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13 August 2002

Mr Brenton Holmes
Secretariat
Senate Inquiry - Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

RE: Submission to the Senate Inquiry on Australia's relationship with Papua New Guinea and the small island states of the Pacific

Dear Mr Holmes,

Please accept this late submission on behalf of the Senate Committee inquiring into Australia's relationship with Papua New Guinea and the small island states of the Pacific. May I make it clear at the outset that while this submission includes information pertaining to the Pacific Youth Environment Network (PYEN), and has to a large extent been inspired by the Pacific Youth Caucus (PYCE), it is my own work and not that of any other group or forum. Unfortunately I have been unable to produce a submission of the detail and scope that I had wished. As a result I have chosen to focus on the issue of climate change and sea level rise, issues which the PYEN are particularly concerned with.

I have attached as background to this submission a shortened version of the official report from the PYCE. I would like to draw particular attention to the outputs of the PYCE, namely the Wollongong Declaration and the Climate Change Declaration. These documents clearly articulate the concerns of the PYEN in terms of the south pacific environment, and in particular the issues associated with climate change and sea level rise.

I would like to indicate that I would be happy for any of the information contained in the submission or the attachments to be made publicly available. I would also be pleased to provide further information on request or to attend a hearing of the inquiry to answer questions relating to this submission. Unfortunately I will be away in South Africa between the 17th of August and the 24th of September. Please feel free to contact me on the above contact details.

Andrew Stanton
Youth Advisor to the Pacific
UNEP ROAP Youth Programme

This submission relates to Australia's relationship with the small island states of the South Pacific, with a specific focus on the issues of climate change and sea level rise. The submission is organised into two brief sections;

1. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and,
2. Assistance to Vulnerable Human Populations.

Attached is an adapted report from the Pacific Youth Caucus on the Environment (PYCE, held last year at the University of Wollongong. The report provides useful background to my involvement in issues associated with climate change and sea level rise in the Pacific, and also the concerns of other young people in the region regarding these issues.

Introduction

Many communities in the South Pacific face the very serious threat of sea level rise and climate change, processes associated with the greenhouse effect. In particular and immediate danger are those communities on low lying coastal areas and on small coral atolls and islands.

Sea level rise and climate change threaten the land and food security of low lying Pacific island communities through:

- rising water tables and the associated salinisation of freshwater and salt poisoning of arable land
- increased tides, severity of storm events, erosion and the associated loss of habitable land,
- loss of biodiversity, particularly the loss of food resources (marine and terrestrial)

These processes also directly and indirectly affect highland and inland Pacific-Islander communities.

1. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Australia is the world's largest per capita green house gas producers but has nevertheless declined to ratify the Kyoto protocol. As a result, many people perceive Australia to be neglecting, if not directly threatening, our South Pacific neighbours. As a prominent global greenhouse gas producer, there is a perception that as a country, we have done very little to address or avert the disaster that we have contributed too.

The Kyoto protocol represents the best opportunity the international community has of averting long term and potentially irreversible consequences of climate change and sea level rise. Although it is understandable that Australia may not want to sign up to a program of mandatory greenhouse gas reductions, and to its credit has taken steps to reduce emissions of its own accord, the ramifications of failure to reverse climate change, for people around the world, necessitates an international agreement on greenhouse gas reductions. Because of Australia's large per capita emissions and its

membership of a region that potentially stands the most to lose, it is vitally important that Australia provide leadership in this regard.

Australia should ratify this global compact and join those other countries that have committed to reducing their greenhouse emissions within this framework for action.

Recommendation:

That Australia reconsider the ratification of the Kyoto protocol and abandon its policy of refusing to ratify on the grounds that too few developing countries are reducing their emissions, recognising that developed countries not only produce much larger per capita levels of greenhouse gases but that they are also more capable than developing countries of reducing greenhouse emissions.

2. Assistance to Vulnerable Populations

Regardless of Australia's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we have largely failed to recognise the consequences of sea level rise and climate change for our neighbours in the Pacific, or to develop strategies aimed at assisting populations that may be affected or displaced.

Some countries, because of their physical geography, have a more urgent need for help than others. Of particular concern are the countries of Tuvalu, Kiribati, and the Cook Islands. These countries are predicted by some scientists to become uninhabitable within 30-50 years. However many communities in these and other places have already been forced to alter their economies and lifestyles as a result of the effects of climate change and sea level rise.

While Australia maintains a hardline policy on asylum seekers, we continue to contribute to processes that create environmental refugees in our region (ie greenhouse effect).

Sea level rise and climate change are causing increased land, food and water insecurity and have the capacity to create large numbers of environmental refugees. These processes contribute in a significant way to regional insecurity and instability. As a result, it is possible to imagine large numbers of displaced Pacific islanders seeking asylum or assistance from Australia in the near future.

