PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT
Excelling Together for the People of the Pacific

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PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM
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20 August 2012

HE Mr Robert G. Aisi
Ambassador /Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations
Chair of Pacific Small Island Developing States
201 East 42nd Street, Suite 405
New York, 10017
United States of America

Dear Ambassador Aisi,

RIO+20 IMPLEMENTATION

At the outset let me take this opportunity to sincerely congratulate you and the Pacific SIDS team in New York for your collective leadership, insight and sheer hard work that culminated in a Rio+20 Outcomes Document that represents a very good outcome for the Pacific region. The reaffirmation of the 'special case' for SIDS, agreement to hold a 3rd International Meeting on SIDS, and the strong text pertaining to oceans and fisheries, are particularly positive outcomes for all SIDS. The fact these outcomes were strongly driven by SIDS with the broader support of the G77 grouping is certainly not missed by our Members and was highlighted several times during our week of Forum officials meetings.

2. I write to you in your capacity as Chair of the Pacific SIDS grouping in New York to provide an update on preliminary CROP efforts to map out an implementation process for relevant Rio+20 outcomes in the region.

3. As you will know, CROP engagement at Rio+20 conference was strongly focused around side-events which included the High level 'Oceans Day' event (16 June); the CROP-led 'Green Economy in a Blue World' event (19 June); and the Commonwealth Secretariat-led SIDS 'Across the Regions' event (19 June). Other engagements for CROP representatives included: bilateral discussions with the UNDP Administrator (Helen Clark); participation at the UNDESA-led Inter-Agency Consultative Group (18 June) and the UN high-level Roundtable (June 22); attendance at the high-level 'Leaders valuing Nature Breakfast' hosted by Indonesia (21 June) and the 'Global Partnership for Oceans' event that was hosted by the World Bank and Monaco.

4. As our region continues to take stock of the Rio+20 outcomes and build upon the substantive efforts that many stakeholders have channelled into the 'Rio+20 process' over the past two years, CROP Executives have directed the Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) to work with relevant stakeholders to unpack the Rio+20

outcomes (within the Pacific context), identify implementation gaps that are not adequately covered off in existing work programmes, and identify potential mechanisms to address these gaps.

5. To initiate this work an informal meeting of the SDWG was convened on 4 July 2012, where a subgroup of members discussed key outcomes of Rio+20 and options for translating these outcomes into effective and tangible activities through a coordinated approach at both the national and regional levels. Members of the group, which includes representatives from relevant CROP,UN System agencies, and NGOs, agreed that implementation efforts must be linked to, and complement, global discussions on the post-2015 development agenda/sustainable development goals (SDGs), and consider opportunities afforded by the proposed 3rd International meeting on SIDS.

6. As the post-2015 agenda and process to development the SDGs takes shape, it will be important for the region to consider how it effectively engages in these processes. During preliminary discussions, SDWG Members emphasised that this engagement should be guided by the degree to which this work supports national and regional development aspirations and how they are measured. It was agreed that CROP together with Pacific based UN Agencies should by nature of their respective mandates, play an important part in assisting PICs define, develop their position, and input to the post-2015 agenda/Sustainable Development Goals global processes.

7. Existing regional processes can clearly assist with contextualising Rio+20 in the Pacific and developing some options for consideration of countries, including priority areas for SDG development. These efforts and information should also feed into the review of the Pacific Plan which will play an important role in translating these global agreements into relevant regional efforts as it has in the past. By adopting this approach, the Pacific Plan can remain relevant and articulate the Pacific regions' approach to sustainable development where appropriate and in support of countries' own efforts.

8. As Dr Russell Howorth may have briefed you on 7th July during his visit to New York, in taking this analytical work forward, the SDWG, in tandem with the Marine Sector Working Group (MSWG) and the UN System, has commenced collating a forward-looking 'implementation matrix' (matrix) which is attached to this letter. The matrix attempts to identify key priorities and opportunities to implement leaders decisions outlined within the Rio+20 Outcome Document. Its objective is to identify where relevant Rio+20 outcomes can be integrated into existing efforts in the region (including the Pacific Plan review, regional frameworks, national and sector development plans), and how new issues might best be addressed in line with existing processes and opportunities in the region.

9. While the matrix will inevitably shift in scope with time, the collation process has been useful in helping draw-out several priority areas for high-level discussion going forward into the pending Forum Leaders meeting which will be held later this month. These priority areas along with the draft matrix were discussed at an *ad hoc* meeting of the CROP Executives on 29th July. Key discussion points and outcomes of this meeting are summarised below.

Key Outcomes of CROP CEO's Ad hoc Meeting (29th July 2012)

i. Executives reviewed the draft matrix at an *ad hoc* meeting of CROP CEO's and agreed that the matrix should be shared with NY Missions and should be treated as a 'working document'. Furthermore they considered it important to further

contextualise the matrix against the unique challenges facing PICs and existing mechanisms for implementation. Discussion also emphasized the need for any post Rio+20 work to focus upon well-established regional priorities.

ii. Expanding on this point, CROP Executives recognised the extensive existing institutional framework, policies, efforts and gains in the region which have progressed sustainable development aspirations of the region effectively to date. In this context, Executives reiterated the need to ensure that efforts to implement relevant aspects of Rio+20 should account for the uniqueness of the region and use existing mechanisms where ever possible without creating duplication and additional reporting channels. In this respect, Executives noted the important opportunity presented by the pending review of the Pacific Plan to consolidate these efforts and reporting lines.

iii. CROP Executives noted in particular the importance of supporting SIDS in their preparations for the 3rd International Meeting in 2014 and to help facilitate necessary collaboration with CARICOM, CCCCC, and IOC to this end. They noted opportunities could be explored for preparatory/expert meetings in a number of different SIDS towards the 2014 meeting. Clearly, we see an important role for the Pacific region in this process with respect to hosting the meeting proper, or alternatively at least one or more key preparatory meetings.

iv. CROP Executives agreed upon a series of recommendations that were subsequently taken forward to the Pacific Plan Action Committee (PPAC). These recommendations were discussed in plenary on 31st August and the resulting recommendations have been integrated in to a Chair's letter addressed to Prime Minister Puna as the Chair of this year's Forum Leaders meeting in the Cook Islands.

v. The Chair's letter recommended… "*that Leaders welcome the important outcomes of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) for the Pacific, including reaffirmation of the special case for Small Island Developing States, an emphasis on oceans, and the decision to develop Sustainable Development Goals. The Committee also recommended that Leaders actively support the convening of the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in the Pacific region in 2014.*" Furthermore the PPAC recommended that Leaders:

   a. *task the Forum Secretariat, in collaboration with CROP and UN agencies, to work closely with Forum Island Countries to develop a Pacific position on the post-2015 agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, and to contribute effectively to the relevant global processes, including the 68th UN General Assembly in September 2013;*

   b. *call on the UN system to clearly map out a merged process for the post-2015 and Sustainable Development Goals paths at the 67th UN General Assembly;*

   c. *call for Pacific representation on the Sustainable Development Goals Working Group and the Finance Working Group proposed in the Rio+20 outcome document; and*

   d. *acknowledge the importance of the review of the Pacific Plan in 2013 as an opportunity to better reflect global thinking on the post-2015 agenda and Sustainable Development Goals in the Pacific region's master strategy for regional integration and cooperation.*

At the *ad hoc* meeting CROP Executives also agreed to: (i) explore opportunities to contextualise and capitalise on Green Growth opportunities in the region, bearing in mind this should not come at the expense of FICs existing development aspirations and priorities; (ii) ensure that the existing priorities and policies of the region remain *front* and centre within any proposed activities stemming from Rio+20 analytical work; and (iii) explore opportunities with donors and development partners to pursue opportunities for implementation of key Rio+20 outcomes within the region.

1. Of particular note, Executives agreed to explore the potential of working with UN agencies in the region through a 'special taskforce', to ensure collaborative and united advice is provided to PICTs on the types of global goals and targets they might seek and how this fits into the post 2015 development agendas. Subsequent discussions (6 August) with representatives of Pacific-based UN agencies indicated a strong level of support for this idea providing it drew on existing mechanisms and expertise such as the Sustainable Development Working Group.

