



SPREP

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

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Between

The Government of VANUATU herein represented by the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC)

and

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

(Together, "the Parties")

The Government of Vanuatu through its Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC) have joined 7 other Pacific Island Countries in participating in the Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) project as part of their obligation to the Minamata Convention on Mercury. The Project is implemented by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), and executed regionally in the Pacific by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

UNEP is an agency of United Nations and coordinates its environmental activities, assisting developing countries in implementing environmentally sound policies and practices. As Implementing Agency, and in accordance with the GEF Instrument, UNEP is accountable to the GEF Council for GEF-financed activities and in ensuring these activities are carried out in accordance with GEF policies, criteria, and procedures. The MIA project is a GEF-financed project.

The DEPC is mandated to protect and manage the natural environment of Vanuatu to support sustainable development while simultaneously, contributing to enhancing human health. This is an important basis for achieving a sustainable balance between the country's economy and its natural environment. Improved and enhanced coordination of all international and regional environmental programs and activities on these, is critical.

SPREP is a regional, intergovernmental organisation comprising 26 members consisting of 21 Pacific Island Countries and Territories and five developed countries with direct interests in the Pacific region. The purposes of SPREP are to promote co-operation in the Pacific region and to provide assistance to protect and improve its environment and to ensure sustainable development for present and future generations.

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between SPREP and the DEPC is to reaffirm all parties' commitment to continue the work agreed to and covered under the MIA project. Included in this work is facilitation of monitoring, facilitating and usage of funds allocated by GEF through UNEP to DEPC.

SPREP and DEPC have mutual interests in relation to the protection and management of the environment and developing and strengthening systems, institutions, organizations, and individuals concerned with environmental protection and management in the Pacific region.

The Parties have reached the following understandings:

1. Objectives

1. The main objective of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to provide a framework of co-operation between SPREP and DEPC in relation to the Pacific Minamata Initial Assessment Project
2. The MOU also sets out the roles and responsibilities of each party linked to ensuring the successful execution of the project activities detailed in the work plan as attached in Annex 1 to this MOU

2. Collaborative Activities

The Parties agree, to the extent possible, but without limitation, to:

1. Nominate Focal Points to coordinate the cooperation called for in this MOU.
2. Consult each other on a monthly basis on the execution of this MOU and the record of monthly meetings to be circulated by SPREP.
3. Finalize and submit authorized and verified quarterly expenditure and narrative reports to UNEP.
4. Collaborate and support awareness-raising efforts in relation to the management of mercury.
5. Collaborate and support capacity-building initiatives in relation to the management of mercury.
6. Collaborate and support data collection.
7. Keep all stakeholders informed on co-operative activities undertaken pursuant to this MOU.

3. Roles and responsibilities

Now, therefore, it is hereby agreed by and between both parties that:

1. The DEPC will undertake the following:
 - DEPC will be the national operational focal point for planning, coordinating, and implementing activities of the project in Vanuatu.
 - DEPC will nominate a suitable point of contact for the purpose of coordinating the responsibilities of DEPC under this MOU
 - DEPC will implement other relevant activities that are specified in the Annual Work Plan jointly developed by both Parties.
 - DEPC will send signed progress and expenditures to SPREP on a quarterly basis.

2. SPREP will undertake the following:

- SPREP will recruit an International Consultant to undertake activities specified in the work plan.
- SPREP acknowledges the total budget allocation for Vanuatu at USD 36,500 and had since already transferred USD 25,000.
- SPREP will facilitate the transfer of USD 11,500 to enable DEPC to undertake the finalization process as specified in the workplan.
- SPREP will provide technical support to DEPC to implement the project through the engagement of an international consultant.

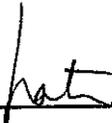
4. Annexes

1. Annex 1 provides the detailed work plan for the parties in this MOU.
2. Annex 2 provide the detailed budget

These Annex shall form an integral part of this MOU and unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to this MOU includes a reference on any such Annex.

5. Duration, entry into force, amendments, and termination

1. This MOU shall be valid until 31 December 2021, renewable for such further period as may be agreed between Parties.
2. This MOU may be amended by agreement in writing between the Parties.
3. This MOU will enter into force on the date the last Party signs.
4. Either Party may terminate this MOU by giving three months written notice to the other.



Mr. Kosi Latu
Director General
SPREP

Date: 24/7/20



Mrs Donna Kalfatak
Director
DEPC

Date: 07/08/2020

**Pacific Minamata Initial Assessment Project #9187
BUDGET ALLOCATION**

Participating country name: **VANUATU**

Title of the approved project: **Pacific Minamata Initial Assessment Project #9187**

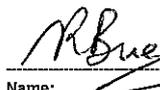
Completion Date: **31 December 2021**

Total Budget allocated: **USD 36,600**

Cumulative amount already transferred from SPREP to the country as of 30th April 2020: **USD 25,000. SPREP will transfer USD 11,500 balance.**

Components	Activities/Outputs		Allocate Budget Amount	Expenditures Incurred	Comments
1. Establishment of a Coordinating Mechanism	1.1. Organize a Regional and five National Inception Workshops to raise awareness and to define the scope and objective of the MIA process		\$ 358.00	\$ 358.00	
	1.2. Conduct a national assessment on existing sources of information (studies), compile and make them available				
2. Initiation of the MIA Process through an Inception Meeting in each of the five countries (including review of the Institutional Gap Analysis-IGA and the Legislative Gap Analysis-LGA- needs)	2.1. Assess key national stakeholders, their roles in mercury management and institutional interest and capacities		\$ 583.39	\$ 583.39	
	2.2. Analyse the regulatory framework, identify gaps and assess the regulatory reforms needed for the ratification and early implementation of the Minamata Convention in participating countries				
3. UNEP's Toolkit spreadsheet presented at Inventory Training in each country (with follow up off-site efforts to collect Hg data and development of LGA and IGA Reports)	3.1. Develop a qualitative and quantitative inventory of all mercury sources and releases		\$ 6,500.00		
	3.2. Develop a national strategy to identify and assess mercury contaminated sites				
4. Strategy for identification and assessment of mercury contaminated sites (as well as fish, hair, and cosmetics sampling as in-kind support by BRI) which contributes to the identification of challenges, needs and opportunities	4.1. Conduct a national and sectoral assessment on challenges and opportunities to implement the Convention in key priority sectors				
	4.2. Develop a report on recommendations to implement the Convention.				
5. Final National Mercury Profile and Minamata Initial Assessment Report	5.1. Draft and validate MIA Report	National Consultant Fee, to Draft Report following all the work already been done.	\$ 16,861.00	\$ 12,168.86	National Consultant's proposal of \$16,861 to conduct all components was approved by the interim committee. The last 25% of the cost, \$4,215 is still to be paid after input from International Consultant and validation by stakeholders.
	5.2. Develop a national MIA dissemination and outreach strategy		\$ 5,197.61		
	5.3. Organize final validation workshop		\$ 7,000.00		
TOTAL			36,500.00	16,110.25	

Signature of a duly Authorized officer:


 Name: **Roselyn Bue**
 Position: **Senior Officer [chemical & Ozone]**
 Date: **7/8/20**