However, Australia has no policy or plan on the public record for assisting Pacific-Islanders displaced by sea level rise or climate change.

Australia and New Zealand recently received requests from the small island state of Tuvalu to consider assisting it relocate its population. The strategy to relocate its population is seen as inevitable by the Tuvaluan Government. However, Australia on its part has rejected this application.

It is clearly hypocritical that Australia seek support from Pacific Island countries for the accommodation of its refugees but then refuses assistance to those when they are in need.

Recommendation 2:

- (i) That Australia reconsider its position in regards to assisting environmental refugees from the pacific islands, taking into consideration its role as one of the largest per capita greenhouse gas producers in the world, it's failure to ratify the Kyoto Protocol and the likelihood of large numbers of people seeking assistance from Australia as the effects of climate change and sea level rise become more serious.**
- (ii) That Australia provide assistance to those populations that may be able to adapt their economies, lifestyles and locations, and remain in their countries through the provision of resources, technologies and other assistance.**

Summary

Climate change and sea level rise pose a real threat to the people of the pacific. Already many communities are facing the increased danger of cyclonic storms, giant tides and rising water tables, processes which directly and indirectly threaten the lives, livelihood as well as food and land security of many pacific island communities.

The impacts of climate change and sea level rise will be felt most by low lying Pacific nations, countries which have far less financial and institutional capacity than the developed countries in the region (Australia and New Zealand).

The Pacific island countries most impacted upon are not the historical contributors to climate change. As a result, there is an inherent imbalance between the countries and individuals that must suffer the consequences of climate change and sea level rise, and the polluters that caused the problem. The main concern of the PYEN is that many pacific islands and atolls will become un-habitable within the short, medium and/or long-term, and that Pacific people will become homeless. In this regard our concern relates to the issue of inter-generational equity.

My submission is that Australia needs to address these issues at two levels;

1. greenhouse emissions, and
2. assistance to vulnerable populations.



Pacific Youth Caucus on the Environment

University of Wollongong

17th -21st April 2001

www.pyce.org

FORMAL REPORT

Adapted for the Senate Inquiry into Australia's relationship with Papua New Guinea and the Small island states of the Pacific 2002

August 16 2002

Compiled by members of the Pacific Youth Environment Network



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INTRODUCTION

The Pacific Youth Caucus on the Environment (PYCE) was held from the 17th to the 21st April 2001 at the University of Wollongong. Drawing together twenty-five delegates from twelve Pacific nations, the PYCE was the first forum to facilitate truly regional dialogue and partnership between young environmentalists from the Pacific under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The delegates ranged in age from eighteen to twenty nine representing (in alphabetical order):

- Australia
- Cook Islands
- Fiji
- Kiribati
- Niue
- Nauru
- New Zealand
- Papua New Guinea
- Samoa
- Tonga
- Tuvalu

Each delegate brought with them a unique personal experience and qualifications ranging from science to drama, governmental employment to media, and student politics to previous United Nations participation. With every delegate being active in social and environmental matters in their communities, each was an effective representative and advocate for the youth environmental movement in his/her country.

During the PYCE, the delegates shared their knowledge and experience to widen their collective understanding of the issues facing the Pacific and to communicate young people's concerns to the international community.

The PYCE was held concurrently with the Young Environmental Envoys Programme (YEEP), another UNEP supported activity. The two groups interacted on a number of occasions during the week, sharing ideas and experiences and forming friendships in a way that reflects the regional scope of the UNEP Asia Pacific Youth Programme.

BACKGROUND

The PYCE was conceived through a resolution passed by Pacific delegates at the UNEP Asia Pacific Regional Youth Forum held in Singapore in December, 1999. The resolution cited the need to address the under-representation of Pacific Island Nations within the UNEP Youth Programme and called for a forum consisting of young Pacific Islanders.

The Pacific Youth Environment Network (PYEN) formed the basis for the work group that initiated preparations for the Pacific Youth Caucus on the Environment and was officially formed at this meeting.

In January 2000, a proposal for the PYCE was produced by the PYEN. With the strong support of UNEP Regional Office for the Asia Pacific (ROAP), the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the University of Wollongong, the PYEN worked throughout 2000 to create a framework of action for the event and to gain support from other groups, including the Australian government (AusAID).

In early 2001, the PYEN formed the Australian-based PYCE Organising Committee, the role of which was to coordinate and organise all aspects of the event.