2. Discussions also highlighted opportunities for CROP engagement at a UN-led Pacific regional workshop being planned for late 2012 (potentially in October or November) which will feed into the UN process towards contributing to the MDGs/post-2015 development agenda. UN agencies have subsequently agreed to explore opportunities to engage CROP in this workshop to ensure regional efforts are fully maximised.

3. Finally, I note that Executives agreed to explore opportunities to convene a regional meeting to assist with progressing Rio+20 relevant matters in the region, noting this should be held with sufficient preparatory time to ensure respective CROP councils can provide the necessary direction and input, including to link with preparatory aspects of the SIDS International Meeting in 2014. Such a regional meeting should be ideally be convened in the first quarter of 2013 and that the date should be further consulted with member countries and CROP Executives.

10. So in closing, on behalf of the CROP Executives, I hope that you find this update and information useful as we collectively turn our focus towards translating the Rio+20 outcomes into meaningful action for our Pacific's Peoples, natural resources, and ecosystems. As we track forward, CROP Executives look forward to hearing your views and to re-invigorating and strengthening the partnership between PSIDS NY Missions and CROP agencies.

Yours faithfully,



Feleti P. Teo
Acting Secretary General

Attach:

Annex 1. Rio + 20 Implementation Matrix – Progressing Rio+20 Outcomes in the Pacific Region

The following matrix attempts to analyse portions of the Rio+20 Outcomes Document that are considered to be of high relevance to the Pacific region. In identifying priority areas, it is recognised that the Pacific region faces unique socio-economic and environmental development challenges. The challenges are numerous but key amongst them are: vulnerability to global crises, climate change and extreme weather events; limited access to ICT, human and capital resources; isolation from major markets; relatively limited industry; and in most cases high unemployment, high youth populations and small domestic markets.

In light of these challenges the matrix attempts to: (i) identify key cross-cutting and thematic areas, (ii) outline their relevance, (iii) highlight gaps and associated challenges, (iv) identify implementation considerations, and finally(v) identify some pending implementation opportunities or important next steps. Out of practicality, this matrix makes no attempt to capture the multitude of activities and programmes that are currently aimed at promoting sustainable development within the region. Rather it attempts identify where relevant Rio+20 outcomes can be integrated into existing efforts in the region (including the Pacific Plan review, regional frameworks, national and sector development plans), and how new issues might best be addressed in line with existing processes and opportunities in the region.

Section 1 – Cross-Cutting Themes

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES	PACIFIC RELEVANCE	GAPS IN TEXT AND ASSOCIATED CHALLENGES	IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS	PENDING OPPORTUNITIES
Sustainable Development Goals (para 245 – 251)	• Reiterates commitment to the full and timely achievement of the MDGs. The development of SDGs should not divert focus on achieving MDGs. • The SDG process is inter-governmental in nature so there is good scope for Pacific governments participating and "owning" the goals. While global in nature and universally applicable, the goals should also take into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development. Therefore Pacific SDGs that get submitted to the regional and global	• The Rio+20 text gives of the regional and sub-regional organizations the strongest mandates yet from global agreements. It also states that specificities of national and regional/sub-regional circumstances provide the overall context for implementing green economy. There remains, however, a need to clearly define and follow the Pacific regional and national plans for implementation and their links with/to the larger regional (Asia-Pacific) and global plans of the intergovernmental process outlined in the Rio+20 text.. • The UN system is tasked in the Rio+20 outcomes document to "support the regional economic commissions in collecting and	• SDGs Working Group to be set up by 67th UNGA (18 September 2012). Group will consist of 30 representatives, nominated by Member States through the 5 UN regional groups. (It is important that that the Pacific has a representative on the SDGs Working Group). • Development of SDGs should not divert efforts from the achievement of the MDGs. • The SDGs process "needs to be coordinated and coherent with the process to consider the post-2015 agenda". The SG will use the UN Task Team on Post 2015 and the High Level Panel to provide expert advice and inputs	• PICTs should consider nomination of a representative through the Asia Pacific Region, for the open working group as soon as possible noting only about 7 weeks remain before deadline of 18th September. • ESCAP to advise on nomination process of UN regional groupings • To ensure participative & inclusive process, CROP & relevant technical agencies, CSOs and private sector to provide input/proposals for consideration of PICTS. • PIC/Partners Meeting; Conferences/meetings in the Pacific

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES	PACIFIC RELEVANCE	GAPS IN TEXT AND ASSOCIATED CHALLENGES	IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS	PENDING OPPORTUNITIES
	process should be focused on Pacific priority areas for achieving sustainable development, being guided by the Rio+20 outcomes document which contain most Pacific priority areas. • Pacific Plan reporting based largely on MDGs. Environmental indicators key weakness identified in reporting, steps currently being taken by PIFS/SPC/SPREP to rectify. This could contribute to SDG (and indicators) development	compiling national inputs in order to inform the global effort" (para 251) and the SDWG will need to agree how to approach the national process/discussion and determine how that feeds into the sub-regional/regional process. • 'Youth issues' are considered a high priority in the Pacific, and while they are referenced 15 times within the Rio+20 text, the issue of 'Youth' is not addressed as a separate thematic or cross-sector issue. • The process on how the SDGs process will link up with the Post-2015 process is not clearly mapped out, especially the work of the UN Task Team on Post-2015 and the UN High Level Panel on Post-2015 Development Agenda with the yet-to-be-formed SDGs Working Group. This process must be resolved to ensure that two sets of competing global goals are not developed 1 • SDGs (including targets & indicators) should be action oriented, concise and easy to communicate, limited in number, aspirational, global in nature and universally applicable to all countries while taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities. • SDGs process needs to be integrated with the post-2015 development agenda process already underway. • SDGs should be focused on priority areas for the achievement focusing on a balanced approach that address all three pillars of	and will report progress of work to the General Assembly. • Development of Pacific regional position on the SDGs needs to coincide with these key post Post-2015 Development Agenda milestones. • Work being carried out by PIFS/SPC/SPREP to around the streamlining reporting has identified key should help inform the development of SDG, M&E and reporting processes. • On the UN side, the UN Statistical Commission in consultation with relevant UN systems and other relevant organizations, has been mandated by Rio+20 to launch a program of work to develop broader measures of progress to complement gross domestic product and building on existing initiatives. • Consider the handling of critical issues such as youth to see if it should be addressed in the Pacific as a separate thematic/cross sector issue. • Development of Pacific regional position on the post-2015 agenda/SDGs needs to coincide with key milestones in the global process. • UN High Level Panel on Post-2015 scheduled to release its Report by February 2013 – target to provide an emerging Pacific position for consideration by the Panel. • Proposals for post-2015	between now and first quarter 2013. • Opportunity I for a post Rio+20 regional workshop before the end of the year (CROP and UN to organize and fund) and/or in the first quarter of 2013 to start compiling SDGs and strengthen the Rio+20 implementation process. • UN System confirmed support for a regional workshop and are exploring opportunities with relevant CROP agencies.

