



Report of the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable 5-9 August 2024 Funafuti, Tuvalu



List of Acronyms

2050 Strategy	2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent
3Rs	Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
4Rs	Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Recover
ACM	Asbestos-containing materials
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADF	Advanced Disposal Fees
AFD	Agence Française de Développement
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
ARFD	Advance Recovery Fee and Deposit
BSEE	Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
CLGF	Commonwealth Local Government Forum
COP	Conference of the Parties
CP2025	Cleaner Pacific Strategy 2025
CP2035	Cleaner Pacific Strategy 2035
CPR	Collection Pillars of Recycling
CPRT4	4th Clean Pacific Roundtable
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australia
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ELV	End-of-life vehicles
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
ERT	Environmental Response Team
EU	European Union
FRDP	Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEDSI	Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HAC	High Ambition Coalition to End Plastic Pollution
HDP	High-density polyethylene
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INC	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee
INC-5	5th Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee
ISLANDS	Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States

JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JPRISM III	Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Islands
LDP	Low-density polyethylene
LGBTIQ	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender diverse, intersex and queer communities
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MELAD	Ministry of Environment Land Agriculture Department
MHACCE	Ministry of Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPF	Major Projects Foundation
NATPLAN	Marine Spill Contingency Plan
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office
NDWMP	National Disaster Waste Management Plan
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NSF	USCG-National Strike Force
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PACPLAN	Pacific Regional Marine Spill Contingency Plan
PAWES	Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions Project
PDNA	Post Disaster Needs Assessment
PMLAP	Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter 2019-2025
POLFUND	Pollution Fund
POLP	Pacific Ocean Litter Project
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PRA	Pacific Recyclers Alliance
PRISMS	Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support
PSIDS	Pacific Small Island Developing States
PWP	PacWastePlus Project
RDF	Refuse derived fuel
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
RPF	Refuse paper and plastic fuel
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Islands Developing States
SMART	specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timebound
SPC	Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SROS	Scientific Research Organisation of Samoa
SRWMA	Samoa Recycling and Waste Management Association
SUP	Single Use Plastic

SWAP	Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific
ULAB	Used Lead Acid Battery
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UN-SUPSALV	United States Navy's Supervisor of Salvage and Diving
USCG	United States Coast Guard
USP	University of the South Pacific
WMPC	Waste Management and Pollution Control
WTE	Waste to Energy
WWII	World War II

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Acknowledgements

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- Government of Tuvalu
- Government of France
- Government of Australia
- European Union
- Japan International Cooperation Agency
- United Nations Environment Programme
- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

The success of the Roundtable belongs to the more than 180 participants from throughout the region and beyond, that represented the public sector, waste and environmental practitioners, development partners, private sector, community, NGOs, academic and research institutions. The Roundtable ensured the collective sharing of experiences, focused on the theme of 'Clean Environment, Resilient Ocean and Healthy Communities' and helped drive progress towards the Clean Pacific 2025 vision of 'a cleaner Pacific environment'.

Background

The inaugural Clean Pacific Roundtable was held in 2016 and successfully followed by the second Roundtable hosted at the Pacific Islands Forum in 2018. As a direct result of the second Roundtable, the 49th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Communique reaffirmed Leaders' commitment to eliminate marine litter; recognised the urgency of implementing the Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan; and stated that waste is a critical issue for the Blue Pacific. Since then, the recognition of the impacts of waste management and pollution control in the Pacific region have grown and are included in the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent endorsed by Pacific Leaders in 2022, which articulates the priorities and aspirations of the region as the North Star of the Pacific. The Clean Pacific Roundtable remains critical for the region noting the complex challenges of the waste sector in the Pacific, and urgency surrounding meeting these challenges.

Introduction

The 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable (CPRT4) convened in Funafuti, Tuvalu from 5 to 9 August 2024 and focused on sustainable innovations for a clean environment, resilient ocean, and healthy communities. It is the first Roundtable to meet in person since the pandemic, noting the previous one convened virtually in 2021 hosted by New Caledonia. The Roundtable included more than 180 registered participants from 19 Members¹ that included representatives of government, the private sector, civil society, research agencies, donor community and partners including agencies of the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP). The Roundtable was made possible with the leadership, and generous hospitality of the Government and people of Tuvalu and received direct funding support from the Governments of France and Australia.

Purpose

The purpose of the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable was to provide a vehicle to disseminate outcomes, promote regional collaboration and resource complementarity, and expand networking opportunities to assist Pacific island countries and territories in the delivery of safe and sustainable waste management practices and to prevent pollution-related issues that impact the health of the ocean and communities within the region. It also helped:

- Showcase activities undertaken to deliver the CP2025
- Highlight and explore opportunities for collaboration and partnerships to deliver innovation and improvement in waste management in the Pacific
- Facilitate networking and dialogue amongst waste management stakeholders in the Pacific region
- Improve donor coordination
- Mobilise technical and financial resources
- Develop monitoring and reporting methods
- Provide a vehicle for high-level agreement and action to provide a regional position on waste management to other regional and international Fora that intersect with waste management and the impact of waste on the environment.

¹ There was no representation from the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, New Caledonia, United Kingdom and Wallis and Futuna.

Objectives

- Collate further stakeholder input to ensure the CP2025 Implementation Plan can be delivered and outline future prioritised activities in the short term.
- Promote improved understanding of gaps and opportunities within the region and support the mobilisation of technical and financial resources to fill gaps in waste and pollution management.
- Promote the establishment of new waste management networks.
- Engage with existing regional networks in the waste management and pollution control sector to support improved coordination of actions.
- Confirm and agree with regional key performance indicators and data monitoring and reporting frameworks to monitor and report on regional activity to deliver CP2025 and soon to be developed CP2035 or plus.
- Understanding of future prioritised activities based on information from the Roundtable.

Themes

- Circular Economy
- Pollution Control
- Hazardous Waste
- End-of-life vehicles (ELV)
- Plastic Waste
- Disaster Waste
- Waste to Energy

Outcomes

- Collated stakeholder input to ensure the CP2025 Implementation Plan can be delivered and produced a statement of future prioritised activities in the short-term.
- Promoted improved understanding of gaps and opportunities within the region and support the mobilisation of technical and financial resources to fill gaps in waste and pollution management.
- Promoted the establishment of new waste management networks.
- Engaged with existing regional networks in the waste and pollution sector to support improved coordination of actions.
- Commenced discussion on the Vision, Objectives, and Targets for the CP2035 or plus Strategy Development that will be undertaken in 2024 and 2025.
- Initiated commitment from donors and development partners to fund CP2035 Strategy development and desired activities to be included in the Strategy to receive ongoing funding support.

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 CP2025 Strategy and commit to the development of the Cleaner Pacific 2035 (CP2035) 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

Session 1: Opening

1. The meeting formalities were opened by Ms. Savali Fatoga, Deputy Secretary for the Ministry of Justice, Communication and Foreign Affairs on behalf of the Government of Tuvalu. Ms. Fatoga introduced the traditional performers from the island of Niutao who performed a traditional chant of welcome in honour of the official opening of the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable. The performance was followed by a prayer and bible reading from Pastor Fitilau Puapua, President of Ekalesia Kelisiano Tuvalu who blessed the meeting, highlighting the importance of working together to save the islands from the impacts of waste and pollution and climate change. Pastor Puapua emphasised the importance of empowering present and future generations with education and faith.
2. Upon the conclusion of the prayer, the Honourable Feleti Penitala Teo, Prime Minister of Tuvalu was introduced to deliver the keynote address. The Honourable Prime Minister highlighted the political commitment to addressing waste management, and the development challenges of small island developing states, particularly low lying atoll nations such as Tuvalu. A key challenge delivered by the Honourable Prime Minister to all delegates was to be bold and innovative in the search for solutions to address the chronic development challenge of waste disposal and waste management in the Pacific, especially in Tuvalu. It was further emphasised that solutions, be practical, affordable and applicable to the unique circumstances of the Pacific.
3. Remarks delivered by Mr Sefanaia Nawadra, Director General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme highlighted the triple planetary crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and waste, which disproportionately affects Pacific islands. The importance of the negotiations process for an internationally legally binding instrument on plastics, emphasised as a form of global accountability on par with climate negotiations. Participants were encouraged to seek alliances with other like-minded countries such as the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) to End Plastic Pollution, which Pacific Leaders at the 52nd Pacific Islands Leaders Forum Meeting have endorsed support of as a regional collective action in the 2050 Strategy Implementation Plan and as a Pacific Partnership for Prosperity. *Refer to annex for copies of speeches.*

Session 1.1: Plenary Session

4. The Secretariat welcomed participants and provided an overview of the programme for the week. Participants were encouraged to be frank and honest in the discussions and were reminded of the challenge from the Tuvalu Prime Minister in their opening address for relevant and innovative solutions for Pacific island countries and territories and small island developing states. Participants were also encouraged to look for solutions through the perspective of the triple planetary crisis.
5. The Secretariat provided an overview of the Cleaner Pacific 2025 Strategy (CP2025) noting the Clean Pacific Roundtable brings together key stakeholders' as a community of practice for addressing waste management and pollution control issues. The concept while developed in 2015 is well aligned with the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, where SPREP has a co-lead on the thematic areas of Climate Change and Disasters, and Ocean and Environment.
6. The Secretariat highlighted the aims, objectives and expected outcomes of the Clean Pacific Roundtable. The forthcoming sessions were an opportunity to reflect on CP2025 achievements, gaps, opportunities, and emerging issues, as well as examine new networks, and engage with existing networks to commence the work that will help inform the development of the CP2035.

7. An overview of the Clean Pacific journey was presented noting the various foundational waste management strategies including the Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy for the Pacific Region 2005-2010 and 2020-2015. It was noted that the consultation in 2015 for a consolidated framework, led to the endorsement of the CP2025 in 2015. The mid-term review of the CP2025 was completed in 2021 and the process for developing the new strategy is now in progress, noting the current strategy will conclude at the end of 2025.
8. The Secretariat emphasised the importance of developing a realistic monitoring and reporting framework for the next regional strategy and having supportive structures in place at the national level, including policies and strategies aligned with the regional strategy, and national steering committees to help guide and monitor national-level implementation.

Session 1.2: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the achievements of Cleaner Pacific 2025

9. Participants engaged in group work and reflected upon the CP2025 vision of a cleaner Pacific environment to implement practical and sustainable solutions on the prevention and management of waste and pollution in the Pacific. Achievements at the national level were discussed and collated. *Refer to annex for tabulation of achievements highlighted.*

Session 1.3: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the challenges and lessons learned for Cleaner Pacific 2025

10. Participants engaged in group work and reflected on the challenges and lessons learnt at the national level under the CP2025. *Refer to annex for tabulation of challenges and lessons learnt.*

Session 1.4: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the emerging issues for Cleaner Pacific 2035

11. Participants engaged in group work and reflected on what they viewed as the emerging issues for Cleaner Pacific 2035 (CP2035). *Refer to annex for tabulation of emerging issues.*

Session 2.1: Sustainable Circularity and a Pollution-Free Pacific

Presentation: ‘Changing the narrative from linear to circular for Waste Management. Options to apply circular solutions for the Pacific. Illustrating the “tools” available for Pacific island countries and territories to close the loop’ by Ms. Hillary Boyes, PacWastePlus Technical Waste Project Officer, Resource Recovery of SPREP.

12. Ms. Hillary Boyes, PacWastePlus Technical Waste Project Officer, Resource Recovery of SPREP highlighted the amount of waste generated in households and the importance of making changes and adopting a circular approach in the Pacific. Ms. Boyes shared a regional report that used data from waste audits conducted in 2019-2021, which indicated the Pacific region generally disposed waste to landfill consisting of 43 percent organics and 14 percent paper and cardboard. Ms. Boyes shared examples of circular solutions that can be implemented in the Pacific including “tools” available and the importance of examining waste streams. Ms. Boyes shared that applying circular thinking can include infrastructure investment, such as composting facilities, repair programmes, recycling transfer facilities, and service industries as well as policy controls, such as importation bans, import quality controls, and sustainable financing schemes in the form of fee and deposit.

Ms Boyes concluded that a circular approach to manage waste streams in the Pacific to landfill, could potentially divert up to 89 percent of waste.

Presentation: Applying a circular solution to a small-scale “rent-a-plate” initiative by Ms Claytoncy Taurarii, Director, Waste Management, Ministry of Infrastructure, Cook Islands.

13. Ms Claytoncy Taurarii, Director of Waste Management for the Cook Islands Ministry of Infrastructure presented on applying a circular solution to a small-scale initiative called ‘rent a plate’. An environmental fundraising activity initially started in 2019 by Teuki Ou Primary School to divert as much waste as possible from landfill and to help fundraise for school projects. Due to the impacts of the pandemic the ‘rent a plate’ initiative went through a hiatus and was reinvigorated in 2023 by the environmental non-governmental organisation Te Ipukarea Society, that upgraded it to include wheels to make it mobile. The ‘rent a plate’ operates from the night markets 4 times a week in Rarotonga and is open to the public to donate a gold coin. Users of the food market rent plates and cutlery instead of using disposable food packaging, cutlery and utensils. Ms Taurarii highlighted that landfill in Rarotonga had reached its capacity in 2023 and such community initiatives are important. It was also noted that the ‘rent a plate’ initiative received private sector support from CITC that donated the plates, cups and cutlery.

Presentation: Opportunities or Solutions “Inside-our-Circle” – Policy, E-waste AFRD, repair, import standards by Mr Haden Talagi. Niue.

14. Mr Haden Talagi, Director of Environment in Niue highlighted recent initiatives to be sustainable. It was shared that the Department of Environment of Niue is working on an Advance Recovery Fee and Deposit (ARFD) scheme together with the right to repair. Mr. Talagi noted the main challenge for ARFD is that the funds from safeguards are channelled to one pool of funds. Mr. Talagi highlighted the plan for a waste recycling centre in Niue to be funded by the Australian Government that is currently working with SPREP. Niue is also working on the shipment of e-waste.

15. Mr Talagi shared the main challenges are:

- a. Lack of knowledge and skills on waste management.
- b. Difficulties working with multiple agencies.
- c. System of tracking imported goods.
- d. Use of different mediums of communication to encourage the community on the collection of recyclables and to advocate for a “circular economy”.
- e. Capacity building and ensuring that the team is capable of carrying out the activities required in waste management.
- f. Blended finance system and ensuring there are linkages to all levels of waste management.

Presentation: Opportunities or Solutions “Outside-our-Circle”. Return of recyclable materials. Adding value to waste as a resource by Mr Makoto Yamashita, JPRISM III.

16. Mr Makoto Yamashita explained that the return concept has been promoted by JPRISM as most products are imported from outside the Pacific region, with few leaving the islands due to cost, and items being piled up as waste on island. Key issues identified are that waste cannot always be

recycled as the local market is too small and it is not economically viable due to high shipping costs except for certain items like copper, and aluminium.

17. Mr. Yamashita highlighted that recycling due to economies of scale is not often a business in the Pacific islands and should be considered as a waste stream in the form of a service to pay for. It was noted that the returning of plastic waste is more resource consuming. Energy used to remanufacture is greater than when producing a new product and recycling is more costly than landfill. Due to these parameters the importance of a circular economy was highlighted by Mr. Yamashita on the need to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill on island.
18. Feedback from participants, highlighted the importance of a sustainable financing mechanism to assist with costs. Pacific islands that have access to the Swire Shipping network were encouraged to use the Moana Taka Partnership. It was noted that users of the partnership need to ensure the recipients of the shipped materials can see the value of the items being received for recycling and likewise use brokers that can facilitate the permits.
19. Ms. Marina Keil of Samoa Recycling and Waste Management Association (SRWMA) informed the meeting that the Moana Taka Partnership was first piloted by Samoa, and they have shipped out a total of 3 containers. For the SRWMA the key issue is the collection of waste in country. For Samoa it is the collection of plastic bottles so that Samoa can fully utilise the Moana Taka Partnership. As a private organisation, SRWMA is struggling to find avenues to use the platform noting the volume required, permit and insurance requirements.
20. Ms. Claytoncy Taurarii shared the key challenges for the Cook Islands was the availability of containers to export waste, the completion of forms for permits, volume of waste generation required and timeframes available for waste generation and shipment.
21. Mr. Alice Leney shared that Kiribati have successfully shipped containers using the Moana Taka Partnership. It was noted that Kiribati has excellent relations with the commercial sector, which plays a key part with ensuring the successful shipping of waste out of the country including the broker, vendor and recipient.
22. Mr. Nawadra, Director General of SPREP noted that other shipping avenues are being explored that are complementary to the Moana Taka Partnership and will be available under the GEF ISLANDS Project based at SPREP. Under GEF ISLANDS there is a concerted global effort for the Moana Taka Partnership to be expanded to other countries including in the Caribbean. It was also noted that Trade Ministers have approved a Trade and Environment Strategy for the Pacific to help trade and assist with climate change, the environment and other social issues. Furthermore, under IMO there is a submission by Pacific island countries on shipping related emissions, to set up a levy to address climate change and other related issues.
23. Mr. Yamashita concluded the session by highlighting that information sharing is critical in understanding what works, and how things may be improved.

Presentation: Private Sector Recycling by Mr Amitesh Deo, Pacific Recyclers Alliance (PRA).

24. Mr Amitesh Deo presented as a representative of the newly formed Pacific Recyclers Alliance (PRA) which has members in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

Participants were encouraged to develop national recycling associations to increase membership and representation in the Pacific Recyclers Alliance. Mr. Deo noted that in addition to representing the PRA they also wish to highlight their community of predominantly women, the LGBTQI communities and Collection Pillars of Recycling (CPRs), which are often overlooked and marginalised within society. Mr. Deo highlighted the importance of actively listening to the marginalised to ensure inclusivity of grassroots communities that are involved in the collection of waste and directly benefit from recycling. To address the waste crises, the issue of political will was emphasised as often there are misaligned priorities with lack of resources and vision.

25. Mr. Deo shared that it is often grassroots communities involved in recycling that do not receive support from government or development partners. It was noted that the change in terminology from informal waste pickers to Collection Pillars of Recycling was to minimise the stigma and to help bring more dignity to their work. A key area of work is advocacy for change and action for sustainable impact. It was noted that Collection Pillars of Recycling communities are integral to the circular economy and do not need handouts but rather structured support and capacity building opportunities. In conclusion Mr. Deo emphasised that a circular economy must acknowledge social and environmental justice for all Pacific islanders, that needs support to deliver progress and impactful programmes, that enshrine the principles of 'do no harm'.
26. Mr. Sefanaia Nawadra, Director General of SPREP thanked Mr. Deo for their presentation and noted that the Pacific Recyclers Alliance and their vast constituency has been a missing link in the Roundtable. Key next steps are identifying what they can bring to the table in terms of role in the private sector and social impact of their services.

Presentation: Assistance SPREP will provide the region through Framework and Network by Mr Anthony Talouli, Director WMPC, SPREP.

27. Mr. Anthony Talouli noted the presentations were good examples of the circularity network both inside and outside the circle. It was shared that the next iteration of the CP2025 which will be the CP2035 will include a circularity framework, that will consider its application in the national, regional and global contexts. The session has been an opportunity to look at the waste hierarchy and rethink initiatives such as that shared from the Cook Islands on 'rent a plate' and mirror what other opportunities maybe replicated. The feedback on organics work, infrastructure and sustainable financing are noted including the importance of being inclusive, noting the different stakeholders in the sector at all levels.
28. A question from the floor sought advice on the roles of SPREP and SPC in the solid waste management, wastewater and water sector within the context of a circular economy. Mr. Nawadra replied that SPREP has oversight of waste management and pollution control and water by SPC, however this does not mean SPREP cannot look at water in relation to waste management. Similarly to meteorological and hydrological services which SPREP and SPC have stakeholders engaged in that covers both climate change and national disasters.
29. Ms. Pepetua Latasi, Chair and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment sought advice on the regional approach to enable a circular economy in small islands including the Moana Taka Partnership. It was also noted the need to have access to infrastructure and technology that smaller islands do not have. Mr. Nawadra replied that the Roundtable is an important opportunity to elevate awareness of the circular economy to the

region. The High Ambition Coalition to End Plastics Pollution (HAC) has received the endorsement of Pacific Leaders as a regional collective action and Pacific Partnership for Prosperity priority under the 2050 Strategy Implementation Plan. The GEF ISLANDS will also provide opportunities to expand the Moana Taka Partnership to other shipping partners in the Pacific and beyond.

Pollution Control: Welcome remarks by Mr Toma Mesake, Acting Director, Maritime Department, Tuvalu.

30. Mr. Toma Mesake, Acting Director, of the Tuvalu Maritime Department, welcomed all participants and acknowledged the common purpose of their gathering to help maintain the cleanliness of the marine environment for present and future generations with the shared commitment of guarding the Pacific Ocean, which is the blood line of community for livelihoods, culture and economies. Issues like oil spills, World War II shipwrecks pose challenges. Mr. Mesake noted the dialogue is an opportunity to explore successful case studies and to provide invaluable insight into pollution management. At the end of the session, Mr. Mesake hoped participants will achieve greater understanding of marine pollution responses, PacPlan, World War II shipwrecks and action plans aligned with global practices. Mr. Mesake highlighted the importance of working together, to forge new partnerships for marine environment in the shared vision to prevent pollution in the ocean.

Presentation: Scene setting – Emerging marine pollution issues in the region by Dr Mohammed A. Zullah, Pollution Adviser, SPREP

31. Dr. Zullah presented a brief overview of emerging marine pollution issues in the Pacific region including an overview of the PlanPan 2019 and the PlacPlanPlus, which is the updated plan to ensure there is an improved approach and more effective coordination. The Secretariat also shared the ongoing project in Federated States of Micronesia, potentially pollution wrecks, and the work in updating the regional strategy to address them. Marine invasive species were noted as an issue, and the Secretariat will work with the Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support (PRISMS) based at SPREP to capture the invasives species data in an updated regional framework. Dr. Zullah encouraged all Members to contribute to the PacPlanPlus noting its relevance to the region and to become a party if not already to the Noumea Convention.

Presentation: PACPLAN – Effectiveness and developments in spill prevention and response by Mr Pawa Limu, Manager, Marine Environment Protection, NMSA. Papua New Guinea.

32. Mr Pawa Limu, Manager of Marine Environment Protection, NMSA of Papua New Guinea presented on its Marine Pollution (Preparedness and Response) Act 2013 which is the national implementing legislation based on regional and international conventions. Mr Limu referred to key spill prevention and response elements under its Act including the National Maritime Safety Authority as the designated lead agency and the requirement to conduct risk assessments for ports and major shipping routes. It was also noted that they are required to have a national incident response command system and obligated to develop a NATPLAN. There is also a requirement that industries develop their own site-specific contingency plans, in line with the NATPLAN. At the industry-level there is responsibility for conducting site-specific risk assessments and having emergency response equipment onsite. It was noted that incidents must be reported within 24 hours, to the Marine Rescue Coordination Centre.
33. Mr Limu stressed the importance of ratifying international and regional conventions to provide a guide for national legislation. Mr Limu outlined the management system for coordinating responses to spill

incidents, including the tier system for classifying the scale and risk of spills. It was also explained the response management through the Emergency Management and Incident Response Teams and the different models of command for incidents classified at different tiers. Mr. Limu also shared the application of net environmental benefit analysis.

34. Mr Limu explained its training and exercise programme for personnel involved in NATPLAN action and delivery, and the benefits of conducting national joint exercises with international and regional partners. Emphasis was placed on the importance of conducting regular exercises to develop team confidence and experience.
35. Mr Limu advised that Papua New Guinea has identified approximately 400 WWII wrecks, and that it cannot monitor them all. Mr. Limu explained that it has been using Orbital Earth Observation Solutions with the support of the Spanish Maritime Safety and Rescue Agency, which is a satellite-based monitoring system that can detect oil spills and trace it to vessels. It was noted that the system has helped Papua New Guinea to identify and monitor WWII wrecks within its exclusive economic zone.
36. On the Marine Pollution (Liability and Cost Recovery) Act 2013, Mr Limu explained that it has enabled the establishment of a POLFUND which is a trust account that can be used for the maintenance and implementation of the NATPLAN, to buy oil spill response equipment, and support training and risk assessments and sensitive areas mapping.
37. Noting questions from the floor Mr. Limu shared that the most challenging aspect of their work is putting a team of stakeholders together from across various government agencies, and from different industry groups. It was emphasised the importance of collective responses to spill incidents and the need to build relationships to develop an effective team. On the cost to subscribe to Orbital Earth Observation Solutions Mr. Limu shared it is approximately USD 30,000 and is prioritised for most high risk areas, hence the cost would be higher if it was monitoring its whole EEZ.
38. Mr. Limu emphasised the importance of ratifying international conventions and then domesticating them, through enactment of national legislation, to allow for enforcement and penalties to be imposed when incidents do occur. It was also stressed the importance of training exercises and partnerships for developing and implementing effective response plans.

Presentation: Leadership in a spill response crisis - International cooperation and individual action by Commander Jesse Harms, Chief of Contingency Planning, United States Coast Guard (USCG)

39. Commander Jesse Harms, Chief of Contingency Planning for the United States Coast Guard (USCG) presented on the US National Team Response, which works globally for assistance and in response to spills. Coordination and communication at the international, and community levels highlighted as critical as well as capacity building and preparedness to response crises such as spill response, fire, and emergencies up to the level of Tier 3. The assistance provided varies from virtual assistance, technical, logistics, and scientific information support.
40. The USCG have affiliations with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Department of the Interior's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), and the US Navy's Supervisor of Salvage and Diving (UN-SUPSALV). The Environmental Response Team (ERT) work on classic environmental emergencies, such as fires and spills. In the Pacific, they collaborate with partners

such as SPREP. The USCG-National Strike Force (NSF) deal with other responses as requested by partners and countries, where safety is the priority for everyone in the community during emergencies, like oil spills. The main objective is to protect the environment, safety of human life, and communication to ensure that the community is involved in decision making and empowered for a better response. The technical analysis undertaken using geographic information system (GIS) and drones, which is to help understand the situation and to remove debris and pollution.

41. A key aspect to their work is maintaining trust and keeping traditions alive. These elements are included in their emergency response, by understanding the value of the cultural heritage of a community, such as preserving or protecting significant cultural sites. The example of the 2023 Hawaii wildfires in Lāhainā that included the Hauola birthing stone on Maui highlighted the importance of understanding what is culturally valuable and having the community involved in the response actions. It was also noted the importance of having a national plan in place, that has a clear delineation on what is to be done by who and under what circumstances. The importance of working together and pooling of resources emphasised.
42. Based on lessons learnt key issues to be considered:
 - a. National plans should be communicated in advance with communities.
 - b. Having communities involved in the response actions is critical.
 - c. Have resilience built in the community as a goal in every response, to help communities bounce back.
 - d. Communicating with communities is critical to spill response.
 - e. A lot of resources available when done early.
 - f. Seek understanding from communities of what is culturally valuable, to help preserve cultural heritage.
 - g. When communicated early, every country is in control of its coordination and communication in responding to emergencies like spill or other emergencies.

Presentation: The Threat of Oil Spills from WWII Shipwrecks in the Pacific – Federated States of Micronesia WWII Shipwreck Pollution Mitigation Project by Dr Matt Carter, Project Director, Major Projects Foundation (MPF).

43. Major Projects Foundation are a non-profit organisation based in Australia, that work with SPREP under an MOU arrangement. It was noted that there are 3800 shipwrecks in the Pacific. MPF shared that within the context of the Federated States of Micronesia the US have remediated a few vessels; Japan have removed oil of 40,000 litres; and Australia have provided AUD 2.2 million to undertake an assessment of potential shipwrecks polluting in Chuuk. MPF have undertaken ship surveys to understand the threat and to evaluate the volume of oil that might be present. Capacity building is also underway with the United States Coast Guard support.
44. Key areas that need to be addressed include wreck remediation, prioritisation of threats, community engagement, political engagement, spill preparedness and capacity building. It was noted that Project Tangaroa is involved with the international coordination of this work which focuses on a global framework for the near and long-term assessment, intervention and sharing of data for potentially polluting wrecks.

45. Continued engagement on addressing WWII wrecks is critical as there is the potential impact from the release of oil from these submerged vessels, noting the entire Pacific region is at risk. Planning, cooperation and implementation by all parties crucial, particularly individual nations, the donor community, and private party experts. It was emphasised that time is short, and the WWII wrecks are degrading.

46. Summary of key issues discussed:

- a. Environmental impacts from the release of oil from WWII shipwrecks.
- b. Challenges are the low level of preparedness, vast distances and disposal of remediated materials
- c. Communication, coordination and cooperation are needed.
- d. Preparedness: Framework for Maritime Incidents and Disasters. The framework assists countries in managing maritime incidents and disasters, including pollution from unexpected waste, wrecks, oil spills, and cargo loss.
- e. Important the inclusion of the maritime sector as essential for waste movement; maritime is crucial as waste cannot be transported by planes, trains, or trucks.
- f. Engagement with regulators, businesses, and innovative projects (e.g., Moana Taka partnership).
- g. Awareness of sea disasters: Disasters at sea, like the Sri Lanka shipwreck, can have widespread effects, such as microplastics contaminating ports. Need to make informed decisions about managing maritime emergencies, such as whether a burning ship can safely enter Tuvalu's lagoon.
- h. Oil Spills: Result in significant waste such as oil mixed with sand and coral.
- i. Local cleanup challenges: Machinery for oil removal is often unavailable on islands. Use of oil-resistant plastic bags and absorbent materials to manage oil spills can generate more waste.
- j. Solution: Potential use of natural fibres for better environmental management.
- k. Inappropriate solutions: Using water tanks for oil storage is ineffective. Gallon tanks rust and fail quickly.
- l. Health impacts from consuming fish affected by oil toxins.
- m. Shipping accidents are expensive.
- n. Effective management requires integrating maritime considerations into disaster and waste management plans.

Presentation: Emerging technologies and innovative solutions – Urban Mining Industry Pacific Esperance—Recycling solutions on a ship concept by Mr. Edward Meysztowicz. Managing Director, Urban Mining Industries Pty Ltd which was presented by the Secretariat through Mr. Paul Irving.

47. It was noted that Urban Mining Industry Pty Ltd have been recycling for more than 20 years and want to deliver recycling to the Pacific. Urban Mining Industries Pty Ltd aspire to put recycling machines on a boat and to sail to all Pacific island countries to process materials in local ports. They seek to start a conversation with waste experts in each country and to establish a joint expert group with local officers from the Pacific islands. Interested participants are encouraged to communicate with Mr. Edward Moszkowicz to learn more about the proposed mobile recycling station.

Presentation: Control and Management of Ships' Biofouling—National Biofouling Strategies on Managing Invasive Aquatic Species by Mr Hema Tupou, Senior Marine Environment Officer, Marine and Ports Division, Ministry of Infrastructure.