PYCE FOCUS

The PYCE focussed on a number of key themes:

- Youth Empowerment and Action
- Equity, Sustainability and Technology
- Resource Ownership
- Partnerships
- Poverty and Development

Other issues of concern during the caucus were *waste management* and *climate change*. The caucus spanned four days of formal proceedings through which participants engaged with a range of speakers from academic, business, non-government, and governmental backgrounds (see Agenda attached).

OUTCOMES

The caucus produced a number of specific outputs. These will be used to engage in national and international decision making processes and for community education purposes. The outcomes of the PYCE are listed below:

1. Wollongong Declaration (attached)

This declaration was created with the specific intent of submission at the next Earth Summit (Rio+10) in Johannesburg 2002. The Wollongong Declaration seeks to voice concerns of young Pacific Islanders at the next Earth Summit.

The Wollongong Declaration identifies the most significant issue facing the Pacific as:

- climate change and sea level rise,
- the right to intellectual and cultural heritage,
- environmental restoration and protection,
- the transportation of waste and hazardous substances,
- nuclear issues,
- mining and development issues.

Youth involvement in decision making and environmental policy is also prominent in the Wollongong Declaration, as a critical process, central to the environmental and social well-being of the Pacific.

2. Youth State of the Environment Report

The United Nations Environment Program has commissioned the production of Youth State of the Environment Reports (SoE). These will address the sub-regional concerns of young people and will be presented in a form that is accessible to a non-expert audience. The PYEN has contributed to this process through the creation of a draft youth version of the Pacific SoE report.

3. Whale Sanctuary Statement (attached)

The PYCE engaged immediately in the international decision making process through the production of a letter to the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme supporting the creation of a whale sanctuary in the Pacific. The Australian Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment, Dr. Sharman Stone personally delivered our statement to the SPREP Regional Forum and SPREP Member Regional Workshop for a South Pacific Whale Sanctuary (Apia, Samoa in April). Feedback indicates that our statement was well received by other Ministers from the region attending the meeting. This forum was a lead-up to the International Whaling Commission, which was held London in July. The PYEN's commitment to this issue was furthered by the attendance of one of our members at the London meeting of the International Whaling Commission.

4. PYEN Declaration on Climate Change (attached)

Due to the immediacy of the issue of global warming and climate change for the Pacific, the PYCE produced a declaration calling for immediate global action to create 'a binding, long term agreement amongst the International Community to mitigate the detrimental effects of climate change upon our region.' The Climate Change Declaration will also be submitted for inclusion in the Earth Summit meeting in 2002.

5. Pacific Youth Environment Strategy and Action Plan (attached)

Building upon previous action plans developed in both Singapore and Japan, the Pacific Youth Caucus formulated the Pacific Sub-Regional Action Plan. The Action Plan is a document outlining the group's mission, aims and objectives, and sets forth a matrix of stepwise actions to be undertaken either by individuals or groups of people in the Pacific Youth Environment Network.

More general outcomes include:

6. Increased Membership of the Pacific Youth Environment Network

The Pacific Youth Environment Network saw an increase in numbers of individuals as well as countries represented. Membership has increased from 12 people to 29 and from 8 to 12 countries. New countries formerly unrepresented include: Papua new Guinea, Tuvalu, Tonga and the Cook Islands. Contact has been made and new memberships are in progress for the Solomon Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam and American Samoa.

7. Award

Members of the Organising Committee also received an Illawarra Healthy Cities Award as recognition of their efforts in organising the caucus. The Healthy Cities/Healthy Islands group is an international network administered by the World Health Organisation in Manila, Phillipines

8. Web page

A web page was established in March 2001 to facilitate communication between potential participants, sponsors, other interested parties and the PYCE organising committee. The web page was produced by Gruden and other volunteers in the form of in-kind sponsorship for the PYCE. The web page has been a useful means of communicating and advertising the PYCE but has now been decommissioned.

GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

Global Youth Service Day (GYSD April 21) is an international day of celebration in recognition of the contributions that young volunteers make to their communities. Ceremonies for this year's Global Youth Service Day in Wollongong were organised by the PYCE Organising Committee in partnership with the Wollongong Youth Centre. The participants of both the PYCE and YEEP were honoured to attend Wollongong's GYSD Gala Dinner on the evening of Saturday 21st April, which coincided with the final day of the PYCE.

The GYSD events included:

- cultural performances over a lunch that was attended by the local media
- PYCE closing ceremony attended by Colin Markham, the State Member for the Illawarra and Parliamentary Secretary for Aboriginal Affairs
- a Gala Dinner attended by many local, national and international dignitaries

Special Guests and dignitaries who attended the GYSD Gala Dinner included:

- Mr Colin Markham (Parliamentary Secretary for Aboriginal Affairs)
- Mr George Harrison (Lord Mayor of Wollongong)
- Ms Adrienne Keane (Executive Director – Clean Up Australia)
- Ms Kerry Hunt (Manager Wollongong Youth Centre)
- Ms Jane Higgins (Community Aid Abroad)

GYSD Certificates were awarded to Kristy Adams from Surf Life Saving and Rachel McBeath who is involved in respite care, at the Gala Dinner in recognition of their outstanding volunteer contributions in the Illawarra.