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		sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) and issues that are of global and regional importance (e.g Oceans, NCDs).	agenda/SDGs expected to be tabled at 68th UNGA (Sep-2013). • Work being carried out by PIFS/SPC/SPREP to around the streamlining reporting has identified key should help inform the development of SDG, M&E and reporting processes • Involve PIFS/SPC/SPREP Group working on indicators and streamlined reporting.	
Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (para 56-74)	• Affirmed the need different approaches for different countries. • UN System invited in cooperation with relevant stakeholders to assist with matching interested countries with partners to provide support; provide best practices, case examples, methodologies and tool boxes; as well as platforms to progress these upon request. • SDWG NSDS partnership's main objective to develop NSDS can incorporate green economy approach • SPC notes the need for some examples and that SPC has particularly interest the energy sector	• Context for application of green economy policies in Pacific is particularly unique and strongly influenced by the oceanic ('blue') environment which provides some rational for the regional application of green economy policies and approaches • Information and understanding on green economy approaches in the region is limited. • The role of youth is note articulated.	• Defining the opportunities for the application of green economies in the region will require significant site specific work and input from a number of stakeholders. • There is potential to amend TOR for NSDS partnerships and use this as mechanism to assist countries to develop green economy NSDS • Efforts should consider how green growth can include youth – and provide new areas for young people's employment in Pacific. • Given the political disagreement between 'North' and 'South' on green growth – it is worth noting potential advocacy role of PICs as champions of 'green growth'. • High degree of development partner	• The 2012 Private Sector Dialogue with Forum Leaders will in part focus on Green Growth opportunities in the region and will provide opportunity for further awareness raising and strategy development. • Support and integrate Asia-Pacific experience in development of green economy policies and tools (ESCAP through SDWG) in line with appropriate mechanisms[2] • ESCAP and others (UNDP and DESA) to compile regional synthesis from green growth national assessments to case study good lessons for sharing) • Korea (key PFD Partner of the Forum) is global authority on Green Growth and has committed to support

[2] Re mechanism in accordance with Rio+20, this should be in accordance with: (1) The productive systems are affected by climate change and need to develop adaptation strategies, (2) In many parts of the world agriculture heavily relies on chemical inputs, likely to be more and more expensive in the future. On the other hand growing demand for food and bio-energy imply increasing production in the future, (3) Farming, livestock production and deforestation are major GHG producers, (4) Forest and agricultural lands can be major carbon sinks under appropriate management practices. Further mention could be made of indigenous groups as major stakeholders in local and regional climate change supportive efforts. Source: Green Economy and Agriculture: Tools for policy makers to account for (Accessed: http://www.uncsd2012.org/index.php?page=view&type=1000&nr=73&menu=126.)

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			support for renewable energy and energy priorities for PICTs.	PICs in this area. Explore opportunity to define this support at the next senior officials meeting with Korea in September 2012. • High degree of development partner support for renewable energy and energy priorities for PICTs.
SIDS and the Global Meeting 2014 (para 178 – 180)	• Acknowledges sustainable development with SIDS has progressed less than others, or in some cases has regressed. • Reaffirmed support to special case of SIDS and addressing vulnerability through BPoA, MSI and a Third International Conference on SIDS in 2014. • Follow-up mechanism already acknowledges BPoA and associated agreements will be monitored by proposed high level forum (refer below).	• Very short timeline for proposed 2014 meeting preparations which may potentially co coincide (and compete) with preparatory processes for MDG and SDG development in post 2015 context. • PICTs have never hosted a global conference of similar scale which will pose significant logistical arrangements, support and resource challenges.	• 67th GA to determine modalities of the 3rd International Conference. • Given previous hosting of Caribbean and AIMS regions, generally wide spread support for Pacific host. Fiji, Samoa and Barbados have formally tabled interest in hosting the 2014 SIDS Conference. • Encourage dialogue to agree on hosting logistics of 2012 conference.	• The regional hosting of 2014 SIDS conference would raise profile of the Pacific and its unique challenges and opportunities, and may provide substantive economic and ODA funding spin-offs. • An offer of early support to the host country will help facilitate Pacific ownership and ability to more strongly influence agenda. • There strong merit in the 2014 conference being hosted in the Pacific.
Institutional change from CSD to universal intergovernmental high level political forum. (para 75-86)	• BPoA and MSI listed as key documents for this high level forum	• No clear indication of whether SIDS retains an arrangement similar to previous CSD sessions in which, out of the two week Commission, a full day was dedicated to SIDS issues. • Ability of all PICTs to engage in the process to define the High Level Forum.	• General Assembly to define further the High Level Forum and processes towards first formal meeting at 68th UNGA in 2013. • Likely to raised during upcoming 67th UNGA.	• PSIDS Leaders and UNSG meeting in wings of 67th UNGA could impress on UNSG the need for SIDS representation within relevant High Level Forum and processes

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Regional, national, sub-national, local (para 97-103)	• Acknowledges importance of regional dimension of sustainable development and the role that regional frameworks play in promoting SD, and concrete action at the national level. • Encourages the development of sustainable development strategies, and underlines the need for coherent and integrated planning and decision making,	• Engagement of regional entities in follow-up process defined in terms of the intergovernmental nature of the process. • Coordinating the large number of regional stakeholders and institutions in the Pacific context to support in a coordinated and collaborative manner, PICTs key priorities for SD. As noted above, there is a need to coordinate the link between the national process/inputs and the sub-regional and regional processes. • Inter-linkages between thematic and cross-cutting issues need to be fully identified. •	• The Pacific Plan was amended in 2007 to facilitate specific regional support and reporting on SD in the Pacific Region. This platform is the basis for current collaboration amongst all regional agencies including UN, CROP and NSAs. • Suggestions made above re the SDGs and green economy may be helpful in supporting the Pacific Plan/CROP process.	• Subject to Leader confirmation, the Pacific Plan will undergo a full review starting Sept 2012 –2013 which presents an important opportunity to update as necessary key issues and priorities arising from Rio+20. • Support to PICs critical national efforts through ongoing modalities such as the Strategic Engagement and Planning and Financing Facility of SPC.
Oceans and seas (para 158-177)	• Overall, prominent section on Oceans which is considered to adequately cover support to deterring overfishing, overcapacity, IUU and subsidies • The text reinforces and supports the importance of ongoing work in fisheries management, development and combating IUU fishing, both at regional and national level, and the need for sustained support for this work. • Measures to support building SIDS capacity to develop national capacity to benefit from sustainable fisheries including improved market access. • Significance and vulnerability of coral reefs and mangroves to impacts of climate change, ocean acidification, fishing and pollution.	• Lack of reference to maximizing economic benefits for PICTs and SIDS • Did not address disproportionate burden for SIDS regards to conservation efforts. • Lack of distinction between conservation, protection, sustainable resource use and development. • Reference to precautionary principle is weak. • Section on marine protected areas is not strong, and simply recalls Aichi Targets • Especially disappointing is failure to advocate for an amendment to UNCLOS to allow establishment of High Seas MPAs • No reference to emerging potentials in deep sea minerals. • No specific reference to the need for PICs to finalise maritime baseline, zone and boundary arrangements and declare these in accordance with UNCLOS. • Gaps in PICT regional marine research	• CROP Marine Sector Working Group (MSWG) developing implementation strategy linking priorities outlined in Oceanscape, PIROP and other relevant regional Ocean resource frameworks, with funding support opportunities. • Efforts within region to establish MPAs within EEZs and *de facto* High Seas MPAs – e.g. through PNA – need to be promoted and supported • Support to PICTs to better coordinate marine scientific research efforts across all sectors. The lack of declaration of maritime zones and limits, hampers marine resource management and monitoring including migratory fisheries.	• The 2012 Leaders Forum theme Ocean focused and therefore provides opportunity to highlight relevant challenges and opportunities • AUD25m announced by Australia for the Pacific Oceanscape Framework and 9m for Coral Triangle Initiative. • The Global Partnership for Oceans looking to Pacific region as initial focal area. • World Bank – Fisheries Engagement Strategy (USD250m globally with 11 PIC WB members standing to benefit). Strong opportunities to multiply funding (up to 9-fold) through programmes involving three or more PICT countries. • Second phase of Oceanic Fisheries project approved by GEF. • Global ABNJ FAO managed project, funded by GEF with opportunity to influence regional focus.

