

**SPC Heads of Maritime Meeting and First Steering Committee Meeting for
the Pacific One-Maritime Framework: 22-26 April 2024, [Nadi, Fiji]**

SPREP Items for inclusion in the Agenda of the Heads of Maritime Administrations and Agencies Meeting, for the information of attendees.

1. HOM invitation to the 4th Cleaner Pacific RoundTable in Guam (1-5 August 2024) and their participation in the showcasing and closure of the *Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy 2016-2025* (Cleaner Pacific 2025) and their contributions to the visioning and development of the Cleaner Pacific 2035, with marine and maritime issues much more prominently addressed. It will involve the business, government, and donor sectors.
2. HOM invitation to attend the proposed PacPlan (SPREP and USINDOPACOM) Executive Leadership Workshop in Guam (associated with the CPRT events). This is being planned as a professional development opportunity for maritime administration agency senior managers and executives, focussed on maritime emergency leadership, decision-making and management, following an approach of mitigating risk across Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery phases.
3. PacPlan Resilience Project update – to mitigate risk of financial and environmental shortfalls from a spill, four of the six primary countries in the project now have funding agreements (2024-25) to assist them to deliver national outcomes using and building local capacity, including renewing their National Plans. Each country is also being offered an opportunity to review and update their international and domestic legislation. Progress is also being made on regional challenges, including forensic analysis (USP), website (SPREP), re-engagement of the US (through the USCG) (and France) as active metropolitan support countries, proposed new competency-based response qualifications, the OSRL response capability offer, wider regional support (APHoMSA, ITOPI and IOPC), and Noumea convention ratification by non-member PacPlan countries.
4. SpillCon 2023 – PacPlan supported 12 of 14 member countries to attend and contribute to the international SpillCon conference, in Brisbane, September 2023. SPREP Director General (Sefanaia Nawadra) provided a contextual plenary presentation, and chaired a programme session on Pacific Challenges, with five speakers representing the diversity of Pacific challenges. There was also a SpillCon workshop on role of the IOPC.
5. RETOS Workshop – PacPlan and IMO also ran a three-day regional workshop on *Developing oil spill preparedness and response planning in Pacific Small Island and Other Developing States* that showcased the RETOS™ evaluation tool. Twenty-six other global

spill response experts also attended and shared their experience and expertise. The purpose of the workshop was to build capacity within PacPlan member countries, through sharing international experience and up-to-date knowledge, which provided a rich and valuable experience for all involved. It was a mutually beneficial learning experience.

6. Noumea Convention COP – PacPlan Plus proposal as endorsed at the 2023 SPREP Meeting and the Noumea COP, to explore improved means to deliver PacPlan outcomes across the members. Based on an assessment of ongoing challenges and forthcoming risks, during 2024, proposals for future change in PacPlan addressing challenges in organisation, governance, structure, delivery, support, and funding will be explored, developed, and consulted on, with member countries. Alternative models for sustainable delivery beyond 2025 will be assessed for application within the Pacific, including assessing wider (beyond members) regional funding and support.
7. The GEF-UNDP-IMO GloFouling Partnerships Project is a global response to invasive marine species via biofouling. Fiji and Tonga are the Pacific Lead Partnering Countries. National and regional workshops have generated a regional strategy and a draft biofouling management action plan. A second regional workshop is planned for September 2024, to discuss and review the completed regional strategy and action plan. The project concludes in May 2025.
8. IMO Glo litter Partnerships project supports developing countries, to identify opportunities for the prevention and reduction of sea-based marine plastic litter from the maritime and fisheries sectors. Vanuatu is the Lead Partner Countries and Solomon Islands is a Partner Countries. Both have received assistance with drafting of national marine litter action plans.
9. Marine Litter Action Plan (PMLAP 2018) with funding support from the UN EP Regional Seas Programme Clean Seas Campaign, is an outcome of CP25 and the Pacific Oceans Prevention Pollution Programme (PACPOL) 2015-2020. Within the 11 pillars are legislative instruments, prevention of shipping and terrestrial pollution, management of transboundary waste, behaviour change, and disaster waste management. The PMLAP midterm term will deliver an updated framework that also includes the Plastic Pollution International Negotiating Committee processes, which also align with the UNEA5.2 resolution “End Plastic Pollution: Towards an International Legally Binding Instrument”. The first INC meeting occurred late in 2022 in Uruguay, INC 2 was in France in May 2023, INC3 was Kenya in November 2023, and INC4 is in Ottawa, Canada in April 2024. PICs attend each with funding support from Australia DFAT.
10. A developing PACPOL 2035 is being positioned by SPREP as a bridge between Cleaner Pacific 2035 (CP35) and nascent Pacific One Maritime Framework (POMF) – IMO and other maritime and marine pollution programmes can contribute to both the CP35 and the POMF, so are being developed and positioned to show that there can be significant

synergy in regional cooperation and collaboration. PacPlan (and any derivative), as well as PMLAP and other programmes with maritime or marine elements can be expected to be promoted into both CP35 and a POMF that addresses behaviour from the maritime, fishing, ports, mining, or shipping sectors that cause or increase environmental impacts or damages. Multi-sector outcomes supported by multi-lateral donors are likely to be more prominent in the future.

11. Proposed SPREP IMO ITCP Activities – SPREP is continuing to seek IMO support for regional development programmes to support PACPOL, PacPlan and national maritime and marine pollution challenges. Proposals seeking IMO support for the next 2 years include regional and national workshops on the MARPOL Annexes, PSSAs, increasing ratifications of the London and OPRC/HNS Protocols, and regional workshops on improving understanding of, implications of and opportunities for addressing insurance, cost recovery and restoration from spills and responses.
12. Proposed SPREP/PacPlan competency-based micro-qualification (MQ) on Maritime Incident Management to complement the five new PIEMA Disaster Risk Management MQs, on response Risk, Leadership, Coordination, Management, and Exercises. It would allow staff in both maritime response and disaster management roles to gain complementary recognizable and transferable formal qualifications and build greater in-country capacity. Maritime incident response is different, at quite fundamental levels (context and scenario, hazards, legal, mandate, technical, administration, liability, competency, liability, funding, compensation, investigation, forensics, etc.), and so cannot simply be picked up by an enthusiastic National Disaster Management Office or system, and treated the same as any other natural disaster or technological incident. The course may be the beginning of a series of MQs addressing more detailed responsibilities and functions, to support a maritime incident response, within the PPRR model of Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery.

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