The event was sponsored by

- Oxfam Community Aid Abroad
- Illawarra Connection
- Wollongong City Council
- Wollongong Youth Centre
- University of Wollongong Foundation
- Kell the Lawyers

MEDIA

The PYCE received wide media attention, particularly in the Illawarra region but also across Australia and internationally.

Local television stations **PRIME** and **WIN** documented:

- PYCE Opening Ceremony with interviews by delegates from Australia, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Niue, New Zealand and Fiji.
- Global Youth Service Day celebrations

Local newspaper coverage in **The Illawarra Mercury** included:

- Brief information article two weeks prior to the PYCE
- An overview of the PYCE with a two page spread, including interviews with delegates Kiribati, Tuvalu and Niue, also the PYCE Organising Committee
- An article in the Education section of the week following the conference.

ABC Radio interviewed delegates over the four days of the conference, which included broadcasts on the following channels:

- Triple J - Morning Show on the 20th April
- ABC National News – News feature on 18th and 19th April
- ABC National - Morning Show on 19th April
- ABC Illawarra Breakfast Community Radio
- ABC Newcastle talkback community radio
- Radio Australia broadcast twice around the Pacific as part of their Pacific Beat Programme.

SBS Radio ran a segment about the conference and Pacific issues featuring an interview with the Kiribati delegate, Tawati Uati.

An international journal, **Impact**, also documented the PYCE, publishing an article about the conference and climate change.

Radio Thailand broadcast an interview on the 11th June.

SPONSORS

The PYCE would like to recognize all of our sponsors, without whom the caucus would not have been possible:

- UNEP
- SPREP
- Hanns Siedel Foundation
- Elements International
- Aveda Science
- University of Wollongong
- AusAID
- Oxfam Community Aid Abroad
- Brightstar Environmental

Many of these sponsors were represented at the caucus, along with other guest speakers who were drawn from NGO's, academic institutions, the private sector and government bodies. The PYCE provided an outstanding opportunity for young people to interact with these organisations.

PYCE AND YEEP

The Pacific Youth Caucus on the Environment and the Young Environmental Envoys Program (YEEP) were held concurrently. This created the opportunity for synergy and interaction between the Asian group of envoys and the Pacific delegates, examples of this include:

- A joint YEEP/PYCE field trip to Wollongong's state of the art waste management facility, the Solid Waste Energy Recycling Facility (SWERF) Plant. A project of the PYCE sponsor Brightstar Environmental, the SWERF plant field trip was facilitated by the PYCE Organising Committee.
- Asia Pacific Youth Forum on Environmental Education and Management
- Vice Chancellor's Dinner
- Global Youth Service Day Gala Dinner

CONCLUSION

The Pacific Youth Caucus on the Environment achieved all its objectives and outputs. The delegates learnt much about environmental and governmental organisations, projects and processes, and many partnerships and alliances were formed. Most importantly, the PYCE delegates developed their knowledge and skills, as well as their sense of responsibility to work as role models for other young people, receiving international recognition for their efforts to achieve a sustainable world.

THE FUTURE

Perhaps the most significant dimension of the PYCE was that it marked the first meeting of the Pacific Youth Environment Network (PYEN), enabling the participants of the PYCE to build upon its success and the strength of the newly formed friendships and alliances for the future.

This network links young environmentalists across the Pacific enabling them the communication to share their support and resources. This will enhance the ability of young people to further their domestic environmental projects as well as participate in environmental decision making on the international stage.

It is hoped that having a strong network of young people will facilitate greater Pacific representation at future UNEP Youth Programme events, and all participants are looking forward to reconvening for a second PYCE in 2003.



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1.1 The Wollongong Declaration

Adopted by the Pacific Youth Environment Network¹, Wollongong, Australia on this day, April 21, 2001.

We, the Pacific Youth Environment Network, have gathered on this day at Wollongong, Australia, to affirm our collective responsibilities to restore and protect our cultures and our environments.

We urge the United Nation's system and the countries that are to gather at the World Summit for the Environment to honour our concerns and to respect our rights to our intellectual and cultural heritage and to our lands and resources.

We reiterate our commitment to sustainable development and oppose current models of development being pursued by multinational corporations, industrialised Nations and our own governments that are proving detrimental to Pacific eco-systems and Pacific cultures.

