

Development Partners for Climate Change (DPCC) Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, 19th January 2011 **Venue:** UNDP Conference room **Time:** 10.00 – 12.00 hrs

Overview/ Welcome – Chairperson

An introductory preamble by the chairperson was presented and 2010 events were recaptured, as well as outputs from the DPCC network.

Agenda item 1.0 Debrief from the Conference of the Parties (COP) 16 – SPREP/ Diane McFadzien

SPREP organized a preparatory meeting for Pacific Island countries three days prior to the Cancun meeting, in which SPREP provided countries with an update of the current status of negotiations, and provided support to member countries to revise their negotiations positions for the meeting. The third day was devoted to negotiations training, as requested, and many countries expressed appreciation for these events. SPREP also took a media team to Cancun, made up of the SPREP Media officer and two Pacific journalists, who organized one side event (with speakers from three Pacific countries, and CROP agencies) and ensured that the Pacific voice and concerns was heard by both Pacific and international media. Key outcomes in Cancun of relevance to the Pacific included:

Adaptation: The establishment of an Adaptation Framework and Adaptation Committee – which will lead to more resources being allocated towards adaptation (and puts it on a level playing field with mitigation), as well as agreement that the issues of loss and damage and an insurance mechanism will now be added to the formal UNFCCC work plans, working towards a decision at COP 18.

Mitigation: This was a highly political issue, with agreements reached on the need for developing country mitigation actions, and strengthened reporting requirements (through national communications and the addition of biennial GHG inventories), while donor countries will be made to provide more detailed reporting against funding and support provided to developing country parties. Flexibility and discretion has been granted to SIDS and LDCs on mitigation reporting.

Finance: The meeting in Cancun took note of the financial pledges from Copenhagen, and also established a new fund (the Green Fund) which will be governed by a board made up equally of developing and developed country nations. SIDS secured 2 seats on this new board.

In terms of next steps, 2011 will see work go into further defining governance structures of both the adaptation and finance boards, as well as sources of funding – calls for written inputs (submissions) from both Parties and Observers have gone up on the UNFCCC website. In terms of next steps, SPREP will be discussing plans for input into Durban at the 2011 Roundtable (14th – 17th, March) and will be sending out a final report from Cancun, shortly.

Agenda item 2.0 Forum Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM) updates on the development of the financing options – PIFS/ Coral Pasisi

Small Island States (SIS) Leaders requested the Forum Secretariat to work with relevant organizations to develop mechanisms to assist countries access the different international financing options for climate change. They agreed that regional coordination of climate change financing under the Cairns Compact will be critical to the effectiveness of aid delivery and utilization. The paper, compiled by the Forum Secretariat, draws on the experience of the region in accessing and implementing climate change resources at a national, sub-regional, regional and multi-lateral level. The paper also indicates some preliminary options for further analysis at the national level including direct budgetary support, national trust funds, and the coordination of donors more effectively at the national level. It also discusses regional and multilateral options.

Small Island States (SIS) Leaders (seven¹ of the Forum Leaders) at their SIS Leaders meeting agreed to the following: SIS Leaders directed the Secretariat and SPREP to facilitate the development of a regional financing modality to administer manage and monitor the influx of funding. SIS Leaders tasked CROP agencies to provide technical assistance in developing relevant project proposals in order to access EU funds. Leaders agreed to the need for strategic focus and urgent action to address access to, and management of, current and proposed funding for climate change in the region. In pursuing options for improved access to and management of climate change resources, the focus of activity should be at the national level in the first instance, and where appropriate regional and international options should be considered, for example, a regional climate change facility. Leaders requested that the Secretariat coordinate the development of an options paper to explore thoroughly a range of approaches in consultation with other relevant stakeholders, including SPREP, to be presented to FEMM 2011, prior to final submission to Forum Leaders for decision at their 2011 Meeting.

Agenda item 3.0 Climate Risk Assessment – USA Embassy/ Norman Barth

The International Research Institute (IRI's) Climate Program is a center of expertise in the development and communication of forecasts, monitoring, historical analyses and other climate-information products. IRI developed these products to meet the needs of local decision makers and others who work in sectors such as agriculture, water resources and public health. The Climate Predictability Tool (CPT) for example, is specifically designed to assist National Meteorological Services to produce their own tailored, downscaled seasonal climate forecasts, either using global datasets (such as sea temperature measurements) or dynamical model outputs from the WMO's Global Producing Centers. The Climate Program works closely with sectoral experts in health, water resources, agriculture and disaster management, to identify areas in which

¹ Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu

climate information can be used for decision making and planning and to ensure that the information is tailored to the needs of the users. To achieve its goal the Climate Program has identified the following objectives:

1. Develop and demonstrate expertise across the range of scientifically credible forecast and monitoring methodologies used by operational centers around the world;
2. Develop new products (as well as improve existing ones) to generate and to meet demand for climate information;
3. Define and implement international standards for generating and communicating climate information;
4. Enable operational climate centers to provide climate information by developing software tools and supporting materials that encapsulate best practices for generating such information.