48. Mr Hema Tupou explained biofouling is the accumulation of marine organisms on surfaces of substance that are submerged under water, such as the ship hull, floating debris, and marine infrastructure. It was noted that biofouling has the potential to spread to new marine environments and kill native marine organisms, as well as disrupt marine biodiversity causing economic loss, reduction in food security and increase in fuel consumption.
49. The experience with IMO was shared on the GloFouling Project, that was established in 2019 to combat marine invasive species that was piloted in Tonga. Mr. Tupou shared that a National Task Force was established, similar to a Pollution Committee Task Force. It was noted that Tonga completed a National Status Assessment Report in 2022.
50. Key report outcomes noted that the marine environment in general is in good condition with healthy coral reefs. Biofouling may be spread through recreational vessels as the most likely vector. The need to build baseline knowledge by undertaking surveys in the high risk ports of the two international ports, to assess the current biodiversity state, was noted. It was shared that implementation is a challenge, with more community awareness needed on marine invasive species, as well as training on biofouling management plans and biofouling record books. To date Tonga has completed the National Economic Assessment Report in 2023 and will work on drafting the National Strategy and Action Plan.
51. Key challenges highlighted by Mr Tupou is that there is no specific agency established to fight marine invasive species, lack of expertise, equipment and infrastructure to address it.

Waste Technologies

Transforming Waste into Worth: A Revolutionary Approach to Sustainable Development.

52. Opening remarks and introduction were presented by Mr Simona Kilei, Director of the Department of Energy and Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions (PAWES) focal point for Tuvalu.

Waste Reduction and Minimisation Strategies

Presentation: Waste Management Innovation in the PSIDS aligned to the CP2025 by Mr Shungo Soeda, Team Leader, Solid Waste Management, JICA/JPRISM Expert.

53. Mr Shungo Soeda informed the Roundtable that waste management innovation is critical in the Pacific and aligns with the Cleaner Pacific 2025. The example of the dumpsite on Funafuti was highlighted as human made, and full of waste. Waste to energy in Japan was shared as a case study, where it was noted that 88 to 21,940 tons per year goes to incineration.
54. Mr. Soeda explained that Japan with its managed waste has the scale, vast experience in infrastructure and operations in demonstrating Waste to Energy (WTE). It was noted that Japan conducts waste audits every year and that the WTE approach is unsuitable for most Pacific Small Island Developing States due to small municipal waste volumes and the dense, wet quality of most waste streams.
55. It was shared that WTE for municipal waste to energy in Japan where waste audits are conducted every year include facilities, generation and discharging of waste by households. It also generated 880 grams per day per capita (496 grams are household waste) with a recycling rate of 19.6 percent. Waste

treatment facilities include incinerators through gasification, carbonisation, or other and waste to fuel of methanation and refuse derived fuel (RDF)/ refuse paper and plastic fuel (RPF).

56. In Japan's inland municipalities there is no waste treatment facility which is equipped with 'waste to energy' process due to its small treatment capacity that is insufficient to recover the energy from waste. The smallest capacity of waste to energy plant for incineration is 46 ton/day located in Tanba city. The 31 inland municipalities have a population which ranges from 166 to 50,925 and waste discharge amounts that range from 88 to 21,940 ton per year.

Presentation: Sustainable Waste Management Technologies for Waste Utilisation in Small Island Developing States (SIDS): A Pathway to a Circular Economy by Dr Jane Stanley, EAROPH International

57. Dr Jane Stanley of EAROPH International presented on waste to energy technology. It was noted that a training programme has been developed by EAROPH International through corporate sponsorship designed for local government. It was also shared that foundation materials have been developed through the assistance of a technical working group.
58. Ms Karabati Taoaba, Region Director with the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) based in the Solomon Islands are working with EAROPH International on addressing waste and helping to facilitating the training. The initiative has covered 5 countries in the Pacific including Tuvalu. All members are from the Commonwealth except the Marshall Islands.
59. On the circular economy, they are helping with the introduction of regulations and assisting local government with the development of action plans of how to reduce waste. Also included are calculating the returns on local investment, especially generating revenue from recyclables. It was noted that many Pacific island countries are looking to reinvest money into the recycling industry. Waste was viewed as a failure of design. On the reduction of waste to landfill, it was noted as easier to start with organics.
60. On the CLGF Project in Nasinu Town Council in Fiji, it was noted that the project works with grassroot communities, which the council have selected that are most disadvantaged. The project provides tools and resources to enhance capacity to address their own waste. The community are also given a chance to plan and implement innovative waste management as well as collect and disseminate data. Key objectives of the initiative are to empower the community; enhance Public Private Partnerships (PPP); influence change in community members; and to reduce waste to landfill.
61. The CLGF Project in Kiribati works through the local association to ensure the project aligns with community priorities. Communities are supported to acquire tools that are essential for livelihoods. The intended outcome is to reinforce resilience through agriculture, animal husbandry and water. The project includes strengthening social structure; increasing food security; ensuring fuel security; and containerised WTE noting in South Tarawa it has three landfills and this process can be moved from one landfill to another. The project also considers by-products to ensure it can manage the material and capital investment. It was noted that there is more technology available, and that Kiribati is producing biochar that can take salt out of the soil, which is produced from clean wood waste.
62. A comment from the floor noted that waste management needs to take a holistic approach. The example of Columbia was shared on reform, and that waste pickers are paid to compost. In the Pacific

there is no guarantee of tapping into financing or revenue and for government to consider other models, noting ownership is very important.

63. On the experience of incinerators in Japan and whether is it transferable to the Pacific, the issue of technical challenges was highlighted and that recovery from incineration is not feasible, due to cost and the need for a market of separated materials.
64. On the considerations for WTE technology the following noted:
 - a. To ensure technology can operate on a small scale such as 5 tonnes per day, which is mostly feasible for the Pacific.
 - b. The CLGF Project technical working group developed a set of principles from the outset.
 - c. To not use materials that are of a higher value, when there are other recycling opportunities.
 - d. Consider feedstock availability.
 - e. Offtake demand. Production of electricity needs to consider reticulation and the cost of power, which may affect the return on investment.
 - f. Explore what may be made that is currently imported. For example, the value of compost in Kiribati is USD 1,800 per tonne. Volcanic islands do not necessarily sell it at that price due to demand.
 - g. Logistics to consider such as the site, movement, skills needed for operation, maintenance requirements, and availability of spare parts etc.
 - h. Risk management and due diligence of technology, as suppliers often sell 'white elephants' that are not in operation or sustainable.

Presentation: Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions Project Overview by Ms. Christine Deo-Reddy, Project Manager, Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions (PAWES) Project, Pacific Community (SPC).

65. Ms. Christine Deo-Reddy, Project Manager of the PAWES Project from SPC presented a project overview of PAWES which implements an innovative approach to address solid waste management issues and energy security in the Pacific. The project includes five countries of Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. SPC is funded EURO 2.8 million for programme implementation by the European Union through the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States.

Emerging Technologies and Innovation

Presentation: Technology (Biogas and Trash Boom) demonstrations for Innovative Technologies in Waste-to-Energy by Mr Wayne Fuakilau, General Manager, Bioenergy Insight Pacific, Fiji.

66. Mr Wayne Fuakilau, General Manager of Bioenergy Insight Pacific of Fiji highlighted their work on training communities how to use the resources around them to produce energy. It was noted they work with women and align what they do with the sustainable development goals, through food security, poverty alleviation, and revenue generation. As an ethos their work must benefit people, planet and profit.
67. Bioenergy Insight Pacific mainly work with animal waste and with farmers that need liquid fertilisers to improve soil health and food resources. Training is also offered on systems and end users of the clean

energy and the liquid fertilisers. On Trash Boom Initiatives, the goal was to source the system from India, but the Bioenergy Insight Pacific was able to fabricate a local boom. Bioenergy Insight Pacific use organic waste that is processed in a biodigester to produce clean cooking energy and liquid fertilisers.

Presentation: Technology (Pyrolysis) demonstrations for Innovative Technologies in Waste-to-Energy by Mr Lindsay Teobasi, General Manager, Design Technology Centre, Solomon Islands.

68. Mr Lindsay Teobasi, General Manager, Design and Technology Centre, Solomon Islands, responded to a series of questions from the floor on pyrolysis technology. Mr Teobasi explained that institutions are visited after the technology is in place and training has been delivered, to collect feedback on how the technology is being used and to prepare reports for UNDP. Mr Teobasi highlighted the circular economy approach; how they are working to improve inclusion of high-density polyethylene (HDP) and low-density polyethylene (LDP) plastics as feedstocks in the pyrolysis process; and referred to the effective use of crude oil outputs in ovens, with no release of toxic gas. Mr Teobasi stated that the ash byproduct, which holds impurities, needs to be disposed of in landfill.
69. Mr Teobasi explained that the Technology Centre is still researching and looking at technology improvements, so the pyrolysis system produces a better quality of gas. Mr Teobasi explained that because the system is on wheels, it can be moved directly to where there is a lot of plastic waste or put on a boat and moved around to small islands. It was the view of Mr. Teobasi that pyrolysis is a solution that is more suitable for Pacific island countries compared to the large incinerators. Mr Teobasi further explained that the Technology Centre has designed small, large, and medium-sized machines, and that communities buy the machines and take on the operational costs. Once this is done the Design and Technology Centre comes in and delivers 3 days of training and provides maintenance support as needed.

Questions and Answers

70. The importance of looking at return on investment was discussed, viewing waste management holistically, to ensure the cost burden is not solely carried by recyclers. Dr Stanley suggested that waste reduction technology providers could retain ownership of plants to start with, then look at transfer of ownership or joint ownership with local communities, so there is always motivation to maintain machinery and ensure machinery parts are available.
71. Mr. Soeda shared that incinerator technology is difficult to transfer to Pacific island countries with their small populations. JICA explained its focus is on separating waste type-by-type, as much as possible, to reduce what is going to landfill, but emphasised the need for a market for separated materials.
72. Dr Stanley, referred to the annual waste to energy expo in Melbourne, where new technologies are presented and exhibited. Dr Stanley advised that the next expo will be held in Melbourne in October 2024, and she will be organising a panel discussion on needs for the Pacific region. Dr Stanley invited regional representatives to attend and participate in her panel.
73. Honiara City Council highlighted the importance of partnerships with schools and communities for effective waste management. Honiara City Council shared it is setting up waste separation systems at a household level to divert waste from landfill and referred to used butane gas bottle as an emerging waste issue. Honiara City Council will be looking to work closely with the Design and Technology Centre.

74. Samoa reflected on pyrolysis byproducts and commented on parallels with used oil issues dealt with by Maritime Authorities.
75. Dr Stanley expressed support for downscaling from big technologies and upscaling from cottage industries, for appropriate solutions for Pacific island countries.
76. It was noted that public awareness, through outreach to homes, institutions, workplace and streets is important.
77. It was noted that pyrolysis technology was used as a pilot trial in Munday, Tuvaruvu and Sun Valley communities and focused on a behaviour type approach in each community. They also designed a “rocket stove” that is attached to the pyrolysis system for baking.
78. A query was raised on what plastics can be used, hard or soft, and what does one do with the crude oil output. It was noted that HDP and LDP plastics can be used. Crude oil comes out in the form of a wax and there are some residual ashes that need to be disposed of. By products are still working and it is important to undertake research to produce the upgrading of oil. This was noted as one solution for small island countries.
79. Another query was raised on the machine costs, and who operates it. It was noted that the facilities were designed into three sizes, the smallest facility costs AUD 10,000 and operational costs are absorbed by the community. It was noted that the system cannot handle high volumes of waste, and the importance of a proper system to manage the waste streams and facilities.

Closing session remarks

80. Ms Christine Deo Reddy, Project Manager of PAWES Project, SPC commended the presenters and thanked the participants. Ms. Reddy noted the dialogue was a reminder of the challenges of innovative technologies to explore how waste may become resources. On transforming waste into worth it showed the immense potential and responsibility in addressing one of the most pressing challenges of recent time. The discussions highlighted the innovative technologies, strategic business models, and inspiring success stories that have paved the way for a more sustainable and prosperous future.
81. Ms. Reddy noted that the dialogue has explored how turning waste into valuable resources can revolutionise waste management, foster eco-friendly practices, and drive economic growth. The insights shared by the esteemed speakers, with the engaging interactions enriched understanding and commitment to transforming waste into worth. Key challenge remaining is carrying forward the knowledge and inspiration gained and to continue to collaborate, innovate, and act towards a more sustainable and resilient world. The importance of pushing the boundaries of what is possible in waste management emphasised.
82. Ms. Reddy concluded by reminding all participants of the importance of upholding the principles of the 4R's—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Recover at the forefront of all efforts. By reducing waste at its source, reusing materials wherever possible, recycling waste into new products, and recovering energy from waste that cannot otherwise be used, to maximise the value extracted from waste streams and minimise the environmental footprint.

Session 2.2: Resilient Waste, Sustainable Future (I)

Hazardous Waste

Navigating the Challenges of Hazardous Waste in the Pacific: Expert Insights and Solutions.

83. Opening remarks and introduction by Ms Fiasosoitamalii Ugapo-Siaosi, Principal Hazardous Waste, WMPC, Samoa. Ms Ugapo-Siaosi welcomed all participants to the session on hazardous waste.

Presentation: Regulatory Frameworks for Used Oil Management - Used Oil Management Plans, Ms Julie Pillet, Technical Waste Project Coordinator, Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP) Project.

84. Ms. Julie Pillet, Technical Waste Project Coordinator, SWAP Project provided an overview of the National Used Oil Management Plans for Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu, and the goals sought. The National Used Oil Management Plan is a regulatory framework, listing roles and responsibilities sustainable financing. Ms. Pillet provided insight into best practices in used oil collection, transportation, storage, local processing, export, monitoring and reporting, and awareness and training.

Presentation: Safe Removal and Disposal Techniques for Asbestos by Mr Filimone Lapao, Waste Management & Pollution Control Division, Department of Environment, Tonga.

85. Mr. Filimone Lapao of the Waste Management and Pollution Control Division, Department of Environment, Tonga presented on the Safe Removal and Disposal Techniques for Asbestos. It was shared that in Tonga they removed more than 2600 square metres of construction materials, mostly roofing materials, which was done under the EU funded PacWastePlus Project at SPREP.
86. Noting the budget, they prioritised facilities that contain asbestos and other infrastructure based on sites mostly exposed to the public. Mr. Lapao shared that asbestos is hard to identify chemically, and that consultants were contracted with the assistance of PacWastePlus.
87. It was noted that removing asbestos is the same process as sampling. Safety training is also essential to whoever is participating from removal, monitoring, transporting, and disposal. The main purpose of the training is to reduce exposure to asbestos. The training also demonstrates how the removal will be carried out, methods, tools, locations, and sketch drawings of the plan, including the disposal area, site, and isolated site.
88. Mr. Lapao informed the Roundtable Tonga dealt with the removal of non-friable asbestos². The removal included compulsory signage around the area for safety and air monitoring for asbestos removal. Containment was also essential, and factors that must be considered include the kind of bin that is suitable for the procedure, and the amount of asbestos to be removed.
89. Mr. Lapao noted in Tonga they have one landfill, where they dispose hazardous waste, which requires 24 hours' notice prior to disposal time. Once the landfill is closed, with clear signage it will not be disturbed.

² Non-friable asbestos cannot easily be pulverised or reduced to a powder.

90. Advice was sought on standards with respect to square metres and quantity of asbestos in relation to volume of depth of the hole. It was noted that it is not an asbestos standard, but rather a landfill standard for Tonga. On where the asbestos is disposed of it was noted that the landfill is on the main island in the general landfill but with marked signage.
91. A question was raised on whether asbestos decomposes or goes through a weathering process. It was noted that when asbestos is processed, they are weathered. Asbestos sheeting or tiles, if they are broken down into smaller pieces, which are called friable, it becomes very dangerous.
92. The question of whether asbestos can be disposed of into the ocean was raised. It was noted by the Secretariat globally very little studies have shown what the potential damage of asbestos to the marine life is. It is however recommended to lock it in cement or keep it buried under ground.
93. Key summary of Asbestos-Containing Materials (ACM) issues to consider include:
 - a. Assessment of properties containing ACM and selection for removal
 - b. State selection criteria
 - c. Situation of ACM
 - d. Site exposure to large population
 - e. Owner willingness
 - f. Identification, survey and sampling
 - ✓ received assistance from PWP and stated the safety measures taken and safety training taken during removal
 - ✓ suggested important factors to consider when asbestos is removed at a public location
 - g. Disposal
 - ✓ provided tips on labelling asbestos for disposal
 - ✓ Tapuhia Landfill is the only landfill in Tonga asbestos can be disposed at.

Presentation: Treatment and Disposal Methods for Healthcare Waste by Ms Patricia Torea, Infrastructure, Facilities and MEA Branch, Conservation and Environment Protection Authority, Papua New Guinea

94. Ms Patricia Torea highlighted the current practices and requirements to manage healthcare waste. In Papua New Guinea the population is estimated to be over 10 million people, hence healthcare waste is a major issue. It was noted that the National Department of Health is mandated to manage healthcare waste and that in Papua New Guinea it has different levels of healthcare facilities including three (3) regional hospitals and one (1) general hospital.
95. Ms Torea shared that healthcare waste is a more complex waste stream for Papua New Guinea. It was noted that only five (5) hospitals have proper operating facilities that manage healthcare waste while the rest do not have proper maintenance and guidelines to manage healthcare waste.
96. Key areas highlighted by Ms Torea noted as follows:
 - a. Importance of developing a national government healthcare waste management policy and guidelines for healthcare waste management in hospitals.
 - b. Legislative framework needed to support regulation and operation of incinerators.

- c. Importance of investing in infrastructure for maintaining incinerators including putting in control measures and systems to keep incinerators running.
- d. In the pipeline a national project with the World Bank that will procure, install and operationalise 21 incinerators throughout various facilities.
- e. Capacity building is key to helping healthcare professionals do their work and from an environment perspective, healthcare workers require capacity training on healthcare waste management.

Presentation: Waste Battery Management and Recycling, Mr Alice Leney, Pacific Reef Savers, Kiribati.

97. Mr Alice Leney provided an overview of Used Lead Acid Battery (ULAB) Recycling in Kiribati and noted that the programme has been in operation for 20 years and that the session will reflect the key findings.
98. It was noted that sustainable financing legislation in Kiribati is under the Finance Ministry, that has set up a Special Fund that is not waste or environment. AUD 5 is collected by customs and returned to the consumer via the private sector recycler. The recycler sells the batteries. Mr. Leney shared that the key cost for recyclers is the collection cost. A sustainable financing system means consumers bring the items to claim their refund. ULABs are a common hazardous waste and have environmental effects. Recyclers do not remove the acid from the battery and the only equipment needed is a forklift. However appropriate wrapping and labelling is required.
99. Mr. Leney shared that in 2023 410 batteries were collected, which was viewed as a vast improvement with the system operator paying out cash immediately. Previously claims were not processed as quickly, due to processes being incomplete. In Kiribati the system operator does not get paid but can use government infrastructure and may make money from the sale of ULABs overseas.
100. It was noted that Kiribati is getting a new materials recovery facility to deal with e-waste, scrap metal, and beverage containers. Batteries are also exported to South Korea for recycling and there are no trans-boundary issues. Mr. Leney highlighted that all that is required is a Basel Permit, which the buyer obtains with sign off from Kiribati. It was noted that if there is a need to ship via a third country, consent is required over a certain period of time. Mr. Leney emphasised the importance of using brokers and buyers familiar with the system.
101. Key issues highlighted by Mr. Leney included:
- a. Sustainable Financing legislation in Kiribati is under the Finance Ministry, with the setting up of a Special Fund that is not waste or environment.
 - b. Large improvement noticed in return rates after the system operator paid cash out immediately upon receipt of used lead acid battery.
 - c. Important to use brokers and buyers familiar with the system.

Panel Discussion

102. On the treatment of the battery after collection, it was noted that the batteries are collected and shipped to South Korea. On whether there had been any issues with sending lead batteries to South Korea, the response was that there had been no issues if transboundary requirements are worked out

well. Mr. Leney emphasised that it is crucial to use brokers and buyers familiar with the system and to use a broker who buys and sells to Korea.

103.Mr. Leney shared there is a processing factory in Suva where batteries are processed for shipping once every 6 months. It was noted that the recycling of lead batteries needs good atmospheric controls as poor recycling of lead batteries can lead to poor environmental and health factors.

104.On the issue of sterilisation, a question was raised on how it is managed and handled by the hospitals in Papua New Guinea. Ms Torea responded that it is handled by the main hospitals with incinerator facilities. Importance of ensuring support systems for incineration facilities are well supported and set up, and that sterilisation is part of this process. Incinerators are set up in the regional hospitals and able to manage the waste.

105.A comment was raised that insurance coverage for the movement of waste oil is very difficult in Samoa. It was also noted that there are restrictions on the storage of waste oil at the facility and that the Samoa Recycling and Waste Management Association (SRWMA) are unable to store in the facility. They acknowledged there is a market for waste oil however they need to find a way of dealing with the insurance issue. Ms. Pillet from SPREP informed the meeting that unfortunately they are unable to locate insurance companies that can provide insurance coverage and will update members on progress with this issue.

106.On asbestos the issue of standards was raised for the management of asbestos produced. It was noted that asbestos at landfills throughout Tonga is managed by its own national policy, with the landfill for asbestos taking place on the landfill of the main island of Tonga.

107.On the issue of whether asbestos gets composted or weathers naturally Mr. Bradley Nolan responded that asbestos is a natural mineral and when processed into manufacturing materials/sheeting it can become smaller and become dangerous when released into the air.

108.On whether it is safe to dispose asbestos in the ocean Mr. Nolan responded that there few studies on what potential damage there is on sea creatures with the release of asbestos into the marine environment. It was also noted that there is no known technology that can provide evidence or detailed information, yet, on the impacts of the release of asbestos into marine environment and on land. It was emphasised the importance of secured containment of the asbestos.

Session closing remarks

109.Mr Joshua Sam encouraged members to sign up to the Basel Rotterdam, Stockholm and Waigani Conventions to access the benefits to assist with the challenges shared in the session.

Case Study: Presented by Mr Saimone Vuki, Tonga

110.Mr Saimone Vuki is from the private sector of Tonga and presented on the 'Role of the Private Sector in End of Life Vehicles (ELVs)' on behalf of the Tonga Recyclers Association. Mr. Vuki shared there is limited recycling in Tonga and that stockpiles are unsustainable. There are currently more than 30,000 ELVs on the main island of Tongatapu and approximately 5,000 ELVs at the SRM recycling site, which is situated on 8 acres of land. Mr. Vuki shared that through SRM they have

shipped 52 containers out of Tonga, noting the context that there are 2800 vehicles imported to Tonga every year, from which 80 percent are second hand vehicles, with a short life span.

111. Mr. Vuki shared that with used batteries, the problem is collecting them and storing it in one place. The partnership with SPREP and JPRISM has been of great assistance. While a 4 million grant has been received from JICA, there are delays in procurement of much needed equipment. Mr. Vuki highlighted the importance of the new Pacific Recyclers Alliance to help work together to address and share knowledge and expertise. Sustainability was also viewed as a key challenge noting the high cost of machinery and transport for shipping. Mr. Vuki shared that the cost of freight pre-pandemic for a container costed USD 1,400 and post-pandemic USD 6,000. PPP viewed with critical importance, as is the role and inclusion of the private sector to get the work done, particularly in recycling.

Case Study: Kiribati's Innovative Practices by Mr Alice Leney, Kiribati.

112. Mr. Alice Leney presented on the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade project in Kiribati that collects, crushes and exports scrap car material from existing scrapyards. From the project Kiribati has received assistance for the purchase of a car bailer, dump truck, four wheel drive, forklift, and crane truck. New Zealand also funds a company to operate and manage car scraps for export. Mr. Leney shared that the Kiribati Government with the support of New Zealand have created a system that will pay for itself. To date the project has exported 2660 vehicles.

113. Mr. Leney highlighted the Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy. The ELV recycling policy is included in the strategy. The deposit refund for a light truck and car, has not yet been endorsed. The recycling deposit and refund model however has been running as a commercial operation for 20 years that maybe adapted to address ELV.

114. Mr. Leney shared that Kiribati faces many of the same challenges as Tuvalu noting they are both small low lying atoll nations with small land mass. Most of the end of life vehicles have been left outside as scrap, due to lack of spare parts. Mr. Leney proposed a deposit at import levy, with a refund to be paid upon presenting an ELV, which is likely to be an Operator, and the refund to assist with scrap metal operations. It was also highlighted that spare parts recovery is important, and for the display of spare parts for mechanics to buy and sell.

115. Key challenges highlighted by Mr. Leney include the importance of political agreement for a levy deposit to enable financial sustainability. The cost of shipping is high and hence the importance of using the Moana Taka Partnership, where the cargo must have zero value. It was also noted the maintenance of equipment and servicing costs involved with the management of scrap metal particularly ELV. The importance of effectively managing spare parts and its operations as a business. On ELV legacy waste it is recommended that a survey commence before the start of movement. The example shared from Kiribati has highlighted the important role of the public and private sector working together, with government providing an enabling environment for operators to use the government equipment to operate.

Case Study: St. Lucia's Community Approaches by Mr Joshua Sam

116. Mr. Joshua Sam shared the case study of End-of-Life Vehicles in the Caribbean country of St. Lucia that has a dedicated Waste Management Authority that looks after all waste management aspects. It was

noted that they have 12,000 metric tons of ELVs. Most ELVs are received and managed by the private sector from which 2 percent of recorded ELVs are received in waste management facilities. St Lucia have regulations that define ELVs as well as scrap metal. The importance of having an environment protection levy in place highlighted by Mr. Sam for the Pacific to consider. It was shared that the Solid Waste Management Authority undertakes daily audits, as it is linked to their revenue generation.

117.Mr. Sam highlighted the important role of the private sector for ELVs. The challenges noted as the cost of equipment for managing ELVs and that regulations do not govern the quality standard of imported vehicles. There are also gaps in environmental due diligence such as for example car seats that may contain POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants) and paints that may include hazardous chemicals.

Concluding remarks

118.Ms Herman of the National Environment Service of the Cook Islands thanked all presenters and participants for their in-depth discussions on hazardous waste. The issues presented noted the many challenges the Pacific face, particularly with respect to the sustainability and cost of technology as well effective storage and shipment of waste. The role of public and private partnerships highlighted as essential for ensuring effective storage, recycling and shipment of waste of potential value. *Refer to annex for session group work.*

Session 2.3: Resilient Waste, Sustainable Future (III)

Disaster Waste

119.Mr. Haden Talagi opened the session on waste management and disaster risk reduction, that was viewed as an opportunity to learn from panellists and partners. It was noted that all countries have experience with natural disasters, which brings devastating impacts that the session will explore the role of stakeholders in managing waste from natural disasters and the regional response in terms of coordination.

Presentation: Setting the Scene Ms Sainimili Bulai, PacWaste Plus, Technical Officer, Solid Waste.

120.Ms Sainimili Bulai helped set the scene highlighting the importance of drafting a National Disaster Waste Management Plan (NDWMP), which helps identify key waste management activities to be undertaken in each stage of the Disaster Management Cycle, covering both pre-disaster phase (normal time) and post-disaster phase (post disaster). It was noted that the NDWMP will help guide the preparatory actions on waste management before a natural disaster occurs, as well as the response and recovery operations. Experience in the Pacific following the recent events in Vanuatu and Tonga have identified the critical importance of the development of a strong, strategic, and integrated NDWMP which assists countries to respond and recover quickly from disaster events.

121.The establishment of an Environment Sector Working Group is made up of representatives from key agencies to coordinate activities and interventions regarding the management of disaster waste within their respective jurisdictions. The Working Group contributes to the implementation of the disaster risk management plan at national and regional levels as well as helps develop and coordinate the implementation of key disaster waste management activities at each stage of the disaster waste management cycle.

- 122.**The establishment of Methodology for Estimating and Recording of Disaster Waste provides guidance in undertaking rapid assessment of volume and type of waste generated following a disaster and helps determine the risk level for such waste to inform disaster recovery planning.
- 123.**Disaster waste materials are assessed and prioritised based on the severity of the risks to society and the environment. The risk-based approach for the assessment of disaster waste helps to incorporate all impacts and consequences of different waste in deciding on the urgency of actions in immediate disaster waste collection. It was shared rapid assessments can help inform the allocation of funding to waste management in the building-back process after a natural disaster.
- 124.**Ms. Bulai noted that resilience is all about the ability for a community to return to normalcy. Disasters occur annually in the Pacific, and there is high volume of waste and complex waste. SPREP in addition to the regional guidelines, have developed a practitioners guideline, which lists key activities for managing and preparing for all types of disasters and the type of waste management initiatives likely to be needed. The plan looks to adopt the waste hierarchy for management of waste and to remove things from landfill wherever possible.
- 125.**Ms Bulai highlighted the comments of previous speakers that shared the importance of coordinating nationally. It was emphasised the importance of building partnerships before a disaster strikes.
- 126.**On the practitioners guideline, the shift away from “Cluster” to use of “Taskforce or working group” emphasises the involvement and role of organisations and creates a bridge between the waste office with the National Disaster Management Office to help better coordinate activities.
- 127.**The standard on estimating and recording disaster waste was shared using the example of Vanuatu, which found that while funding is limited, use of the tool, helps capture the type of waste, amount, and the risk of the materials not being addressed quickly, which assists the decision making during the build-back scenario.
- 128.**Ms. Bulai encouraged countries to develop a National Plan and form an Environment Sector Working Group to implement the plan and integrate the waste sector into the Disaster management framework utilising the tools developed by SPREP.
- 129.**Key summary of issues:
- a.** The Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) needs to mainstream waste management into the disaster sector. The FRDP is the linkage between waste management and disaster risk reduction.
 - b.** Coordination – limited waste management infrastructure increases vulnerability. Segregation and appropriate management of disaster wastes to manage pressures of local landfills.
 - c.** Establishment of sector working groups – The waste sector should not manage disaster waste alone. Key partnerships will assist.

Presentation: Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific by Ms Rebecca Polestico, Monitoring and Evaluation Adviser, Strategic Planning & Project Coordination, SPREP.

130. Ms Rebecca Polestico presented on the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) and outlined its integrated approach to climate change and disaster risk management, with the three goals of: (1) adaptation and risk reduction; (2) low carbon development; and (3) strengthened disaster preparedness, response and recovery. Ms Polestico emphasised the importance of integration, to avoid countries' adaptation and disaster risk teams working in silos. Ms Polestico highlighted that with every disaster, waste is produced, and the treatment and management of this waste needs to involve coordinated efforts.

131. Ms Polestico explained that SPREP has been tasked to assess the operationalisation of FRDP within countries, through determining if relevant structures, policies or strategies, and linkage mechanisms are in place, including integrated waste management plans.

132. Ms Polestico outlined linkages between waste management, the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent (2050 Strategy) and the FRDP. Ms Polestico described FRDP goals 1, 2 and 3 as being closely linked to the 2050 Strategy thematic areas of Climate Change and Disasters, and Ocean and Environment, which are all interlinked with the waste management sector.

133. Ms Polestico referred to future opportunities and needs including the adoption of specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timebound (SMART) measures for the waste management sector; a regional waste monitoring and evaluation system; and integrating cohesive disaster waste action plans into the Climate Change and Disasters thematic area of the 2050 Strategy.