We assert that the Pacific is not a place where "island paradises" are waiting to be exploited by the world's industrialised and wealthy Nations nor are they "empty frontiers" available for the dumping of nuclear waste, genetically modified organisms, and all forms of industrial pollutants.

OUR CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION

In order to restore and protect our environment for future generations, our current environmental situation must be taken into consideration.

I. Climate Change and Sea Level Rise

The issue of climate change is not only a regional problem, it is a global problem. The Pacific is most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change including the issue of sea level rise, which threatens to see many of our Pacific islands submerged under water.

Our islands, and as such, our cultures are seriously under threat as we face the very real possibility of becoming homeless.

The emission of industrial pollutants caused by developed Nations and multinational corporations is significantly contributing to climate change in our region.

2. Rights to Intellectual and Cultural Heritage

We see ourselves as part of the environment and that our culture and spirituality is inextricably linked to the wellbeing and integrity of our environment.

The right to self-determination for indigenous peoples is not currently being upheld.

The right to restore, protect and maintain our indigenous knowledge systems and intellectual property rights is not currently being upheld.

3. Environmental Restoration and Protection

The last 160 years of human development has seen a dramatic loss to our biological diversity.

There has been widespread species extinction due to the loss and fragmentation of habitats, pollution, deforestation, and over-exploitation. The pollution and over-harvesting of marine resources continues to threaten community survival and livelihoods.

4. Waste and Hazardous Substances

The oceans surrounding our homes and supporting our ecosystems are currently, and increasingly, being used as corridors for the transportation of hazardous and toxic materials, predominantly between richer nations whose interests and locations are remote from our own. Should an accident occur during this process, the risks to our environments are extreme.

5. Nuclear Issues

Our region has been used as a testing ground for nuclear weapons and technologies. Nuclear damage and contamination is far-reaching and impossible to remove completely from our environment.

6. Mining

Industrialised countries and corporations have exploited the mineral resources of our region, with scant regard to the cultural and legal rights of traditional and customary owners. Resultant pollution and destruction have caused ecosystem decline and serious human rights abuses.

7. Development Issues

Current development models are causing environmental degradation, and are also resulting in increasing inequity between and within the nations of the world. Poverty is directly linked to problems in health, quality of life, and the social fabric of communities.

8. Decision Making and Environmental Policy

While young people account for the majority of the world's population, this group is inadequately represented in decision-making processes and policy development.

Furthermore, the relative size of the Pacific population means that our needs are not sufficiently considered in international forums, despite the particular and urgent problems of our region. This exclusion of large groups of people from decision-making processes has caused social dissatisfaction and political instability.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

In order to restore and protect our environments for our future generations, we assert that our vision for the future must be recognised.

9. We envisage a future that recognises and celebrates the inter-relationship of the environment and people. We desire that the natural environment be accessible to all persons now and in the future.

10. We yearn for a world:
 - 10.1 in which our land, water, trees, animals, air and our cultures, are not valued according to economic worth, but rather, for their inherent and spiritual value;
 - 10.2 in which our bodies are free from the poisons and diseases that are caused by the pollution of the natural world;
 - 10.3 in which our peoples are free from threats to their livelihoods, traditions, and their very existence; and
 - 10.4 in which our consciences are free from the guilt of depriving our sisters and brothers of the present and our children and grandchildren of the future, of those natural resources on which we have relied for our material requirements and our spiritual needs.

OUR REQUESTS

In order to restore and protect our environments for our children and grandchildren, the International community must recognise the following requests from youth of the Pacific

11. Committing ourselves to halting climate change through the development and implementation of strong and appropriate policies. This should be through the replacement of dependency on fossil fuels by renewable energy sources.
12. Recognising intellectual and cultural property rights, self-determination of indigenous and traditional cultures, knowledge and practices, and acknowledging the inherent sustainability of these diverse communities.
13. Reaffirming the prior commitments of the international community to the eradication of world poverty. Taking concrete steps to achieve this vision through the cancellation of debt for poorer and developing nations, as recognition of the links between environment and poverty, and belief in the principle of equity.
14. Ensuring that the environment is no longer compromised for economic gain by governments or corporations.
15. Providing social, as well as environmental sustainability, through the creation of meaningful employment.
16. Addressing excessive commercial exploitation of marine resources by enforcing strict regulation of marine industries.
17. Develop and introduce culturally appropriate programs to slow the rate of population growth, which is an increasing social and environmental pressure.
18. Undertaking broad and varied public education campaigns to raise awareness of environmental issues. Consulting young people in this process so that our particular needs and concerns are recognised and met.

