



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Twentieth SPREP Meeting

Apia, Samoa
17 – 20 November 2009



Agenda Item: 11.1: Streamlined reporting by Pacific Island countries to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements – progress update

(Paper presented by Australia)



Australian Government

Background Paper

Purpose of paper

1. To provide an update on the Australian Government's project to streamline reporting by Pacific Island countries (PICs) to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).
2. A full report detailing progress on this project is attached as Attachment 1.

Background

3. At the 19th SPREP Meeting in September 2008 under Agenda Item 8.1. 'Streamlined reporting by Pacific Island countries to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements - the development of a consolidated reporting template', Members were provided with an update on the streamlined reporting project and were invited to review the report on outcomes of the trial of the consolidated reporting template in the Pacific. Members were also asked to consider agreeing to broaden the trial of the consolidated reporting template to all self-governing PICs in 2009.
4. Members agreed, pending formal consultation with the MEA Secretariats and with their support, to broaden the trial of the consolidated reporting template to other self-governing PICs in 2009.
5. In February 2009, the draft consolidated reporting template was sent out for comment to the Secretariats of the five biodiversity-related MEAs:
 - Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
 - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);
 - Convention on Migratory Species (CMS);
 - Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar); and
 - World Heritage Convention (WHC).
6. Feedback has been received from four of the five Secretariats. Further details of the feedback received is provided in the progress report.

Recommendation

8. The Meeting is invited to:
 - **review** the progress report and recommendations on the streamlined reporting project
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