



**The 3<sup>rd</sup> World Water Forum Follow-up Meeting  
in Oceania & Pacific  
Duxton Hotel, Wellington, New Zealand  
March 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

**MEETING BRIEF AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Introduction**

We, the Oceania stakeholders from small island countries from the Pacific, Australia and New Zealand, having met at the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Water Forum Oceania follow-up meeting Wellington, New Zealand, to share knowledge, agree to this joint statement and recommendations for improving sustainable water management.

**3<sup>rd</sup> World Water Forum Outcomes and Commitments Update**

The Pacific Island Countries reported on the implementation of the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management, developed in the regional preparations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Water Forum, and on the establishment of the Pacific Type II Partnership for Sustainable Water Management.

New Zealand reported on the development of the Water Programme of Action, a national review and strategic programme to achieve sustainable water resources management.

Australia reported on their national and overseas activities since the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Water Forum, including the development of a national water policy and establishment of a water research facility.

The International Hydropower Association reported on the successful development of their hydropower sustainability guidelines.

**MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS**

The regional stakeholders agreed to the following recommendations for further improvement of the implementation of the Pacific Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Water Management:

1. That the concept and reference to Water is read to include Water, Waste Water and Sanitation.

2. Ensure the implementation framework is updated along with the Pacific Water Partnership Initiative.
3. Continue to endorse and support the Regional Action Plan (RAP) and the Pacific Water Partnership Initiative as the cornerstone to action at the national and regional levels.
4. SOPAC as the regional strategic water agency in the Pacific should be provided with the resources to assist Pacific island water stakeholders enhance their engagement with donors at the National Government level.
5. Recognize in the medium-term that Pacific countries need to ensure water is a priority in National Strategic / Development Plans. In the mean time there is a need for high-level advocacy and awareness to support raising the priority of water.
6. Explore the roles of the PWA / AWA / NZWWA and others to support capacity building through the buddy system / twinning and maximize opportunities for the use of South-South opportunities and assistance.
7. Explore the opportunities to improve linkages between water, health and risk management approaches (WHO / AUSAID / Min Health / Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)).
8. Pacific Partnership Initiative facilitator (currently SOPAC) needs to be kept informed of new development projects and activities. SOPAC will promote and report on progress with developments in implementing the RAP and on new partnerships and initiatives.
9. Identify potential sources of funding for capacity development and institutional strengthening for both regional and national needs.
10. SPM will contact New Zealand Business Council for Sustainable Development and the Environment Business Australia to find private sector companies for accessing resources.
11. Advocate for contributions to more than one theme at 4WWF and that the Pacific Region be aligned with SIDS as opposed to the broader Asia Pacific Group.
12. SPM will provide assistance with the implementation of Theme 6 of the RAP
13. Continued commitment to community participation in the RAP
14. Priority be given to the implementation of the RAP and Type II, with limited but strategic engagement only in future global water conferences.
15. That the implementation of the RAP will be an evolving process and that there is a need to maintain open and transparent dialogue.