19. Recognising that the Earth is like a human body: it is the sum of its parts. When one organ is poisoned, the Earth in its entirety is less able to function. For this reason, the release and presence of toxic materials must be eliminated from the natural environment, including, but not limited to, human waste, or industrial or agricultural pollution, or pollution of any sort whatsoever.

20. Ceasing the production, testing and transportation of nuclear wastes, in accordance with the precautionary principle, given the catastrophic effects of such materials on humans and the environment, and the absence of any effective method of treatment, storage or disposal of nuclear substances.

21. Reassessing current models of 'sustainable development' to incorporate a sincere effort to preserve and restore the environment, and recognising the contradiction between the insistence on infinite economic development, and the finite resources contained on the Earth.

1.2 PYEN Climate Change Declaration

Adopted by the Pacific Youth Environment Network¹ on this April the 21st, 2001, Wollongong, Australia

We the Pacific Youth Environment Network call for a binding, long-term agreement amongst the International community to mitigate the detrimental effects of climate change upon our region.

We hope that this document will incorporate specific protocols that address greenhouse gas emissions and the other causes of climate change.

We call for immediate global action!

The recent withdrawal of the USA from the Kyoto protocol makes the need for action more urgent.

The Pacific region is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, with the islands of the Pacific already suffering from the rising sea levels, increased incidents of severe weather events, and the disruption of agriculture, marine industries and eco-tourism.

The health and well being of our people is dependent upon the health of our environment.

We call on our governments to improve community awareness of climate change issues through education and research, to phase out fossil fuel dependency and to implement use of renewable energies.

We are committed to raising community awareness about these problems and gaining the support of the international community to bring about change.

We believe that the responsibility of mitigating climate change requires collaboration, with government playing a key role between the public and private sector for the benefit of the community.

We request an immediate response and action from the international community as time is running out. We need a global solution to this global problem now.

¹ The Pacific Youth Environment Network (PYEN) is a group of young environmentalists from across the Pacific islands (including Australia and New Zealand) and supported by UNEP and SPREP. The PYEN was formed in 1999 to operate as the only Pacific-wide collective of youth environmental activists, as a united voice for the young people of the Pacific. Projects of the PYEN include organic farming, waste management, workshops, theatre, clean up days, cultural restoration and tree planting. The inaugural meeting of the PYEN, the Pacific Youth Caucus on the Environment, was held in Wollongong, Australia, which consisted of youth delegates from Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu.

1.3 PYEN Whale Sanctuary Letter



Pacific Youth Caucus on the Environment
Wollongong, Australia
April 19, 2001

To the South Pacific Regional Environment Program:

We, the Pacific Youth Environment Network, support the call for the establishment of a South Pacific Whale Sanctuary. We recognise the importance of whales as a vital part of the marine ecosystem, to be respected according to many Indigenous Pacific cultures and as a potential source of revenue through eco-tourism.

We trust that the South Pacific Whale Sanctuary agreement will include ACTIVE strategies to promote the growth of whale populations, as well as being accompanied by programs to raise public awareness about whales and the importance of preserving marine ecosystems.

We also believe that the South Pacific Whale Sanctuary will be another step towards permanently banning commercial and scientific whaling worldwide. We make this request that our governments support the SPWS, exercising a long-term vision, in considering the generations of today and tomorrow.

We trust that you support our request, and wish you well in your deliberations.

1.4 Pacific Action Plan

Issue		By Whom	By When
1.1.	* (i) Disseminate the outcomes of the PYCE to at least one NGO and one Education Institution in each country for distribution to the community. (ii) Produce a youth SOE Report for the Pacific Sub region (iii) Place the youth SOE report for the Pacific Sub region on the Website	ALL	JUNE 2001
1.2.	* (i) Invite youth NGOs in each country to participate in the network (ii) Organise a Pacific Youth Caucus after Rio+10 with representation from at least 18 countries to address outcomes from Rio+10 (iii) Have representation from each pacific nation in the PYEN (iv) Have a chat-room on the website to enhance communications	ALL	ONGOING
1.3.	(i) Adopt the PYEN structure, purpose and mission (ii) Update website quarterly		
1.4.	(i) Lobby for exchange programs between pacific countries * (ii) Each representative inform at least 5 individuals/groups about network		
1.5.	(i) Produce a position statement		
1.6.	(i) Quarterly newsletter to supplement site		
1.7.	* (i) Provide teachers with assistance and information for Environmental Education * (ii) Disseminate youth State of the Environment Report, and newsletter to schools in each country (iii) Produce EE kits to supplement curriculum in conjunction with existing projects		
1.8.	Lobby governments to include at least 5 PYEN reps on country delegations to Rio+10		
1.9.	* Solicit public recommendations for the news letter		
1.10.	* Submit outcomes of PYCE to our governments See 1.8		
1.11.	Highlight and promote successful community projects (e.g. Beachwatch) (based on 1.9?)		
1.12.	(i) Space in web site and newsletter for new technology and/or indigenous practice (ii) PYEN to encourage indigenous representation with at least half indigenous representatives on any secretariat		
1.13.	* (i) Each delegate participate in local youth programme and report their outcomes at		