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	• Strong conservation focus, with calls for global efforts including through Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). • Agreement to progress issues related to conservation of areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) • Key issue raised by PSIDS utilizing Pacific Oceanscape as primary mechanism for implementation	coordination and collation of marine scientific data. • Issues of eutrophication mentioned but weak, this is the No. 1 issue impacting near-shore marine ecosystems at this time and degrades resilience to the effects of CC. • Mention of sea level rise and erosion simplistic and unhelpful – must lead to a strong call to address the urgent need for improved environmental/physical monitoring and research to detect change and develop and implement appropriate, data based response options in PICTs		• Ongoing efforts to complete technical and legal solutions to facilitate PICs to declare their respective maritime baselines, zones and outer limits including extended continental shelf claims. • Improve disparate / sectoral efforts to collate and coordinate of marine scientific research. • Ongoing efforts to develop regional and National deep sea minerals guidelines and policy for PICs. • Need to build PICT capacity and fund approaches to address marine water quality issues. • Sea-level monitoring at 12 locations has been underway in PICs for 20 years, need to expand this and link to shoreline and groundwater science.
Capacity Building (paras 277 - 280)	• There are good references to the importance for human resource development including training, strengthening institutional capacity in relation to sustainable development . • The text includes a good balance of gender specific references.	• No reference to unique and limited capacity constraints of SIDS, nor to the potential role of capacity supplementation. • Capacity building in terms of data collection and analysis and planning are not specifically mentioned in here though it is mentioned in other sections (para 85 (l)) and para 101	• In their 2011 Communiqué Forum Leaders noted the particular capacity constraints of PICTS and called on development partners to increase sustainable capacity building efforts including capacity supplementation.	• A Regional Technical Support Mechanism (RTSM) to support PICTS climate change capacity to effectively respond to climate change is under development with funds secured under the Climate Investment Fund (CIF). • The Pacific Trade Development Facility (PTDF) is under development to support capacity of PICTS in trade matters. • UNFPA advises the development of a Regional Strategy on Statistics [Ten Year Pacific Strategy for Statistics] aimed at strengthening national capacities to produce data for an

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				agreed set of national minimum development indicators. • UNFPA notes ongoing work on population data.
Poverty Eradication (paras numerous incl. 56-74, 105-107)	• Poverty eradication is given the highest priority. • Recognises that sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth is key to reducing poverty. • Acknowledges that universal access to social services and social protection systems also important. • Encourages initiatives aimed at enhancing social protection for all.	• No specific reference to the Pacific island countries poverty rates or levels. Emphasis need to be placed on actual figures and statistics. • This section does not do much justice to the Pacific SIDS expression of poverty: The following is from the MSI+5 Pacific Regional Review	• Noting emphasis in text on "women and children constituting the majority of most affected groups" and on access to social services and social protection. • Recommendation to liaise with local governmental organizations or nongovernmental organizations involved in gathering valid statistics or information on poverty rates, eradication means; health statistics and vulnerability data	• Upcoming Pacific Leaders Forum meeting in Cook Islands provides opportunity to highlight social protection in the Pacific. • Upcoming "East Asia and Pacific Conference on Public Finance, Social Policies and Children" 24-26 September will be attended by government representatives from Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Fiji. Provides opportunity to increase dialogue between MoF and social sectors on enhancing access to social services and protection. • Possible Regional Conference on Social Protection (ADB – tbc) • Upcoming review of Early Warning Sentinel Monitoring System in 2012 provides opportunity to shift system away from GEC to longer term poverty reduction and sustainable development issues. • National efforts of developing countries and complement your effort should be highlighted in more detail. Social protection measures in relation to climate change should also be emphasized. • "Sustainable Development to reduce poverty" is the key language in Rio+20 and other fora. Therefore in future project proposals this issue should be

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				addressed as an essential part of the outcome (impacts/benefits)

Section 2 – Sectoral Themes

SECTORAL THEMES	PACIFIC RELEVANCE	GAPS IN TEXT AND ASSOCIATED CHALLENGES	IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS	PENDING OPPORTUNITIES
Water and Sanitation (paras 119-124)	• The text reaffirms and validates the efforts currently underway in the Pacific both nationally and regionally in the following areas: • Focusing the attention of leaders to bringing water and sanitation within the development agenda. In the outcomes text it states the need to water in sustainable development and its 3 pillars. • Highlighting the need to take an IWRM approach which is being carried out through the Pacific IWRM Programme both nationally and regionally • Focusing attention on commitments regarding the rights to water and sanitation through on –going policy and planning efforts. • Highlighting the need to focus attention on adopting measures to address floods, droughts and water scarcity validating the work being done to bring the Water and Sanitation regional consultations alongside the Disaster Platform in September 2012 for outcomes which position water against DRM and CC. • Provides for a validation of EBM approaches which are being carried out through the GEF Pacific IWRM Project along	• Although integrated water resource management is addressed in para 120 however, it does not address the context of household water resource use and management during times of natural disasters. The links are also missing to the gender dimension of household water resource management where women are the major user and consumer of water in terms of their household duties such as cooking and washing. • Highlighting the need to focus more attention on addressing the sanitation challenge in the globally/regionally including through the use of eco-sanitation options. • Highlighting the forecasted high rates of urbanization requiring attention in the coming years including peri-urban areas and the provision and planning of services for this. • Strengthening capacity to sustainably manage and protect water resources as a fundamental	• Should be in line with Pacific interests in integrating these perspectives within the climate change regional national and international portfolios • Need to consider gender and natural disasters dimensions • Need to secure new financial resources • Increased Awareness of this issue and promotion of proven adaptable technologies such as animal enclosure waste composting technologies, biogas digesters etc. • Ensure that the Rio+20 Outcomes are directly factored into existing and planned strategic approaches to water and sanitation at regional and national level in PICTs.	• Upcoming review of Regional Strategies by SPC and PIFS Pacific Plan. • Possible interventions are being considered through Climate change programmes. • The development process and outcomes associated with the revised Pacific Regional Action on Sustainable Water management • The development of National Water, Sanitation and Climate Outlooks as part of the efforts towards building the revised strategy. • Ongoing formulation of water and sanitation governance frameworks can provide the opportunity for stronger reflection of the outcomes where appropriate. • Collaborative efforts with the DRM and CC sectors through the Joint Strategy process. • Asia Pacific Water Summit to be held at a date yet to be confirmed in 2013. • UN System in collaboration with SPC continues to support to water, sanitation (and hygiene promotion) in LDCs, and

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	with other partners such as IUCN who are also working in this area. • Appreciation for water and sanitation being a whole of sector approach from resource management, governance and service delivery. • In most PICTs communities, raising of livestock for food security, traditional and customary purposes, and surplus as extra income, is practiced with very little extra inputs. Managing animal waste as a result of raising these livestock is a serious issue that can contribute to unhealthy general environment, possible spread of livestock diseases, and possible source, and spread, of zoonotic diseases to humans. Scarce water sources also become polluted.	element of climate change adaptation efforts, recognising that water is the primary medium through which climate change will impact on island members. • Water security for a Green economy whereby water is seen as vital to transition to a green economy so important to reflect the importance of water security for the green growth agenda should countries pursue this at the national level • Recognising that green growth requires ensuring water security for future generations and providing solutions that achieve more growth with less resource use. "Doing better with what we have". • Lack of adequate sustained effort to ensure that animal waste management is addressed to protect and preserve water quality. • Pressures on quality water availability expected to be higher with climate change. • Hygiene promotion is missing from the sanitation language in the text, no reference either in health and education related paragraphs. Paras are focused on water.		the development of Pacific WASH strategy.
Energy (paras 125-129)	• Rio Outcomes are just in line with the adopted Framework for Action on Energy Security in the Pacific (FAESP), more specifically: a) Emphasized universal access to modern energy services that are reliable,	• Does not address the critical issue for the Pacific the very high cost of interisland transport • Use of "low-emission technologies" and "advanced energy technologies" without defining the	• In line with the Implementation Plan for the FAESP and regional projects of the Pacific Energy Oversight Group. They include: o DIREKT- USP o KOICA – USP	• Need to support implementation of the Regional Energy Strategy • Additional financial resources are required as are closer coordination with effort of other development partners.