Presentation: Maritime Incident and Disaster Waste: An Overview. By Paul Irving, PacPlan Officer, SPREP.

134. Mr Paul Irving provided the Roundtable with a brief overview of the nature of maritime incidents, the types, character and volumes of wastes they could produce, and the challenges they are likely to generate in management and disposal. It was noted that they are often normal items, either associated with vessel operations (such as fuels or fixtures), or cargoes not intended to be dumped into the marine environment. It was noted that sometimes the nature of the disaster (such as floods) means that the wastes and pollution do not come from ships or maritime operations, but from land-based sources, such as houses or businesses or industry, including agriculture. They generate litter and often the volumes and character of the litter or the slicks become co-mingled. Hence, stranded litter can become oily litter.

135. Mr. Irving shared that more recently, the pollution and waste from maritime sourced incidents have become more diverse, as cargos losses (such as containers or plastic nurdles) have demonstrated. Items never designed to be loose in the sea or coastal environments, and relatively benign for intended use, can become hazardous when lost at sea. The Law of the Sea defines a pollutant as anything in the marine environment that is hazardous to human health or marine life, or which interferes with amenity use or navigation. There are incidents and test cases all around the world showing that current international and domestic law is challenged by cargo-sourced pollution.

136. Waste movement in the Pacific will also be facilitated by maritime transport, as most wastes cannot go by air due to cost, efficiency and hazards. Mr. Irving stated, in the future, some of the risks and threats created by maritime disasters and incidents may not just be materials for trade, but may also be the wastes themselves, doubling down on their threat and hazardous nature.

Presentation: Regional Disaster Waste Management Guideline by Ms Yoko Onuma, Chief Adviser, JPRISM 3.

137. Ms Yoko Onuma informed the Roundtable that the management cycle of waste management is important both at the pre-and post-disaster phase. The presentation would focus on how JPRISM has assisted Pacific islands in tackling disaster waste and how they have used the Japanese experience in their disaster response. It was noted that there are international and regional frameworks that underly disaster waste guidelines that JPRISM use in the Pacific that helps inform the development of national and regional disaster response plans.

138. Ms. Onuma shared that JPRISM will undertake disaster waste management activities in Fiji, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu. Collaboration on disaster waste management viewed as critical, as the donor must work with different government stakeholders to ensure a workable plan. It was highlighted that countries have different legislative environments and policies on the management of disaster waste. Each country and donor however must recognise the time it will take to finalise disaster waste management in the laws of the country and to incorporate into the country's disaster regulatory structure, so that it may be institutionalised and operational.

Presentation: Country Experience: Tonga and Vanuatu.

139. Vanuatu shared their emergency resource challenges, which were noted as funding, delays in response, lack of appropriate equipment and resources, collaboration/communication between stakeholders, assessment forms and data analyses.

140. The Tonga Waste Authority shared that it was responsible for the management of waste during the volcanic eruption which was unprecedented. There was internet due to the eruption, which caused significant disruption to the disaster recovery.

Presentation: Opportunities for mainstreaming Disaster Management by PWP Ms Sainimili Bulai, PWP Technical Officer, Solid Waste.

141. Ms. Sainimili Bulai (SPREP) highlighted a series of guidelines produced through the PacWastePlus project that are designed to support effective disaster waste management.

142. Ms. Bulai explained that the *Practitioner's Guideline for Drafting Disaster Waste Management Plans* lists key activities for managing or preparing for all types of disaster, and the types of waste management initiatives that will be required. Ms. Bulai emphasised the importance of adopting the waste management hierarchy to avoid all disaster waste being taken to landfill; and the need to coordinate at a national level and establish partnerships before a disaster, as reflected in the FRDP. Ms. Bulai also referred to the *Operational Guide on Establishing an Environment Sector Working Group* for coordinating disaster waste management activities, and the *Practitioners Guideline on Estimating and Recording Disaster Waste*, which supports countries with recording

the volume and type of waste, and with assessing the risks of not addressing or appropriately dealing with the waste.

Closing session remarks

143.Ms. Sainimili Bulai emphasised three points in her session recap: (1) the linkages between waste management and disaster risk reduction as expressed through the FRDP, and the need to mainstream waste awareness into other sectors; (2) limited waste management infrastructure elevating island nations' vulnerability, hence the importance of adopting and applying the waste hierarchy to deal with disaster waste, especially for saving critical landfill space; and (3) the importance of coordination through an environment sector working group that leverages relevant agencies, expertise, planning, and capabilities, so that the waste sector has support for dealing with disaster waste.

144.In response to a question from the floor about reports on disaster waste, Ms. Bulai mentioned a report available through the PacWastePlus website, on response work done after Tropical Cyclone Harold to support nine rural communities with removal of disaster waste to the Luganville dumpsite.

145.The Cook Islands asked Tonga about lessons learned from the response to the volcanic eruption and tsunami disaster, and if any changes have been made to response processes. Tonga advised that issues and challenges remain, including limited waste segregation and lack of appropriate infrastructure, but a sustainable financing mechanism is to be implemented to address these. Tonga also reflected on its cluster response mechanism that enables Ministries to work together but advised that the Waste Authority was not given enough priority during the disaster response. Tonga also referred to its challenges with collecting bulky disaster waste, but it now has access to crane trucks so is better prepared.

Session 3: Plastic Dialogue

146.Mr. Anthony Talouli, Director of Waste Management and Pollution Control of SPREP welcomed all participants to the Plastic Dialogue and opened the meeting with a prayer. The Honourable Sa'aga Talu Teafa, Acting Minister of Home Affairs, Climate Change, and Environment provided the keynote address, describing the challenges of waste and plastics management in small island developing states. Appreciation was conveyed to SPREP for PacWastePlus and the Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP) regarding support to address plastics in Tuvalu. *Refer to annex for copy of speech.*

147.Mr. Sefanaia Nawadra, Director General of SPREP provided opening remarks which highlighted the Plastic Dialogue as an opportunity for a deep dive into the issue of plastics. It was noted that while plastics are very useful, the impacts have not been controlled. It was shared the issue in the region is primarily focused on marine litter. The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 5.2) in 2022 launched the global negotiating committee, which recognised that the issue is beyond plastic pollution, and needed to focus on the whole life cycle of plastics. The issue of plastics viewed on par with climate change, as they are derived from fossil fuels, meaning same lobby groups who lobby against climate change, lobby against plastics.

148. Mr. Nawadra emphasised that it is everyone's responsibility to understand the needs of the Pacific for the global treaty and encouraged participants to speak up and make sure that what goes into the instrument will serve the region into the future. Mr. Nawadra noted that how we manage plastics in the Pacific region will depend on the results from the INC regarding how it is manufactured. Hence the Plastic Dialogue is an opportunity to stop and focus on what the Pacific have done – and to look at areas the Pacific can do more in, for a regional approach.

149. Mr. Nawadra noted the Pacific have strong political will, but what is needed is for technical advisors to make clear what is sought from political leaders. Baseline assessments and audits are complete, it is the responsibility of participants to use it to inform decision makers to help make decisions. The Pacific needs to be strategic, understand what can be done and what needs to be done. It was also noted the importance of clarity on what the Pacific need from the INC process. It was noted that Roundtable participants all have roles and responsibilities from their different sectors of government, private sector, and community groups etc. Mr. Nawadra emphasised that plastics is the opportunity for participants and all those in the waste sector to shine a light on, to be heroes and manage the crisis facing the Pacific region.

150. The Australian High Commissioner to Tuvalu His Excellency Mr Brenton Garlick provided an opening address that discussed local, national, and international solutions to manage plastics. It was noted as a global problem that needs a global solution, with the Pacific at the frontline of the impacts. The High Commissioner shared that Australia is supporting the INC process to create a legally binding agreement and is a proud supporter of the Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP). The High Commissioner recognised the leadership of Tuvalu, which is doing its utmost for waste management, noting the impacts on a small atoll nation. *Refer to annex for copy of speech.*

Session 3.1: Setting the Scene – Existing Regional Frameworks Addressing Plastic Pollution.

Presentation: Overview: Plastic Pollution in the Pacific Islands Region by Mr Luatutu Andrea Volentras, Project Manager, Plastic Ocean Litter Project (POLP).

151. Mr Luatutu Andrea Volentras, Project Manager, POLP noted that the plastic pollution problem was introduced as being an environmental, social and economic issue, affecting food security, livelihoods, and human and animal health across all Pacific island countries and territories. Scientific data and images were presented to illustrate the magnitude of the problem at global, regional and national scales, with plastics shown to be impacting all the planet's oceans as well as freshwater and mangrove swamp ecosystems. Microplastics have been found in every single organ of the human body and the science is still evolving to identify health impacts. The importance of having multinational corporations and the private sector involved to solve the issue was emphasised; and it was highlighted that while plastics are useful, many uses are avoidable, with substitute products available.

Presentation: Summary Progress Report: Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter 2019-2025 (PRAP: ML) by the Waste Pollution Adviser, Dr Mohammed Zullah, Pollution Adviser, SPREP.

152. Dr Mohammed Zullah, Pollution Adviser of SPREP presented on the Progress Report for Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter 2019-2025 (PRAP:ML). It was noted by Dr. Zullah that while plastics is a global issue, initiatives are being undertaken at the country level to address, which are highlighted from the progress report as follows:

- a. International Agreements and Legislation: 14 Pacific Island Countries supported in attending meetings on marine litter and microplastics.
- b. Combating Plastic Pollution from Fisheries: Data shows high rates of MARPOL violations by fishing vessels.
- c. National Bans on Single-Use Plastics: Regulations to ban single-use plastics are being implemented in some countries (e.g., Solomon Islands).
- d. Regional Recycling Network: Development of a regional recycling network and hub is being explored.
- e. Community-Based Waste Management: Projects are underway to improve waste management infrastructure and practices in several countries and training on disaster waste management is being provided to communities.
- f. Sustainable Tourism Practices: Standards and certification programme for phasing out single-use plastics in tourism is under design.
- g. Plans for disaster waste management are being drafted and implemented in some countries.

Session 3.2: Building a Policy and Regulatory Framework.

Panel Discussion: Negotiating a Global Instrument to End Plastic Pollution including in the Marine Environment

153. The presentation by Mr. Halatoa Fua, Director of the Cook Islands National Environment Service focused on the international negotiations for a global instrument to end plastic pollution from the Cook Islands' perspective which highlighted the development and significance of the treaty mandate. It outlined the stages of the treaty's negotiation, highlighting the need for globally binding rules and high ambition from participating countries. Key messages included the necessity for a comprehensive approach encompassing upstream, midstream, and downstream actions, strong negotiations for including primary plastic polymers, and engaging with similar countries to co-sponsor proposals. The presentation stressed the importance of stakeholder consultation, technical and expert advice, a clear negotiation strategy, and elevating the Pacific presence. The roadmap ahead involves thorough preparation, building alliances, and effective engagement in regional and global forums to ensure the treaty's successful implementation.

154. Mr. Fua's presentation noted several key actions and recommendations, that included ensuring thorough consultation with stakeholders and ministers, preparing meticulously with research and technical advice, and developing a clear negotiation strategy. It highlighted the importance of engaging actively in regional and global meetings, co-sponsoring proposals, and participating in side events. The recommendations stressed the need to build alliances, especially within the Pacific, and to stay agile and vocal during negotiations. Overall, the presentation called for a united and well-prepared approach to effectively contribute to and influence the global plastic pollution treaty.

155. The presentation by Ms. Anama Solofa, AOSIS Lead Ocean Negotiator outlined the priorities of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the negotiations for a global treaty on plastic pollution. The main objectives included ending plastic pollution, especially in the marine environment, through comprehensive measures addressing the full lifecycle of plastics. Ms. Solofa stressed that the treaty must be inclusive, ambitious, and equitable, with financial support for developing

countries, particularly for SIDS. The need for a transparent exemption mechanism, stringent design standards for plastic products, improved waste management practices, and effective measures against abandoned fishing gear were highlighted. Remediation efforts must consider the disproportionate impact on SIDS, guided by the best available science. Additionally, establishing scientific, technical, and economic panels is crucial for guiding the implementation and updating the treaty's measures.

156.Ms. Solofa's presentation highlighted that to effectively tackle plastic pollution, it is crucial that developing countries, especially SIDS, receive sufficient and timely financial resources. Ms. Solofa shared the importance of a clear and fair mechanism for exemptions on chemicals and plastic products to ensure no harm to health or the environment, while also being flexible for developing nations. Global standards should be set to prevent plastic pollution, focus on reparability, reuse, and recycling, and requires detailed labeling of products. Ms. Solofa highlighted the importance of boosting the collection, sorting, recycling, and disposal of plastic waste, development of safe facility standards, regulation of hazardous waste practices, and to allow safe plastic waste trade. Measures to manage abandoned fishing gear should follow international standards, promote new technologies, and protect small-scale fisheries. Legally binding obligations for cleaning up plastic pollution must be enforced, ensuring that SIDS are not unfairly burdened, with actions guided by the best science and technologies. Finally, specialised panels should be established to guide the treaty's implementation, provide recommendations, update targets, propose guidelines, and monitor progress.

157.Ms. Gwen Sisor, Palau Ocean Adviser and Co-Chair to the Ad Hoc Intersessional Open-ended Expert Groups of the INC gave the meeting an update on how the negotiations for a global treaty to end plastic pollution are going. Ms. Sisor talked about where the negotiations are currently, and the work that has been done in between sessions, including the meeting of expert groups who have been looking into financial support and guidelines for plastic products. The presentation emphasised the importance of being well-prepared for the next meeting in Busan, where discussions will take place on key parts of the treaty e.g. core commitments, financial support, and how all these issues will be brought together. Recommendations highlighted the need for a clear understanding of what individual countries and regions can handle, assuring all parties are on the same page, and becoming more familiar with the compilation text. This way, Pacific island countries and the Alliance of Small Island States can participate effectively and have their positions align with each other.

158.Ms. Sisor's presentation called for thorough preparation and coordination among delegates. It noted the importance of understanding national and regional capacities and needs, and being well-versed in the compilation text, and developing positions with potential compromises in mind. Delegates should ensure strong, coordinated positions that align national, Pacific island countries, and the broader alliance of small island states. This preparation will be crucial for effectively negotiating at the upcoming meeting and ensuring that key treaty elements and obligations are successfully addressed.

159.Nauru sought the panel's perspective on trade-offs and flexibility during the INC-5 negotiations and stressed its main priority of negotiating a strong position on obtaining financial and human resourcing support under the Agreement.

- 160.**Mr. Fua outlined Cook Islands' approach which is to think about its highest ambition and then drill this down to a red line beyond which it will not cross. The Cook Islands Lead Negotiator recommended that countries do not commit to anything they will regret later, and that if needed, they ask for more time to discuss positions. Cook Islands also shared its approach of looking ahead and thinking about laying a foundation for the next generation, when determining acceptable trade-offs.
- 161.**Ms. Sisor shared an example of Palau approaching financing mechanisms flexibly, in terms of standalone, integrated, or hybrid options, but stated its red line is to ensure there will be access to finance under the Treaty. It was explained that flexibility will be needed if the aim is to achieve consensus at INC-5.
- 162.**Ms. Solofa explained that at this point in the INC process, negotiators have a general idea of the positions held by other groups and countries, and this understanding helps AOSIS to determine its next steps as a negotiating block.
- 163.**Ms Claytoncy Taurarii asked if INC-5 will be the final meeting, and what Plan B might be.
- 164.**Ms. Pepetua Latasi, Chair raised the possibility of having an instrument agreed upon at INC-5, with sections that can be worked on later, as was done with the Paris Agreement. Mr. Halatoa stated that the aspiration is to have an ambitious Treaty that works for the Cook Islands, but if this cannot be achieved, principal language must be included in the Treaty to allow more ambitious details to be developed through a COP process. Ms. Sisor explained that determination needs to be made about what elements can be included in the Treaty now, and what can be sacrificed for later discussion, noting that there is no guarantee that elements that are taken out will still be up for discussion later. The alternative is to seek an extension to ensure the process can be concluded in line with country ambitions. Ms. Sisor noted that the INC Chair is attempting to develop understanding of key Treaty elements through the intersessional meetings. Ms. Solofa suggested that in considering what will happen at INC-5 and whether it will be the last negotiation session, thinking about countries' level of flexibility and ambition will be critical. AOSIS has proposed a subsidiary body under the Treaty that can identify opportunities and solutions as new science and technology becomes available, guided by what is agreed to in the Treaty.
- 165.**Ms. Sisor encouraged countries to clearly state what they would like the convention to include now and what they are willing to work on later and emphasised that countries are not just stating a position but highlighting the special circumstances and the capacity constraints of small islands in terms of dealing with plastic waste.
- 166.**Mr. Nawadra clarified that UNEA has given the instructions for the INC to be convened and outlined its mandate, and it will receive the final reports and decide what happens next. Any Plan B will need to be submitted to UNEA for approval.
- 167.**In response to a question from the Cook Islands on alternatives to replace plastics, Mr Fua stated that the Treaty will articulate definitions and guidelines on biodegradability, and suggested that SPREP, as the regional technical body, could develop guidelines to be used in the absence of a Treaty.

168. In response to a question from French Polynesia on opportunities for territories to participate in the INC process, Mr. Nawadra explained that under UN rules, Niue and Cook Islands that have Free Association status with New Zealand are sometimes allowed to function as full members and sometimes not, but they can function as full members in terms of the INC process. Territories are under their metropolitan party members. Mr. Nawadra advised that at the regional level territories can participate through forums like the CPRT to brainstorm issues and solutions, which can be taken forward collectively by the Pacific island countries represented through PSIDS and AOSIS. It was suggested that territories could put a request to the UN to participate as observers, but they would need to first seek approval from their metropolitan member.
169. Ms. Sisor stressed that PSIDS recognise they are fighting for regional implementation and are thinking about the Pacific as a whole, including the territories; and expressed appreciation to SPREP for helping to bring INC down to the Pacific and supporting wider participation. Virtual participation in intersessional work or INC negotiations is not possible, but the plenary is broadcast.
170. In response to a question from Ms. Pepetua Latasi, Chair Ms. Solofa stated that the G77 is not active in the INC process, but AOSIS has engaged collaboratively with other groups and identified potential areas of convergence, including with Latin America and the Caribbean, the European Union, and the African Union. Ms. Sisor stated that international cooperation is one of the elements within the treaty, and this includes making sure there is alignment with existing treaties.
171. Ms. Talagi recommended that national Departments of Environment hold discussions with their Maritime counterparts in the lead-up to INC-5 to jointly determine key issues.
172. Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu acknowledged the presenters, and the useful information shared, and stressed the need for strong coordination through SPREP, PSIDS and AOSIS as INC-5 approaches, and that what is agreed to through the process needs to reflect PSIDS unique challenges because it will require national level implementation.
173. Mr. Nawadra emphasised the need to continue to strengthen coordination between UN mission representatives in New York and Geneva and the capitals and stated that CROP agencies including SPREP and SPC can support coordination efforts. It was also suggested the possibility of taking national approaches and having regional influence through instruments like the Noumea Convention or other standalone instruments, if the need is determined.
174. Ms. Tuara of Cook Islands Maritime emphasised the need for inclusivity with the INC negotiations, including as many people as possible to look at the problem, and thanked SPREP for inviting Maritime agencies to be part of the CPRT.
175. Solomon Islands acknowledged and thanked the presenters, noted the preparedness for INC 5 showcased in the presentations, emphasised the importance of roadmaps on the way forward for small island states, and reiterated the importance of continuing to evaluate what we can be done at a national level to find solutions, because resolutions need solutions.

Presentation: National Implementation of Regulatory Frameworks: Extended Producer Responsibility Bradley Nolan, PacWaste Plus

176.Mr. Bradley Nolan informed the Plastics Dialogue that building on the previous speakers with respect to the negotiations, the presentation will focus on what will be used nationally, namely part 2 item 5, part 8 and part 4. Mr. Nolan provided an outline of 'Extended Producer Responsibility' which is a systematic approach that has been proposed to ensure that costs are covered effectively. The minimum requirement is for the producer to manage the cost of waste production, which should be integrated into the overall cost management system. This system should be equitable and accessible across countries. The system involves three key players: the Government, Suppliers, and Consumers, each with defined responsibilities.

177.Mr. Nolan presented three scenarios where the absence of one of these players revealed weaknesses in the system. The preferred model includes all three sectors—Government, Suppliers, and Consumers—promoting extensive community engagement. Mr. Nolan outlined considerations for setting up the system:

- a. The cost of the system should be minimised.
- b. Deposit amounts should be balanced—not too high or too low—to effectively incentivize customers.
- c. The system structure should be user-friendly.
- d. Entities benefiting from the system should bear extended responsibilities.
- e. Unredeemed deposits should be reinvested. Legislation should specify allowable activities, support the establishment of more collection points, encourage community engagement, ensure transparency, and provide mechanisms for enforcement.

178.Summary of key issues discussed:

- a. The recommended model for the Extended Producer Responsibility includes three players being the Government, Suppliers, and Consumers.
- b. Consideration of what is required for a good system to work.
- c. Consideration regarding the unredeemed deposits.

Session 3.3: Awareness and Action – Selected Case Studies moderated.

Presentation: SWAP Marine Litter Cleanups and Audit findings by Julie Pillet of SWAP

179.Ms. Julie Pillet provided an overview of the Marine Litter Waste Audit under the SWAP. The SWAP has conducted marine litter waste audits in collaboration with various countries and territories namely Fiji, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna, as well as organisations and regional partners including Sustainable Coastlines, the POLP Project and GEF ISLANDS.

180.An outline of the Marine Litter Surveys and Audits methodology was noted as follows:

- a. Engaged local communities to perform cleanups in specific areas.
- b. Audit process: Used an itemised list for waste segregation. The methodology followed UNEP survey guidelines.
- c. Training: Provided training to communities in collaboration with Sustainable Coastlines.
- d. Data was collected either during International Coastal Clean-up Days or throughout the Marine Litter Pilot Projects.
- e. Data is available on Litter Intelligence online, which is open source for anyone to access, view and download.

181.The results and insights of audits undertaken:

- a. Surveys conducted since 2019, note 73 beach surveys and marine litter audits have been completed across 43 areas.
- b. SWAP's pilot project involved requesting waste audits in the same areas simultaneously to map out patterns and trends in marine litter. This pilot focused on small, dedicated areas with active community involvement.
- c. Notably, Samoa and the Solomon Islands saw significant community participation during International Coastal Cleanup Days.
- d. Data collected included items that were counted and weighed, with records kept. Plastics, textiles, and other categories were documented. For textiles, weight measurements were taken after counting each item to account for potential weight changes when wet. Plastics was the major component collected, 58 percent of the total waste and 25 percent by weight.

182.Ms. Pillet shared observations and future directions. It was noted that despite beaches appearing clean, many plastic fragments were discovered during cleanups. Future studies could benefit from broader involvement, including additional countries and communities, and comparing rural versus urban areas and capital cities versus outer islands to gain a comprehensive understanding of waste generation sources. There is also an interest in including microplastics in future waste audits, with potential analysis based on local activities, such as restaurants.

Presentation: Greening the 2023 Pacific Games by Joash Tuai of Solomon Islands

183.Mr. Joash Tuai shared a video presentation on the Solomon Islands campaign on single use plastics in preparation for a Safe and Green Games in 2023 that aimed at making Honiara a safe and clean city. The initiative received support from SPREP through the Ministry of Environment, where SPREP contributed USD 4.8 million to the Pacific Games, making them the 10th largest contributor.

184.The Ministry of Environment led awareness campaigns and waste collection programmes during the Pacific Games and booth stalls were set up that engaged in activities such as "Go Green Challenges" and photo booths, to raise awareness about plastic management issues in the Pacific and to promote bans on certain items. Over 10,000 people were engaged during the 14 days that the booth was active.

185.Mr. Tuai shared the key lessons learnt:

- a. Commitment: The success of the green initiatives was attributed to the commitment of all stakeholders involved.
- b. The greening of the games was seen as a historic success, leading to a shift in attitudes and practices towards sustainability.
- c. Emphasis on the continued fight for a sustainable environment and the importance of implementing effective green practices.

Presentation: Standards and Certification Schemes by Christina Gale of the Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO)

186.Ms. Christina Gale expressed gratitude to the people of Tuvalu for hosting and SPREP for providing the opportunity to participate in CPRT and the Plastics Dialogue. It was noted that SPTO are continuing ongoing work with SPREP focused on the tourism sector across the Pacific.

187.Ms. Gale noted the importance of managing tourism effectively as it is a significant force for economic activity in the Pacific. Globally, tourism is approaching 88 percent of pre-pandemic levels, with increased visitor numbers expected in the Pacific, which are crucial to ensure that tourism activities preserve the integrity of the islands. Ms. Gale highlighted that tourism involves various players, including organisations, booking systems, accommodation vendors, food and beverage services, leisure and culture tours, and support services, all contributing to the Pacific experience promoted worldwide.

188.Ms. Gale informed the meeting about the partnership with SPREP and a project that they are working on together which has four main goals:

- a. Recognise the economic contribution of tourism.
- b. Implement strategies at the community level to benefit Pacific Islands.
- c. Support environmental planning and regional goals in managing ocean plastics.
- d. Phase out single-use plastics.

189.Ms. Gale shared the sector development and challenges which emphasised the need for benchmarking and aligning with tourism frameworks and standards established as of 2022. Solid waste management is a key topic, and standards have been developed to address this comprehensively. It was noted that eight (8) Pacific Islands have sustainable tourism national standards. Stakeholders have encountered barriers to implement single use plastics reduction/ban, and these include challenges with the adoption of the certification and standards programme; knowledge and skills; guidelines; data sharing; and certification overload etc. Ms. Gale emphasised the importance of industries needing comprehensive guidance on sustainable tourism.

190.Ms. Gale highlighted that there is a need for detailed guidelines covering the full life cycle of waste and adopting a zero-waste approach. Other challenges include language barriers, cultural alignment, and the need for embedding behaviour change, which requires substantial effort and concerted support with the vast stakeholders in the tourism sector.

Session 3.4: Plastic pollution from Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter target sectors

Presentation: Research into biodegradable options to reduce dependency on single-use plastics by Ms Toleafoa Annie Tuisuga, Manager, Environment and Renewable Energy Division, Scientific Research of Samoa (SROS).

191.Ms Toleafoa Annie Tuisuga of the SROS provided an overview of research undertaken in Samoa on bio-PHA (bio-based biopolymer) products as an alternative to plastics. Bioplastics are items not produced with petroleum products. Ms Tuisuga provided insight into the trial which assessed feasibility, understood local requirements, researched resource availability, social, regulatory and environmental factors. It was noted that Samoa imports 1,285,611 metric tonnes over 5 years of single use plastics. SROS reviewed the amount of organic waste being produced and looked at the potential to use this material for bioplastic. Bio-plastic processing is increasing in the world. For any project Ms. Tuisuga noted the importance of understanding the social and cultural factors.

192.Ms. Tuisuga highlighted the key findings:

- a. **Data Collection** - Based on the assessment of import data, Samoa is importing too much plastics - Over 5,000 metric tonnes recorded. Import data 2018-2022 was collected and analysed before SROS looked at Resource availability and Technological options.
- b. **Assessment of Feedstock** - SROS had to undertake data collection due to limited organic waste data available. This highlighted that quite a significant amount of organic waste is generated in Samoa.
- c. **Technology Assessment**- Bioplastic processing is becoming economically viable, and technology is improving.
- d. **Framework** - Samoa has the legislative framework that enable the processing of these materials.
- e. **Adoption of Holistic Approach** - Understanding cultural complexity needs to be considered when undertaking studies.

Presentation: Legislation to ban single-use plastics in the Solomon Islands by Ms Wendy Beti.

193. Ms. Wendy Beti shared that one of the benefits of Solomon Islands being one of the last countries in the Pacific to ban single use plastics, is that they were able to learn from the lessons of other countries. With the hosting of the Pacific Game in 2023 the development of a Single Use Plastic Ban was prioritised by government. Ms. Beti provided an overview on the process to ban single use plastics in Solomon Islands. It was noted that Solomon Islands faced significant challenges with single use plastics, that impacted the economy, health, and environment. Past waste data collected identified that 16 percent of the country's waste stream consisted of more than 60 percent of plastics. Plastic waste is one of the challenging environmental challenges next to climate change and biodiversity loss.
194. Solomon Islands 2019 State of Environment recommended coordinated approaches to waste management especially in urban centres. One provincial centre in the Western Province had a plastic ban policy. Solomon Islands initiative to ban single use plastics was made possible with the support of POLP funded by Australia and implemented by SPREP. Work on the ban started in January 2023 and legislation was gazetted on 1st September 2023. While the import ban was implemented on 1st September, local businesses were given a 6-months grace period from the enforcement date to clear out local stockpiles.
195. Ms. Beti shared that for the regulations on Single Use Plastic Ban there are five (5) main categories: plastic shopping bags, cups straws, plastic bottles less than 1.5 Litre, poly Styrofoam cups, and poly Styrofoam take away containers.
196. Solomon Islands conducted a survey with more than 60 percent of the public supporting the ban and hosted a national consultation workshop. It was shared that many shops had a large portion of imports. Government held information and roundtable discussions to clarify the draft regulations and share information with the sector. Once the consultations were completed, the drafting instructions were finalised and submitted to the Attorney General's Office that once approved the regulations were signed by the Minister for Environment.
197. With respect to enforcement the government gave importers a 6-months grace period, which came into force during the Pacific Games. To assist the enforcement agencies to effectively implement the new regulations, a standing operating procedure (SOP) was developed by the Ministry of Environment Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) and Public Prosecutions. Trainings were facilitated for local enforcement agencies. When the regulations came into force, there were no

cases reported during the grace period but after January 2024, two (2) cases were reported by the customs office.

198. Ms. Beti shared that when regulations came into force, some businesses already took the initiative, with supermarkets promoting reusable bags at point of sale. Other awareness approaches included radio, social media and billboards. Also, a joint agency enforcement team was established.

199. Key lessons learnt from the development of legislation:

- a. Strengthening the coordination with other stakeholders' partners to effectively implement the regulations.
- b. Try and have MOU with police, customs and other enforcement agencies so you have clarity on responsibilities of agencies in the enforcement of the regulations.
- c. Awareness and communications are important. MECDM facilitated awareness programmes before the drafting of regulations, throughout the drafting process until the gazetting of the regulations. This is one of the ongoing processes that is continuing.
- d. Facilitated training for enforcement officers and some of the Provincial officers in the province to ensure enforcement at the provincial level.
- e. Engagement of graduates is one the useful programme that the ministry received from the POLP project as it supported the government in the implementation of the regulations and continued awareness.
- f. The national lead takes ownership of the work. POLP provided the funding allows the technical committee to lead and drive the work and this is one of the important lessons learnt as it helps to enable the legislation to come into the effect in the short period of time.

Session 3.5: Existing and Pipeline Activities Addressing Plastic Pollution.

