

# **The Pacific Regional Centre**

**for training and technology transfer  
for the Joint Implementation of the  
Basel and Waigani Conventions**

- 👉 PRC – launched in 2003 to combat increasing levels of waste in the Pacific region
- 👉 Targets to provide training, technology transfer and awareness raising activities for the joint implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions
- 👉 SPREP – Secretariat for the Waigani Convention
- 👉 BUT PRC does more than that...

- ☞ PRC – also cover aspects of other chemical and waste related MEAs such as:
  - Stockholm Convention (POPs)
  - Rotterdam Convention (chemical trade)
  - Minamata Convention (Hg and Hg materials)
  - Montreal Protocol (ODS)
- ☞ Collaboration with the BRS Secretariat, Interim Minamata Convention Secretariat and UNEP

## Background to MEAs

- ➡ Preserve and protect the environment from adverse effects of human activities or minimise their impact;
- ➡ When States ratify/accede to the Convention – formally agree to be bound by an MEA
- ➡ Commit themselves to comply with the requirements of the MEA (and in some cases, its associated protocols);

## Background to MEAs

- 👉 Regulating and, where necessary, restricting or even banning use or trade in certain substances or items through the enactment of national legislations
- 👉 Emergence of illegal trade in the substances or items being controlled by MEAs
- 👉 For chemicals and hazardous waste there are a number of related MEAs

# Background to MEAs

➔ Of particular relevance to PICs are:

SAICM 'area'

- ✍ The **Basel Convention** (Control of Transboundary Movements – global)
- ✍ The **Minamata Convention** (Mercury and Hg-containing Substances)
- ✍ The **Montreal Protocol** (Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer)
- ✍ The **Rotterdam Convention** (Prior Informed Consent Procedure)
- ✍ The **Stockholm Convention** (Persistent Organic Pollutants)
- ✍ The **Waigani Convention** (Control of Transboundary Movements - Pacific)
- ✍ **CITES** (International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora)
- ✍ The **Chemical Weapons Convention** (Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction)
- ✍ The **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety**

# PICs Parties to Chemical Conventions

	Waigani	Basel	Stockholm	Rotterdam	Minamata
Cook Islands	✓	✓	✓	✓	—
Fiji	✓	—	✓	—	—
FSM	✓	✓	✓	—	—
Kiribati	✓	✓	✓	—	—
Nauru	✓*	✓	✓	—	—
Niue	✓	—	✓	—	—
Palau	✓*	✓	✓	—	✓*
PNG	✓	✓	✓	—	—
RMI	—	✓	✓	✓	—
Samoa	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Solomon Is	✓	—	✓	—	—
Tonga	✓	✓	✓	✓	—
Tuvalu	✓	—	✓	—	—
Vanuatu	✓	—	✓	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>

## Current priorities

- ➡ Better understanding of the Basel and Waigani Conventions and what the requirements are through awareness and education
- ➡ Strengthening and improving individual, institutional and systemic capacities
- ➡ Strengthening national legislations for the management of hazardous waste



## Current priorities

- 👉 Development of national waste definitions, inventories and reporting requirements
- 👉 Training of implementation and enforcement personnel including customs, police, port officers, legal officers, journalists etc