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	affordable, economically viable and socially and environmentally acceptable. b) Acknowledged the supremacy of national and sub-national policies and strategies in driving sustainable energy development. c) Emphasized using an appropriate energy mix, incentives and R & D to meet developmental needs, including renewable energy sources and other low-emission technologies, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources. d) Noted the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative and it goals to be achieved by 2030: i. Ensure universal access to modern energy services ii. Double the rate of improvement in energy efficiency iii. Double the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix • Alternative source of renewable energy - Animal waste could be a source of renewable energy for domestic use in livestock farming communities in PICTs	parameters opens up "nuclear" to qualify under this. • "Cleaner fossil fuel technologies" is an excellent term to use. Most of the energy assistance to the region is on renewable energy and energy efficiency and very little support to petroleum. • Lack of readily available alternative renewable energy sources for household and communities.	○ North REP – SPC ○ PALS – SPC ○ PECF – PIFS ○ PIGGAREP – SPREP • Increase awareness of and promotion of biogas digesters as alternative sources of renewable energies. • There is need to address the challenge of access to sustainable modern energy services • Improving energy efficiency, increasing the share of renewable energy, cleaner and energy-efficient technologies are important for sustainable development, including in addressing climate change	• Specific effort needs to be directed at increasing awareness of this technology and promotion of wide spread use/adoption.
Sustainable Tourism (paras 130-131)	• Tourism is a major contributor to economic growth in the Pacific region. • The marketing of the region as a pristine and eco-friendly destination provide opportunities for investment in sustainable tourism development and employment creation, particularly for indigenous people	• Lack of adequate funding and support for tourism development programmes at regional level. • Lack of air access to, from and within the region. • Lack of infrastructure development for air and sea access.	• In line with the Pacific Plan, tourism's priority over the next few years would be to "improve the capacity of the tourism sector" to: accelerate the development of emerging geographic and niche markets, including eco cultural tourism; facilitate opportunities to develop and expand	• Specific Collaboration with UNDP on the development of Standards, policy and regulatory framework for Tour operators and Travel Agents in the region with Project focus on economic development and poverty alleviation. • Collaboration programme with GIZ

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	and local communities. • Capacity of the tourism sector at regional and national levels need to be improved to realize the full potential of tourism driving economic growth and sustainable tourism development in the region.	• Lack of capacity in local communities and SMEs in sustainable management and promotion of tourism products. • No mention of importance of protected or wilderness areas in promoting tourism in the region	cruise ship tourism; and develop the capacity and sustainability of small to medium sized tourism enterprises. • The 'Pacific Regional Tourism Capacity Building Programme' (PRTCBP) under the 10th EDF is currently being implemented by SPTO. The PRTCBP is for three years and focus on the three key areas of Sector Planning and Policy Development; Market Research and Marketing; and HRD and Capacity Enhancement. • Policies to improve waste management are essential to protect the image of the PI as an attractive destination and to prevent further degradation of coral reefs due to eutrophication. • Improved access to unique tourist destinations will require improved, safe sea access. Need to improve regional hydrographic (sea floor mapping) capacity to support this.	on RE and EE, and sustainable community tourism development in selected PICs • Collaboration Programme with CDE on E-marketing support and on-line training for SME accommodation providers in the region • Collaboration Programme with SPREP on Environmentally sustainable Tourism Projects • Collaboration projects with SPC on Cruise and Renewable Energy • Collaborative efforts with AusAID and Australian Hydrographic Service to build Regional Pacific Hydrographic capacity to support improved safe vessel access to port facilities.
Sustainable Transport (paras 132-133)	• Rio Outcomes are in line with the overall goals of the regional *Framework for Action on Transport Services*: 1. Access to safe, secure and competitive transport services 2. Sustainable, reliable and affordable transport services	• No mention of international safety and security obligations • No mention of international compliance regime • Lack of investment in infrastructure especially air and sea ports • Lack of capacity in maritime aviation administrations, maritime training institutes and ports • No mention of long distances and	• Implementation of regional responsibilities under the *Framework for Action on Transport Services* in areas such as: ○ Economies of scale ○ Development and harmonization of standards across the region ○ Regional leadership, strategic engagement and advocacy ○ Capacity building/supplementation ○ Policy analysis, research and development	• Collaborative efforts with AusAID and Australian Hydrographic Service to build Regional Pacific Hydrographic capacity to support improved safe vessel access to port facilities. • Additional financial resources are required to fully implement regional responsibilities under the *Framework for Action on Transport Services* and closer coordination with efforts of other development partners is required.

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		trade imbalances resulting in high cost shipping and aviation services	○ Systems for data collection, analysis, reporting and information dissemination • Distance within the region between islands and island countries in the region and distances to markets impose very high costs on imported fuels.	
Health and Population (paras 138-146)	• UNFPA's mandate on health and population is adequately addressed in the following paragraphs: 138,139, 140, 141, 143, 144, 145 and 146. • Focus on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) without forgetting other health issues – crucial approach in the Pacific where NCDs are a crisis. Universal coverage also mentioned and is necessary as part of the fight against NCDs and beyond. Very relevant to the Pacific again in light of NCDs • From the health perspective, Rio+20 is additional political leverage for tackling the NCD crisis. • The pacific region is relatively free from most emerging and re emerging diseases of humans and animals. 70% - 80% of these emerging and re emerging diseases in humans originate from animal sources (SARS, Birdflu etc). It is therefore important that part of any efforts to address these emerging and re emerging diseases in humans be directed at preventing them occurring at source (addressing the animal source).	• Some gaps exist in the text in terms of the fuller consideration of increased life expectancy, the challenges of population ageing and managing their specific needs, migration in the context of small island states as a pool of skill people for overseas job markets, the stalled fertility transition in a number of PICs, GBV/VAW and its impact of SRH and maternal • Capacities, mechanisms, and necessary systems are lacking in most PICTS. • Multi sectoral collaboration needs to be established and strengthened Paras 140 and 143 contain only passing references to infant and child mortality; para 146 focus is on sexual and reproductive health • No linkages with water, sanitation hygiene; no linkages with nutrition.	• Need to consider Ageing policy and the challenges of providing specific services for an aged population; Migration in the context of labour mobility; Review fertility transitions and incentives for family planning; and Health systems response to GBV/VAW • Vitally important that PICTs are able to prevent the introduction of these diseases, and be prepared, to be able to respond effectively to them. These capacities, systems and collaborative mechanisms must be established and maintained • Pacific participated in the June 2012 High level child survival call for action global conference on "Committing to child survival, a promise renewed". • The Fact Sheet provides specific targets and recommended strategic shifts: intensifying efforts in 4 countries with over 30 per 1000 U5 MR; sustain national progress in others, with specific attention to underserved communities; scaling up cost effective solutions; addressing the socio economic determinants of maternal and child survival.	• Ageing policy, services and traditional intellectual knowledge; Population dynamics, migration and labour mobility; Addressing the stalled fertility transition in a number of PICs by repositioning family planning ; and Health systems response strategy of GBV/VAW • The adjustments needed to effect the health changes are not included, such as improving data collection and quality, training the health workforce to tackle NCDs. The social determinants lens here gives a neat link to the Health Islands Initiative to ensure the Pacific relevance. • Past projects addressed prevention and preparedness efforts. However, sustained efforts need to be made to build upon improvements and capacities established, and testing of these systems regularly undertaken to keep abreast of developments and technologies. • Child survival call for action pledge renewal is already signed by Ministers of Health of 8 PICs, with another 6 pledges in process.

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				• Regional partnership on immunization remains active in the Pacific, for 22 PICs and Territories • Opportunity to "get to 0" parent to child transmission of HIV in the Pacific. UNICEF will continue to support and engage in emerging and strengthened Health sector wide approaches
Productive employment, decent work and social protection (paras 147-157)	• Youth employment a particular concern for the Pacific		• Noting emphasis on youth in the text and the challenges of youth employment.	• Pacific Youth Development Framework including "Youth Employment Strategy" to be completed by end 2013.
Disaster Risk Reduction (paras 186-189)	• Commitment to Hyogo Programme of Action in particular addressing disaster risk reduction and building resilience to disasters within context of sustainable development including stronger linkages to long-term development planning. • Hyogo Framework as a global programme did not commit resources for implementation yet they have resources for reviews – through ISDR • Specificity EWS - small watersheds – small islands – geophysical characteristics are all important considerations for EWS. • The rest of para 187 is important to the pacific and there are programmes underway to address • Para 188 – integration of DRR and CC relevant to what is happening in the regional – national level – JNAPS Regional level – integrated framework for CC and DRM (2016) • The text reaffirms the efforts being made	• How regions make the Hyogo more relevant to them – i.e. the Pacific by developing their own regional framework. • i.e. The Pacific regional DRM Framework for Action (2005 – 2015) • Vulnerability of PICTs to extreme events - and opportunity to transfer these through appropriate insurance or re-insurance schemes that are affordable. • UNFPA notes that there is no specific reference to the gender dimension of DRR and DRM. • The challenge of disaster and climate risk should receive visible mention from the outset under Part 1, and Para 10 could have been the opportunity for this. • The continuing 'sectorisation' of disaster risk reduction and climate change needs further discussion. In	• Resources should be committed for the implementation of regional • Needed support for risks transfer • Need to integrate gender dimensions of natural disasters in DRR and DRM • Ensure that the Rio+20 Outcomes is directly factored into existing and planned strategic approaches to DRM and Climate Change at regional and national level in PICTs. • Review the text to highlight how DRM and Climate Change investments are emphasized at this level to help de-mystify these concepts in DRM, Climate Change and development discourse in the Pacific. • The flow of genetic materials out of CePaCT should be an on-going event. Countries must be receptive and strengthened cooperation in field evaluation of these materials.	• With Hyogo? Limited – global programmes (Hyogo) are being pushed hard at region. • Regional integrated Framework for CC and DRM for 2016 to replace Regional DRM Framework for Action and PIFACC • Holistic strategy on DRM, DRR and humanitarian response from a gender perspective during natural disasters • The continued development of a process for an integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change by 2015 to replace the existing and separate policy frameworks. • Ongoing formulation of disaster and climate risk financing approaches and instruments can provide the opportunity for stronger integrated approaches to DRM and Climate Change. • Draft Leaders Declaration on the integration of DRM and Climate Change