Overview of SPREP Portfolio of projects to address plastic pollution (AFD, EU PWP, GEF Islands, J-PRISM 3, POLP)

200. Mr. Anthony Talouli, Director of Waste Management and Pollution Control provided an overview of SPREP projects contributing to address plastic pollution, which were valued at USD 70 million over a span of five years. An overview of projected noted as follows:

- a. The EU funded PacWastePlus deals with eight (8) waste streams, where five (5) of the streams deals with plastic pollution. SPREP also works with plastic pollution management with the following initiatives: Advance Recovery Fee and Deposit (ARFD), which assists the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC); Moana Taka Partnership with GEF ISLANDS through scaling up of the initiative by including Caribbean and some African states; and Tide Turners project with youth engagement.
- b. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) under the GloLitter Partnership Project, assists with the shipping of sources of plastic pollution, fishing vessels to minimise their plastic pollution in accordance with the Cape Town Agreement.
- c. Committing to Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP), and how to use "tragic" plastics turn into energy.

- d. Assisting Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific island countries (JPRISM).

201. Overall, SPREP will be working on building recycling hubs in Fiji and Papua New Guinea. SPREP has partnered with the private sector such as Swire Shipping with the Moana Taka Partnership and the research agency the University of Newcastle on solutions for a sustainable Pacific.

Panel Discussion ANZPAC and Development Partners will be invited to present on their pipeline activities to implement the strategic areas linked to the Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter

202. Dr. Karen Raubenheimer provided an overview of the UNEP Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) Framework project. It was noted the timeline of the project is from September 2022 to September 2025 with a total funding of USD 7.2 million that covers 19 countries. It was noted that countries are at different stages in developing road maps, plans, and frameworks. It includes capacity development and involvement in the INC sessions. Dr. Raubenheimer informed the Plastics Dialogue that the role of SPREP is to help countries in the Pacific with different tasks such as establishing steering committees, consultations, state of knowledge report, legislation review, and set targets where relevant. There is also a digital platform that includes important source inventory, where you may personalise workforce and workflow national sources inventories.

203. Ms. Vanessa Dirking of GIZ provided an overview on the Marine Cleaner Project which includes SPC, SPREP and GIZ. The project is for 3 years with a total funding of EURO 6 million. The project aims to reduce plastic use and ensure effective management of land. The direct outcomes targeted are policy and institutional financial framework in terms of incentives for plastic and marine litter prevention; plastic waste minimisation in the private sector with the setup of a grant programme of alternatives; consumer and citizen work with NGOs and schools; as well as seeking new solutions to manage land and sea based plastics.

204. Ms. Claire Romanik of USAID provided an overview of the Clean City Blue Ocean (CCBO) project. It was noted that through this project the US are supporting countries address plastic pollution. The CCBO Project will work in the Pacific to include 32 cities and 10 countries. It was noted that it has taken 8 years to develop. The project will include a vast network of stakeholders including civil society. The project will cover policy, waste services provided, green jobs, behaviour change, and it will be inclusive. In terms of developing policies under the project it will not focus on recovery but also alternatives and in supporting green companies and it will consult with the private sector, people affected and include the informal sector to improve their lives.

205. Mr. Fakavae Taomia of the World Bank informed the Plastics Dialogue that it is here to support and engage with member countries, primarily on policies and capacity building. It was noted that the World Bank is currently working together with 14 countries focusing on fisheries as it is a key regional resource and is helping to manage it, working together with FFA, SPREP and SPC. Mr. Taomia emphasised the importance of ensuring national representation in the regional dialogue of CPRT but also that it be elevated to the international level. The World Bank is ready to work with SPREP and all countries on their priorities.

Questions and Answers

206. Ms. Claytoncy Taurarii sought advice on the status of countries involved with the GIZ/USAID project and how the Cook Islands may be included. It was noted that country selection was based on previous and ongoing SPREP initiatives and objectives. Ms. Romanik responded that USAID has missions in 9 Pacific island countries, and the Cook Islands were encouraged to lobby the USAID directly. Mr. Luatutu Andrea Volentras, POLP Project Manager, advised that selection was on closest alignment of existing objectives, but also looking at who would benefit from the initiative where they were not in receipt of external help.

207. On waste collection systems, Mr. Leney noted that a key challenge is poor collection systems, particularly for the outer islands and rural areas in Kiribati. Advice was sought on whether USAID would be interested in those areas. Ms. Romanik responded they may take it into consideration as it is an emerging performance metric for the USAID Project.

208. Vanuatu sought advice on whether there is funding available to create more awareness on marine litter as it wants to engage with partners to get tangible results from this approach, especially with the communities. It was shared that Vanuatu have the gap analysis that identifies policies and legislation but there is a need to get more awareness.

209. Tonga sought advice on whether there is funding available for government. Ms. Romanik responded that non-governmental organisations and the private sector are being supported and they are open to discussions but conscious to not replicate the efforts of other projects.

Session 3.6: Private Sector and Civil Society Engagement

ANZPAC

210. Ms. Angela Mayer of ANZPAC provided an overview of their organisation. It was noted that there are 12 global Plastic Pacts including in the Pacific. The "Circular Pacific Plastic (CPP)" is a Pacific focused project which works with brands and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes. Ms. Mayer emphasised the approach of starting with pilot projects and scaling them up for long-term viability.

Pacific Recyclers Alliance

211. Ms. Marina Keil of Pacific Recyclers Alliance spoke of the newly formed organisation with 6 members from across the Pacific. Ms. Keil highlighted the challenges faced in their operations, emphasising the need for advocacy and collaboration to overcome these hurdles with the much needed support of donors and development partners.

Coca Cola

212. Mr. Jeff Maquire of Coca Cola acknowledged their role as a major brand and expressed their commitment to providing solutions for the Pacific. Mr. Maquire highlighted challenges in recycling PET bottles and the importance of collaboration with countries to address these issues. It was emphasised behaviour change as the biggest challenge. It was noted that Coca Cola is committed to turn PET into a resource, stressing the importance of collaboration.

Questions and Answers

- 213.** French Polynesia inquired if Coca-Cola would consider recycling materials other than PET and the possibility of Coca Cola working in French Polynesia. Ms. Kerry Gardner of Coca Cola responded that they are currently in talks with a partner to set up an EPR scheme in French Polynesia, which may include other materials.
- 214.** Fiji acknowledged the Coca Cola efforts in Fiji and the region, and are looking to finalise a regulation, legislation, and sought advice on what Coca Colas plans once that kicks in regarding infrastructure and processes. Mr. Maquire noted that what is being developed will mesh with that new plan and a desire to show that the structure should be workable for an EPR. On the issue of legacy waste with respect to the Lautoka landfill, as there is very little from the Suva landfill, there is a capacity issue, but Coca Cola believes what they have currently to support it, is enough for the expansion into legacy waste.
- 215.** Mr. Fua queried Coca Cola's commitment to the INC provisions on applying the waste hierarchy for plastic waste management. Mr. Maquire responded that their target is getting PET bottles into recycling.
- 216.** Mr. Bryan Star of Nauru raised concerns about the deteriorating quality of recycled PET and how Coca Cola plans to maintain quality. Mr. Maquire responded that they plan to use virgin material to maintain bottle quality.
- 217.** Papua New Guinea noted the issues of fee parity in reference to the point on kina per kilo. Mr. Maquire shared they are looking at the fee structure and considering several factors to arrive at something with good parity that references legal structures.
- 218.** Ms. Keil of Samoa shared that it has the capacity and capability on collection, transport, sorting, and can help boost Coca Cola numbers, which was received positively by Mr. Maquire.
- 219.** Mr. Talagi raised the issue of machinery and in particular a granulator and sought advice of whether Coca Cola puts this in countries on a supply and share basis. Mr. Maquire responded that there are categories that qualify procurement of equipment as some are put in through a service fee agreement. Set up, however, depends on local need and plan to design and procure relevant equipment.
- 220.** Vanuatu shared that most of the population live in the outer islands and that 80 percent of products go out to rural islands, but only Port Vila has collection. Vanuatu can do the awareness, but logistics is a huge challenge. Advice was sought on whether Coca Cola may assist. Mr. Maquire shared those lessons learnt from the experience of Fiji noted the importance of a centralised local collection then shipment back to Suva. This could be a model for remote islands and communities, where solutions can be found if things can find their way there, they can come back too.
- 221.** Tonga acknowledged the efforts of Coca Cola in managing waste from PET bottles and asked if there are plans for replacing PET bottles with glass bottles. Mr. Maquire noted that Coca Cola is unable to establish one-way glass bottle use in Tonga due to limited market and carbon footprint of glass which is quite high.
- 222.** Mr. Leney shared that collections in Kiribati are very effective and turn out is good. On the outer islands issue, they use the copra return system, where the levy is high enough that the fee is motivation for the return.

Closing session remarks

223. Ms. Marina Keil of the Pacific Recyclers Alliance sought support for the work of their Alliance and of their respective national members, noting that collaborative partnerships are key to addressing the issues raised.
224. Ms. Angela Mayer of ANZPAC encouraged the conversations to continue for ongoing learning and sharing which is key for success.
225. Mr. Jeff Maquire of Coca Cola looked forward to continuing to work with everyone and encouraged participants to reach out.
226. Mr. Nawadra highlighted the importance of all stakeholders working collectively together on legislative pieces on plastics and that it be done well. It was also noted that stakeholders look at other relevant instruments and lessons learnt, including governments taking responsibility to work with partners, and likewise corporate partners taking responsibility as well. Mr Nawadra highlighted the importance of collective efforts for practical solutions.

Session 3.7: Community Engagement and GEDSI

227. The session opened with a video presentation by the Honourable Mona Ainuu, Minister of Environment for the Government of Niue who is the Political Climate Champion for Gender and Adaptation. The Honourable Minister highlighted the importance of having goals that ensure that the ocean can withstand difficult times especially with climate change. The Honourable Minister noted the reliance on ocean for food security and the importance to establish good programmes to conserve the ocean. It was noted that it is important to encourage the next generation and for children to understand that pollution has no place in the ocean. The Honourable Minister highlighted that organisms must thrive in their own habitat and that the young be encouraged to be good custodians of their natural resources for present and future generations.

Empowering women in Gizo through the work of Plastic Wise by Ms Rendy Solomon

228. Ms. Rendy, Chair and Founder of Plastic Wise Gizo (PWG) shared insights into their organisation which is a civil society organisation (CSO) and set mostly in the local settings of Solomon Islands. The vision is targeting behaviour change in rural populations who do not often have the chance to be heard and seen. It was noted that PWG focus on empowering rural citizens in Solomon Islands who are equally important in the implementation of national, and international policies. Ms. Rendy emphasised that sustainability needs to start from communities and culture.
229. Ms. Rendy shared the roles and responsibilities of youth and women in combatting plastic waste in the Pacific. The name of PWG came from Plastic Wise in Australia and has been working since 2014. PWG have been involved in clean up campaigns, educational activities in schools and churches. Roles of women in the work done are information sharing, awareness, training, and part of international events such as World Oceans Day. It was noted as women lead planning duties and responsibilities, PWG provides information to women. Ms. Rendy contextualised that many rural women do not own phones, so PWG connects rural women with information from government.

230.Ms. Rendy shared that decision making is very important to women and youth as they have the highest number in the world and the Pacific. It was noted that 70 percent of Solomon Islands population is below the age of 35. On decision making it was shared that it must be built up as people must be confident to make decisions that will have an impact on human and local environment. PWG empower women and youth to make the right decision in the western part of Solomon Islands.

231.Ms. Rendy highlighted the importance of making a difference as a strong advocate to support provincial government in the implementation of the Plastic Bag Ban in Solomon Islands. It was noted because it is homegrown, most of the women understand their responsibilities.

232.Ms. Rendy shared their first partnership with Positive Change with Marine Life whereby they worked with households to undertake waste segregation and collected recyclables. PWG partnered with Strongimbisnis Solomon Islands, where they collected aluminium, and PET. PWG buys from local communities and makes money from the export of these materials.

233.PWG also work with international media to help amplify stories from women and their communities. These connections enabled the good work undertaken by rural women that make up PWG to be shared beyond Solomon Islands. It was noted that DFAT funded a programme that looks to turn trash into cash, where rural communities are making money from waste collected and turned into craft. These products are sold in the local market and are bought by tourists. Recycled crafts are sold to tourists from international cruise ships visiting Gizo.

234.The production of crafts showcases the talents that are with rural communities. Rural women who do not have the chance for quality education have a chance to contribute to sustainable development goals. The work of PWG works both in the formal and informal sectors and PWG commit to undertaking waste baseline survey in Solomon Islands. It was noted that while there maybe policies and strategies in place, it has little impact on rural communities. The waste surveys can inform national decisions.

235.It was also noted that due to climate change, the sea is becoming warmer, fish and other marine resources are becoming scarce. Ms. Rendy shared that they see the value of a circular economy as it provides an opportunity for rural communities to earn a living. PWG are looking to establish a training centre as a space for rural communities to create crafts and market these materials as well.

236.Key issues noted as:

a. Plastic Ban:

- ✓ Build on existing partnerships and use international media to highlight the work of women in waste management and plastic pollution.
- ✓ Use waste collection for crafts and art, generating income and supporting local livelihoods.
- ✓ Leverage tourism, with cruise ships contributing significantly to local earnings.
- ✓ Advocate for improved waste management and equality in education and decision-making.

b. Challenges and Needs:

- ✓ Address the impact of climate change, including diminishing sea resources and ineffective agricultural practices.
- ✓ Emphasise the need for sustainable practices to secure a better future.

- ✓ Seek assistance for establishing a centre to sell and exchange locally produced art, crafts, and goods.

c. Key messages:

- ✓ Recognise women as hidden heroes who play a crucial role in sustainability efforts.
- ✓ Advocate for collective action to ensure a sustainable future, emphasising the importance of passing on a healthy environment to future generations.
- ✓ *'We borrow the future from our young generation, it is our commitment to give it back to them'.*

Tuvalu Schools Single Use Plastic Competition: Presentation by the winners, Fa'aau'i Manuela and Avanoa Homasi

237. A special prizegiving ceremony was held as part of the session in acknowledgement of the poster, essay and sculpture competitions centred on the theme of addressing plastic pollution in Tuvalu. It was noted that for the poster competition there were 116 submissions, from 115 primary school students and 2 secondary school students. For the essay competition there were 32 submissions from 13 primary school students and 19 secondary school students. The sculpture competition included 22 submissions including 20 primary school students and 2 secondary school students.

238. Session summary of key issues discussed:

a. Role and Responsibility of Youth and Women

- ✓ Collaborate to combat plastic pollution in the Pacific.
- ✓ Conduct beach clean-ups in towns, schools, and churches, including Gizo Town.
- ✓ Women primarily engage in information sharing, advocacy, lobbying, training programs, and capacity building, participating in events like ICCD and World Ocean Day.
- ✓ Women share information with the government and participate in international events, but face challenges in accessing information due to language barriers.

b. Decision-Making and Empowerment

- ✓ Highlight the impact of decisions on women, children, humans, and the environment.
- ✓ Emphasise the importance of capacity building in decision-making to enhance community development.
- ✓ Achievements include advancements in managing plastic waste.

Session 3.8: Development of the next iteration of the Pacific Region Action Plan: Marine Litter

239. Dr. Karen Raubenheimer provided a brief presentation on the review of the Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Strategy and the Pacific Region Action Plan: Marine Litter (2018-2025) implementation plans. From the review undertaken it was noted there were areas of duplication. Other considerations included land base sources versus sea-based sources and how this will be addressed in the Cleaner Pacific Strategy 2035 to ensure there is no duplication. Ideas to be considered in the consultation process of what the new Pacific Regional Action Plan should focus on in terms of whether it is marine based sources or to include both.

Session 4.1: Plenary

- 240.**Mr. Joshua Sam provided a brief summary of the deliberations to date and encouraged all Roundtable participants to carry forward the momentum for the remaining days to ensure the rich discussions and collaborative spirit will continue for the development of the Cleaner Pacific Strategy 2035.
- 241.**Mr. Sefanaia Nawadra, Director General of SPREP shared the way forward on the CPRT and the Cleaner Pacific Strategy, which was acknowledged by participants as both important to the region and that waste management and pollution control continue to be rolled out and implemented under the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, the north star of the Pacific region, which articulates the agreed key priorities and aspirations endorsed by Pacific Leaders.
- 242.**Mr. Nawadra noted that the next iteration of the CP2035 must keep in mind that the work is long term and beyond individual projects and initiatives. It was noted that while projects help the journey there is a need to look at the short term, medium term and long term, beyond the lifetime of the CP2035. Mr. Nawadra challenged country delegates that the strength of any regional or global framework comes down to what is done at the national level. It was suggested that the CPRT may be replicated and contextualised at the national level to ensure the process is inclusive. Mr. Nawadra shared that what is done at the regional and global level, must represent the stakeholders and issues at the national level. Mr. Nawadra conveyed the commitment of SPREP to help Pacific island country and territory Members set up roundtables at the national level, to help strengthen how the Pacific engages globally.
- 243.**It was highlighted that the focus on plastics is an opportunity to elevate the issues of waste management and pollution control across the region, noting the commitment of Pacific Leaders to the 2050 Strategy Implementation Plan, regional collective action and Pacific Partnership for Prosperity priority, towards a successful outcome for a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution including in the marine environment. Mr. Nawadra emphasised the role of government officials, to effectively communicate to Leaders waste management and pollution control issues, to help get political buy in and ensure decisions are well informed at all levels included nationally, regionally and globally.
- 244.**Mr. Nawadra shared thoughts on the structure of the new CP2035 and conveyed preference to maintain the integrated nature of the Strategy, on the understanding that decision makers need to be informed in a clear way, that waste management and pollution control cuts across the land and sea and aligns with government sectors. With respect to underneath the CP2035 there maybe subsidiary documents demarcated by land and sea.
- 245.**Mr. Nawadra shared the discussion on the inner circle and outer circle, that were important in terms of what can be done within the Pacific region and what help is needed beyond.
- 246.**The timeframe for development of the new Strategy is for presentation to the 32nd SPREP Meeting in 2025. Understanding roles, responsibilities and commitments to each other also highlighted as important to help each other, to do the role that has been asked of each other for an enabling approach. Mr. Nawadra noted that while there are regulators and members of the private sector, there are many limitations and barriers to managing waste, hence it is critical to find ways to do things that are innovative. It was noted that there are things that have been done successfully in the Pacific that needs to be scaled up, likewise there are initiatives that have not been done well that need to be re-examined and addressed. Mr. Nawadra emphasised that the principles of how business is done, and

how stakeholders interact and conduct themselves is also important. As noted in earlier discussions the new Strategy must include SMART indicators and be guided by consistent monitoring and reporting.

247. On the issue of resource mobilisation Mr. Nawadra noted there are approaches regionally that can be done as a sector not necessarily by individual donors. The Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Programme of Investment undertaken by the Pacific Meteorological Council is one such example that the Roundtable may wish to consider.

248. Mr. Talouli thanked Mr. Nawadra for the insight provided on the next Cleaner Pacific Strategy. It was highlighted that there is no other region that has such an integrated strategy on waste management and pollution control.

Session 4.2: Breakout Sessions: Discussions on the topics to assist with developing the new Clean Pacific 2035 or plus.

249. Participants engaged in group work which focused on a visioning exercise on imagining various scenarios in 2035. *Refer to annex for tabulation of group work.*

250. The facilitators of the session Mr. Chris Purchas and Dr. Melanie Bradley summarised the key themes identified from the group work as follows:

- a. Thriving environment
- b. Engaged or inspired community and decision makers
- c. Resilient
 - ✓ Impacts of climate change
 - ✓ Making sure we are adopting appropriate technology with financing for delivering services
- d. Collaboration
 - ✓ Together who knows what can be done together.
 - ✓ Work together to achieve things

Session 4.3: Breakout Sessions: Discussions on the topics to assist with developing the new Clean Pacific 2035 or plus

251. Participants engaged in group work using wave analysis looking at emerging trends, established standards, and fading actions in the following areas: Plastic waste, Landfill, Hazardous waste, Bulky waste, Organics, Recoverable items not plastic, Technologies, E-waste, Used Oil, Disaster Response and End-of-life vehicles (ELV). *Refer to annex for tabulation of group work.*

Session 4.4: Plenary Session: Cross-cutting Issues

252. Mr Anthony Talouli presented on the cross-cutting issues of all of the priorities that will be considered in the new CP2035. Crosscutting issues highlighted as community engagement, GEDSI, financing, data monitoring and risk management. The emphasis on paddling together, leaving no one behind, with the flexibility to be able to pivot and change direction to go to the next level or distance, was viewed as a useful metaphor for all Roundtable participants.

Session 4.5: Way Forward

253.Mr. Talouli informed the Roundtable the new CP2035 will be presented to the 32nd SPREP Meeting in 2025. It will include themes, work plans, business strategy, data collection, implementation of best practice, capacity building, and awareness raising. Strategic areas of implementation will also be part of the Strategy.

254.It was noted that there will be a zero Draft of the Strategy available for review and an opportunity to meet at the GEF Islands Project meeting in Tonga. During the PacWaste Plus Project Meeting the team aim to have a revised draft for members to review at the Waste Expo that will be held in Samoa after Easter 2025. The final draft will be available for Ministers to consider by the end of July 2025.

Session 5.1: Outcome Statement Development

255.Ms Pepetua Latasi, Chair and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment presented the draft Outcome Statement for the consideration and adoption of Members.

256.After careful consideration and additional inputs from participants, the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable Outcome Statement was unanimously adopted on 9 August 2024 in Funafuti, Tuvalu.

Session 5.2: Launch of New Establishments

257.Ms Latasi called the session to order and invited the representatives from the Tuvalu Departments of Waste Management and Environment. The Department of Waste Management provided an overview of the Tuvalu Hazardous Waste (Asbestos) Management Regulation. Vision for an asbestos-free Tuvalu. The objectives of the regulation were presented. The importance of public awareness and compliance and enforcement were underlined as focus areas moving forward. Tuvalu thanked those who helped to develop the Regulations, including SPREP and national stakeholders.

258.The Department of Waste Management presented an overview of the 'Teu a Fongafale Strategy 2024-2027' (TFS) to ensure a clean and green Fongafale for healthy living. The objectives and priority areas of the strategy were presented.

259.The Department of Environment presented the Tuvalu National Invasive Species Strategic Action Plan 2022-2027. An overview of the plan was presented. The management of invasive species was underlined as a high priority. Key actions relating to implementation were identified for action going forward. The support of SPREP was acknowledged.

260.Ms. Latasi invited questions and clarifications from members and participants. A Tuvalu participant expressed gratitude to the Tuvalu Government Departments for the launch of the new Regulation and policies and encouraged Government to remember women and people with disabilities as implementation partners.

261.SPREP congratulated the Department of Waste Management for completion of the regulation, the first of its kind in the Pacific since the call of Pacific Environment Ministers in their Declaration of the 26th SPREP Meeting in 2017.

262.Ms. Latasi invited the Pacific Recyclers Alliance to present. The Pacific Recyclers Alliance with the support of USAID and SPREP stood in solidarity. The Alliance noted the recent meeting of Pacific recyclers in Fiji was a milestone where it agreed on guiding principles and objectives for the Alliance. The Alliance was formed in response to the challenges faced by grassroots organisations throughout the Pacific involved in recycling.

263.The USAID congratulated the Alliance and noted its presence and support at the recent meeting in Fiji. The USAID acknowledged the waste and plastic pollution challenge and noted its 'Save Our Seas' initiative to support stakeholders including the 'Clean Cities, Blue Oceans' programme. The need to support the Collection Pillars of Recycling was reiterated. The USAID underscored that collaboration is important for a cleaner Pacific and looks forward to supporting it.

Session 5.3: Official Closing for Clean Pacific Roundtable Meeting 2024

264.Ms Latasi thanked all participants for the sharing of knowledge and experience and for the fruitful deliberations of the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable. Noting all official business had been concluded the Roundtable was officially declared closed.

Annex 1: Agenda

<h1>4th CLEAN PACIFIC ROUND TABLE</h1>	
<h2>PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME</h2>	
Rt. Hon. Dr. Sir. Tomasi Puapua Convention Centre, Funafuti, Tuvalu 05 – 09 August 2024 Theme: Clean Environment. Resilient Oceans. Healthy Communities.	
Time	Day 1: 05 August 2024
08:00 – 09:00 am	REGISTRATION
08:30 – 10:00 am	Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcoming Remarks – SPREP/ Government of Tuvalu Prayer – Pastor Fitolau Puapua, President of Ekalesia Kelisiano Tuvalu. Opening Remarks – Honourable Feleti Penitala Teo, Prime Minister, Tuvalu. Clean Pacific Roundtable 2024 Statement by Mr Sefanaia Nawadra, Director General of SPREP
10:00 – 10:30 am	Morning Break
10:30 – 11:30 am	Session 1.1: Plenary Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chaired by the Madam Chair of the Clean Pacific Round Table Meeting, Ms Pepetua Latasi, Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment. Opening and Introductory Remarks by Mr Anthony Talouli, Director, WPMC. Cleaner Pacific journey: observations and reflections by Dr Melanie Bradley, Strategic Planning Adviser, SPREP
11:30 – 12:30 am	Session 1.2: Breakout Session: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitators – Mr Anthony Talouli, Mr Chris Purchas, Dr Melanie Bradley

12:30 – 01:30 pm	Lunch Break
01:30 – 03:30 pm	Session 1.3: Breakout Session: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the CHALLENGES and LESSONS LEARNED for Clean Pacific 2025. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitators – Mr Anthony Talouli, Mr Chris Purchas, Dr Melanie Bradley
03:30 – 04:00 pm	Afternoon Break
04:00 – 5:00 pm	Session 1.4: Breakout Session: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the EMERGING ISSUES for Clean Pacific 2025. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitators – Mr Anthony Talouli, Mr Chris Purchas, Dr Melanie Bradley
07:00 – 10:00 pm	Welcome Dinner
Time	Day 2: 06 August 2024
08:00 – 08:30 am	Registration
08:30 - 10:00 am	Session 2.1: Sustainable Circularity and a Pollution-Free Pacific (Parallel Sessions)
<p>Circular Economy Thinking INSIDE the Circle: Incorporating Circular Solutions for Waste Management in the Pacific. Welcome Remarks and Introduction by the Facilitator: Ms Susana Telakau, Solid Waste Adviser, SPREP.</p>	<p>Pollution Control Welcome remarks by Commander Joweli Cawaki, Chief Executive Officer, Maritime Safety, Authority of Fiji.</p>
<p>Session 2.1 (a): Introduction / Overview. Opportunities Available to Incorporate Circular Solutions for Waste Management in the Pacific / Closing the Knowledge Gap.</p> <p>Presentation 1: Changing the narrative - from liner to circular for WM Options to apply circular solutions for the Pacific. Illustrating the “tools” available for PICTS to close the loop - Waste stream specific by Hillary Boyes, PacWaste Plus.</p> <p>Session 2.2 (a): Examples from Pacific island countries and territories – Applying Circular Solutions.</p>	<p>Session 2.1 (b) Presentation 1: Scene setting – <i>Emerging marine pollution issues in the region</i> by Dr Mohammed A. Zullah, Pollution Adviser, SPREP</p> <p>Presentation 2: PACPLAN – <i>Effectiveness and developments in spill prevention and response</i> by Mr. Pawa Limu, Manager, Marine Environment Protection, NMSA. PNG.</p> <p>Presentation 3: Leadership in a spill response crisis - <i>International cooperation and individual action</i> by Commander Jesse Harms, Chief of Contingency Planning, USCG.</p>

<p>Presentation 2: Applying circular solution on a small scale “rent-a-plate” initiative by Ms Claytoncy Taurarii, Director, Waste Management, Ministry of Infrastructure, Cook Islands.</p> <p>Session 2.3 (a): Opportunities and Solutions: Policy and Investment Opportunities to Enable Circular Solutions.</p> <p>Presentation 3: Opportunities or Solutions “<u>Inside-our-Circle</u>” – Policy, E-waste AFRD, repair, import standards by Mr Haden Talagi. Niue.</p> <p>Presentation 4: Opportunities or Solutions “<u>Outside-our-Circle</u>”. Return of recyclable materials. Adding value to waste as a resource by Mr Makoto Yamashita, JPRISM III.</p> <p>Presentation 5: Private Sector Recycling by the Pacific Recycling Association.</p> <p>Presentation 6: Assistance SPREP will provide the region through Framework and Network by Mr Anthony Talouli, Director WMPC, SPREP.</p> <p>Session 2.4 (a): Q&A – Leading discussions on infrastructure/ investment/ assistance needs facilitated by Mr Anthony Talouli, Director WPMC, SPREP.</p>	<p>Presentation 4: The Threat of Oil Spills from WWII Shipwrecks in the Pacific - <i>FSM WWII Shipwreck Pollution Mitigation Project</i> by Dr Matt Carter, Project Director, Major Projects Foundation (MPF).</p> <p>Presentation 5: Emerging technologies and innovative solutions - <i>UMI Pacific Esperance—Recycling solutions on a ship Concept</i> by Mr. Edward Meysztowicz. Managing Director, Urban Mining Industries Pty Ltd.</p> <p>Presentation 6: Control And Management of Ships' Biofouling - <i>National Biofouling Strategies on Managing Invasive Aquatic Species</i> by Mr Hema Tupou, Senior Marine Environment Officer, Marine and Ports Div, Ministry of Infrastructure.</p> <p>Session 2.2 (b): Q&A facilitated by Mr Lloyd M. Fikiasi</p>
10:00 – 10:30 am	Morning Break
10:30 – 12:30 pm	Session 2.2: Resilient Waste, Sustainable Future (I)
<p>Hazardous Waste. Navigating the Challenges of Hazardous Waste in the Pacific: Expert Insights and Solutions.</p>	<p>Waste Technologies. Transforming Waste into Worth: A Revolutionary Approach to Sustainable Development.</p>

<p>Opening remarks and Introduction by the Facilitator: Ms Fiasosoitamalii Ugapo-Siaosi, Principal Hazardous Waste, WMPC, Samoa.</p>	<p>Opening Remarks and Introduction by the Facilitator: Mr Simona Kilei, Director, Department of Energy, PAWES Focal Point, Tuvalu.</p>
<p>Presentation 1: Regulatory Frameworks for Used Oil Management - Used Oil Management Plans, Ms Julie Pillet, Technical Waste Project Coordinator, Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP) Project.</p> <p>Presentation 2: Safe Removal and Disposal Techniques for Asbestos by Mr Filimone Lapao, Waste Management & Pollution Control Division, Department of Environment, Tonga.</p> <p>Presentation 3: Treatment and Disposal Methods for Healthcare Waste by Mr Veari Kula, Infrastructure, Facilities and MEA Branch, Conservation and Environment Protection Authority, Papua New Guinea</p> <p>Presentation 4: Waste Battery Management and Recycling, Mr Alice Leney, Pacific Reef Savers, Kiribati.</p> <p>Panel Discussion: Transition and set up for Q&A</p> <p>Panel Discussion: Interactive Q&A Session by all panellists.</p> <p>Closing Remarks: Mr. Joshua Sam, Hazardous Waste Adviser, WMPC, SPREP.</p>	<p>Session 2.2 (b): Waste Reduction and Minimisation Strategies.</p> <p>Presentation 1: Waste Management Innovation in the PSIDS aligned to the CP2025 by Mr Shungo SOEDA, Team Leader, Solid Waste Management, JICA/JPRISM Expert.</p> <p>Presentation 2: Sustainable Waste Management Technologies for Waste Utilisation in Small Island Developing States (SIDS): A Pathway to a Circular Economy by Dr Jane Stanley, EAROPH International</p> <p>Presentation 3: Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions Project Overview by Ms. Christine Deo-Reddy, Project Manager, Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions (PAWES) Project, SPC.</p> <p>Q&A & Interactive Discussions facilitated by Mr Simona Kilei, Director, Department of Energy, Tuvalu.</p> <p>Session 2.2 (b): Emerging Technologies and Innovation</p> <p>Presentation 4: Technology (Biogas and Trash Boom) demonstrations for Innovative Technologies in Waste-to-Energy by Mr Wayne Fuakilau, General Manager, Bioenergy Insight Pacific, Fiji.</p> <p>Presentation 5: Technology (Pyrolysis) demonstrations for Innovative Technologies in Waste-to-Energy by Mr Lindsay Teobasi, General Manager, Design Technology Centre, Solomon Islands.</p>

