



Pacific Regional Preparatory Workshop for the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee

Objectives of the Meeting

**Regional Declaration on the Prevention of Marine
Litter and Plastic Pollution and its impacts**



WHAT ARE THE GOALS FOR THE EVENT?

Workshop Aim

The aim of the workshop is to provide Member Governments with the assistance they may need in negotiating a global agreement to address plastic pollution covering the whole of life cycle of plastics.

Objectives

Outcome 1: PICTs are able to actively engage in negotiating a new binding global agreement that's in line with the Pacific regional declaration on plastics.

Outcome 2: PICTs are able to establish regional positions to engage meaningfully in global negotiations.

Outcome 3: PICTs are able to establish negotiating positions with other SIDS to engage in global negotiations.

WHAT IS THE PROGRAMME LIKE

	Tuesday 16 August	Wednesday 17 August	Thursday 18 August
Mornings	<p>Workshop Day 1</p> <p>Opening of the Workshop</p> <p>Objectives of the meeting</p> <p>Regional Declaration on Plastic Pollution.</p> <p>The Global Problem: What is required by countries on the road to the INC-1.</p> <p>Why does the Pacific need a global agreement on plastic pollution.</p>	<p>Workshop Day 2</p> <p>Cluster group work – world café format Cont.</p> <p>Cluster (3): Sustainable Production and Consumption</p> <p>Cluster (4): Sustainable Product Design and Manufacture</p>	<p>Closed Meeting to Members</p> <p>Issues of importance from workshop for discussion</p> <p>Summary of Key issues for discussion at the first INC</p> <p>Summary of key findings and discussions from the six clusters</p> <p>Coordination of P-SIDS leading up to INC 1, 26 November- 2 December 2022 Uruguay</p>
Afternoons	<p>Key issues discussion at INC-1.</p> <p>Cluster group work – world café format.</p> <p>Cluster 1 Objectives, Definitions and Structure of Work</p> <p>Cluster 2 Institutional Framework</p>	<p>Cluster group work – world café format cont.</p> <p>Cluster (5): Environmentally Sound Waste Management</p> <p>Cluster (6): National Action Plans</p>	<p>Communications strategy</p> <p>Other matters</p> <p>Adoption of the Meeting key outcomes</p>

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

2015
**Cleaner
Pacific 2025**

2017
**Pacific
Islands
Leaders
Outcome on
Plastics**

2018
**Pacific
Regional
Marine
Litter Action
Plan 2018 -
2025**

**IMO Marine
Litter Action
Plan**

2019
**Pacific
Games
Samoa**

**WCPFC
CMM 2017-
04 on
Marine
Pollution**

2021
**Pacific
Regional
Declaration
on the
Prevention
of Marine
Litter and
Plastics
Pollution
and its
impacts**

2022
**UNEA5.2
INC-1**



REGIONAL DECLARATION ON PLASTICS

- The purpose of this Declaration is to provide a Pacific regional position on plastic pollution.
- This is in response to on-going regional concerns about the disproportionate impact of plastics and increasing inflows of plastics into the region.
- Members were consulted in the development of this Declaration through four consultation workshops culminating in the endorsement by Ministers Talanoa and High Level Session in 2021. Agreed by all SPREP Members except the United States.
- Key points to note:
 - Marine litter and plastic pollution continue to be a grave concern to the Pacific region with increasing impact to Pacific people including cultural, social, economic, human health, biodiversity, and the environment and food security.
 - The current international and regional instruments are not sufficient to prevent the acceleration of these impacts.
 - Therefore the Declaration supports the establishment of an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to negotiate a new binding global agreement covering the whole life cycle of plastics.

REGIONAL DECLARATION ON PLASTICS

- Reiterate commitments in existing regional frameworks such as the Cleaner Pacific 2025, Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan, Pacific Islands Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas
- Express grave concern on the impacts of plastic pollution at each stage of its life cycle on the enjoyment of certain human rights for current and future generations
- Express grave concern for important cultural iconic migratory marine species who are especially vulnerable to the impacts of marine pollution through entanglement and ingestion
- Pacific region produces as little as 1.3% of global plastic pollution, disproportionately affected by its impacts
- Concerns about use of virgin plastics produced annually, 9% of plastics has been recycled, 12% have been incinerated, 79% of all produced plastics have accumulated in landfills or the environment



REGIONAL DECLARATION ON PLASTICS

- Recognise the ecosystem services provided by our Ocean
- Stress the importance of Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge Systems, Practices and Innovations
- Recognise the link between Plastics and Climate Change
- Declare to support the INC process to negotiate a binding global agreement to cover the full life cycle of plastics
- Call for need for financial and technical support mechanisms to adapt international science and best practise to the challenges specific to our region, technology transfer and capacity building, recall UNEA decision 2/11 to assist SIDS to establish and implement necessary policies, regulatory frameworks and measures addressing plastic pollution



REGIONAL DECLARATION ON PLASTICS

- Call on future discussions on the agreement to support implementation measures such as national plans and targets, as well as monitoring including suitable regional indicator species and reporting to support Pacific region meet its measurable marine litter and plastic pollution elimination targets
- Call on future discussions to consider the reduction of virgin plastic production, phasing out of toxic and avoidable plastics, problematic and single-use plastic products and additives and the harmonisation of design and labelling standards, to support the transition to a safe circular economy and to find alternatives
- Call on urgent and immediate ACTION to help protect our region and Peoples from further marine litter and plastic pollution impacts
- Emphasis the need for INFORMATION and SUPPORT to scientific research on plastics and plastic pollution data collection on waste plastics and material flows



REGIONAL DECLARATION ON PLASTICS

- Support ambitious policy implementation measures such as national plans, noting the importance role of private sector in driving solutions such as product stewardship
- Emphasis that Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge Systems, Practices and Innovations with free prior and informed consent must be an integral part of the solution to the plastic pollution crisis