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	in the Pacific at regional and national level to invest in strategic approaches to disaster risk management (DRM). Further, it also provides further validation of the outcomes of regional disaster risk management and climate change meetings in recent years which have emphasized the importance of, amongst other things: mainstreaming of disaster and climate risk together into planning and budgetary systems; the importance of investment in people-focused end-to-end early warning systems; the need for accurate data and information on hazards, vulnerability and risk to inform DRM and CCA investments; the importance of addressing the needs of the most vulnerable groups such as women, and; the importance of strong partnerships between stakeholders to bring about meaningful disaster risk reduction • Biodiversity in genetic crop material is inevitable and the way forward to cater for the unpredictable but frequent occurrence of natural disasters. Having a wide range of crops for all weather conditions serves as a better resilient reservoir rich genetic pool of planting material for specific conditions at specific localities.	such a document having sections on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change certainly help to highlight the importance of these development issues but on the other hand may also perpetuate the challenge of integrating them more prominently across the development agenda in PICTs. • Screening of climate ready collection disseminated to countries is crucial for identification of crop resilience. Research and quarantine in countries should be vigilant and reduce the post-entry-quarantine time. CePaCT to step up monitoring and evaluation with counterparts.		for consideration in the Forum Leaders meeting in August 2012. • Joint approaches to disaster and climate risk planning at national level within PICs. • An opportunity for a full time technician to concentrate on the evaluation and monitoring of all the genetic materials' outward pathway till farmers field. These evaluations consider all agronomic traits, pest and disease symptoms, susceptibility, tolerance, resistance etc.
Climate Change (paras190-192)	• Reaffirms climate change as one of 'greatest challenges of our time" and express profound alarm that emissions continue to rise globally. • Reference vulnerability of developing countries to the adverse impacts of climate change some of which are already being	• The text underscores the pervasiveness and challenges of the issue. • Special vulnerability of SIDS has been left out. This is a regression from Rio, Rio+10 and other legal instruments.	• Weak on implantation to address climate change needs. In Barbados+20 text this SIDS vulnerability needs to be re-inserted and emphasized. • Also elaborate more on what SIDS cc vulnerabilities are. • Need to work with scientists to further	• Integrated CC and DRM Framework (as above) will be promoted to the Least Developed Countries Expert Group of FCCC as a model. • Pilot Programme on Climate Change Resilience • Focus attention primarily in the

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	experienced. • Highlights commitments made under UNFCCC and fact that it is not being met and urges parties to fully implement commitments and decisions. • Recognises importance of mobilising funding from variety of sources to facilitate mitigation, adaptation, technology development and transfer and capacity building. • Welcome launching of Global Climate Fund and call for its prompt operationalisation. UNICEF (social impact, child and youth participation) • The text highlights the gap between rising emissions and commitments. Warming is likely to exceed 2 °C. • There is a need to addresses climate impacts of food security and agricultural and forestry production. Environmental shocks also threaten food security. Climate change is a reality and could result in increased intensity of cyclones, temperature variations and changes in rainfall patterns. All would have a significant impact on food production, threatening both the quantity and quality of the food supply. Consideration should also be given to factors that are not the direct result of climate change but are exacerbated by it, for example soil fertility, especially on atoll islands. • Similarly through the Biosecurity and Trade support is needed the impact of new invasive plant pest species as a result of Climate change.	• Enumeration of vulnerabilities covers most of PICs key concerns, but will need elaboration in any new SIDS text. • The emission reduction ambition gap is noted but no recourse is given. 1.5 degree target viewed as being even less attainable than the 2 degrees. • Resource mobilization from private sources in PICs is minimal. Recognition of the state/capacity of PIC private sector is needed. Mode of delivery of financing is silent – need to consider direct budgetary, trust funds etc. GCF launched but held hostage by lack of quorum to convene meetings. • No commitment towards a new legally binding agreement on climate change, or any commitment to avoid an implementation gap if failure at Doha COP No reference to particular vulnerability of SIDS • No acknowledgement of the special challenges for countries in the Pacific nor of the lack of capacity to • There is no mention of the significant adaptation efforts already underway in the Pacific Region and the opportunities and risks associated with these. • Climate change will have significant impacts on the agriculture	provide evidence for feasibility of 1.5 degrees. Some studies at hand show this to be so, but need even more evidence. • Work needed to elaborate state of private sector in relation to cc financing, need proposals for enhancing engagement of PIC private sector – eg strengthening of Chambers of Commerce with a cc officer • Need to move from sector base to integrated whole of country approach to adaptation thus to ensure sustainability • Political declaration from PICs on the need for bridging the emissions gap and reaching 1.5 – enumerating the impacts of 1,5 to 2 degrees. • Replicating lessoned learned such as from PACC and other regional projects • Significant amounts of money available for climate change adaptation in the region but only a very limited strategic and coordinated approach (CI) • no continuing commitment to help the countries and communities most impacted by climate change despite the emphasis on adaptation • Weak on implantation to address climate change needs. Interest and implementation of CCA has in some case over shadowed and displaced development work in the region. • Development challenges in PIC urban environments are of critical importance to provide the foundation for CCA implementation.	preparations for COP 18 in Doha, and later build those priorities into the regional preparations for 2014 SIDS meeting. • Check with PIPSO on whether they have progressed on their CC and private sector strengthening. SPREP has a draft for national level strengthening of chambers of commerce. • Feasibility of a separate cc & DRR declaration at Forum, either 2012 or 2013, for PIC leaders on CC • The opportunities of linked development and CCA actions are many but these need to be managed and explored better than they currently are. Bolstering existing development pathways and work through the CCA lens is key to appropriate, sustainable development and adaptation. • To support synergizing disaster risk reduction and climate change, specific policies needs to be developed at national level on the linkages between disaster risk and responding to climate change, guiding national action to integrate policies and practices, and strengthening capacities to support the integration of disaster reduction. • The strategy on the current surveillance and monitoring work needs to be strengthened and awareness created to educate the public • UNICEF continuing to advocate for and support initiatives on climate

