

Pacific Conversations NOUMEA CONVENTION PART 1

KNOW MORE, DO MORE, TOGETHER



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme

What is the Noumea Convention?

Also known as the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Convention, this is for the protection of natural resources and environment of the South Pacific region and related protocols. Having entered into force in 1986, this is now undergoing a review.

The Noumea Convention is the umbrella convention for the “Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the South Pacific Region by Dumping”, and the “Protocol Concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution Emergencies in the South Pacific Region”.

Our history

Although entering into force in 1986, the basis for the Noumea Convention was formed in 1972 as the Pacific region component of UNEP’s Regional Seas Programme. It is the legal framework to support the programme to address accelerating degradation of the world’s oceans and coastal areas through the sustainable management and use of marine and coastal environments.

Who are Parties to the Noumea Convention?

12 of the SPREP Members have ratified or acceded to the Noumea Convention. These are Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, United States of America.

The Ocean is central to Pacific lives and identities.

- Without reefs, annual flooding damages could double, and frequent storm damages could triple in cost.
- As the ocean warms and coral reefs decline, a global loss of tourism and recreation value in the near future (2031–2050) of up to 5.8 billion is projected.
- Plastics cause at least USD 13 billion in damages to ocean ecosystems every year.

What can we do to help meet the Noumea Convention and protect our ocean?

- **Don’t dump any waste at sea or in any water ways** – keep plastic and waste away from the beach and dispose of your waste responsibly.
- **Plant more trees!** Build up our natural ecosystems, if we care for our environment it will protect us!
- **Lessen impacts of development on our environment.** Apply the Environment Impact Assessment and Strategic Environment Assessment tools for decision making. This is needed before it is too late.

To learn more about the Noumea Convention visit www.sprep.org



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*A resilient Pacific environment sustaining
our livelihoods and natural heritage in
harmony with our cultures.*