	<p>Q&A & Interactive Discussions: Country experiences in Waste Technologies facilitated by Ms Lilian Penaia, Technical Waste Officer, PAWES Project, SPREP.</p> <p>Closing Remarks by Ms Christine Deo-Reddy, PM, PAWES Project, Pacific Community (SPC).</p>
12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch Break
1:30 – 3:30 pm	Session 2.3: Resilient Waste, Sustainable Future (II)
<p>End-of-Life Vehicle.</p> <p>Opening Remarks and Introduction by the moderator: Ms Claytoncy Taurarii, Director, Waste Management, Ministry of Infrastructure, Cook Islands.</p>	<p>Disaster Waste.</p> <p>Welcoming Remarks & Introduction by the Facilitator: Mr. Haden Talagi, Niue</p>
<p>Case Study 1: Presented by Mr. Saimone Vuki, Tonga.</p> <p>Case Study 2: Kiribati’s Innovative Practices by Ms. Alice Leney, Kiribati.</p> <p>Case Study 3: St. Lucia’s Community Approaches by Mr Joshua Sam</p> <p>Transition and Instructions for Breakout Discussions by the moderator, Ms Mii-Tuatini Dorothy Herman</p> <p>Group 1: Lessons from Tonga’s ELV Program by facilitator Mr Saimone Vuki</p> <p>Group 2: Overcoming Challenges in Kiribati by Mr Alice Leney</p> <p>Group 3: Community Strategies in St. Lucia by Mr Joshua Sam</p> <p>Group Presentations and Discussions by Group Representatives.</p>	<p>Presentation 1: Setting the Scene Ms. Sainimili Bulai, PacWaste Plus, Technical Officer, Solid Waste.</p> <p>Presentation 2: Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific by Ms. Rebecca Polestico, Monitoring and Evaluation Adviser, Strategic Planning & Project Coordination, SPREP.</p> <p>Presentation 3: Regional Disaster Waste Management Guideline by Ms Yoko Onuma, Chief Adviser, JPRISM 3.</p> <p>Presentation 4: Waste Issues from Man-made Disaster by Mr. Paul Irving</p> <p>Presentation 5: Country Experience: Tonga & Vanuatu.</p> <p>Presentation 6: Opportunities for mainstreaming Disaster Management by PWP Ms. Sainimili Bulai, PWP Technical Officer, Solid Waste.</p>

Concluding Remarks and Strategy Synthesis by Ms Mii-Tuatini Dorothy Herman	
03:30 – 04:00 pm	Afternoon Break
04:00 – 05:00 pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Site Visit to the Compost Station 2. The Dumpsite
Time	Day 3: 07 August 2024
07:00 – 08:00 am	Registration
08:00 – 08:30 am	Opening Ceremony for the Plastic Dialogue Moderator: Mr Anthony Talouli , Director WMPC, SPREP. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming Remarks by Mr Sefanaia Nawadra, Director General, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. • Government of Tuvalu Representative • Australian Government Representative
08:30 – 9:00 am	Session 3.1: Setting the Scene – Existing Regional Frameworks Addressing Plastic Pollution. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Mr Anthony Talouli, Director WMPC. <p>Presentation 1: Overview: Plastic Pollution in the Pacific Islands Region by Mr Luatutu Andrea Volentras, Project Manager, POLP.</p> <p>Presentation 2: Summary Progress Report: <i>Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter 2019-2025 (PRAP: ML)</i> by the Waste Pollution Adviser, Dr Mohammed Zullah, Pollution Adviser, SPREP.</p> <p>Plenary Discussion: <i>The meeting will be invited to comment, noting that the following sessions will examine the implementation of selected strategic actions and the PRAP: ML review in more detail.</i></p>
9:00-10:00am	Session 3.2: Building a Policy and Regulatory Framework. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr Karen Raubenheimer Negotiating a Global Instrument to End Plastic Pollution, including the Marine Environment: Overview of Plastics Treaty and Key Issues for Pacific SIDS for INC 5.

	<p>Presentation 1: Mr Halatua Fua, Cook Islands Lead Negotiator</p> <p>Presentation 2: Ms Anama Solofa, AOSIS Lead Negotiator</p> <p>Presentation 3: Ms Gwendalyn Sisor, INC CO-Chair.</p>
10:00 – 10:15am	Morning Break
10:15 – 11:00 am	Plenary Discussion: <i>The meeting will be invited to comment on the presentation and the key messages from the INC process relevant to how the Pacific Islands region should address plastic pollution in its regional and national planning processes.</i>
11:00-11:10am	Presentation 4: National Implementation of Regulatory Frameworks: Extended Producer Responsibility by Mr Bradley Nolan , Project Manager, PacWaste Plus Project, SPREP.
11:10-11.20am	Plenary Discussion: The meeting will be invited to comment on the session.
11:20-12:00pm	<p>Session 3.3: Awareness and Action – Selected Case Studies moderated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Mr Fakasoa Tealei. • SWAP Marine Litter Cleanups and Audit Findings by Ms Julie Pillet, SWAP. • Greening the 2023 Pacific Games by Mr Joash Tuai, Solomon Islands. • Standards and Certification Schemes by the Ms Christina Gale, Pacific Tourism Organization. <p>Plenary Discussion: The meeting will be invited to comment on the presentations.</p>
12:00 – 01:00 pm	Lunch Break
01:00 – 02:00 pm	<p>Session 3.4: Plastic pollution from PRAP: ML target sectors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Ms Toleafoa Anne Tuisuga, Manager Environment & Renewable Energy, Scientific Research of Samoa. <p>Regional and National Actions and Studies</p> <p>Presentation 1: Legislation to ban single-use plastics in the Solomon Islands, by Ms Wendy Beti.</p> <p>Presentation 2: Research into biodegradable options to reduce dependency on single-use plastics by Ms Toleafoa Annie Tuisuga, Manager, Environment and Renewable Energy Division, SROS, Samoa.</p>

	<p>Plenary Discussion: <i>The meeting will be invited to comment on case studies and opportunities for enhancing plastic waste reduction generated from the above sectors.</i></p>
02:00 – 03:00 pm	<p>Session 3.5: Existing and Pipeline Activities Addressing Plastic Pollution. Moderator: Ms Angela Mayer Overview of SPREP Portfolio of projects to address plastic pollution (AFD, EU PWP, GEF Islands, J-PRISM 3, POLP) by Mr Luatutu Andrea Volentras, Project Manager, POLP, SPREP.</p> <p>Panel Discussion: ANZPAC and Development Partners will be invited to present their pipeline activities to implement the strategic areas linked to the PRAP UNEP-GMPL- Karen Raubenheimer GIZ- Vanessa Dirking CCBO-Clare Romanik; Renerio Acosta</p> <p>Plenary Discussion: <i>The meeting will be invited to comment on the current and pipeline activities presented</i></p>
03:00 – 03:15 pm	<p>Afternoon Break</p>
03:15 – 04:00 pm	<p>Session 3.6: Private Sector and Civil Society Engagement Moderator: Ms Claytoncy Tauarii</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pacific Recycling Foundation • Coca-Cola – Mr Jeff Maquire, Ms Kerry Gardner <p>Plenary Discussion: <i>The meeting will be invited to comment on the current and pipeline activities presented</i></p>
4:00-4:40pm	<p>Session 3.7: Community Engagement and GEDSI Moderator: Dwayne Bentley</p> <p>Presentation 1: Empowering women in Gizo through the work of Plastic Wise by Ms Rendy Solomon Presentation 2: Tuvalu Schools Single Use Plastic Competition: Presentation by the winners, Fa’aaui Manuela and Avanoa Homasi</p> <p>Plenary Discussion: <i>The meeting will be invited to comment on the presentations.</i></p>

4:40-5:40pm	<p>Session 3.8: Development of the next iteration of the PRAP: ML. Presentation 3: Review of the PRAP: ML 2019-2025: Findings and suggested structure, process, and timelines for developing the next PRAP: ML by Ms Karen Raubenheimer.</p> <p>Plenary Discussion: <i>The meeting will be invited to comment on the presentations and provide recommendations on the Way Forward.</i></p> <p>Closing remarks: Mr Anthony Talouli, Director WMPC, SPREP.</p>
6:00-8:00pm	Networking Event: Launch of Regional Reports, Government of Australia and POLP.
Time	Day 4: 08 August 2024
08:00 – 08:30 am	Registration
08:30 – 10:00 am	<p>Session 4.1: Plenary Session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap of Day 1, Day 2 and Day 3. Remarks by Mr Sefanaia Nawadra, Director General, SPREP. Overview of Clean Pacific 2035 – Vision <p>Facilitators – Mr Chris Purchas and Dr Melanie Bradley</p>
10:00 – 10:30 am	Morning Break
10:30 – 12:30 am	<p>Session 4.2: Breakout Sessions: Discussions on the topics to assist with developing the new Clean Pacific 2035 or plus. (i)</p> <p>Key facilitators: Mr Chris Purchas and Dr Melanie Bradley</p>
12:30 – 01:30 am	Lunch Break
01:30 – 03:30 pm	<p>Session 4.3: Breakout Sessions: Discussions on the topics to assist with developing the new Clean Pacific 2035 or plus (ii)</p> <p>Key facilitators: Mr Chris Purchas and Dr Melanie Bradley</p>
03:30 – 04:00 pm	Afternoon Break
04:00 – 04:30 pm	<p>Session 4.4: Plenary Session: Cross-cutting Issues (30 mins)</p> <p>Facilitators – Mr Anthony Talouli, Director, WMPC, SPREP</p>
04:30 – 05:00 pm	<p>Session 4.5: Plenary Session: Way Forward (30 mins)</p> <p>Facilitator – Mr Anthony Talouli, Director, WMPC, SPREP</p>
Time	Day 5: 09 August 2024

08:00 – 08:30 am	Registration	
08:30 – 10:00 am	Session 5.1: Outcome Statement Development Presented by the Madam Chair for CPRT, Ms. Pepetua Latasi , Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Home Affairs, Climate Change, Environment and Waste Management.	
10:00 – 10:30 am	Morning Break	
10:30 – 11:30 am	Session 5.2: Launch of New Establishments (Letters of Agreements, Memorandum of Understandings, Reports, Associations, etc.) Facilitator: Ms Susana Telakau , Solid Waste Adviser, WPMC, SPREP	
11:30 – 12:30 pm	Session 5.3: Official Closing for Clean Pacific Roundtable Meeting 2024 Facilitator: Madam Chair for CPRT, Ms Pepetua Latasi , Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Home Affairs, Climate Change, Environment and Waste Management.	
12:30 – 01:30 pm	Lunch Break	
01:30 – 03:30 pm	Session 5.4 (a): Donor/ Development Partners Roundtable (i) (Closed Session) Facilitator: Mr Anthony Talouli , Director, WMPC, SPREP	Session 5.4 (b): Private Sector Roundtable Facilitator: Ms Marina Keil , Samoa
03:30 – 04:00 pm	Afternoon Break	
04:00 - 05:00 pm	Session 5.5: Donor/ Development Partner Roundtable (ii) (Closed Session) Facilitator: Mr Anthony Talouli , Director, WMPC, SPREP	
07:00 – 10:00 pm	Closing Dinner	

Annex 2: Participants List

Name	Country	Organisation/ Sector
Aaron Langinlur	Marshall Islands	Marshall Islands Environmental Protection Authority
Adalane Ika	Nauru	Nauru Maritime and Port Authority and Nauru Shipping Line
Adi Vakacegu Tikotikomalu Vasiti Raketekete	Fiji	Private Sector
Afaaso Apelaamo	Tuvalu	Department of Business
Agostinho De Oliveira	Timor-Leste	Department for Environment
Aidan E Leddy-Phillips	United States of America	United States Coast Guard
Amardeep Wander	Australia	Director of Waste Recycling Environment Network
Amitesh Mithun Deo	Fiji	Private Sector
Anama Solofa	Samoa	Permanent Mission of Samoa to the United Nations
Andrea Volentras	Samoa	SPREP
Andreja Vidal		European Union
Andrew Nixon	Solomon Islands	Honiara City Council
Angela Mayer	Australia	ANZPAC
Anna Ainsworth	New Zealand	Tonkin + Taylor
Annie Saofaiga Toailoa Tuisuga	Samoa	Scientific Research Organisation of Samoa (SROS)
Anthony Talouli	Fiji	SPREP
Apisai Kilima	Tuvalu	Pacific Direct Line (PDL) Shipping Agency
Asiasiga Pelesala	Tuvalu	Department of Waste Management
Audrey Brown-Pereira	Cook Islands	SPREP
Bradford Mori	Federated States of Micronesia	Chuuk Environmental Protection Agency
Bradley Nolan	Australia	SPREP
Bryan Star	Nauru	Department of Environment, Management and Agriculture (DEMA)
Calvin Ikesill	Palau	Solid Waste Management Bureau, Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Industries, and Commerce
Cathlehra Harris	Nauru	Department of Environmental Management and. Agriculture (DEMA)
Chris Purchas	New Zealand	Tonkin + Taylor
Christina Gale	Samoa	Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO)
Christine Deo Reddy	Fiji	Pacific Community (SPC)

Clare Romanik	United States of America	USAID
Claytoncy Taurarii	Cook Islands	Ministry of Infrastructure
Conchita Lalo	Papua New Guinea	
Davina Tiitii	Samoa	SPREP
Dean Solofa	Samoa	SPREP
Debbie Letitia Whippy	Fiji	Private Sector
Debra Kereseke	Solomon Islands	Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology
Delphine Arri		World Bank
Demi Afasene	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Dhan Jay Deo	Fiji	Private Sector
Didier Labrousse	Wallis and Futuna	
Dwayne Bentley	Samoa	SPREP
Edith Heather Salema Hunt	Samoa	Private Sector
Edward Meysztowicz	Australia	Urban Mining Industries Pty Ltd
Emely Panapa	Tuvalu	Department of Environment
Enileta George	Tuvalu	Funafuti Kaupule
Epu Falega	Tuvalu	Department of Environment
Evangeline Potifara	Samoa	JICA
Faafetai Namoto	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Fagaua Tauala	Tuvalu	Tuvalu Family Health Association (TUFHA)
Faitaki Kapuaa	Tuvalu	
Falaoa Sione	Tuvalu	Department of Trade
Fiaisotamlii Siaosi	Samoa	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Fiatau Uluao	Tuvalu	Private Sector
Filimone Lapaoó	Tonga	Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications (MEIDECC)
Florence Ventura	Fiji	Pacific Community
Francisco Celestine	Federated States of Micronesia	Pohnpei Environmental Protection Agency
Galivaka Tekafa	Tuvalu	Department of Foreign Affairs
Gwendalyn Sisor	Palau	Permanent Mission of Palau to the United Nations
Haden Talagi	Niue	Department of Environment
Halatoa Fua	Cook Islands	National Environment Service
Heiava Samg Mouit	French Polynesia	
Heidi Savelli-Soderberg		UNEP
Hemaloto Tupou	Tonga	
Hickson Siba	Vanuatu	
Hilary Boyes	New Zealand	SPREP
Hisayo Takenaka	Japan	JICA

Ioapo Tapumanaia	Tuvalu	Fishers of Funafuti Association (FOFA)
Ivan Tinalau	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Jacqueline Lakmis	Marshall Islands	Majuro Atoll Waste Company (MAWC)
Jamie Ovia	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Jane Stanley	Australia	EAROPH - Australian Eastern Regional Organization for Planning & Human Settlements
Jasha Ben Dehm	Fiji	University of the South Pacific
Jeffrey Robert Maguire	Australia	Coca Cola
Jellesen Rubon	Marshall Islands	
Jesse B Harms	United States of America	United States Coast Guard
Joanna Latasi	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Joash Tuai	Solomon Islands	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
John Gregory Wilson	Fiji	Private Sector
Jose Vitale	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Joshua Sam	Papua New Guinea	SPREP
Joshua Viliamu	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Julie Pillet	France	SPREP
Karabati Taoaba	Kiribati	Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF)
Karen Raubenheimer	Australia	University of Wollongong
Kathryn McKenna	Australia	Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water
Kerry Jane Gardner		Coca Cola ASEAN & South Pacific
Kiatoa Uluka	Tuvalu	Private Sector/Tuvalu National Provident Fund (TNPF)
Kliu Basilius	Palau	
Kritika Raj	Fiji	Department of Environment, Fiji
Laigane Italeli	Tuvalu	Office of the Attorney General
Lance Richman	United States of America	SPREP
Laurie Glorria	French Polynesia	
Leota Patiale	Tuvalu	Pacific Energy Limited
Liam Marcus O'Keefe	Australia	Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO)
Lilian Falealuga	Tuvalu	Tuvalu National Council of Women (TNCW)
Lilian Penaia	Samoa	SPREP
Lindsay Teobasi	Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Recycling and Waste Management Association
Litiana Talake	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Lloyd M. Fikiasi	Vanuatu	Office of Maritime Regulator (OMR)

Lola Liava'a Tonga	Tonga	Private Sector
Lono Leneuoti	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Luka Selu	Tuvalu	Department of Disaster
Lupe Silulu	Samoa	SPREP
Lynsey Talagi	Niue	Department of Transport
Mafalu Lotolua	Tuvalu	Tuvalu Electricity Corporation (TEC)
Mafile'o Ongosia	Tonga	Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications (MEIDECC)
Makerita Atonio-iese	Samoa	Ministry of Works, Transport, and Infrastructure
Makoto Yamashita	Japan	JICA
Marina Keil	Samoa	Private Sector
Maryann Vaiula	Samoa	SPREP
Matio Lonalona	Tuvalu	Department of Agriculture
Maurizio Cian		European Union
Melanie Bradley	Australia	SPREP
Melissa Masters	Australia	Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water
Memoree Ah Him	Samoa	SPREP
Mesake Mataitoga	United States of America	USAID
Michael Halo	Tuvalu	
Michael Suinao	Solomon Islands	Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management & Meteorology
Mii-Tuatini Dorothy Herman	Cook Islands	National Environment Service
Moe Saitala	Tuvalu	Department of Environment
Moea Pereyre	French Polynesia	
Mohammed Asid Zullah	Fiji	SPREP
Morry Alofa Sua	Samoa	Private Sector
Moses Hayes	Palau	Bureau of Marine Transportation
Nainai Taitai	Tuvalu	Department of Culture
Ngaire Ah Ching	Samoa	SPREP
Ngamata Patricia Tuara	Cook Islands	Ministry of Transport
Ngamata Tanga Maruariki	Cook Islands	
Nito Lipine	Tuvalu	Department of Marine and Transport
Opetai Simati	Tuvalu	Department of Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
Pablo Lopez Legarreta	Solomon Islands	CCAP
Paka Melton	Tuvalu	Climate Change Department
Patricia Torea	Papua New Guinea	Department of Environment & Conservation

Paufi Lauti	Tuvalu	Department of Tourism
Paul Clarence Mooney	Vanuatu	Private Sector
Paul Irving	Australia	SPREP
Paul Spain	Australia	OnCall
Pawa Limu	Papua New Guinea	National Maritime Safety Authority
Penivao Moealofa	Tuvalu	Department of Environment
Pepetua Latasi	Tuvalu	Ministry of Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment
Philippe Tanguy	Australia	OnCall
Piliota Hinota	Tuvalu	Department of Police
Pine Andy Tonga	Tuvalu	UNDP - TCAP
Pisi Seleganiu	Tuvalu	Public Works Department
Rachel Bare- Anita	Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Maritime Authority
Rebecca Polestico	Philippines	SPREP
Rendy Solomon	Solomon Islands	PlasticWise Gizo
Renee Kamu	Samoa	SPREP
Renerio Acosta	Philippines	Clean Cities Blue Ocean, USAID
Reuben Kausea	Tuvalu	Department of Environment
Richard Leney	New Zealand	
Rolenas Baereleo	Vanuatu	Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC)
Rosanna Galuvao	Samoa	SPREP
Roselyn Bue	Vanuatu	Department of Protection and Conservation (DEPC)
Roy Benyon	Australia	OnCall
Roy Davidson ilala	Solomon Islands	Private Sector
Ruoikabuti Tioon	Kiribati	Ministry of Communications Transport and Tourism Development
Saimone Kapetaua Vuki	Tonga	Private Sector
Sainimili Bulai	Fiji	SPREP
Samasoni Finikaso	Tuvalu	Department of Fisheries
Sania Amasone	Tuvalu	Department of Customs and Inland Revenue
Savali Fatoga	Tuvalu	Ministry of Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment
Sefanaia Nawadra	Fiji	SPREP
Shungo Soeda	Japan	JICA
Siliako Letueti	Tuvalu	Department of Waste Management
Simona Kilei	Tuvalu	Department of Energy
Sosene Vine	Tuvalu	Public Health Department
Sosikenia Lesa	Samoa	SPREP

Sovala Napoe	Tuvalu	Department of Waste Management
Stalini Naufahu	Tonga	Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications (MEIDECC)
Suialofa Eliuta	Tuvalu	Department of Waste Management
Susana Telakau	Tuvalu	SPREP
Tabanag Taeia	Tuvalu	Department of Business
Talei Kocovanua	Fiji	
Talua Nivaga	Tuvalu	Tuvalu Climate Action Network (TuCan)
Tamwaiti Barekiau	Kiribati	
Tau Macdonald	Tuvalu	Department of Home Affairs
Teuleala Morris	Tuvalu	Live and learn Project
Trish Drecala	New Zealand	NGO
Uluao Lauti	Tuvalu	Kaupule Funafuti
Veari Kula	Papua New Guinea	Papua New Guinea's Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) Infrastructure Utilities and Convention Branch Manager
Victoria Hnanguie	Kiribati	Ministry of Environment, Land and Agricultural Development
Vinil Vivek Prasad	Fiji	Private Sector
Wayne Fuakilau	Fiji	BioEnergy Insight Pacific Ltd
Wendy Beti	Solomon Islands	Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management & Meteorology
Yoko Onuma	Japan	JICA
Zhiyad Khan	Fiji	SPREP

Annex 3: Speeches

4th Clean Pacific Roundtable Opening Address by Hon. Feleti Penitala Teo Prime Minister of Tuvalu [5 August 2024, Funafuti, Tuvalu]

A very good morning and talofa to you all. Fa'afetai lasi ki te Pelesitene EKT, for the devotion and the divine guidance at the start of this regional gathering. I acknowledge the Head of this island of Funafuti and all the landowners of Funafuti on which the Head Office of the Government of Tuvalu is kindly hosted. I acknowledge, the Director General of SPREP Mr. Sefanaia Nawadra and your dedicated staff. Warm welcome to Tuvalu Honourable Cabinet Ministers, and Members of Parliament (if any) Members of the diplomatic corps – the two residential diplomatic missions in Tuvalu. H.E. Andrew Lin, the Ambassador of the Republic of China - Taiwan to Tuvalu. H.E. Brenton Garlick, the High Commissioner of Australia to Tuvalu. Distinguished representatives from Pacific island countries and territories. Representatives of development partners and friends of the Pacific. Representatives of the private sector and civil society Senior government officials. Ladies and gentlemen.

Introduction

Distinguished delegates, it is my pleasant responsibility this morning to officially welcome you all (regional delegates) to Tuvalu and to open this the 4th session of the Clean Pacific Roundtable.

I understand the last in-person meeting of the Roundtable was in 2018 in Suva, Fiji.

I thank members of the Roundtable and the SPREP Secretariat for permitting Tuvalu to host this gathering of waste and pollution management experts and practitioners.

This would be the first regional gathering that my new administration would host after we were inaugurated and took office on the 28 of February this year.

Those of you that may have had the opportunity to look around this islet of Fogafale would appreciate the extent of the challenge that Tuvalu confronts in terms of waste disposal, storage and management.

My new government identified the acute waste disposal and waste management in Tuvalu as one of the 21 Priorities that the government announced on its inauguration.

So, this regional meeting couldn't be timelier, and I strongly urge officials and experts in this space including SPREP to develop tailor-made waste disposal and management measures that are of practical use and application to circumstances like those here in Tuvalu.

I commend and recognize SPREP for its leadership in this space.

I also acknowledge the contribution and generosity of donor and development partners supporting regional efforts in this space.

As we all know, the management of waste materials is a worldwide problem.

For the Pacific, the problem is becoming acute due to capacity constraints and increasing urban populations.

For Tuvalu, the problem is evidently stark and frightening acute due to limited land space for landfill disposal and the unavailability of suitable equipment for waste disposal and waste storage.

Tuvalu's economy is also heavily reliant on imported goods.

Almost all goods are imported including consumable goods, building material, medical supplies, electronics, computers, vehicles and so forth.

Challenges of waste management in Tuvalu.

This morning, I wish to share some perspectives on the challenges of waste management in Tuvalu.

With the hope that the Roundtable would consider some of Tuvalu's unique challenges and to leave behind after your deliberations this week targeted solutions that are practicable and applicable to our unique circumstances.

Waste management essentially is the controlled and uncontrolled dumping of rubbish at designated dumpsites as well as other sites.

For Tuvalu, the government must lease land from landowners to set up controlled dumpsites on each island.

More often, the sites are not well staffed and there is no functional equipment to compact and cover the deposited waste.

Thus, the environmental and health impacts of such operations in Tuvalu are potentially significant.

Without the necessary management and monitoring capability of the dumpsites, the environmental and health impacts of those operations on the surrounding community, land and lagoon is becoming a serious concern.

Management approach

In Tuvalu, waste disposal and waste management is regulated by the Tuvalu Waste Management Act 2017, and related regulations including the Waste Management (Prohibition of single-use plastics) Regulation 2019, and the Waste Management (Levy Deposit) Regulation 2019.

For waste management to be effective, a more holistic approach is needed that encapsulates specific legislation and policy, supported by responsible institutional and governance structures with tailored-made strategic plans and context-specific technology and equipment.

The experience of Tuvalu to-date is that we have the necessary legislative and policy framework for waste disposal and waste management but lack the supporting infrastructure and equipment to carry out efficient and effective waste management in Tuvalu.

I also personally view proper waste management practices as lifelong lessons that must be taught and learnt at one's first classroom at home.

I applaud and commend the Tuvalu waste management department which runs and manages a strong and active advocacy and education program on good waste management practices and habits.

I hope, having the Roundtable meeting here in Tuvalu this week, further highlight the importance and seriousness of the issue of waste disposal and management given the potential environmental and health impacts if the disposal and storage of waste is not managed properly and safely.

Cost of waste management operations

I know the consideration of funding of waste management operations is always a major hindrance and a cost that usually falls on national governments.

In that regard, I value regional gatherings of this sort where common national challenges are discussed and identified and if those national challenges can be addressed through regional solutions by pooling and sharing of resources, then I challenge the Roundtable to come up with such regional solutions.

I understand, there are in operation offshore recycling and waste disposal facilities. If a regional facility of that kind for the Pacific can be pursued and established, it will assist tremendously countries like Tuvalu with severe capacity constraints.

I know the Roundtable also includes representatives of development partners and representatives of the private sector and civil society. And I therefore implore all delegates to work cooperatively and be bold and innovative in your search for solutions for the chronic development challenge of waste disposal and waste management in the Pacific, especially in places like Tuvalu.

Conclusion

In closing, I acknowledge the role of the Clean Pacific Roundtable as a platform to foster sustainable deliberations and collaboration amongst Pacific countries and development partners. The Roundtable also recognizes the critical role played by the private sector and civil society.

So, it is a platform that augurs well with and one that promotes the holistic approach to waste disposal and waste management.

I, therefore, invite you all to actively engage and come up with action oriented outcomes that can translate to transformative reforms on the ground and to keep our Pacific region healthy and free from uncontrolled and unnecessary waste and pollution.

I wish you all constructive and fruitful deliberations.

And enjoy your stay in Tuvalu.

Tuvalu mo te Atua / Tuvalu for God

4th Clean Pacific Roundtable 2024

5 – 9 August 2024

Clean Environment, Resilient Ocean and Healthy Communities.

Monday 5th August 2024

Official Address by Sefanaia Nawadra, Director General, SPREP

Pastor Fitilau Puapua, President of Ekalesia Kelisiano Tuvalu.

Honourable Feleti Penitala Teó, Prime Minister, Tuvalu.

**Distinguished representatives, Development Partners, Waste and Pollution Management
Colleagues and experts from the region**

Members of the private sector, civil society, academia and tertiary institutions.

Ladies and gentlemen

As the Secretariat and Convener of the Clean Pacific Roundtable I welcome all you dignitaries and colleagues to the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable meeting. It is a special pleasure for two reasons, it's our first face-to-face meeting since COVID as our last meeting was a virtual meeting 3 years ago in 2021. Second that is that we meet here in Tuvalu as an atoll state, where the challenges we face as a roundtable manifest most clearly.

Let me speak on all our behalf to thank the Prime Minister and his government for agreeing to host our roundtable, in particular so soon after forming government. It is a show of the concern, priority and commitment Tuvalu has to address the issue of waste. We already experienced with the meetings last week and in this wonderful opening your hospitality and the togetherness of your communities in hosting and looking after us all as honoured guests. Fakafetai Lasi.

Within the 3 year period since we last met as a roundtable, with population growth and its concentration in urban centres, we have continued increase of waste and pollution pressures from human induced activities. Including increased volumes of household waste (here in Tuvalu we heard on Friday that 80% of what you use every day comes from overseas mainly as packaged goods), plastic pollution, marine debris, oil and chemical pollution, industrial and agricultural run-off. For all of us who had the chance to walk or drive around the island over the weekend the waste management and pollution issues and challenges become quickly apparent and the highest point in Tuvalu like it is in the Marshall Islands is the landfill. While I am encouraged by the improvements in management, we all know that we have to find better solutions than what we have today. It is a daunting task, but I have been coming to Tuvalu for over 30 years and I have seen major improvements, the most pleasing being the rehabilitation of the large borrow pits that had become informal dumps, all are filled and many now have houses on them. Your work on organics and recycling is also exemplary. This proves that where there is political and community will and the partners to help, we can together address seemingly insurmountable challenges.

