to expand the Moana Taka Partnership to ensure it is easy to access and includes all shipping lines servicing the region.

Waste Collection and Landfill Management

Support efforts to improve household and commercial waste collections systems and improve their efficiency.

Promote and share knowledge and experience of improved waste collection operations across the region.

Accept that landfills will continue to be needed for the medium-term future, and as such, support improved landfill design (in line with environmentally sound management practices), management and operation, including monitoring of emissions and leachate.



Hazardous Wastes

Encourage the adoption of national bans on the importation of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials (ACM).

Encourage the proper management of ACM through endorsement of National Asbestos Management Codes of Practice.

Strongly encourage support for developing effective healthcare waste policies, guidance, and capacity building.

Support the development of tools, infrastructure, systems, and practices for improved healthcare waste management beyond high-temperature incineration.

Strongly encourage the design and implementation of national systems to collect and export Used Lead Acid Batteries and Used Lithium-Ion Batteries, for recovery and/or recycling.

Encourage Pacific Island Countries and Territories to negotiate the 'buyer' of hazardous waste materials to provide, or pay, the necessary insurance for hazardous waste shipments.

Encourage and support the development of policies to manage the full life cycle of green technology such as electrical vehicles and renewable energy technologies.

Implement hazardous waste management plans, allowing their separate collection from general waste and their export for processing, based on either the appropriate Basel and Waigani Convention Annexes and the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Codes, enabling compliance with Multilateral Environmental Agreements, or the Safety Data Sheets for new products.

End of Life Vehicles (ELVs)

Recognise the importance of effectively managing ELVs to reduce environmental impact and promote sustainable waste management and pollution control practices.

Support the development and implementation of national policies and practices for the recycling and safe disposal of ELVs.

Encourage regional collaboration and sharing of best practices in ELV management to enhance efficiency, effectiveness, and improve economies of scale.

Promote innovative practices for ELV management, including recovery of spare parts and non-ferrous materials, community approaches, and country-specific strategies.

Advocate at the International Level for the introduction of EPR into the automotive industry to ensure that manufacturers are responsible to assist with ELV waste management and pollution control in the region, to address our unique circumstances.



Pollution Control

Recognise the critical role of the shipping and port sectors (and their regulators) in the delivery of CP2025 outcomes.

Recognise and support innovative solutions that are practical, effective, and appropriate to Pacific region for both short-term and sustainable initiatives.

Support stronger commitments to regional cooperative marine pollution response arrangements, such as through Pacific Regional Marine Spill Contingency Plan (PACPLAN).

Support the review, design, and implementation of national and regional strategies and action plans to effectively and sustainably manage potentially polluting wrecks, including WWII shipwrecks.

Support the completion of the draft Regional Biofouling Action Plan and implement in accordance with the latest developments on biofouling management at the national, regional, and global levels, once adopted.

Encourage countries to actively engage with metropolitan countries and partner organisations to improve response and recovery of waste and chemicals from the marine environment.

Disaster waste

Recognise the importance of effectively managing waste generated from a disaster to support diversion of materials from landfill, minimise waste and pollution impacts on local environments, and protect the health of local communities.

Encourage the adoption of the Disaster Waste Data Estimation Methodology and Guideline to accurately assess waste and pollution generated from disaster events, to guide effective response and recovery efforts.

Encourage the adoption and implementation of processes and policies at the national level to enable the safe management of disaster waste and inform national decision making in the building -back process.

Encourage meaningful collaboration between Environment Working Groups and emergency management agencies (as included in the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP)) through awareness and capacity building on waste and pollution generated during a disaster event.



Waste Technologies

Implement innovative technologies that are proven, practical, affordable, and applicable to the region's unique circumstances, considering potential perverse outcomes, to achieve sustainable waste utilisation (recognising waste is a resource) that minimises waste to landfill, or supports effective waste management and pollution control actions.

Encourage information sharing to inform policy development on the adoption and use of new innovative technologies, to ensure compliance with environmental safeguards and controls when implemented.

Developing the Cleaner Pacific 2035 (CP2035)

Reinforce the importance of strengthened regional cooperation, collaboration, coordination and partnerships (including Public Private Partnerships) among Pacific Island Countries and Territories and donors and development partners to effectively implement CP2035 as well as sharing of best practices in implementing innovative waste management technologies to enhance waste management and pollution control in the Pacific.

Emphasise the need for CP2035 to include continuous capacity building, technical assistance, resource mobilisation, co-operation, and lessons learned from CP2025, with a focus on national implementation to deliver the expected strategic outcomes.

Acknowledge the donors and development partners for their contributions to the successful delivery of the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable.

Acknowledge the Government and people of Tuvalu's generous hospitality, for their support and participation in the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable and their valuable contributions, especially the school children who participated in the Plastics Dialogue.

Adopted on 9 August 2024

Funafuti, Tuvalu