	the next PYCE. (ii) Source and distribute information on fundraising activities and grant possibilities (iii) Art contest to make calendar and/or postcards		
1.14.	Provide a 2 way link to websites such as ROAP, SPREP and SPCN		
1.15.	Full representation of Pacific nations at next Asia-Pacific youth forum with the PYEN selecting representatives		
1.16.	(i) Media releases with at least 2 articles per country (ii) Media scrapbook containing all media generated by the PYEN (iii) Compile media contact list for all countries See 1.6, 1.7, 1.12, 1.13 (iv) Newsletter to have 15 countries to contribute 1 article each		

Addition: adopt formal letter of introduction for each delegate to their govts etc.
Adopt formal position on development (criteria) form each member to use, re: Kirsten
Make links with local scientific communities...

Structure of the PYEN

- Youth Advoiser for the Pacific
- Youth Representative for the Pacific
- Steering Committee
- Communications Committee

Major issues:

- Communication
- Information
- Website maintenance
- Conferences
- Recognition/credibility
- Lobbying
- Membership/Affiliation/Autonomy
- Resources/Support
- Secretariat?

2. PYCE Delegate Bios

Australia

James Moody (24) is a member of the United Nations Environment Programme Youth Advisory Council. He has a Bachelor of Engineering degree and currently works full time on the FedSat project, helping to build Australia's first satellite in 30 years. He is also studying his full time PhD, in innovation and management. James has undertaken aid work in Vietnam and is also director of an international consulting firm, called Elements International, which specializes in Sustainable Development projects.

Andrew Stanton (25) is a youth representative for Australia to the United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Office for the Asia Pacific. He is also a student representative at the University of Wollongong, and environmental activist and educator, involved in several environmental organisations, projects and campaigns, both within Australia and abroad. These include: the Helensburgh Landcare Group, National Parks and Wildlife Service, NSW Bushfire Risk Management Committee, Barren Grounds Nature Reserve, the Illawarra Eco-Forestry Project and has assisted PNG Environment Clubs to fundraise and organise attendance at the Students and Sustainability Conference in Australia. Andrew is studying a Bachelor of Arts and Science (Ecology, Science and Technology) with the University of Wollongong. He won Young Citizen of the Year, Wollongong for 2001.

Viisti Dickens (25) has a Bachelor of Business Communications from the Queensland University of Technology and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Queensland. She is about to assume a new position as an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development with the AusAID program, working in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Viisti attended the UN Commission for Sustainable Development 8 meeting in New York in April, 2000 as a member of the youth caucus and also representing Sustainable Development International. Viisti has represented her university at the Students & Sustainability Conference in 1997 and the World Futures Conference in 1996, as well as volunteering with Friends of the Earth and Community Aid Abroad in Brisbane. She also attended the State of the World Forum as a youth delegate in September 2000. She is particularly interested in the role of communications in development.

Jasmine Sydee (21) is studying a Bachelor of Arts (Resource and Environmental Studies and Politics) at the University of Wollongong. She is a youth member of the Regional and Rural Student Network (RRNet) which is an organisation set up to provide a support network for new students at university from regional or rural backgrounds through group activities and one-on-one mentoring. Jasmine is currently a mentor with the programme. She is currently a research assistant in the Department of Science, Technology and Society at UoW. She is a volunteer with Illawarra Waste Management (IWM) with their community education programmes. She has a long standing affiliation with environment collectives and attended the Students and Sustainability conference in 1999. She has also helped to

undertake environmental management projects on local farms and has done work experience with Greenpeace.

Sharona Coutts (20) is currently studying a Bachelor of Arts and Law at the University of NSW. She is a current member of the Environmental Planning Law Association (EPLA) and also Pigweed, the university organic farming group, the Australian Conservation Foundation and Greenpeace. She hosts a weekly segment on Sydney's 2SER radio called Environment Matters. Sharona has a broad interest in environmental issues including gene technologies, sustainable and organic agriculture, with particular regard to the political, legal and power relationships that influence policies and decision-making".

Jacqueline Elliott (22) currently studies a dual degree in Economics and Science at the University of Queensland. She has worked as a technical research assistant for a consulting firm, specialising in regional and economic development, focussing on the sustainability of tourism and natural resources in coastal areas. She is also a member of the University Environment Collective. Her aim is to empower marginalised communities by fostering ecologically sustainable development through environmental education and awareness.