In addition Climate risk uses climate predications to take action to reduce adverse outcomes and covers a broad range of potential actions including early response systems (ERS), strategic diversification to avoid adverse outcomes due to climate. Climate Risk Management (CRM) aims to maximize opportunities in climate-sensitive sectors through improved resource management. Seasonal predictions are already available in the Pacific through the following agencies: IRI (International Research Institute); PI-CPP (Pacific Islands Climate Prediction Programme); NOAA; and ECMWF. Examples are included in the prediction of rains in the southern pacific. These weather predictions on precipitation and temperature elements are critical for Agriculture, Health, Water management, and Energy management in Fiji and PNG. The details of the International Research Institute for Climate and Society can be found on their website - www.iri.columbia.edu , and are active in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Agenda item 4.0 Overview of UNDP's priorities in the area of Climate change in 2011 – Emma Mario

Currently the focus has started to shift from initial operational capacity building and assessments to substantive (hardware-type) implementation. These overview on UNDP priorities in the Area of Climate Change will include aspects on Mitigation, Adaptation and the UN-REDD+ programmes.

Mitigation

These Mitigation measures are fixed on “low emissions & climate resilience” e.g. Palau’s Renewable Energy Fund Window (REFW). The REFW will finance off-grid/grid-connected solar PV and solar water heater (SWH) systems for both households and businesses. Through a mix of subsidies and loans (and equity for commercial projects), REFW financing will improve the affordability of the RET systems, encouraging the widespread application of renewable energy in Palau. So far National Development Bank of Palau (NDBP) has committed US\$1 million of internal funds to the REFW and US\$570,091 is committed from Sustainable Economic Development through Renewable Energy [SEDREA] (for required preparatory work and support to demonstration projects). EIB is currently appraising a request for €2 million, which will also be used to fund the loan program for the REFW.

Adaptation

These Adaptation measures are fixed on increasing resilience of coastal areas and community settlements in response to climate change. Examples are the cross-sectoral adaptation in Tuvalu’s coastal, water, agriculture sectors. Progress is given in the way agencies cooperate such as the establishment of the National Climate Change Advisory Council (NCCAC) and start-up activities undertaken.

UNREDD+

A mechanism to Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) by helping developing countries to provide a positive incentives is being done to protect and sustainably manage their forest assets. The “+” is to ensure conservation, sustainable management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in the process. The UN-REDD Programme was launched in a collaboratively in 2008 under FAO/UNDP/UNEP (One-UN) to help countries and the international community (including UNFCCC) gain experience with REDD Country-driven programmes and a global support programme in coordination with other initiatives, for example the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). There are two UN-REDD National Programmes with direct financing of the UN-REDD Programme: PNG (US\$6.4 million) and Solomon Islands (US\$550k) - both are to start in 2011. A UNDP-led initiative by Regional REDD+ Readiness Support Project (US\$ 360K), with funding from Japan is will be launched in 2011 to support Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Tonga - starting from February/March 2011.

Agenda item 5.0 Any Other Business (AOB)

AOB item 5.1 Australian Aid (AusAID) updates

Australia is deeply concerned about the vulnerability of Pacific Island Countries to the effects of climate change and is continuing to give priority to the Pacific in the allocation of ‘fast-start’ adaptation assistance. As part of a \$599 million climate change fast-start finance announced in June 2010, the Pacific will receive support of up to A\$80 million within the next two years. Australia will continue to work closely with partner governments, regional organizations and other donors to ensure its funding is directed to the most urgent needs and is well coordinated with the national and regional priorities identified by Pacific leaders: Media releases 2010 Page 1 of 2 http://www.climatechange.gov.au/en/minister/greg-combet/2010/media-releases/Dece..._24/1/2011. These funds will build on the work already underway in the Pacific through Australia’s International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative. Australia’s assistance is helping partner countries prepare for and respond to climate change, including helping Samoa implement adaptation activities in water, forestry and tourism sectors, assisting Vanuatu protect coastal roads, increasing water security in Tuvalu.

AOB item 5.2 United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Country Scoping Studies to Build Evidence on Children's Vulnerabilities to Climate Change and Disaster Impacts

Few climate change studies have focused specifically on children. Analysis using specific (or existing) child development indicators has been particularly limited. Through country studies, UNICEF, with support from Reed Elsevier, aims to make a contribution to this effort. UNICEF's East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO), together with UNICEF Country Offices in Viet Nam, Mongolia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and the Pacific Islands, will undertake country studies to develop empirical evidence of the probable climate change impacts on children (based on available data but on a timeframe up to 2050). UNICEF's East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO) will conduct a regional literature review in advance of the country studies in order to provide a common basis and understanding on which to begin more focused, country-specific analyses. The local consultant (for each country study) will be hired and managed by UNICEF's East Asia and Pacific Regional Office (EAPRO), or participating Country Offices, and in consultation with the study steering committee. UNICEF will ensure appropriate guidance and support in close collaboration and consultation with Reed Elsevier and other UN organisations, for their engagements in key steps of the research and dialogue process, including providing in-depth comments on draft outputs. UNICEF will also ensure that guidance is provided at all stages and that experts input is obtained from relevant ministries and agencies.

