

**VI/8. Establishment of a Pacific Regional Centre for the Joint Implementation of the
Basel
Convention and the Waigani Conventions**

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting that the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and the Waigani Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Island Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and to Control the Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region are mutually supportive,

Noting also that the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Waigani Convention recognized that the Waigani Convention complements and strengthens the implementation of the Basel Convention at the regional level,

Noting further that the Environment Ministers from the Pacific region endorsed the principle of a joint centre for both Conventions, integrated within the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme for training and technology transfer,

Taking note the request of Environment Ministers from the Pacific region to put forward a proposal for a joint regional training centre at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention;

Taking note also of the conclusion of the study concerning the feasibility of establishing a Regional Centre as the joint training centre, presented by the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention,

1. Welcomes the establishment in principle of a Joint Pacific Regional Centre for the countries in the Pacific region, within the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme and operating under the joint authority of the Parties to the Basel and Waigani Conventions, for training and technology transfer for the management of hazardous wastes and other wastes and the minimization of their generation;

2. Requests the secretariat of the Basel Convention to negotiate a memorandum of understanding with the the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, acting as the secretariat of the Waigani Convention and also in its own right, for the operation of the Joint Pacific Regional Centre. The memorandum of understanding shall define, inter alia, the work programme of the Joint Pacific Regional Centre, the sources of financing of agreed activities, as well as the role of the secretariats in guiding, coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the work of the Joint Pacific Regional Centre;

3. Requests the secretariat of the Basel Convention, in collaboration with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, acting as the secretariat of the Waigani Convention, to promote both the ratification of the Basel Convention and its related instruments and the Waigani Convention within the Pacific Region;

4. Requests the secretariat of the Basel Convention to report to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made on the establishment of the Joint Pacific Regional Centre and its work.