These waste pressures are exacerbated by what has become our regional constant and an existential threat to countries like Tuvalu – the impacts of Climate Change. We stand today on land that is a response to climate change – this wonderful facility was built for the Leaders Meeting and used to highlight what atoll countries are increasingly being called to do – reclaiming land lost to the ocean and using it to protect themselves from the ravages of sea-level rise and inundation during extreme events. We have been changing to clean technology like solar, wind turbines and hybrid and electric vehicles but these generate their own new waste management challenges. Our ability to adapt to climate change relies on the state of our environment and the ecosystem services. If our environment and ecosystems are not conserved, protected and managed, we limit our options to adapt and rehabilitate.

Globally, the UN has declared that we are facing the triple planetary crises of biodiversity loss, climate change impacts and waste and pollution (we are literally drowning under a sea or in some cases a tsunami of waste). In our region we can certainly say we agree because we are amongst the countries and regions most affected. All three issues need to be addressed and its best we do so in a planned and integrated way.

All three planetary crises are addressed in two main theatres of action – at global negotiations and through national actions which in our case in the Pacific, because of limited national capacity and resources, are supported by regional cooperation.

Many of our issues in the Pacific are generated outside our borders and region. We need to engage effectively at global fora to ensure that those countries that cause those impacts take the actions needed to address them – at the very least to meet their convention obligations but increasingly advocate them to go beyond and set more ambitious targets and commitments. We serve as the world's conscience being the only region who have negligible contribution to these global issues but are amongst the first and most impacted by their consequences. Unfortunately, another way you can look at it is we are the canary in the mine who experiences first its lethal impacts. This is why we need to persevere to loudly and vociferously object and advocate to ensure there is the required collective global action.

For climate negotiations we have long organised amongst ourselves effectively as PSIDS and joined forces with other SIDS through AOSIS. Over the last two years we have started to organise as PSIDS for the CBD and the Plastics INC, but we have not seen the evolution of AOSIS into these other MEAs. Here we need to look at other evolving groupings of like-minded states such as the Higher Ambition Coalitions to help us make our case and achieve our aspirations.

The INC towards a global instrument on Plastics is a process that is priority for our region. Our leaders accepted it as one of the few issues given the designation as a Regional Collective Actions under the 2050 Bule Pacific Strategy, and at last year's Leaders Meeting became one of the Pacific Partnerships for Prosperity.

I am convinced that in 20 years' time this instrument will have a similar profile as the UNFCCC. Plastics is in every part of our lives. We need to ensure that the INC is true to its mandated instructions to address the whole life cycle of plastics, in particular the raw material, production processes and chemicals of concern to ensure we focus first on shutting the tap where necessary and regulating it where needed. We need to maintain in this instrument the special case for SIDS that we have as a

foundation of other MEAs. All the downstream management measures and financing mechanisms within the draft instrument need to be applicable to our region.

As a region we have been able to effectively prepare and participate in the INC or Global Plastic Treaty negotiations through the support of Australia, New Zealand and the United Nations together with NGO and University partners. We are entering a crucial phase of the negotiations and look forward to open ended Intersessional ad hoc expert working groups convening in Bangkok Thailand in August. The fifth session of the INC in November in Busan Korea. Leading into Busan a group of likeminded states including the members of the High Ambition Coalition have adopted a declaration called Bridge to Busan that seeks to ensure production, and other upstream measures remains within the draft treaty. In my view this is crucial to our effectively managing waste within the region and I commend those SPREP members that already on board and strongly urge all of us to subscribe to this declaration. There is real danger that these are removed from the draft instrument, and we are left with one that only addresses the downstream issues. I am pleased that we will have a plastic dialogue on Wednesday to discuss all aspects of addressing plastic pollution including the Global Plastic Treaty.

For national action and regional cooperation, we have the overarching legal framework of the Noumea Convention and its two Protocols. At the strategic and technical level to support implementation we have the Clean Pacific Roundtable and Framework. The framework has its subsidiary thematic action plans and communities of practice. Underpinning that at the national level are the national plans that have been put in place to address national priorities and meet convention obligations.

Our Leaders adopted in 2022 in Suva the 2050 Blue Pacific Strategy. Last year in the Cook Islands the Implementation Plan was approved. This year in Tonga the revised regional architecture will be tabled. SPREP has been delegated as co-lead with SPC in two areas - Climate Change and Disaster; and Ocean and Environment.

The process has been messy and, in my view, disjointed and over complicated. We have advocated for utilising existing mechanisms and strengthening CROP coordination particularly through the reestablishment of CROP WGs and we have led the reestablishment of the Deputies WG and the SDWG which we hope will prompt other CROP WGs to be formed.

We have concentrated our work in strengthening our own institutional arrangements and capacity in our designated lead areas to facilitate delivery of Climate Change and Environment actions and contribute to ocean and disaster work. We have well established and proven frameworks and roundtables to coordinate and implement action.

For climate change we have the One CROP mechanism to support climate negotiations, we have re-convened the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable to coordinate regional support for national implementation. We have hosted the Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Science Conferences – the fourth was in Apia this year with NUS and 2026 will be hosted by SINU and 2028 by TNU. We have convened the PMC and Met Ministers and that will likely increase scope into hydrology, seismology, climate ocean science and early warning systems. This is our interface with disaster work of SPC and there is collaboration with the NDMOs. We have started implementation of Weather Ready Pacific and working on funding from GCF and other sources to expand this work. We are reorganising our Climate Change Programme to split in two – climate Science and Climate Change Resilience – mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage negotiations support. This year we established a new Strategic Planning,

Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation Department to strengthen our climate financing support to countries and our role as accredited entity for GCF and Adaptation Fund.

For Biodiversity we have the long-established Pacific Island Roundtable for Nature Conservation and its constituent thematic working groups implementing the Framework for Nature Conservation that is fully aligned to the GBF. We are assisting countries to align their NBSAPs which is needed to access to the GBF Fund that supplements what is already available through GEF.

For Environmental Governance we are tabling at this year's Executive Board a new SPREP Sustainable Development roundtable to cover our work in this area that will cover – Planning (NEMS), Data and Information (SoE), Development Control (EIA, SEA, Safeguards), Sustainable development approaches – blue economy, green economy, nature based solutions.

Ocean under our SPREP strategic Plan is a crosscutting issue across our four programmes. This year's Executive Board will be considering SPREPs integrated framework for engagement on Ocean issues. Once approved this will guide our work on Oceans. We are supporting the Ocean Commissioner and his office as they lead our collective work on Oceans including the new Convention on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction.

For waste and pollution, the Cleaner Pacific Roundtable and Framework together with its constituent thematic action plans and underpinning national plans are the mechanism and vehicle for implementation of the 2050 Strategy in waste and pollution. I wanted you to have this big picture in mind as you are deliberating the strategic directions for the Clean Pacific Roundtable.

I am pleased that despite our “special case as SIDS” almost all Pacific states have or are working towards adopting policies and legislation to ban single use plastics and polystyrene. We will soon be the first region where all states will have legislation to ban single use plastic.

We have waste audits for all countries, so we have a good handle on what we need to deal with. We should consolidate this into national and regional state of waste and pollution reports to help our planners, decision makers and negotiators.

In addition, I know that many countries have, and others are working towards adopting various forms of sustainable financing mechanisms “Extended Producer Responsibility”, or what we call “Advanced Recovery Fee and Deposit” frameworks where importers and in-country manufacturers share the management and cost burden for end-of-life products. Again, we will soon be the first region where all states will have an advanced recovery fee and deposit.

This Roundtable will provide a platform by way of 7 dialogue sessions, two consultation sessions for all stakeholders to dialogue, network and address a broad range of waste management issues including plastic pollution, hazardous waste, landfill management, bulky waste, disaster response, recoverable items, E-waste, used oil, organics, end-of-life vehicles, technologies, to review the implementation of the Cleaner Pacific 2025 and to start the conversations of what the aspirations are for the next iteration of the Strategy – Cleaner Pacific 2035 with the theme of Clean Environment. Resilient Ocean. Healthy Communities.

The Clean Pacific Roundtable, whilst a fairly new regional forum is an ideal conduit for progressing innovative solutions and capitalizing on new initiatives as we navigate together towards a pollution-

free Pacific. The popularity and interest in this event highlights the importance of regional waste and pollution management to the region.

The regional waste and pollution management strategy for the Pacific, or the Cleaner Pacific 2025 as it is better known, is a regional Blueprint which is critical in bringing together the joint efforts of SPREP's key regional partners' including (EU, AFD, JICA, UN and Australia) to assist Pacific island communities to improve waste and pollution management practices in various waste streams. We welcome new partners such as the USAID, ADB and WB.

As we start the development of the Cleaner Pacific 2035, it is imperative that Pacific Island countries move from a linear model to one of circularity that **advocates sustainable production and consumption**. At this Roundtable we will be discussing what does this mean and why is it important to create a safe Pacific Circularity that promotes the whole life cycle of products: from the design of the product and production processes to better informed consumption choices, to modern waste management, and the provision of secondary raw materials that feed back into the economy.

We are mindful that indigenous and traditional knowledge already embodies Circularity approaches such as composting and farming. We also want our Pacific countries to put in place processes and policies that will enable a Circularity, which includes but is not limited to bans on products that we do not want, such as single-use plastics.

Actions are important however it requires a more concerted and coordinated approach that will help in the monitoring and reporting on the implementation progress of the Cleaner Pacific strategy. PacWastePlus has produced an M&R framework that can be adapted for our use. The Cleaner Pacific Strategy provides the framework for all partners, donors to work together as this is vital if we are going to minimize duplication and improve coordination between similar programmes and activities at the local, national and regional levels.

I would like to acknowledge the support of those that have gone before us and worked very hard to bring us to this point. I would also like to again thank you Prime Minister and the Government of Tuvalu for your leadership and the whole community for hosting us.

I thank and acknowledge all the Partners who contributed to this Roundtable, including the significant financial assistance of Australia, EU, Fonds Pacifique and, JICA (JPRISM3) which has enabled this Roundtable to take place. I would also like to acknowledge the contributions received from UNEP, World Bank, USAID, SPC, as well as the WMPC projects PacWastePlus, POLP, ISLANDS, PAWES, SWAP, PACPLAN and INC. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of the Roundtable Steering Committee and Chair PS. Pepetua Latasi for working with our team to make sure all the arrangements run as smoothly as possible.

Let me finish by encouraging you all to be frank in your deliberations – evaluate honestly, celebrate achievements, identify and troubleshoot problems and formulate your action plan for the remaining two years of the Framework. I also ask that you also deliberate and agree what you would like to see in the next Framework and start the process of its formulation. As I have shared, your work is not only important to you and your constituency or community of practice but also the overall work of SPREP and our regional 2050 Blue Pacific aspirations.

I wish you the best for your discussions over the week, I know it will be highly productive and look forward to the Outcomes.

Vinaka and Fakafetai Lasi

Plastic Dialogue

Opening Remarks by the Acting Minister for Home Affairs, Climate Change and Environment

(7 August 2024)

Director General of SPREP, Sefanaia Nawadra Director of Waste Management and Pollution Control, Anthony Talouli Project Manager of the Pacific Ocean Litter Program (POLP), Andrea Volentras High Commissioner of Australia to Tuvalu, Your Excellency Brenton Garlick Distinguished Participants for the CPRT and the Plastic Dialogue.

Talofa and good morning! I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all participants here today for the Plastics Dialogue. For those of you in Tuvalu for the first time I'm sure it has been a real eye opener. You will appreciate firsthand why climate change and sea level rise are an existential threat to our nation. It is our greatest challenge, but it is one among the many challenges we face.

Plastic pollution is also a difficult challenge for Tuvalu. There are two dimensions to this challenge.

- i) The first dimension is beyond our control because these involve the plastic pollution that flows from rivers and ocean from other parts of the world, and this requires global action.

Millions of tonnes of plastic pollution flow into the Pacific Ocean from the rivers of countries not able to effectively manage their pollution as well as maritime vessels dumping and discarding plastic waste and fishing gear into our EEZ.

Plastic pollution from ocean currents has washed up all our 8 islands affecting the health of our marine ecosystems and the biodiversity therein, and impacting on our food security, economic, social and cultural well-being. The engagement of the Tuvalu and the Pacific at the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution (INC) is a testimony of the commitment of our region to seriously put in place measures to end plastic pollution at the global level. There should be strong global targets and control measures to regulate countries and multinational corporations responsible for creating and mismanaging these global problems. SIDS like Tuvalu should not bear the cost of the pollution of others and at the same time we should be assisted with the means of implementation to address this worsening problem we face at the national level.

- ii) The second challenge Tuvalu faces is the pollution caused by plastic products bought into the country primarily through trade.

Tuvalu is a least developed country (LDC), our waste management systems are under- developed. Our open landfill is operating beyond capacity and is full of plastic waste. Much of this- 19 blown into the sea when strong winds prevail. It is difficult to properly dispose our waste on the limited land we have and the cost of shipping plastic waste over long distances to recycling markets is prohibitive.

The government recognised the seriousness of the problem of plastic pollution. In response the government endorsed two regulations in 2019 that focused on the Prohibition on the Importation of Single-Use Plastic Regulation and the Waste Levy Regulation. Through these laws Tuvalu has banned the importation, manufacture, sale or distribution of certain single use plastic which have adverse effects on the environment. We have also been working with PacWastePlus project to implement the Advance Recovery Fee and Deposit Scheme including for PET bottles.

We welcome the scope in which the Pacific Ocean Litter Program (POLP), in Tuvalu will seek the support of the project to implement country specific priorities on managing plastic pollution. Tuvalu welcomes the assistance of all our development partners and multilateral development agencies institutions to support our strategic priorities that take a sector wide approach to reducing single use plastics including traditional governance structures (Falekaupule), and women and youth.

While each Pacific Island and Territory is unique, the challenges I have touched on affect all SIDS. We look forward to today's dialogue and to its outcomes. I believe participants of the dialogue will benefit from the knowledge and expertise of experts and practitioners in the plastic pollution space. We look forward to a dialogue that helps us, and all SIDS enhance their national efforts to address plastic pollution.

Fakafetai Lasi, Tuvalu mo te Atua.

**SPREP – 4th Clean Pacific Round Table
Plastics Dialogue – 7 August 2024**

Speech by HE Mr Brenton Garlick, Australian High Commissioner to Tuvalu

Minister Sa'aga, Director General Sefanaia, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen – Talofa and good morning.

As this is the first time many of you are seeing and hearing from me, you may not know that I am Australia's first First Nations head of mission in the Pacific, a descendent through my mother of the Kamilaroi people of eastern Australia.

So I would like to start, as I always do, in the traditions of my ancestors, by acknowledging and paying my respects to the traditional people of Funafuti where we meet today, as well as acknowledge and pay my respects to all of Tuvalu's traditional people and those in the room from our Pacific family.

On behalf of Australia, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Tuvalu and SPREP for hosting the fourth Clean Pacific Roundtable. I would also like to welcome all the delegates here to Funafuti, I hope you enjoyed the opening night reception and gracious hospitality from Tuvalu's island communities, though I note a fair few of you still need to participate in the fatele dancing on Friday night before you depart.

We are here today to discuss and share knowledge about international, regional and national solutions to plastic pollution.

Pacific Island communities play a vital role in managing the resources and ecosystems of the Blue Pacific.

Australia's First Nations Peoples, as well as first nations from across the Pacific, have managed the lands and seas of our countries for centuries. In Australia's case, for more than 65 thousand years.

Plastics pollution is a global problem that needs a global solution. Pacific Island countries are on the frontline when it comes to experiencing the impacts of transboundary plastic pollution.

Like the Pacific, Australia is advocating for an ambitious international agreement on plastics that includes globally binding rules. **We are proud to be partnering with you in that journey.**

Australia's Minister for the Environment, the Hon Tanya Plibersek has previously stated, we would like to see a plastic pollution-free Pacific within our lifetime.

To this end, Australia is pleased to support SPREP and Pacific Island countries participation in the international plastic negotiations to ensure the regions views are well represented with Pacific voices.

We are also partnering with SPREP and the Pacific to address single-use plastics through the **Pacific Ocean Litter Project**, known as **POLP**.

The POLP is supporting Pacific Island Communities to find local solutions to plastic pollution through actions to **refuse, reduce and identify sustainable substitutes** to single-use plastics, which have infiltrated our lives and are having devastating effects on the marine environment.

Ahead of the Pacific Games in Honiara last year, the POLP team from SPREP – in cooperation with the Solomon Islands Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology – worked to introduce a ban on single-use plastics in Solomon Islands.

The POLP team also supported a range of public and business awareness raising activities about the new single-use plastics ban during the Pacific Games.

More broadly, the POLP is working to identify national and regional solutions to reduce single-use plastics in other Pacific Islands countries, including in Tuvalu.

I saw yesterday some of you took a field trip to the waste management site. Tuvalu is doing it utmost best in waste management, but you have now seen first-hand the challenges in a small atoll nation, and the devastating impacts plastics pollution can have on a place like Tuvalu.

Later today, you will hear from the experts and discuss regional priorities to address plastic pollution through collaboration and action.

Australia is proud to be supporting this Plastics Dialogue and associated awareness raising activities – particularly educational activities in schools here in Tuvalu – including poster and essay competitions for local students.

- and we have received many excellent entries, with the school students joining here this afternoon for the announcement of prize winners.

This evening, Australia and SPREP will also be launching three important regional studies commissioned by the Pacific Ocean Litter Project.

These studies examine **legislative**, **technical** and **replacement options** that will inform actions to reduce single-use plastics in the Pacific region.

I wish you all the very best in your important endeavours to achieve a plastic pollution-free Blue Pacific.

Thank you again, and welcome to the Clean Pacific Roundtable's Plastic Dialogue.

Fakafetai lasi, manuia te aso.

Annex 4: Reflections on CP2025

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the Achievements of Clean Pacific 2025

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 1: Cook Islands – ICI, NES, MOH and Solomon Islands - MECDM, HCC, SIMA, DTC, BJS, Plastic Wise Gizo)		
Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Solomon Islands	Single Use Plastic Ban Regulation 2023 - Passed	Yes
	Draft Environment Bill 2023 - Still in consultation and review process	
Solomon Islands (HCC)	Community Outreach Programmes	
Solomon Islands (HCC, MEDCM)	School awareness programmes and trainings	
	Behavioural change pilot project with school by UNDP	
	Community Behavioural Change pilot Project with Tuvaru Community in Honiara by PacWaste Plus	
	International Coastal Clean Up day events	
	SWAP Project Marine Litter Pilot Project	
	Establishment of Solomon Islands Recycling Association - Design Tech Centre and SIARC	
	Pyrolysis system with rural training centres and communities partnership by UNDP	
	Support for Biodigester system at Gizo Hospital to utilise market organic wastes	
	Organic waste composting initiatives supported by Strongim Bisins/ AusAID	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 1: Cook Islands – ICI, NES, MOH and Solomon Islands - MECDM, HCC, SIMA, DTC, BJS, Plastic Wise Gizo)		
Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Cook Islands	Single Use Plastic and Polystyrene Policy Ban - Passed	Yes
	SHW Bill 2024	Yes
	Environment Bill 2024 - Consultation	
	Waste Management Education- Incorporated into Education curriculum – Maths, Science, Social Science, Geography	
	World Ocean Day - Celebrated annually by government agencies, schools, private sector.	
	Regional Reception Facility Plan - Completed	Yes
	NATPLAN - In progress. To be completed by 2024.	Yes
	Awareness materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recycling stickers - Fact sheets - NGO – Te Ipukarea Society compost programme within the community, outer islands - Titikaveka growers association 	
	Monthly water quality tests in Rarotonga and Aitutaki	
	Port Waste Reception - Facilities assessment by CEFAS and CLIP	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 2: Tonga – MEIDECC, WAL, TRA, USAID, Australia)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Tonga	Household waste levy - Replaced by imported waste levy on imported goods	Yes
	Plastic - Single Use Plastics Roadmap Policy development. - To be launched at the 53rd Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting.	Yes
	Asbestos ban regulation development - To be finalised shortly	Yes
	Waste Oil - Established steering committee and national storage.	Yes
	Tonga Recycling Association - Established	Yes
	PET Bottles – partner with Coca Cola. - Collection, storage and shipment export to Malaysia - 12 million PET bottles imported (3 million coke bottles) - 15 million bottles in the next months (Tonga Recyclers)	Yes
	SCRAP recycling service - Funded by Japan. - 15th August 2024 shipment. - Recycler has 5000 vehicles.	Yes
	ULABs - 62 containers export to Busan. End of life vehicles.	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 3: Fiji)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Fiji	Data - Weigh Bridge data - Household Data gap - Plastic	
	Policies & Regulation - Customs impact & export regulation (Amm.2013) - EMA 2005 - Single Use Plastic Ban - Environment Management (Budget Amendment) Act 2019	
	Public Private Partnership - SPTO and Tourism Fiji and PRF - Waste 2 energy companies - Upcycling Companies (MSMES)	
	Best Practices - Market composting programs - Sanitary Landfills- Central/ Eastern - NGO+ CSO Partnerships - Provincial councils/ Conversation Structure	
	Capacity Building (gap) - Attendance to Regional Management Innovative Technologies	
	Regional Exchange/ Peer Learning - Provide support (industry Experts) to the region	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 4: Kiribati, Niue, Vanuatu, Nauru)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Kiribati	Kiribati Waste Management Res. Recovery Strategy - Making progress	

	Recycling Centre (CDS) - New one under construction - One operating	
	E-waste expand ELV being exported	
	Obsolete chemical collected and stored	
	Ongoing - Waste collection	Yes
	Ongoing - Removal of asbestos legacy waste	Yes

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 4: Kiribati, Niue, Vanuatu, Nauru)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Vanuatu	Plastic Bans, Action Plan for Marine waste in place	
	Compost facility in Port Vila - Upgrade of Bouffa Landfill and Luganville dumpsite	
	CDS to be in place by 2025 - Waste Water Taskforce - established and active	
	Used oil storage and facility and collection by 2025	
	E-waste audits conducted	
	Vanuatu National Chemical Profile	
	National Chemical Policy and Implementation Plan	
	Draft Chemical Safety Act in progress	
	Implement Marine Action Plan	Yes
	Update the Waste Management and Pollution Control Strategy 2016-2020	Yes
	More plastic bans	Yes
	Acquiring of land for dumpsites in our provinces	Yes

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 4: Kiribati, Niue, Vanuatu, Nauru) Niue - Commonwealth Local Government, Department of Environment, Environment Conservation Division, Kiribati)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Niue	Resource recovery facilities	
	Waste collection	
	Shopping bags ban	
	POLP activities progressing	
	Integrated waste management plan	
	Most asbestos stockpile removed	
	Oil spill response equipment and training	
	Waste management being updated and implementation	Yes
	Operating the Res. Rec. Facility	Yes
	Sustainable financing	Yes

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 4: Kiribati, Niue, Vanuatu, Nauru)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Nauru	Plastic bans on	
	Ban on white goods from China	
	Ban on vehicle older than 12 years	
	Plan for Resource Rec. Facility completed	
	Handbook on asbestos handling and removal	
	Log for waste management + K200 square metres priority for removal and recycling	Yes
	Marine Action Plan including oil spill	Yes

	Hazardous and solid waste policy	Yes
	Landfill space and waste collection	Yes
	Behavioural change for waste	Yes
	Managing ship waste	Yes

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 5: Palau, Republic of Marshall Islands)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Palau	Plastic bag ban In place and looking to expand scope and strengthen.	
	Waste segregation in elementary schools	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 5: Palau, Republic of Marshall Islands)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Republic of Marshall Islands	Styrofoam and bag ban	Yes
	School and community outreach through awareness division. Community outreach organised by EPA.	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 6: Tuvalu – Waste Dept, Customs Dept, Business Dept, Marine Dept, Energy Dept, Local Govt Dept, Funafuti Town Council)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Tuvalu	Composting - 2 run by Government and Taiwan	Yes
	Waste Levy Programme	Yes
	Used Oil Programme - PPP - PESWP exports used oil	Yes
	Single Use Plastic Regulation - Decrease in registered plastic imports due to plastic ban	Yes
	Reduced incidence of littering and illegal dumping	Yes
	Removal of custom duties and border taxes on single use plastic alternatives e.g. paper plates, aluminium foils	Yes
	Community collection coverage achieved and ongoing - 100 percent coverage on Tuvalu ongoing	Yes
	Increased awareness on supporting waste	Yes
	Ban of 8 items - Shopping bags - Takeaway containers - Straws - Cutlery (plastic) - Bottles less than 1.5 litres - Plastic flags (small) - Glad wrap - Ice block/ pop bags	
	Ban of hazardous waste - Asbestos ban – no more importation - Export used oil to Fiji (used oil waste) - Collect from powerhouse, store, export - Agreement with Pacific Energy - 4000 litres monthly	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Used batteries on the list (pending) - Identify buyer (pending) - Ready for shipment 	
	Segregate/ stockpile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Export aluminium cans to Korea for money - Waste levy system 5 c bottle or can recycle - 10 c – 5 c goes to government and 5 c goes to consumer - End of life vehicles - E-waste - White ware – fragile, microwaves, air condition, jugs electric, water dispensers - Medical waste – refer to health departments - Incinerator - newly installed (1 month) 	
	Quantity of waste – reference land fill	
	Waste generation	
	Waste segregation and recycling	Yes
	Improve collection of hazardous waste	Yes
	Different dumpsite for organics collected daily - compost	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 8: Papua New Guinea, Samoa)

Country	Achievements	Details	Still a priority?
Papua New Guinea	Minimise generator Waste & pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education & awareness program - Plastic shopping bags ban - Created draft COB & ban import of Asbestos 	
	Recover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Composting programs - Export of used oil - Export of ferrous & non-ferrous scrap - Export PET bottles - Waste oil treatment facility - Installation of incinerators - Tire recycling 	
	Improved life-cycle management residuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Landfill HW - Waste reception facility within ports regulation in place-sustain by waste reception levy 	
	Regulatory management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring programs/ Reporting (condition) - Entity generates waste/ permits - Waste management Permits 	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 8: Papua New Guinea, Samoa – MNRE, MWTI, MOH, SROS, SRWMA, STAR, SPTO)

Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
Samoa	National Waste Management Act 2010	Yes
	School, awareness, community consultations	
	Used oil facility	
	National Waste Management Strategy	

	Plastic Recycling Facility	
	Greening of the Pacific Games 2019	
	Temporary Chemical Storage	
	Greening of International Outrigger Canoe Competition 2023	
	Conduct lots of audits – stakeholder community	
	Single use Plastic ban regulation	
	Community based waste management project	
	Plastic repurposing training (tourism sector)	
	Composting - schools and communities	
	Recycling statistics at community	
	Collection services – household wastes, bulky wastes, used oil, e-waste, plastics, chemical	
	Recycling association established	
	Waste levy in proposal	
	Take back e-waste system (Toners/ inks)	
	Set up Pacific Recyclers Alliance (PRA)	
	Landfill	
	Time and Motion Studies	
	Draft Disaster Waste Management Response Plan	
	2 Healthcare Waste Incinerator in Operation	
	MEA Partnerships - BRS, Minamata, Waigani, Noumea Conventions - Trainings on MEA Reporting - Transboundary movement process	
	State of Environment Reports in place	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the ACHIEVEMENTS of Clean Pacific 2025. (Groups 9: French Polynesia)		
Country	Achievements	Still a priority?
French Polynesia	Ban single use plastics - Importation of plastic bags - Takeaway containers	
	Collection point for used oil	
	Batteries - Car and household	
	E-waste	
	Health/ Medical waste	
	Shipment/export for all - New Zealand or Korea depending on end of life vehicle - Medical waste incinerator for hospitals	
	Waste collection disposal facility - People can take their waste – categories such as metal, glass, etc	
	Quantity of waste – reference land fill	
	Waste generation	
	Waste segregation and recycling	Yes
	Improve collection of hazardous waste	Yes

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the Challenges for Clean Pacific 2025.

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the CHALLENGES of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 1: Cook Islands, Solomon Islands)		
Country	Challenges	Details of how to address
Group 1	Funding constraints-(1)	1.Lobbying, Elevate national priority for national core funding
	Exclusivity- it is not a land problem it is also a marine/maritime MOT (2)	2. Include maritime, private sector in meetings/dialogue
	Information sharing/data (3)	3. Have a central database
	Sustainability of projects (1)	4. new government, advocacy to government leaders, high level engagement
	Political interference (4)	5. update/review waste strategy
	Lack of facilities/infrastructure (5)	6. Review legislative/ policy gaps,
	Legislative gaps, policy/bill, capacity, (6)	7. Strong enforcement
	Illegal dumping, waste leaking into the environment (7)	8. strengthen collaboration & networks with Local govt. & communities
	Geographic location of islands (8)	9. collaborate with NDMO-TO DEVELOP DWM Plan
	Lack of infrastructure (storage facility) (5)	10. do more lobbying and negotiation, with govt. & Local communities that own the land govt to invest in land & compensate landowners
	Non-recyclable wastes (5)	11. Central database
	Natural disasters (9)	12. Invest in communications
	Land availability for waste disposal (10)	13. More international engagement-more MEAs engagement & support towards implementation
	Limited research into data collection (3 & 15)	14. Each project to have its own national coordinators
	Lack of Public awareness (12)	15. Capacity building (internship)
	Behavioural change (12)	16. donors to simplify requirements for candidates
	Lack of support-regional MEAs not effective (13)	<i>(It was a Challenge before [interlinking SPC & SPREP])</i>
	So many projects but no national coordinators to support the implementations of projects as countries have not enough capacity to run multiple projects all at same time (14)	
	Advertisement for project positions is complicated that scare off potential candidates that are capable to do the job, hence readvertise (16)	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the CHALLENGES of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 2: Tonga – MEIDECC, WAL, TRA, USAID, Australia)		
Country	Challenges	Details of how to address
Tonga	Lack of coordinated efforts between stakeholders	
	Political priorities of Government do not align with priorities within the waste sector; waste is a subject that is often overlooked and undervalued compared to other political interests	
	Short term projects have short term results; nothing to show for it a year or more later. Often missing the mark.	
	Lack of infrastructure	
	Donor timelines do not meet the immediate needs applied for; project assets applied for, often are needs; that we need immediately, but their timelines can take up to a decade. (NIIP 3, delays in landfill projects, etc.), so it is very difficult to plan around the delays (example: overfilling of the landfill).	
	No national waste management plan to bind all stakeholders under one common plan.	
	Lacked waste management in Outer Island groups (before 2018). J-PRISM II remedied this.	
	Current financing, while ahead of our neighbouring countries, is not immune to inflation and is not fair on the population. (resolved through Waste Management Levy).	
	Delay in Regional project process	
	T.A. for national activities (NPO work concluded)	
	Political support – change in Government	
	Financial Government budgetary support	
	Coordination of stakeholders - information sharing.	
	Clear roles and responsibilities	
	Clear mandates	
	Isolation, remoteness – High freight/shipping costs	
	Accessibility of funds – processes	
	Misalignment of time and priorities (leads to loss of momentum)	
		Develop national waste management strategy
		Regular coms meeting
		Regional Hub (remains challenging)
		Mobile recyclers

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the CHALLENGES of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 3: Fiji)		
Country	Challenges	Details of how to address
Fiji	Lack of data (maritime islands)	
	Data sharing - agencies working in silos	
	Resources (infrastructure and technology)	
	Build (capacity and awareness)	
	Behaviour change	
	Compliance of legislation	
	Garbage collection	
		Inclusive approach - Advocate, dissemination to grassroots, community level
		Equipment, recycling, composting, MRF
		PPP
		Storytelling, internet, social media, Tik Tok
		Political support, technical, PPP

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the CHALLENGES of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 4: Vanuatu – Department of Environment, Maritime Authority, Kiribati – Environment and Conservation Division Commonwealth Local Government, Nauru, Niue – Department of Environment)		
Country	Challenges	Details of how to address
Group 4	Working in collaboration with government designated authorities in countries.	- Adopting and developing behavioural change strategies/solution to waste
	Poor community structures in terms of responsibility and accountability because of lack of coordination of government and grassroots communities.	
	Municipal council proper coordination and collaboration with gov't for waste related programs for proper facilitation of timely waste management – fractured responsibilities.	
	Misuse of waste resources for different national programs -Financial Management Challenges	- Proper structured financial systems for sustainable management of waste funds
	SPREP to provide financial assistance, TA's until countries, etc until these countries are properly equipped to continue these	
	Technical capacity – waste expert to assist implementing agencies	- Strengthen capacity through technical assistance - Limited staff
	In country feasibility study to establish baselines/roadmap for the establishment of right authority	
	Monitoring and evaluation – water quality testing, etc	- Establish a regional testing centre for Pacific islands – for affordability and convenience.