AOB item 5.3 Delegation of the European Union updates

The Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific presented an update on the Joint Initiative on Climate Change, for which a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed (on 15.12.2010) between the European Commission and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. The MoU intends to enhance partnership with the Pacific ACP Countries, building on the Joint Declaration on Climate Change. The objectives will be to:

1. Facilitate a common understanding and joint responses to climate change challenges in the Pacific, as well as more coordinated positions in the international debate wherever possible; &
2. Facilitate the progress towards the agreed strategic priority of adaptation to climate change and pursue sustainable development strategies using both direct national and regional approaches.

A plan of action is currently being developed in order to deliver on the objectives of this Joint Initiative.

The first of the follow-up events to the Joint Initiative is going to be held in Port Vila from 28.02 to 04.03 and will include:

- A 3-day senior-level technical workshop on mainstreaming climate change into partner countries policies, strategies and budgetary processes (part of a series of workshops provided worldwide under the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA))
 - A one-day policy dialogue that will take forward the aid effectiveness agenda in the area of climate change and deepen the debate on the links between CC and DRR in the Pacific
 - A half-day High Level Conference which will provide the political guidance to launch the implementation of the Joint Initiative.
- This Climate Change conference is also listed in the Calendar of events below.

AOB item 5.4 South Pacific Regional Environment Programme SPREP updates

The Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR) has been confirmed for the 14th to 17th of February, to be held in Alofi, Niue. This should not be viewed as a 'SPREP meeting' but rather the biennial regional event which brings together governments, development partners, CROP agencies and civil society organizations, to discuss all issues relevant to the region on climate change. 2011 agenda will include discussions on financing, adaptation, mitigation, knowledge management, international negotiations, with training sessions for countries also on communications and more generic capacity building. Given that flights into Niue are limited to once per week, members were encouraged to register their interest in attending early (with Joyce at SPREP – joycet@sprep.org) and to book flights early.

AOB item 5.5 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) updates

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) was established on 1 January 2011. It brings together under one roof the expertise of the Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst (DED) gGmbH (German development service), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH (German technical cooperation) and InWent – Capacity Building International, Germany. As a federally owned enterprise, GIZ supports the German Government in achieving its objectives in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development. GIZ operates in more than 130 countries worldwide with approximately 17,000 staff members.

AOB item 5.5 Calendar of events

Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific

28/02 - 02/03: Workshop on mainstreaming Climate Change into national policies and budgets, Port Villa, Vanuatu

03/03: Policy dialogue on aid effectiveness and Climate Change /Disaster Risk Reduction, Port Villa, Vanuatu

04/02: High level ministerial conference on Climate change, Port Villa, Vanuatu

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme

14/03-17/03: Pacific Climate Change Roundtable, Alofi, Niue

International Research Institute (IRI's) Climate Program

03 – Visit to the Embassy of the United States of America (USA)

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

05 – FEMM Options paper, TBC

07 – 15th Pacific Islands Forum Economic Ministers' Meeting, Apia, Samoa

Appendices 1 – Participants

Participants:

1. Australian AID (Aust AID) - Ryan Medrana, Marina Illingworth
2. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)– Felix Ries
3. Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific – Cristina Cassela, Annick Villarosa
4. Embassy of the United States of America (USA) – Sandeep Singh, Nolan Barth
5. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) – Tamura Minoru
6. New Zealand AID – Arati Sudkahar, Emma Dunlop-Bennett
7. Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) – Coral Pasisi, Manoa Tupou
8. Pacific Islands Geoscience Commission (SOPAC)/ SPC – Tagaloa Cooper
9. Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SPC) – Caroline Tupoulahi-Fusimalohi
10. South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) – Diane McFadzien
11. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Knut Ostby, Toily Kurbanov, Emma Mario, Gabor Vereczi, Thomas Jensen, Laiakini Waqanisau
12. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – Reiko Miskelly, Samantha Coco-Klein
13. University of the South Pacific - PACE: Dr. Murari Lal, Dr. Helen Descombes

Appendices 2 - Development Partners in Climate Change (DPCC) Meeting

Wednesday 19th January 2011 – UNDP Conference Room 10:00 – 12:00 hrs

Time	Agenda Item	Presenter
10:00 - 10:05	1. Opening/ Welcome	Chairperson
10:05 - 10:25	2. Debrief from COP 16	SPREP/ Mr. Espen Ronneberg
10:25-10:35	3. Forum Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM) updates on the development of financing options papers for Leaders	PIFS/ Ms. Coral Pasisi
10:35 – 10:55	4. Climate risk management	USA Embassy/ Mr. Norman Barth
10:55 - 11:25	5. Overview of UNDP's priorities in the area of Climate change in 2011	UNDP/ Ms. Emma Mario
11:25 – 11.55	6. AOB	
12:00	End of meeting	