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		and forestry sectors and policies and plans that govern the allocation of resources and activities in these, needs to be developed or reviewed with these impacts in mind. Climate change will have significant impacts on invasive pests and diseases.	• The approach must be holistic targeting resilience of food production systems • There needs to be a continued surveillance and monitoring of pests and diseases within the PICTS so that any new invasive species are identified and a process of mitigation is put in place.	change and children, further to initial analysis specific to the Pacific.
Forests (paras 193-196)	• Forests and trees play significant roles in the economic, social, environmental and cultural lives of Pacific Islanders. For the Melanesian countries, like Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, their forest resources are contributing significantly into their economic development in terms of foreign exchange earnings and employment. In the smaller island countries and atolls, agro-forestry and tree crops provide most of the food, medicines, construction materials, firewood, tools and myriad of other products and services that cannot be replaced with imported substitutions., Thus, the major challenge for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories is to ensure the sustainable management of their forest and tree resources taking into account demands for economic development and the social and environmental needs of their growing populations. The important role of forests and trees in reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation has now been well recognized in international negotiations\discussions to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.	• No mention of the impacts of invasive species on Forestry in the Pacific Islands • Very little mention about indigenous perspectives and importance of traditional knowledge. • Sustainable management of forestry resources in the Pacific region faces serious challenges including the conversion of forest land for agriculture, overexploitation of forest areas by unregulated commercial logging, land tenure conflicts and lack of effective enforcement of environmental standards especially in logging operations. • The lack of capacity and resources (financial and technical) in most Pacific Island Countries are the main stumbling block for countries to address effectively the issue on sustainable management of their forests and tree resources.	• Significant amounts of money available for climate change adaptation for forestry in the region but only a very limited strategic and coordinated approach • Incorporation of TK sustainable forest management initiatives locally and collaborative partnerships with local original forest entities. • Pacific Island Countries should be able to address these challenges by strengthening their capacity to implement forest management and develop appropriate policies, strategies and legislations. There is also the need to build their capacities to conduct research and develop new income generating opportunities from the sustainable use of their forest and tree resources.	• Specific collaboration with forest departments, Ministry of environment and agricultural departments in each country. (Collaborative programs with Forestry departments, agriculture departments, Ministry of the environment SPC,SOPAC and lands Departments in the Pacific • International negotiations on Climate Change can provide great opportunities for financial benefits that can be derived from maintaining and establishing forest areas to mitigate climate change through a REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) carbon financing mechanism. • Discussions on financing mechanisms are now taking place through UNFF initiatives. • Pacific Island Countries should take advantage of the opportunities for new sources of funding arising from the climate change negotiations.

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Biodiversity (paras 197-204)	• Reaffirms intrinsic value of biodiversity as well as its many sustainable development values in particular its importance to livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities. • Reiterates commitments to three objectives of CBD including implementing Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving Aichi Targets. • Encourages CBD parties to become parties to Nagoya Protocol. • Importance of resource mobilisation to support achievement of three CBD objectives. • Recognises important role of CITES at intersection between trade, environment and development.	• Ecosystem based adaptation approaches not adequately reflected • No mention of the impacts of invasive species on endemic biodiversity in the PI • Economic valuation of biodiversity to support policy and decision making is a gap • Enhancing capacity to implement the Nagoya Protocol including appropriate policy and legal instruments to manage ABS • Strategy for Resource Mobilization to take into consideration special needs of SIDS • Recognizing the crucial role community and locally managed and governed approaches to protected areas and biodiversity conservation • Regional cooperation and partnership networks as practical mechanisms to support capacity development for biodiversity conservation.	• NBSAP review process which is currently underway • Review of the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas • Pacific Islands Round Table for Nature Conservation • Pacific Invasive Partnership • Pacific Invasive Learning Network • Protected Area Working Group of the PIRT • Species Working Group of the PIRT • 5th National Reports to the CBD	• CBD CoP11 in October, 2012 • Island Summit at the CBD CoP11, October 2012 • Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, November 2013 • 23rd SPREP Meeting, September 2012 • SPREP Pacific Environment Forum, September 2012 • SPREP- USAID funded Ecosystem based Adaptation Project in the Solomon Islands • GEFPAS Project on Invasive Species in 10 PICs • GEFPAS Project on Integrated Island Biodiversity in four PICs
Desertification, land degradation and drought (paras 205-209	• Sustainable land use and good land management contributes to economic growth, biodiversity, sustainable agriculture and food security, eradicate poverty, women's empowerment and addresses climate change. • Agricultural activities form the backbone of many PICTs national economies and demands for limited resources are increasing in communities.	• To achieve sustainable land use, degradation of productive land should be avoided and degraded lands needs to be restored. Land Use planning is fundamental to this process of achieving sustainable land use. Most PICTs do not have land use policies or national land use plans • National and regional	• An integrated and participatory land use planning approach is needed to identify and develop sound land use policies and practices and the need to match land systems, soil types and land us to be able optimize use land resources. • To strengthen the collection of scientific base activities in the assessment and monitoring of land	• Opportunities to cooperate at a regional level through sharing of climate and weather information, and forecasting early warning systems related to land degradation and drought. • To support the review and development of land use, agriculture and forestry policies and practices and land use plans that also accommodates land ownership to guide in the

	• Land degradation poses challenges in PICTs given the increasing pressure on land from agriculture, forestry, pasture production and urbanization and urgent action in needed to stop or reverse land degradation.	coordination is needed to assess and monitor land degradation and restore degraded lands. • Implementation of Sustainable land management practices needs to be strengthened and need to be supported through mobilizing adequate funding.	degradation and to promote sustainable land management practices and land use strategies that will reduce land degradation and drought. • Sustainable land management must involve a holistic approach by integrating social, economic, physical and biological needs and values • Many sustainable land management practices involve long-term investments that require greater tenure security and land tenure issues plays a crucial role in the adoption of sustainable land management practices.	sustainable use of land based-resource
Chemicals and Waste (paras 213-223)	• Sound management of chemicals crucial for protection of human health and the environment. • Recognise growing global production and use of chemicals and reaffirm by 2020 the sound management of chemicals as outlined in JPOI including effective implementation of Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICHEM). Commend coordination and cooperation between Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. • Importance of taking life cycle approach and sound waste management based on 3Rs approach. • Call for partnerships in waste and chemicals management • Urge countries to prevent unsound management and illegal dumping of hazardous wastes.	• Very focused on chemicals doesn't give importance warranted to solid waste • Gives little attention to the minimization of the use of chemicals • Gives little attention to the development of less hazardous chemicals for agricultural use • The universal shift to the use of biodegradable plastics is not considered • The chronic lack of funding for Basel regional centre operation and programmes is not considered • Public-private partnerships in waste management (in particular for recycling activities) also need to be given prominence • The user pays approach to waste management should be a central tenant of waste management activities.	• Regional strategies for the management of solid wastes, asbestos, Ewaste and medical wastes are available • Nation waste management strategies and policies are available for most Pacific island nations • Policies to improve waste management are essential to protect the image of the PI as an attractive destination and to prevent further degradation of coral reefs due to eutrophication.	• SAICM funding for better management of E-wastes in the Cook Islands, Kiribati and Samoa available • FAO funding for assessment of options for the re-use of plastic pesticide containers • MEA/FAO funding for the remediation of pesticide contaminated sites in the region • GEFPAS funding for the training in international chemical management convention obligations

Mining (paras 227-228)	• Mining for onshore metallic minerals is restricted to the islands of Melanesia and activities are causing environmental damage that need to be minimised through implementation of sound environmental management practices including EIAs • Generally for PSIDS the key mining industry that is both essential but not high profile (sand and gravel aggregates) without which no development can take place). Unsustainable mining practices are being carried out around the region especially on small low-lying islands (along beaches on reef flats and in lagoons). So much so the need to import quality aggregate is now a reality for some PSIDS. • Offshore deepwater mineral extraction is about to commence in the region. Many PSIDS are considering offshore economic potential in this area (refer my comments in the oceans section).	• There is no mention of biodiversity offset mechanisms • No specific mention of deep sea minerals (DSM). Many PICTs have no terrestrial mining potential thus DSM is a new and real opportunity in PICTs vast EEZs. • Need to acknowledge the relative inexperience of many PICTs as they enter this industry and the need to protect PICT interests and environments.	• All mining operations in the Pacific Islands should be conducted according to Best International Practice • Need to ensure the unique nature of the fledgling DSM industry in developing PICTs is highlighted from the perspective of the risks and opportunities.	• Efforts to develop regional DSM policy and frameworks underway now. • Likewise there are present efforts to develop aligned national policy to guide this new industry in PICs and protect PIC interests and environments.
Education (paras 229-235)	[USP/SPC] • PICS are mostly on track to achieving UPE – however, access for disabled still an issue. • Access to early childhood and secondary education an issue for all children across the Pacific. • Lifting quality and effectiveness of education system a major challenge. • Low levels of learning outcomes and academic achievement persist across the region. • Sustainable development issues are being integrated within national curricula in many PIC's and a growing interest in PIC's on providing sustainable 'livelihood' and cultural skills through schooling.	• No mention of access to early childhood education and to secondary education. Focus is just on universal access to primary – which is not enough to support sustainable development, and is a goal PICS have already met. Minimum commitment should be shifting to 'Basic Education' which includes ECE, primary plus 3 years of secondary. • Quality mentioned but only in passing. Strengthening education systems, including teacher training and data is critical. • Reference to Education Infrastructure could acknowledge the	• Existing and emerging Education Sector wide approaches and Pacific-wide education strategy and policy initiatives	• Pacific Early Childhood Education Council • FEDMM: Forum Education Ministers' Meeting, 2013 • Regional partnership on Literacy and Numeracy (2013-2015) (bilateral donors, UN agencies, Reg'l Organisations) • Pacific ECE council was established in 2011 to lead analysis and policy development efforts in the Pacific. • UNICEF will continue to engage and support existing and emerging education sector wide approaches