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the CHALLENGES of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 5: Republic of Marshall Islands and Palau)	
Country	Challenges
Group 5	Banned plastics still being imported.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs understaffed - funding - Shipments unable to be reviewed properly - Stronger fines for importing companies. - Extended producer responsibility
	<p>Existing law has a lot of gaps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficult to identify what is biodegradable - Biodegradable plastics should be included in amended law
	<p>Some debris is not local waste.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong encouragement in international fora
	Mechanical support/ maintenance of equipment
	Lack of funding – segregated waste goes to landfill where it is mixed again.
	Unable to ship waste?
	<p>CDL programme for beverage containers expanded to include other container types.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law process - needs to go to the legislator which is time consuming
	Advanced Recovery Fee Deposit (ARFD) as an overarching law for all waste types allows amendments to be made through regulations instead of legislation.
	<p>Used oil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - storage, processing is expensive. 55 gallon drum needed. - Central location to dump small amounts of used oil - Drums in low supply
	SOPs needed to regulate used oil

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the CHALLENGES of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 6: Tuvalu – Waste Dept, Customs Dept, Business Dept, Marine Dept, Energy Dept, Local Govt Dept, Funafuti Town Council)		
Country	Challenges	Details of how to address
Tuvalu	Single use plastic ban - Importers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to accept the ban and impact on their business - Took a while to iron out disappointment / disapproval - Checklist - consolidate with suppliers, consumers.
	Activity sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How to maintain activities when funding support project finishes? - Fees/ cost for exportation is expensive
	Durability of equipment and produce due to local weather and exposed to sea spray – increase generation of waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited land space for dumpsite
	Waste management issues included in school, curriculum, community, family	
	Storage of chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All and any chemicals
	Heavy reliance on imported goods.	-
	Limited land area for dump sites.	-
	Need for import substitutes from local products.	-
	Changing behaviours is very difficult.	-
	Inter-island migration	-
	Limited capacity to monitor shipping vessels in Tuvalu waters.	-

	Limited land space and infrastructure equipment for recycling	-
	Corrosion of infrastructure from sea spray	-
	Limited access to recycling markets	-
	Limited capacity to meet required standards for exports	-
	Lack of water during dry season to clean tap bottles to meet export market standards.	-
	Distance to recycling infrastructure	-
	Limited workforce, not enough people power.	-
	Limited Land for waste disposal	-
	Maintenance of waste collection vehicles (impacts from sea spray)	-
	Control of landfill emissions (methane and leachate)	
	Capacity building for landfill management	-
	Limited storage capacity for hazardous waste	
	Corrosion form salt spray	-
	Capacity for handling hazardous waste	-
	Limited human resources	-
	High staff turnover	-
	Inconsistent shipping schedules due to weather conditions to carry out evaluation and monitoring work in the outer islands.	-

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the CHALLENGES of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 8: Papua New Guinea, Samoa – MNRE, MWTI, MOH, SROS, SRWMA, STAR, SPTO)		
Country	Challenges	Details of how to address
Papua New Guinea, Samoa	Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen partnerships /self-advocacy. - Flexibility of project scope. More control. Over funding. Application.
	Legal assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More legal support - Affordable regulation legal network.
	Lack of cooperation, coordination at all levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stakeholder strategy. Whole of government approach. - Bottom to top.
	Lack of HR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase staffing and increase training for current staff. - Pay increase - Community engagement
	Limited alternatives to plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research - Tax on plastic imports

	Lack of technical knowledge and support (infrastructure)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding and partnership - Knowledge sharing - Reg. efforts - Traditional knowledge
	Too much regulation across sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simplify and strengthen guide sector approach - Translation into mother language
	Sustainable awareness - lack in community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continued education programmes - Community based projects
	Lack of incentives for private sector and public sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tax breaks - Promote PPPs - Establish waste levies
	Management turnover and change in priorities and lack of political will.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise salary
	No data on consumption levels. baseline data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste audit
	Lack of inclusiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stakeholder engagement
	Lack of markets/ export	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreements - Engagement with private sector - Waive fees. - Need support
	Regulation/ national procurement process	
	Reporting	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the CHALLENGES of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 9: French Polynesia)

Country	Challenges	Details of how to address
French Polynesia	Funding/ Financing sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ARDF system - not allocated to waste management. - Monitoring and tracking of activities and regulations implementation.
	Implementation across the territory of collection and segregation and recycling facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dismantling and repairing facility - Recondition and reuse - Dismantle spare parts and reuse again. - Implement circular economy activity/ initiatives. - How to engage supermarket in giving food to associations before expiry date.
	Collection of waste from outer islands – batteries, used oil, improper use of oil and batteries.	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the Lessons Learnt for Clean Pacific 2025.

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 1: Cook Islands – ICI, NES, MOH and Solomon Islands - MECDM, HCC, SIMA, DTC, BJS, Plastic Wise Gizo)

Country	Lessons Learnt
	Incorporate into school curriculum
	Digital platform/mobile app
	Empowerment of rural communities targeting behavioural change
	Expo (Waste Expo)
	Innovation 7 creative ideas

	Increase the SINGLE USE PLASTIC Items to be banned
	Waste bank- recycling communities selling recycled items, using the money for the community
	Advanced deposit refund scheme(fees)
	Citizens Science- public to collect information
	Writing the plan should include implementation activities too
	Invest more on National projects
	National lead on projects/programmes
	Invest more on in country processing [resource economy etc.]
	Improve funding systems for country projects to make sure projects can be completed within the project time frame
	Moana Taka- paperwork process too long & complicated
	Technical assistance strengthens national capacity
	Invest more on National projects. - When the funds come easier for country to run and implement - POLP approach to the project- SI take ownership of project making things easier - Difficult to access, at national level do not see the impacts only regional outcomes can be achieved but not at national level - Not effective
	Moana Taka- process too long, paperwork too complicated, countries give to professionals (for Cook Islands they use Coca Cola) to do it
Cook Islands	- Plastic goes to Malaysia - Soft plastic - waiting for shredder - Aluminium going to New Zealand
Solomon Islands	3 machines out in the province - bailer, shredder, moulding machine

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 2: Tonga – MEI DECC, WAL, TRA, USAID, Australia)

Country	Lessons Learnt	Details of how to address
Tonga	More communication	
	More coordination	
	More collaboration	
	Early engagement with stakeholders	
	Incorporate NPO/TA into project budgets	
	Political will = PPP	
	Waste levy – cover most imported goods	
	Curb side segregation of waste	- More education and awareness - Recyclers to help collection
	Waste in country treatment (e.g. used oil.	
	Better	More
	Differently	Less

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 3: Fiji)

Country	Lessons Learnt
Fiji	Strengthening of Coordination and information sharing between agencies, Ministries and councils.
	Establishment of National Waste Management Steering Committee

	Scheduled Systematic Data collection programme
	Expansion of Garbage Collection Services
	Introducing Community Champions for Waste Management
	Introduction of Economic Incentives / Sustainable Financing for waste management
	Strengthen Partnership & Leadership at all levels

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 4: Nauru, Niue, Vanuatu, Kiribati)	
Country	Lessons Learnt
Nauru	SOPs

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 4: Nauru, Niue, Vanuatu, Kiribati)	
Country	Lessons Learnt
Niue	Dedicated lawyer/policy advisor for Maritime for efficient drafting and development of regulation, policies, etc
	Technology transfer and registered suppliers to assist suppliers – procurement and service providers
	Health and safety

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 4: Nauru, Niue, Vanuatu, Kiribati)	
Country	Lessons Learnt
Kiribati	Community Behavioural Change and Engagement for effective implementation of waste management with the support of communities – brand messages
	Identifying waste information needs and gaps; proper assessment to identified
	Data collection; collection of critical data/information.
	Information sharing and centralization
	Enforcement is difficult when responsible collection authority lacks the resources for sustainable work.

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 4: Nauru, Niue, Vanuatu, Kiribati)	
Country	Lessons Learnt
Vanuatu	Improve governance of Waste Management Department Structure
	Waste infrastructure investment; allow quantification and measurement of wastes
	Review legislation re waste collection
	Ensure PSS schemes for different waste streams are in place e.g. E-waste, etc

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 5: Palau and Republic of Marshall Islands)	
Country	Lessons Learnt
Group 5	Better to have more general laws rather than specific as it is easier to make changes later
	Behavioural change is very difficult success in schools, children can guide parents
	People willing to report waste oil dumping- 20% of fine going to reporters
	Data collection is needed when creating new rules- e.g. waste oil surrendered verses oil bought
Republic of Marshall Islands and Palau	RMI and Palau set up a controlled trust fund that is truly ring fenced and not go into consolidated revenue

	When you do a financial mechanism clear it is earmarked for a specific purpose
Republic of Marshall Islands	RMI EPA authorises what is on the shelf for single-use plastics and issues fines. It is hard to fine or impose penalties on the Customs Department as they are the Government.
	Shipping recyclables and scrap metals is challenging because market prices are volatile, and proper containers are not available.
Palau	Do not know how to dispose of batteries (flashlight) (AA, BC). Just store them.
	Fines/confiscations working well for private companies but not for government agencies
	Has anyone gone around islands to collect waste oil?

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 6: Tuvalu)		
Country	Lessons learnt	Details of how to address
Tuvalu	Improve tracking/ of industries. - Need to engage community - Fine/ consequences in place for oil spill or illegal dumping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Report to marine department o Report on land incidents - waste management team in charge. 	
	Involve social society in waste management - engage to help.	
	Add more items to the ban list.	
	Networking	
	Waste collection	- Need dump trucks for collection. - Waste system - use of bins fir segregation of waste <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Glass o Recycle o Other waste
	Improve dumpsite	- Awareness - Segregation of house level to better allocate different waste collected to the right, appropriate disposal facility. - Impose fines if they do not follow waste management protocol.
	Political will - support from political leaders critical	
	When developing legislation/ regulations to consult all stakeholders as part of the process.	
	Target school – integrate in school curriculums. Include young children.	
	Procurement of long lasting equipment to ensure it is cost effective.	
	Capacity building for mechanic	

	Establish proper financial framework and regulation for EPR programmes. (Waste levy) and Recycling Association	
	Regional cooperation to explore regional solutions to consolidate actions for low volumes of waste.	
	Healthcare waste storage (incinerators) to locate separately from dump sites.	
	When buying equipment, but brand new or products with good life left to be used/ maintenance.	
	Have enough officers for law enforcement.	
	Incorporate waste management and monitoring duties and responsibilities under ship crew (observers).	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 8: Papua New Guinea, Samoa)

Country	Lessons Learnt	Details of how to address
Group 8	Build strong & effective partnership	Do not copy and paste- Contextualise interventions that work in different countries
	Walk the talk / action speak louder than words	Stage funding to reflect date
	No favourable principle /no one above the law	Do not procure equipment without a technician
	Domesticate MEAs International legislation	Consider ELV of imports / takeback systems
	Involvement local community	Utilise local experts
	Build Capacity & upskill locals	Avoid the blame game

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the LESSONS LEARNT of Clean Pacific 2025. (Group 9: French Polynesia)

Country	Lessons learnt
French Polynesia	Improve tracking/ control of industries businesses regarding regulations by increasing funding and human resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legislation itself need to be respected and understood. - On the ground cannot be monitored - 48 islands to keep watch of.
	To improve collection and waste management in each island is to be responsible for their waste. Create mutual island group to put together resources.
	Hazardous waste/ awareness education to avoid inappropriate use of hazardous waste.
	Networking - learn new ideas.
	Collection of end of life vehicles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some islands wharf too small. - Repair the end of life vehicle or reuse parts by local dismantling.
	Improve sustainability of mobility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public transport - alternative options - bikes, scooters.
	Awareness how to treat batteries for electric cars and bikes (lithium batters).

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting Emerging Issues for Clean Pacific 2035.

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 1: Cook Islands – ICI, NES, MOH and Solomon Islands - MECDM, HCC, SIMA, DTC, BJS, Plastic Wise Gizo)		
Country	Emerging Issues	Details of how to address
Group 1	Domestic and international ships – potential to litter.	Include compliance in licenses – inspections
	Lithium Batteries	Secure packaging / keep separate. Not allowed as cargo on passenger ships
	Plastic content/ biodegradable product	Testing lab facility
	Cooking oil	Exploring market on cooking oil
	Gas cans (butane)	Ban importation of butane gas cans
	Micro-plastics	Development of policies
	Solar panels	Expansions of recycling to cover solar panels
	Asbestos	SPREP Plan
	E-waste (GEF Project)	GEF ISLANDS support
	ELV – end of life vehicles	Producers responsibility - Solid and Hazardous Waste Bill
	Nappies/ diapers	Composting in Vanuatu. Plastic Treaty - Product design.
	Used tyres	Product stewardship – export to Japan
	Engine oil	In country processing – export to Fiji
	Landfill capacity	Long term options – Solomon Islands vegetation. Cook Islands – incinerator.

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 2: Tonga – MEIDECC, WAL, TRA, USAID, Australia)		
Country	Emerging Issues	Details of how to address
Group 2	Voluntary private sector interests and coming in for recycling. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would like to have more information on their motivation. - Why sudden interest? More information is required to make informed decisions. 	
	Emerging waste streams	
	Timber treatment - chemicals	
	Vehicles - quality of goods, poor quality second hand goods such as computers and fridges.	
	Donated disaster related equipment – need to be easily understood. Language should be in English to be used by user.	
	Imported furniture - cause bed bug problems	
	Abandoned fishing gear	
	Inconsistent corporate social responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Illegal dumping - packages 	

	Commercialising of agriculture sector - Chemicals, chemical containers – need process	
	School, lab, hospital (radiation) related chemicals	
	Vehicle tyres	
	Producers responsibilities - Quality of goods	
		Regulation
		Alternatives (affordable)
		Technical experts who can fix, train
		Reuse affordable for customers
		Commercial organic composting
		Organic waste - biogas

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 3: Fiji)		
Country	Emerging Issues	Details of how to address
Fiji	End of life Vehicles	- Introduce a Levy system at the point of import - Depollution of ELV
	End of life Tyres	Introduce a Levy system at the point of import
	Lithium Batteries	Introduce a Levy system at the point of import
	E-Waste	Collection and shipments of e-waste
	Solar Panels	Introduction of End-of-Life Management into all new rural electrifications and solar energy projects.
	Expired Chemicals	Disposal levy on chemicals
	Expired Pharmaceuticals	Disposal Levy on pharmaceuticals
		Tourist Waste Led Programme

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 4: Nauru, Niue, Vanuatu, Kiribati)		
Country	Emerging Issues	
Nauru	E-buses vs easy to maintain older vehicles	
	Concern with oil spill for newly constructed oil bunker at the port	
	Life cycle assessments from e.g. solar panels for sustainability (should donors also set aside funding for waste management? Or financial mechanisms)	
	Measuring success/impacts of initiatives/activities. M & E challenges of new initiatives.	
	Resource mobilization & Finance.	
	Political will with changing governments.	
	Brain-drain from the region. Generation gaps in the population	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 4: Nauru, Niue, Vanuatu, Kiribati)		
Country	Emerging Issues	
Niue	Green" based technology i.e solar panels, EV vehicles,	
	Plastics, micro and nano plastics	
	Waste from cargo ships, no conventions to cover, cargo packaging, nodules?	

	Alternative fuels, some more harmful
	Formal/non-formal, competency-based training and set-aside by donors for scholarships or trainings in waste management sector. Calling donors to set aside a portion for natural resources sector (biodiversity, fisheries, etc.), waste management, climate change, biodiversity, maritime, fisheries etc.
	Shipwrecks from fishing vessels, yachts including isolated islands and reefs
	Cross-over and synergies with CC, biodiversity, waste and MEAs.

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 4: Nauru, Niue, Vanuatu, Kiribati)

Country	Emerging Issues
Kiribati	Maintenance of imported cars i.e EV vehicles
	Maintenance of e-waste, household appliances
	Lithium-ion batteries exportation

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting the EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 4: Nauru, Niue, Vanuatu, Kiribati)

Country	Emerging Issues
Vanuatu	Cross-border wastes (shared ocean) e.g. ghost gears, plastics etc
	Textiles: too much importation of second-hand clothes which also end up as waste
	Paperwork/biosecurity and process & procedures for moving waste
	More vehicles coming to the region?

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 5: Palau, Republic of Marshall Islands)

Country	Emerging Issues
Group 5	Other hazardous materials – lithium batteries
	External sources of debris
	Single use butane cylinders
	Ensuring cultural elements are represented
	Whole life-cycle approach to waste
	Chemicals of plastics – and other hazardous chemicals
	Human health and human rights - Environmental welfare
	Access to information and data
	Emergence of AI technologies
	End of life solar panels
	Waste to commodity
	Lack of standards - Developing and implementing
	Volume of production and consumption
	Right to repair
	Geopolitical dynamics

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 6: Tuvalu)

Country	Emerging Issues	Details of how to address
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Tuvalu	Environmentally sound landfill for atoll nations	Training for landfill management
	Alternative waste technologies	SPREP or ADB to do due diligence on new technologies
	Lithium batteries and end of life of solar equipment	- Export hazardous waste (lithium batteries) - Capacity building on maintenance and repair of solar equipment.
	Review data collection	
	Management of alternatives to plastics (i.e. single use plastic regulation)	
	Management of donations to households such as water tanks.	
		Buy service and not the equipment (return equipment end of life)
	Dumpsite Already full	Segregate more waste - capacity increase
	End of life vehicles	Stockpiles. Segregate more waste - capacity increase
	Rising sea-level	
	Cyclone - blow waste to ocean/ lagoon	
	Damaged batteries in stockpile	
	Whiteware - washing machines or air-condition unit - refrigerators, microwaves, electric jugs, ceiling fans, table fans	
	Solar panels	

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 8: Papua New Guinea, Samoa)

Country	Emerging Issues	Details of how to address
	ELV battery	Procure a technical expert to look at the Advantages & Disadvantages
	Solar panels-managing at an industrial stage	Develop national policy to address these problematic waste / regulations
		Take back system external to the Pacific
		Train build capacity of locals to address such issues
		Verification process
		Know all stakeholders
	Aging fishing boat fleet (oil spill-single hauled)	Plan & manage
		Regulate years of vessel import
	Import 2 nd hand products	Develop policy
		Regulation on Import
	Limited number of countries accept Plastic waste due to sign up to Treaty	Regional & National treat facility
	GENZ problem	
	Oil waste from sunken shipwrecks (WW2)	Awareness / self-advocacy on international stage
	GENZ	Behaviour change/educate
	Inclusivity	Promote gender

Group work: Reflections on CP2025, highlighting EMERGING ISSUES of Clean Pacific 2035. (Group 9: French Polynesia)		
Country	Emerging Issues	Details of how to address
French Polynesia	How to restructure collection, reuse, dismantle, repair, e-waste, electrical appliances - Whiteware such as washing machines	- System to manage - reuse, hard to repair, lack of parts to fix. Stop sale if cannot repair when broken (cannot sell).
	Lithium batteries - damaged lithium batteries cannot be shipped as risk of explosion. - Cannot export as waste	- Ban importation or find local treatment, processing - Cannot process high volume waste on island. - Cost for shipment (damaged batteries) use special containers to ship/ export waste.
	Tourism waste – how to manage with increase in tourism.	
	Solar panels	
	Air conditioning gas	

Annex 5: Hazardous Waste

Group 1: Policy and Regulation

Palau: Local Government enforces penalties for illegal dumping

Vanuatu: Vanuatu vehicle Emission standard and policy: Restrict import of older, high polluting vehicles

Nauru: Derelict (Act) Site management

- Removal of abandoned vehicles within 14 days

Cook Islands: Environment Act 2008

- Littering
- Other- ELV

Tuvalu: Develop a policy under customs for vehicle importation

Marshall Islands: ELV fined if parked at government's easement area up to 10K/ initial and 100 every day until move.

French Polynesia: Fine for ignored ELV

Group 2 : Cost and Logistics

1. Source Separation

Steel	\$380
Polyolefin	\$1000

PUC	\$0
Indicator lens	\$3000
Copper	\$9000

2. Market Intelligence
 - Pricing
 - Recyclers Alliance
3. Mass Balance Circular: \$7000 - \$20,000
4. Vocational Training
 - Not just money
 - Certificate I Automotive
5. Equipment R+M

Group 3: Environmental and Economic Considerations of End-of-Life Vehicles (ELVs)

Impacts:

- Contamination – Environment/ social/ health issues
- Removal/ Environmental costs
- Land space
- Contamination – water source/ air pollution/ soil
- Aircon/ oil waste/ E-waste
- Cost of exportation

Solutions:

1. Breakers yard model/ supported by government
 - Encourage repairs
 - Use of spare parts
 - Dismantle vehicles/ avoid import costs

Annex 6: Visioning Exercise

Group 1

1. Cleaner Pacific Oceans and Islands, pristine beaches, greener ports, villages and cities with no plastic waste including SUPs, no litter, no burning of waste and resilient to sea level rise.
2. We make creative policy that enables effective collaboration across all sectors implementing on-ground waste management and inspiring behaviour change for a cleaner and greener environment for our community

Group 2

Part A

Harbour port
multi-use

Crystal clear waters
Teaming with marine wildlife
Sustainable development
Green port

Rock Islands

Free from all forms of debris from locals and from those to find their way to our shores

Majuro Atoll

Seawall arched backwards
Climate proofed
Energy powered by water sea current
Fewer vehicles
No high point, mountain of garbage
Maintain natural vegetation
Smart waste system
Waste resilient
Pollution free
Overcrowded
Development is ad hoc and uneven
Rubbish collection system organised but not able to keep up with the rubbish generated

1. **VISION:** Despite overcrowded, overgrowth and urbanisation community resiliency can be achieved through management of pollution and resources, green technology and climate proofed infrastructure.

Part B

Keep Niue safe, secure and clean
Higher office in government
Legislation implemented
Negotiating at the international level for Niue's prosperity
Effective project management

Promoting waste management in rural areas
Awareness on waste technology
Develop waste management policies
I am engaged in policy development around ocean and marine management using data and experience from national agencies I advocate for the development of policies that consider the situations/priorities of my community.

Mobilises communities to take ownership of their community resources to provide monitoring compliance of good environmental stewardship
Behavioural change started
Students still practice as adults regarding waste management

2. **Mission:**
Enabling regulatory frameworks

Behaviour change

Group 3

Part A

1. Resilient, vibrant, diverse, clean, healthy, pollution free environment in harmony with an educated and engaged community. Waste Smart, using appropriate, innovative and energy-efficient technologies to enhance environmental resilience.

Part B

1. Bringing focus of environmental issues to the highest decision making body, to ensure sustainability is at the forefront of infrastructure planning/assessments meaning our biodiversity is thriving, our reefs self-sustaining, and our public spaces are clean and accessible to all.
2. I engage with communities, so we are now zero waste.

Group 4

Part A

- Zero marine litter
 - Clean coastal area (beaches with clear turquoise water)
 - Village: (1) clean and all plans implemented including strategies and activities (2) beautiful with all waste management plan implemented
 - River: flowing and clear, well vegetated banks, villages swimming freely
 - Clean streets, no littering
 - Clean and healthy river without plastic litter
 - No open burning waste
 - More urbanised (better planning and management)
 - Chemical free island
 - Less clean-up (rivers, beaches, etc.)
 - Golden gate of Heaven! No rubbish!
 - Absence of plastic litter along village road, waste is contained and segregated for collection
1. Village: (beaches, city, rivers and harbours) More urbanised (better planning and management), clean and healthy environmental surroundings, rivers flowing clear and well vegetated with the absence of burning and litter. PRISTINE!!!

Part B

- An environmental scientist: Highlight environmental issues (pollution etc) to decision makers for better environ management
- Rubbish collector: pick up litter to keep my community litter free
- Promoting social environmental economic impact through community led projects
- Elite Environment Warrior: defender of the earth from negative impacts
- A role model who knows the way, goes the way, shows the way

- Better to try and fail, than fail to try
- I work with stakeholders to help keep our environment and pacific clean through awareness, trainings, supporting community initiatives, regulatory work
- Environment advocate: (1) enforcement of environment and natural resource protection, conservation, and sustainable utilisation, (2) to improve the compliance of the public, local businesses, including international contractors
- I support waste management program and initiatives including regulation to ban SUP. Impact we see to have no more SUP to polluting our environment
- Intelligent people do not litter
- Retired: enjoying a natural litter free environment in Niue
- Intelligent people: Environmental scientists, Rubbish collectors, Environment advocates & retiree.
- Impacts: Foster public awareness on reducing negative environmental issues. Promote social, environmental and economic impacts through community initiatives. Enforce policies and regulations for waste management. Be the role model and walk the talk.

Group 5

Part A

1. A secure, clean, safe, sustainable environment

Part B

1. Bulit more capacity to improve marine environment
2. Educational programmes and community awareness everywhere
3. Improved behaviours on waste management
4. Built alternative resources
5. Improve regional partnerships and sustainability
6. Living in harmony with the environment through circular economy principles
7. Integrate traditional knowledge with modern ways of living

Groups 6

Part A

1. Less Non-Environmental Activities
2. Able to recycle and reuse its waste
3. Pollution Free Environment
4. Plastic Free Environment

COMMON THEME for the VISION: Work To Have Eco- Friendly Initiatives to establish Infrastructure for a Pollution and Plastic Free Future.

Part B

1. Operate facilities that process waste effectively in my country
2. Implement activities and enforce legislation that reduce Pollution
3. Implement activities and enforce legislation that reduce Plastic

Group 7

Part A

We are on the beach

1. No waste or plastic pollution
2. Green policies have been enacted including waste collection infrastructure
3. Wildlife – flora & fauna diversity
4. Healthy reef systems
5. No burn pits/burning of waste
6. Tourists are educated on proper waste disposal
7. PEOPLE DANCING!

Part B

We engage in local initiatives and solutions.

1. Local (municipalities) able to repair/repurpose e-waste
2. Sustainable materials made locally (no harmful imports)
3. Informed decision making by the local community
4. Ensure financial resources are available to empower the local community for action.
5. THINK GLOBAL & ACT LOCAL!

Annex 7: Wave Analysis

Bulky Waste

EMERGING TRENDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investment into Repairing – Whiteware, Fridges, Appliances• Dismantling in country – working parts are recued in country as spare parts• Export of components that are no longer produced.• Collection system (Ongoing national collection system)• Establishment of Infrastructures to support Dismantling and Depollution• Legislation that prohibits the dumping/neglecting waste materials in public• Depollution of ELV (ULABs/fluids/ODs etc)• Storage facilities to ensure the safe storage• Research/ Capacity into the management of Lithium Batteries• Repurposing Construction wastes – to be mainstreamed into the infrastructure sectors• Build Capacity of Practitioners in fixing new model/electronics cars.• Minimum Warranty on vehicles imported• Second Hand car importers to be made responsibility of car importers in the region• Legislation that prohibits the sale of second-hand vehicles• Right to Repair to be legislated in the islands – individual has the right to keep a material for as long as they need.• The right to repair, repurpose, restore. (Extend life before going to landfill)• Repair furniture.• End of life vehicles – recover spare parts for reuse• End-of-life vehicles – de-pollution

- Business opportunity for small enterprises or disadvantaged community members – Repair electronics, reupholster furniture, etc.
- Shipwrecks / aged vessels (and end of life vehicles) – cleaning up and converting to artificial reefs.
- More complex waste (fridges / freezer) due to access as prices come down. Waste volumes to increase
- Business opportunities for communal facilities due to increased access to complex electronics (laundromat)
- Tractors sent to outer islands, and they broke down and then cannot be removed (rural / outer islands).
- Migration bringing household items that become waste very quickly (not purchased on island).
- Illegal dumping because government services poor.
- Illegal landfilling due to increased amount of material
- Limited land for management and storage and processing of bulky waste
- Uncontrolled imports of second-hand goods / humanitarian aid.
- Shipwrecks – polluting – need legislation to stop dumping (importing of second-hand ships and fail quickly)
- Government systems for solar – purchased, but no end of life system.
- Corrosion protection actions (how to extend life of major plant and electronics)
- Tip shop / retail shop for second-hand retail marketplace.
- Seek grants for training in repairs and technical elements of e-waste
- Social media swap markets
- More shipwrecks noted – weather change, and older vessels not being maintained.
- Higher maintenance costs to keep vehicles going because of poor road conditions or geographical conditions (salty environment)
- Importation of vehicles if under 100,00 miles.
- Private industry managing export of scrap steel

ESTABLISHED STANDARDS

- Scrap metal recycling in country (Steel Mill)
- Special Collection system for Bulky standard at a national
- Exporting Bulky Waste
- Import Standards for Importing Vehicles (5 -10 years from date of manufacture)
- High tariff to be placed on the importation of second-hand vehicles by individuals but ban the importation of second hand vehicles for car dealers (As in the case of Tahiti)
- Introduction of Repurposing Programme for Tyres (Tahiti is repurposing tyres to road making)
- Awareness for consumers and Accountability for suppliers into the region
- EPR ULABs
- Legislative for vessels to be under 35 years of age at purchase. (PNG)
- Legislative for cars to be under 10 years of age at purchase. (Samoa & Kiribati) (Cook Is. Higher tariff)
- Legislative for stopping Chinese whiteware (Nauru) – check words for energy efficiency
- Use of recovery cylinders to capture refrigerant gases.
- Vehicles imported to meet new fuel standards or cannot be imported (Fuel quality standard)
- OSH standards for management / depollution of bulky waste
- e-waste dismantling process standards
- Legislative process that only allows 3-star imports and fines if you try to bring in less.
- Continued support for bulky waste collections

- Second-hand Sundays – yard sale support

FADING ACTIONS

- Landfilling of Bulky Waste
- Burning of materials
- Dumping into the environment
- Exporting without dismantling
- Import standards for Vehicles to look at mileage rather than manufacture Dates.