		importance of 'climate proofing' these facilities. Significant amount of construction in the education sector which should aspire to best practice in relation to use of sustainable resources. • Useful to consider the education sector within a broader Human Resource Development agenda and therein consider bringing focus to sustainable development throughout schooling, NFE, tertiary and professional development. No reference to early childhood education as a key investment and positive predictor of success in later education		
Gender equality and women's empowerment (paras 236-244)	[PIFS/SPC – Gender working group]	• UN agencies noted the lack of reference to Gender based violence (GBA) violence against women (VAW) and sexual violence in the Rio+20 text which is a major concern in the Pacific. Also no specific reference to the gender dimension of DRR and DRM. • There is no reference to gender based violence, violence against women and girls	• There is a need to address GBV, VAW and consider opportunities within disaster risk management. •	• UNFPA notes the need for the development of an holistic strategy on GBV, VAW and sexual violence. • UNFPA is currently conducting a Family Health Safety Study on violence against women in five countries. • Integration of gender dimensions of natural disasters in DRR and DRM.
Finance (paras 253-268)	• Rio+20 establishes an intergovernmental process to assess financing needs, consider the effectiveness, consistency and synergies of existing instruments and frameworks, and evaluate additional initiatives…and prepare report proposing options on an effective sustainable development financing strategy to facilitate the mobilization of resources and their effective use. An intergovernmental		• Need to (i) ensure the Pacific is well represented in the 30 member (experts) intergovernmental committee; and (ii) how the call for an assessment of "financial needs" and "*the effectiveness, consistency and synergies of existing instruments and frameworks, and evaluate additional initiatives*" will best be carried out in the light of what has	• Need to consider the Pacific is adequately represented in the 30 member (experts). Discussions at pending regional meetings on green fund for climate change etc and aid effectiveness may be used to facilitate this.

	committee comprising 30 experts nominated by regional groups will implement concluding its work by 2014 and the UNGA will consider the rpt and take appropriate actions (para 255-257).		transpired so far under other processes.	
Technology (paras269-276)	• Rios+20 requests relevant UN agencies to identify options for a facilitation mechanism that promotes the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies, by, inter alia, assessing the technology needs of developing countries, options to address those needs and capacity-building. The SG is to make recommendations regarding the facilitation mechanism to the sixty-seventh session.		• The Pacific will need to consider how to respond to this given the shortness of the time to carry out or compile the assessments.	• Some of the opportunities identified for SDG and green economy may be useful here as well.
Food Security (paras)	• Reaffirm our commitment to enhancing food security and access to adequate, safe and nutritious food. • Food insecurity is a major challenge in the Pacific. Food security must be addressed in a broader perspective considering the health impact of food insecurity and the Pacific non communicable diseases crisis. • Food security identified by the Pacific Plan as amongst the regional priorities for the current plan period; • The Food Secure Pacific Framework for Action endorsed by Leaders, identifies seven thematic areas in the Pacific region as important to improve food security; • The recognition of the seven thematic areas reinforces the numerous and complex interrelated factors involved in ensuring food security at national level; • The framework promotes sustainable solutions to food security challenges, which	• Food security mentioned in several places related mainly to livelihoods and climate change. Stronger focus on the linkages between food insecurity and health would help addressing the NCD burden. • Focus of text is on food production, food supply, prices and trade. Linkages of care and health with positive nutrition outcomes is missing. Investing in early positive nutrition and feeding practices as a predictor of reduced risk of NCD is missing	• Need to recognize that food security requires a multisectoral coordinated approach at regional and national level and needs urgent action at all levels, from policy makers to individuals contributing to food security; • Diversity of societies and cultures, food security strategies needs to be adaptable; • Leadership at all levels is needed to ensure that food security strategies are successfully implemented • Noting emphasis on “children under two” • Need to see within the wider health context of NCDs and with trade implications as well for the Pacific. • Food security information systems and community awareness and advocacy has been identified as the Food Secure Pacific WG as a priority for regional	• FSPWG draft Joint proposal for resource mobilization on the regional priorities for promoting food security • Linking food security, trade and NCDs. • At agency level, there are a number of collaborative effort in promoting food security, some of which included SPC/FAO in food production and productivity; and • The Western Pacific Regional Food Safety Strategy 2011-2015; which identifies priority strategic actions to ensure safe healthy food to reduce the risk of food-borne diseases, micronutrient deficiencies and non communicable diseases; • WHO/FAO joint effort to build capacity on risk-based approaches to national food control and to strengthen harmonization and collaboration on

	includes food systems that are more resilient and adaptable to changing markets and environments; • The Framework is a regional and national guide that recognizes varying degree of importance and relevance of the food security strategies in the Pacific Island countries		intervention by the WG; • Current effort the FSPWG to develop a Joint Food Security Proposal, based on the above priorities; • Industry Partners on Food Secure Pacific, a parallel group of the FSPWG, in an effort to strengthen the work of the latter and a recognition of the important role of the food industry in promoting food security; • Massy University research WG in developing food security research agenda to support the work of the FSPWG Food security is more than just about food production, it is about, food utilization, access and availability, all the associated link affecting these.	food legislation development and implementation in PICs • UNICEF will continue to monitor impact of economic crisis on children (sentinel site monitoring) and continue to advocate for strengthened nutrition surveillance systems • UNICEF new Multi country programme includes nutrition outcomes within key results. Will continue to support through promotion of and support to good care and feeding practices
Trade (paras 281-282)	• UNESCAPs recommends focusing on achieving progress in addressing a set of important issues, such as, inter alia, trade-distorting subsidies and trade in environmental goods and services. • Trade (in goods and services) plays an important role in promoting inclusive sustainable economic growth and development and this is the approach that is been taken by the Pacific when developing their Trade Policy Frameworks and in trade negotiations (e.g. EPA, WTO, etc). There is a need to put more emphasis on the linkages between trade and environment including climate change as this is very important in the Pacific. • Investments in critical areas of infrastructure and to build productive capacity is crucial.	The text does not make reference to the unique challenges of the small and vulnerable economies in the Pacific. In general, the Forum Island Countries support the elimination of trade distorting subsidies including those that lead to over-fishing and over-capacity. However, there is a need for special and differential treatment to ensure that the PICTS policy space to use subsidies is not unduly constrained by any disciplines that may be developed in international fora as some smaller islands states face unique constraints compared to developed countries. There is also a need for additional Aid for Trade, including trade-related physical infrastructure to assist the PICTS to participate in and benefit from trade including	• Trade in the Pacific needs to be considered as well against the context of broader development issues. • Trade in the Pacific needs to be considered as well against the context of broader development issues. • Most PICTS are mainstreaming trade into their development plans through the development of Trade Policy Frameworks. Additional technical and financial assistance (Aid for Trade) is required to implement the relevant policies that will assist PICTS to conserve, manage and add value to their natural resources, and trade their way out of poverty/hardship. The implementation of some infrastructure projects should also take into account the trade-related infrastructure that is required to support a Green economy.	• Trade-related discussions and programs.

		trade in environmental goods and services.	PICTS also need special and differential treatment in implementing commitments.	