Disaster Response

EMERGING TRENDS

- Establish facilities that will enable the segregation of Disaster Waste and diversion of Disaster Waste
- Shelter Guides to stabilise buildings so there is less damage to housing
- Adoption of Recycling system for construction wastes
- Creation of artificial wetlands as an alternative to septic
- Post Disaster Needs Assessment to include waste data collection to help inform decision making and ensure funding is allocated
- Disaster Insurance from Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company to also cover natural disaster
- Establishment of National Disaster Waste Management Plan
- Training of local Practitioners on segregation and recycling of DW
- Setting Standards for incoming Aid relief to assist with reducing the volume of Disaster Waste generated. This includes the type of materials that can be donated into the country and include end of life management of donated items (empty water bottles etc)
- Preparation for secondary disaster (outbreaks of disease following a natural disaster)
- Hydrographic & Dive Survey of Waste under water.
- Review of Disaster Waste Legislation to incorporate Waste Management
- Establish standards/ programme to test for pollutants in the local environment (Environment Quality Testing) following a disaster
- Inclusion of Recycling Companies/ Private sectors to be included in Disaster Waste Management Planning
- Detection and marking of houses with ACM in the preparatory action of a Disaster Waste Management Cycle
- Training of First Responders on handling of hazardous materials during the response phase.
- Establish Disaster Waste Hubs/ Transfer Stations
- Training of communities on different waste stream management following a disaster
- Strengthening preparatory activities of a Disaster Waste Management Cycle.
- Export of disaster waste
- Designated dump
- Temporary site/ storage for disaster waste
- Breakdown of normal waste collection angle
- Utilisation of green waste during disasters – repurposing disaster waste through art.
- Development of plan for all types of disasters example Tonga volcano eruption. Integrate with established frameworks.
- Aid plan – Humanitarian waste management
- Interagency coordination and international coordination
- Loss and damage (process) – claims process

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town and country planning considering disaster prone areas
ESTABLISHED STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local government to establish Disaster Waste Management Plans • Establishment Sector Working Group on Disaster Waste Managements • Awareness to communities on safe handling and safe storage of Disaster Waste especially Hazardous Waste such ACM • Acceding to IMO convention to prepare and support oil spill response • Domesticating convention that can help with response work such as MARPOL to dealing with oil spills, Hazardous, air pollution (Annex 1 – 6) • Establish standards for facilities to receive segregated Disaster Waste • Adoption of Climate proofing standards for Waste Infrastructures/ facilities • International instruments • Regional framework • National strategies, action plans such as contingency response plans, disaster management plan • National emergency operation centre - exercise and training • IMS capacity building , building in system redundancy • Building standards - resilience against climate change • Early education and awareness
FADING ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landfilling Disaster Waste • Disjointed Disaster Response work • Red tape bureaucracy

End-of-Live Vehicles

EMERGING TRENDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repurposing for artificial reefs • Training more mechanics • Buses converting into buildings/ houses. • Promoting use of bicycles • Establishing more public transport, i.e., carpooling • Tyre recycling • Waste-to-Energy investments and initiatives • Collection of ELVs • Uncontrolled importation of used cars • Increasing EVs may need proper disposal facilities • Strengthen Sustainable Transport Systems • ELV Recycling • Waste Management Trainings for new E-Vehicles and E-Bikes
ESTABLISHED STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicle Parts • ELV levy to be imposed • Duty exemption on brand vehicles • Limiting age of imports • ELV facilities standards to be established • Extended Production Responsibility (EPR) • EV Roadmaps/ Policies and Guidelines

FADING ACTIONS

- Transitioning of diesel/ petroleum vehicles to E-vehicles and E-bikes
- Illegal dumping of ELVs have moved to proper collection sites and facilities

E-waste**EMERGING TRENDS**

- Disposal, Storage, and Management of E-waste
- Management of E-waste
- Regulate E-waste
- Absolute E-waste to the Islands
- Sustainable financing system for E-waste
- Address batteries in E-waste
- Proper training on E-waste management/safety
- Shipping of waste
- Online shopping (Amazon) – import controls
- Address batteries in e-waste
- EV bringing in rural as substitute, but it's an issue due to technologies operated in it.
- EV batteries - disposal (others include lithium)
- Increased imports of electronics and electrical products (includes fake and counterfeit production)
- Repairability, replaceability , recyclability
- Standards on what can be imported
- Policies for lifecycle management of e-waste
- Modernisation of power systems
- Infrastructure - storage, dismantle etc
- Lack of tools and skills and knowledge (capacity)

ESTABLISHED STANDARDS

- Evaluate concept of Pacific E-waste recycling hub
- Concept of appropriate strategy to address the lifecycle of E-waste
- Define E-waste
- Import control Electronics.
- Confirmed support and funding for E-waste management
- Public-private partnership to collect to ship E-waste out
- Improper disposal
- Take-back/ drop off systems
- Export of e-waste to recycling facilities
- Legislations, policies
- Disconnect between ICT and environment stakeholders. Acting in silos.
- Repair and refurbishment
- ARFD system
- Collection
- EPRs

FADING ACTIONS

- Legacy E-waste
- Quality of E-waste has becoming lower

- Import of e-waste into Pacific

Hazardous Waste

EMERGING TRENDS

- New chemicals, building materials pervasiveness of chemicals and hazardous material
- Certain agriculture chemicals
- Inability of current regulations to catch up to newer chemicals and products
- E-waste generated from green technology
- Unregulated pesticides impacting environment
- Mine tailings
- Deep sea mining
- Advanced Disposal Fees (ADF)
- User pay system
- New technology (pyrolysis)
- Sub-critical water
- Uncontrolled import second hand goods & products
- End of life tires
- Solid state batteries chemicals
- Aerosol cans
- Shipwrecks
- AC freons
- Hazardous Waste Recycling facilities
- Chemical Management Infrastructure (addressing chemical products and wastes)
- Mining, Chemical Waste
- Evaluation of new chemicals imported into the Pacific (PFAS/FF foam)
- Removal of Li batteries
- Reflection in legislation (national) of international treaties/conventions
- Increased storms threaten to scatter waste
- Outer islands increased needs for waste management.
- Renewable energy technology, i.e., solar panels, wiring, etc.
- Waste to Energy – environmental impacts.
- Storage of hazardous wastes
- Transparency of legislation
- Radioactive wastes
- Lifecycle approach to chemical management
- Managing EVs

ESTABLISHED STANDARDS

- Established standard
- Container deposit scheme
- User pay systems
- Public Private Partners
- Bioremediation
- MEAs obligations
- Awareness in schools and integration of Waste Management in curriculum
- Update legislations
- Review IMDG code
- Signing to Conventions

- Keeping the Pacific spirit alive
 - Waste Management policies
 - Waste Oil Collection
 - Asbestos Ban Implementation
 - Enforcement of standards/regulation
 - Monitoring of “ “
 - Shipping of waste
 - Poor Comms on Basal Conventions – Focus on Pacific
 - Prioritizing lifecycle of medical waste
 - Maintenance and fuelling of incinerators
- Hazardous Waste Act (National Legislation) - Waigani Convention/MARPOL Convention

FADING ACTIONS

- Outdated legislations
- PCB
- DDT
- Quality Lead Acid Battery Recycling

Landfill

EMERGING TRENDS

- Divesting waste from landfill – recyclable, organic, hydroponics
- Controlling methane
- Leachate
- Landfills management for resources - energy recovery
- Regulation of incoming streams
- Urgent actions for landfills vulnerable to coastal erosion
- Information sharing and community engagement
- Processing landfill waste - characterisation of data, data centres and technical needs reviews; data analysis and capability
- Effective monitoring
- Content of pesticides – alternatives and replacements of toxics
- Landfill aerosols management (fires etc)
- Legislation policy, regulations review
- Commercial compost by private company
- Water testing to be done around landfills to know if surrounding areas are polluted.
- Dump shops to divert useful waste that can be repurposed from going to landfill
- Land availability for landfill space
- Controlled, Uncontrolled/ unplanned fires – poor maintenance, operation, management
- Resourcing/financing/budget support
- Segregating organics from usual trash
- Controlled access to the landfill
- Monitoring of waste to landfill (weighbridge)
- Curb side separation
- Disaster Waste
- special waste – hazardous waste i.e. Asbestos
- Collection Pillars Recyclers- change in attitude towards them [stigma removal]

ESTABLISHED STANDARDS

- Landfills- technology-Fukuoka
- Collection Pillars of recycling (CPR)
 - Waste pickers
 - Registration of pickers
 - Standards
- Establish standards for landfill – design [Disaster Waste: space to put DW for a long time prepare for future disasters]
 - Operation [segregate]
- Set separation standard
- Recording data on standards for landfill management – leachate, methane emissions, standards as well
- Review need for new standards
- Site and location
- Sealing
- Aerosols
- Rehabilitating
- note quality
- AFRD at sites
- Review existing laws is now needed
- Code of practice
- Financial sustainability in operating landfills
- New levy's easily passed
- Review of Fukuoka method landfills and promote it as a good practice for local government and communities.
- Scrap metal issue at landfills
-

FADING ACTIONS

- Uncontrolled dumpsites
- Poor management
- Waste oil/hazardous waste dump
- Country dependent situation
- Plastics enter landfill due to plastic ban
- Very few fading actions
- Legal - AG, Parliament

Other notes

- Ranadi- waste pickers at landfill an issue
- Controlled fires- started by dumpsite officers to control the amount of trash at landfill
- Uncontrolled/unplanned fires- started on its own & burning from inside the wastes (Tonga uses drones to find exact location to attack with water to put out the fire)
- Leachate testing using coral
- Convert open dumping areas into a structured landfill
- Semi-aerobic landfill standards but use local materials available for easy maintenance and do not need to keep asking for

Organic Waste

EMERGING TRENDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reintroducing traditional farming/ promote composting practices• Commercialise to motivate promotion.• Biodegradable products used for alternatives.• Hydroponic farming to save space.• Secure composts against pests and rats• Alternatives to plastic composters• Policy to oblige supermarkets to donate• Collection system for organic materials for concrete• Logo BAGAUS/ Biogause (sugar cane waster) to be used instead of imported materials• Waste to Energy example Solomon Islands Hospital – household level/ community/ institution. Bio-digestion – kitchen waste etc• Micro-financing / financial support• Tourism moving into composting.• Personal sanitation compost toilet• Education for schools. 'Field trips to landfills'. Composting at schools.• Landfill waste accumulating faster – 37% organics goes in the landfills• Composting facility at grassroot level• Commercial compost by private company• Household composting not famous• Farming of Black Soldier Flies for animal Feeds to manage organic flies.• School Farms• Shared community gardens• Vertical gardening• Improving Soils (using organic waste, composting etc.)• Biogas (Anaerobic Digesters)• Vermiculture• Dry litter (Animal Bedding)• Behavioural Change• Hydroponics in Niue to increase volumes and growth.• Aquaculture (fish & prawn ponds)• Subsistence farming in Vanuatu• Promotion of Biochar in Niue• Procurement of Composting equipment• International, regional and national capacity buildings• Increasing Waste Technologies• Promote Organic Farming• Collective Process Seaweed Waste from the beaches (Increasing as a result of urban pollution).• Use of Compostable Packaging and nappies.• Animal manure for farming input.• Sewage and Wastewater to capture nutrients.• Provide financial incentives for households to compost and supply wastes for composting.• Increased priority for local food production (food security) using organics inputs.• Manage daily expenditure for basic needs.
ESTABLISHED STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traditional knowledge

- Individual household compost
- Organic certification
- Composting facilities in communities
- Waste Segregation for proper composting and biodegradable mechanisms.
- Dry Litter Guidelines for Communities.
- Description of Organic Compost
- Enforcement of Policies and Regulations
- Need fact sheets and supporting documents for people to easily understand.
- Food waste reduction standards/ guidelines.
- Standards for Biochar for different uses.
- Feeding animals
- Ban policy for disposal in general waste.
- Maintenance and sustainability of the system.
- Family/ household biogas equipment
- Promoting composting standards
- Incentive systems for the households/ schools/ churches
- Ban policy for burning organic waste.

FADING ACTIONS

- Green waste/ organics going to landfill
- Backyard gardening is fading in some islands like Tonga
- Traditional knowledge on composting
- Banana circle in countries like Kiribati
- Burning waste
- Compost put into general waste
- No compost programme
- Lack of motivating programme to compost
- Throwing away food rather than giving to community
- Chemical fertiliser use versus organics
- Lack of support because of high cost of compost machine
- Lack of planning when ordering food for consumption (cultural)
- Avoid expensive collection system for waste.

Plastic Wastes

EMERGING TRENDS

- Water quality monitoring
 - Near landfills
 - Isotopes
 - Industrial effluents
 - Sewage effluents
 - Food system
 - Aquaculture monitor (pearl, fish, shellfish)
- Air quality monitoring
 - Illegal burning
 - Illegal dumping
 - Landfill
- Aerosol cans

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghost gear • Legacy plastic • Plastic alternatives and subs. • Behaviour change for plastic use, recycle and collection • Innovative technology transfer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Capacity sustainability, economic benefits • Plastic free traditional jewellery, flower, bag, costume
ESTABLISHED STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Use Plastics bans (legislation and policy) • Importation bans (hazardous plastics) • Litter ordinance • Some countries have CDS working, need to improve and scale-up.(Regional approach and indicator). • Bring your own shopping bags. •
FADING ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burning of disposed plastic – traditional practices • Plastic straws • Plastic flowers in cemeteries - in some countries • Expensive recyclable plastic material

Recoverable items not plastic

EMERGING TRENDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cans Glass • Textiles (fabrics) • Paper & cardboard • Tyres- use for retaining walls, steps, coastal protection etc. • Gas cans • Batteries • Waste oil • Second hand goods-repurposed (clothes, appliances) • Reuse/repairable items from waste stream (timber, appliances, tile, tins, iron etc.) • Timber going into the landfill, plywood etc. from demolition (recoverable) • No process to sort useful things from waste • Rubble for construction waste • Fishing gear/fishing nets (recoverable) • Recovery facility • As per zero waste network in New Zealand • Space for waste transfer station at landfill (sorting mechanism) • As per Japan municipalities (municipality fixes and people buy at cheaper prices) • Tyres • Floor tiles • Awareness and education campaigns on re-using/repurposing • Deposit/re-use systems (bring your own cups/container/plates) • Car sharing (sharing economy) • Library of things
ESTABLISHED STANDARDS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery/recycle of aluminium cans • Paper & cardboard • E-waste collection [non-plastic components from dismantling] • Gas canisters • Reuse of used tires for landscaping/beautification
FADING ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glass recycling • Paper & cardboard

Technologies

EMERGING TRENDS/New technologies (Appropriate/Affordable)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incinerator, waste to energy (municipalities waste) • Sterilisation (medical waste) • Pyrolysis? (depending on countries and regions) • Segregation technology (automatic) (municipal) • Drone for landfill survey • Tablet for data collection • Monitoring vehicles/vessels • Fencing booms/skimers • Reverse Vending Machines as part of a bottle return scheme • Biogas – organics processing • Transition of knowledge for operation of technologies is gap. Transfer of knowledge not constant • Black Soldier fly breeding for organic processing and then fish farm food etc. • Coconut fibre for oil spill absorption • Ocean Clean-up Alliance – marine litter collection (Boyen Slat initiative) • licencing for new waste technologies (not currently implemented in many companies) • Safety standards to be developed and implemented with new technologies. • The role AI – sorting, tracking, quality management, • Radar / drones / LiDAR for landfill surveys and illegal dumping / landfill identification. • Surveillance cameras for illegal dumping management. • Kobo tool box to capture information from disaster assessments • Pyrolysis for used oil, plastics, tyres • Microwave technology for medical waste treatment (new licencing and management standards) • New regulation to address emerging technology to ensure safe, enforceable and reportable. • Used cooking oil to biodiesel. (can be used for coconut oil or palm oil??) • In-vessel composting systems – information on when to use it and how to size it. • EIA process to ensure appropriate and no perverse impacts. • How to review and undertake due diligence for new technologies • New technologies to deconstruct tyres (metal bead, crumb) rather than pyrolysis • BioChar – high value process for woody waste (used at small scale and large scale). • Feedstock standards into the various technologies. • Shift to different fuel sources in the maritime industry – implicates changes to port facilities, etc. • New plastic impregnated bricks / shredded plastics entombed in concrete. • Hemp-crete (replacement)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glass grind brick replacement
<p>ESTABLISHED STANDARDS/Technologies to keep</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shredding machine (tires, plastic, grass) • Compactors (cans, plastic bottles, ELV) • Sanitary landfills (Fukuoka Method) with liner protection (municipal) • Biogas recovery (organic waste, municipal) • Refining (waste oil) • Pyrolysis system: waste to energy in Solomon Island (plastic) • Composting (organic waste) • Compactor trucks for collecting waste • Weighbridge to weight the waste and monitor • Organics chippers – maintenance issues still • Plastics shredding – assist to get product suitable for shipping • Baler – old and difficult to maintain and get parts – maintenance issue • Healthcare incinerators – management standards to ensure operating efficiently. Maintenance and diesel. • Capacity building needs for management and maintenance of the technologies. • Lifecycle management of the product (funding generation as well) • PPP for the operate and maintain given the issues of new technology • Sustainable housing – energy efficiency and last a long time so that we don't have loss and replacement in short periods of time. • Standards for bio-fuels – ensure appropriate use. • Evaluate the concept of Pacific E-Waste Recycling Hub • Concept of appropriate strategy to address the control lifecycle of e-waste. • Define e-waste • Import control of electronics • Confirmed support and study for E-waste management • Public, Private Partnership to collect e-waste and export
<p>FADING ACTIONS/Technologies we don't want</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open burning • Illegal dumping/landfill • 3Bs: Backyard, Burn, Bury • Move away from incineration as a waste management treatment technology • Move away from dispersants to manage oil spills in marine environment. • Pyrolysis of materials that have a higher value. • Quality of e-waste becoming lower • Legacy e-waste

Used Oil

<p>EMERGING TRENDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pyrolytic Conversion – • Understanding of used oil toxicity – motorbike • More and bigger cars – (ICE) • Preventing oil spills by allowing port discharge • Increase sharing of country best practice • Changing global markets for used oil – still constraints on using • Potentially polluting wrecks (WW2)
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- Oily waste filters/ rags etc - hardware
- More countries developing and using waste/ used oil management plans – emerging trend countries getting their act together (INSPIRE)
- Sustainable financing for oil/ import levy
- Cooking oil –
- Coconut oil as a substitute for hydrocarbon oil – lower imports into the country
- Hybrid vehicle imports – (doesn't prevent use of lube oil)
- Buyers want separated oil for overseas disposal
- Tonga waste oil shipping overseas solution (SURPRISE)
- Regulations, policies and financing
- Potential uses - pyrolysis – used oil plus ADO, diesel extender – used oil plus ADO
- Capacity for testing – Scientific Research Organisation of Samoa
- Management - collection, storage, disposal – solutions, safety environmental aspects
- Disposal issues
 - Testing
 - Insurance
 - Shipment container (ISO/tanks)
 - Permits (export permit, customs declaration)
 - Processing - initial cleaning/ water separation
 - Markets
 - Education and awareness plus training
- Plans
- Export (Voluntary) – oil company, some states
- Local use - coconut mills (Vanuatu), steel (Fiji)
- Despite its high value issues with disposal
- Example
 - 5 litres oil priced at USD 10
 - 5 litres ADO prices at USD 3.46
 - Equivalent to one third cost of USD 3.50
 - 100 KL = 100 T
 - USD 350,000 = USD 3.5 per litre

ESTABLISHED STANDARDS

- Lubricant for Motorbikes and machinery (power stations)
- Using used oil as a pesticide – RMI they use kill of coconut trees
- Green ports framework for Pacific Islands – encourage best practice
- PPE for staff and training
- Increase awareness and danger on danger of used oil and on how to properly manage it.
- Export controls for appropriate end use/ certificated disposal site regulated
- Provision of IBCs to private generators for collection
- Spillages clean up by biodegradation
- Data collection and recording

FADING ACTIONS

- Inappropriate use of used oil – paint on grass, field, furniture,
- Inappropriate burning of use oil/ disposal of used oil
- Long term storage must be suitable e.g. Not 44 gallon drums preferably ISO tanks

Annex 8: Clean Pacific Roundtable Media Stories

The following is a digest of media stories captured by the SPREP communications team during the 4th Clean Pacific Roundtable in Tuvalu. Please visit the SPREP website www.sprep.org and social media pages, SPREP Facebook/X (Twitter) for photos, reels and social media tiles featuring Pacific voices from different Members on the work to manage waste and protect the environment and natural resources of the Pacific.

1: Fourth Clean Pacific Roundtable advances journey towards Cleaner Pacific

9 August 2024, Funafuti Tuvalu – The Fourth Clean Pacific Roundtable (4CPRT) guided by the theme “Clean Environment. Resilient Oceans. Healthy Communities” has closed with a renewed focus to strengthen regional cooperation, collaboration, coordination and partnerships amongst Pacific countries, donors and development partners and to share best practices to enhance waste management and pollution control in the Pacific region. The focus is highlighted in the Outcome Statement of the Clean Pacific Roundtable 2024 which ended in Funafuti Tuvalu today. Facilitated by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and hosted by the Government of Tuvalu at the Rt. Hon Dr Sir Tomasi Puapua Convention Centre (TPCC) from 5 – 9 August 2024, it was attended by more than 200 delegates from the Pacific and abroad.

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/fourth-clean-pacific-roundtable-advances-journey-towards-cleaner-pacific>

2: Tuvalu Youth Champion Solutions to Plastic Pollution

Recognising the importance of empowering youth to take charge in creating a sustainable future for themselves, a National Schools Competition centred around the theme "Addressing Single-Use Plastic Pollution in Tuvalu" was conducted over the past two months.

The competition, launched in June, is part of efforts of the Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP) implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and funded by the Australian Government. It featured three categories: essay writing, poster design, and sculpture design for primary and secondary school students. A total of 180 students participated from schools across all eight of Tuvalu’s Islands.

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/tuvalu-youth-champion-solutions-to-plastic-pollution-in-national-competition>

3: Pacific countries and SPREP envision future of work to manage waste

8 August 2024, Funafuti Tuvalu - Waste management and pollution control remains one of the most pressing environmental issues facing the Pacific, a region already struggling with the impacts of the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. As the reliance on consumer goods rapidly increases, managing different types of wastes such as e-waste, healthcare waste, plastic, abandoned cars, disaster waste and other types pose a real threat to livelihoods of Pacific communities.

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/pacific-countries-and-sprep-envision-future-of-work-to-manage-waste-and-pollution>

4: First Plastic Dialogue hosted in Tuvalu

With the community of nations deadlocked in international negotiations to conclude a global instrument to end plastic pollution by the end of 2024, a first-of-its-kind Plastic Dialogue was convened today in Funafuti, Tuvalu, midway through the Fourth Clean Pacific Roundtable.

The Plastic Dialogue was organised by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) through the Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP) and funded by the Australian Government.

The dialogue provided a timely platform for more than 200 delegates to deeply reflect and take stock of the external and internal dimensions of the plastic pollution crisis that is severing Pacific peoples traditional connection to the Pacific Ocean that has nurtured, sustained and defined us for hundreds of generations.

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/pacific-islands-gather-in-funafuti-for-first-ever-plastic-dialogue>

5: Kiribati's lead-acid battery recycling system highlighted

7 August 2024, Funafuti Tuvalu - A commercial operation to recycle used lead-acid batteries in Kiribati, where 7000 tonnes of toxic waste has been removed from the island over a twenty year period, could be replicated and used in other Pacific nations to manage hazardous wastes.

Kiribati's lead-acid battery recycling system was highlighted at the Fourth Clean Pacific Roundtable in Funafuti Tuvalu as an innovative practice already effectively implemented to address the island's pressing environmental challenges.

"Lead acid batteries are some of the most common toxic chemicals you'll find around people's normal living environment in the Pacific," said Mr Alice Leney, of Kiribati Solid Waste Management Programme.

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/kiribatis-lead-acid-battery-recycling-system-highlighted-at-clean-pacific-roundtable>

6: How the Kingdom of Tonga is dealing with the scourge of End of Life Vehicles

6 August 2024, Funafuti Tuvalu - The mountain of End of Life Vehicles (ELVs) is an imposing challenge for the Kingdom of Tonga.

Statistics show that the main island of Tongatapu has accumulated more than 30,000 ELVs over the years – and with more cars being imported on an annual basis, this number is quickly multiplying, with consequences on the environment.

"If we don't dispose these vehicles properly, the consequences on our environment and future generations are dire," lamented Mr Saimone Vuki. "We can't ignore this."

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/how-the-kingdom-of-tonga-is-dealing-with-the-scurge-of-end-of-life-vehicles>

7: Work to reduce marine pollution in Pacific countries on agenda

6 August 2024, Funafuti Tuvalu - The Pacific Ocean is the lifeblood of our Pacific communities. It sustains livelihoods, cultures, and economies.

However, the growing threats of marine pollution because of oil spills, marine invasive species, and the legacy of World War II (WWII) shipwrecks, pose significant challenges to this delicate ecosystem. In terms of shipwrecks, there are over 3000 ships sank in the Pacific, with most of them in the economic zones of the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and Solomon Islands.

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/work-to-reduce-marine-pollution-in-pacific-countries-discussed-at-4cpert>

8: Pacific Islands region waste management challenges under the microscope

5 August 2024, Funafuti Tuvalu - Officials and delegates at the Fourth Clean Pacific Roundtable (4CPRT) have been urged to develop tailor-made waste disposal and management measures that are of practical use and application to circumstances in Pacific countries.

The call came from the Hon. Feleti Penitala Teo, Prime Minister of Tuvalu, when he opened the Fourth Clean Pacific Roundtable (4CPRT) at the Rt. Hon. Dr Sir Tomasi Puapua Convention Centre (TPCC), Funafuti Tuvalu, on Monday. From 5 – 9 August 2024, more than 200 delegates are gathering on the atoll nation to strengthen and advance the journey towards a Cleaner Pacific. This is the first face-to-face CPRT since COVID-19.

“As we all know, the management of waste materials is a worldwide problem. For the Pacific, the problem is becoming acute due to capacity constraints and increasing urban populations,” said Hon. Teo.

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/pacific-islands-region-waste-management-challenges-under-the-microscope-at-fourth-clean-pacific-roundtable>

9: Pacific-EU Waste Management Programme’s contribution to Cleaner Pacific highlighted in Tuvalu

2 August 2024, Funafuti Tuvalu - A project designed to ensure the safe and sustainable management of waste with due regard for the conservation of biodiversity, health and wellbeing of Pacific island communities is making a tangible difference in 15 Pacific countries where it is being implemented, contributing to a Cleaner Pacific.

The Pacific-EU Waste Management Programme (PacWastePlus), funded by the European Union and implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), which is now in its final year of implementation, is also contributing to stronger regional economic integration and the sustainable management of natural resources in the Pacific, through seven regional projects it is rolling out.

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/pacific-eu-waste-management-programmes-contribution-to-cleaner-pacific-highlighted-in-tuvalu>

10: Tuvalu sees opportunity in organic waste

1 August 2024, Funafuti Tuvalu - The impacts of the triple planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution is evident in every aspect of life in Tuvalu.

While the rising Pacific Ocean threatens shelters and homes of communities across the narrow coastline of the atoll nation, soil salination has adversely affected the land and non-resistant food plants such as taro, bananas, breadfruits, and vegetable gardens.

Mr Siliako Letueti and his family who are amongst less than 12,000 residents in the country have seen and experienced the impacts of this scenario over the years.

Read more: <https://www.sprep.org/news/tuvalu-sees-opportunity-in-organic-waste-in-effort-to-survive-triple-planetary-crisis>

4th Clean Pacific Round Table (CPRT) Assessment Report

Background

The Roundtable ensured the collective sharing of experiences, focused on the theme of ‘Clean Environment, Resilient Ocean and Healthy Communities’ and helped drive progress towards the Clean Pacific 2025 vision of ‘a cleaner Pacific environment’. It provided a platform of networking engagements among others.

The 4th Clean Pacific Round Table (CPRT) Assessment Report is a feedback analysis report gathered from 56 participants throughout the region and beyond, that represented the public sector, waste and environmental practitioners, development partners, private sector, community, NGOs, academic and research institutions. There were 45-65% women engagement during the meeting.

The questionnaire sought feedback from the participants (N=56) on the overall conduct of the CPRT from participants on a) degree of satisfaction; b) top three meeting features and what needs to be improved; and c) views on logistics and challenges. The participants also provided responses to questions on a) What did you like most of the meeting; b) What improvements would you suggest for the future meetings; c) Key takeaways or top 3 things that participants may implement at home; d) Top issues for CP2035.

Link to the survey

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/AnalysisPage.aspx?AnalyzerToken=3A5acSEeeA8stuDr1NAFd3LXgil1ewAm&id=FOsxfvz6uUatCRmuYxSZr7iAuEifA69Eozgm-QUvWXRUQks3T09CWVpBRDFWOU0xVUZaQ1Q0V08xUi4u>

Summary of the Feedback Assessment Report

1. Over-all 64% of the participants were ‘Satisfied’ on the conduct of the meeting.
2. CPRT’s strong meeting features emphasised on ‘Relevance’ (70%), ‘Networking and ‘Opportunities’ (63%), and ‘Participants Engagement’ (61%).
3. Participants rated ‘Excellent’ the effectiveness of facilitators (59%), and effectiveness of resource speakers (59%).
4. There is a need to focus further on the quality of content, information applicability, and presentation(s).
5. On logistical arrangements and support at least 80% of the participants indicated ‘Excellent’ rating on catering of food (80%), the venue of the meeting (77%), and the duration of the meeting (61%). However, what ‘Needs to be Improved’ included organisation of the meeting (46%); registrations, bookings, accommodation, materials used in the meeting (50%); and communication with SPREP organisers (52%).

6. Between 45-65% women engagement during the conduct of the meeting. The highest number of participants was over 300 and the least was 70 or less. This count includes guests, resource persons, country participants, in-country participants (Tuvalu), among others.
7. Across areas and topics, women became the voice of their own country who they represented across the Pacific e.g. AOSIS representative, INC negotiator, women-led Palau project implementation, etc.
8. Majority of the participants liked group discussions, networking opportunities, and country's sharing of experiences.
9. For future meetings the participants mentioned to consider the time (information ahead of time in hosting like this meeting), accommodation, and sub-meetings.
10. Key takeaways on this meeting that they could implement at home on this meeting by participants were waste (strategy, management, resources, solutions, collaborations). Another takeaway was awareness on waste (hazardous, plastic wastes, other waste issues).
11. Top issues considered by participants for CP2035 were on waste, plastics, collection (treatment, producers, corporate, disaster, technology, was streams, etc).

Conclusion:

From the participants' lens, they were very satisfied on the over-all conduct and management of CPRT. The meeting was effective and efficient.

CPRT Assessment Team

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