Stephanie E. Dunstan (24) currently works for the Environmental Protection Authority for Victoria. Specifically, Stephanie's focus lies with the Water and Catchment Policy Unit, Cleaner Production Unit, Operations Unit and the Atmospheric and Energy Policy Unit. She is interested in promoting the business/financial community to get involved with environmental issues. She also has a Bachelor of Arts (Politics/Geography) and a Bachelor of Public Policy and Management (hons).

Jesse Wynhausen (22) is a community activist who became involved in activism through the campaign against Jabiluka uranium mine. His campaigning revolves around social justice issues, especially those where environmental and indigenous rights are threatened. Jesse has been very active in the movement against corporate globalisation, and is one of the founding members of the Global Justice Coalition, a Sydney-based alliance of students, unionists and environmental, human rights and peace activists. In 2000 he was the National Union of Students NSW Environment Officer.

Seini Fale'aka Taumoepeau (25) is an Australian born citizen with strong cultural ties to Tonga, where she spent most of her toddler years. She is currently studying a Bachelor Degree in Arts and Humanities. Seini is a Community Cultural Art Activist, Songwoman and Pasifik Healing Practitioner. She holds workshops in Rap-Lyric writing and Personal Empowerment through the arts and performance. She organises Young Cultural Events through her company Tangata Tapu Sacred People: Artistic Solutions. She is a media worker with experience in Community Radio, Triple J and Radio National. She has worked for Carnivale multicultural Festival and travelled and performed extensively throughout Australia. She advocates for youth on

a daily basis through performance and her social and cultural lifestyle. She has a Traditional Polynesian Healing Practice called Poniu Healing Arts (Polynesian Bodywork) as well as currently working with the youth service Streetbeat. She was awarded Young Citizen of the Year (1995) for Marrickville Municipal Council.

Cook Islands

Ms Nadia Vaikai (19) is a travel consultant with Pacific World Travel. She is the receptionist for the Takitumu Conservation Area (TCA) and is involved in the WWF's "Save Our Suwarro" campaign.

Fiji

Nacaneili Cakacaka (20) is a volunteer with the Greenpeace Australia Pacific Volunteer Network. His organization is involved in education and awareness activities. He recently became a member of the Fiji Community Education Association. Nacaneili is a youth advocate and environmentalist, and works with the youth of his country to develop awareness about the role that young people play in addressing environmental issues.

Kiribati

Tawati Uati (26) works at a local community theatre called the Te Itibwerere Community Theatre. His work involves research, training and directing their plays, and evaluating the effectiveness of these plays. He actively works with youth groups on South Tarawa (capital of Kiribati), and also in North Tarawa. In doing this, Tawati aims to increase understanding and to encourage positive attitudes towards development to contemporary Kiribati. The theatre has a 3-year plan which involves forming a youth theatre, which will educate their peer group with different issues on social, health, and environment. Tawati has also been trained in monitoring and evaluation skills and assisted in the evaluation of the Tawati Kiribati Environmental Education Programme. He and the theatre has been working for over three years now with FSP which includes commissioning and performing of environment plays such as solid waste, tree, water, and other integrated programs like Nutrition and Health to communities, schools, and at national events including Environment Day.

Nauru

Megan Aliklik (21) is the secretary for the Our Lady of Rosary Youth Group. She is an environmental and youth advocate and has coordinated events such as the WORLD CLEAN UP DAY and others like tree planting, sports and the spiritual activities.

New Zealand

Mere Takoko (23) is a member of the Nations of Ngati Porou, Rongowhakaata and Ngati Hako. In 1998, Mere formed Totara Nations Charitable Trust, a youth-based organisation. The purpose of Totara Nations is to promote healthy lifestyles for Maori families and communities that are environmentally sustainable and culturally appropriate.

Jay Piggott (19) is a member of the United Nations Youth Advisory Council and is affiliated with the following organisations - Ship for World Youth Eco Action Network, New Zealand Youth Network, Dunedin Youth Forum Inc.

Niue

Miss Anna Rose Manapule Pavihi (22) currently works as a Medical Laboratory Technician at the Lord Liverpool Hospital in Niue. has a Diploma in Applied Science, specifically in the fields of chemistry and microbiology. Anna Rose has also worked at the AgR Search Wallanceville Department of Pathology in New Zealand. She is an ambassador for her country, and was awarded Miss Niue 2000

Papua New Guinea

Mr Raymond Unasi (23) is a student at the University of Papua New Guinea, studying Biology/Environmental Science (Year 4). He is a member of the University Environmental Society (UPNG). The club is involved in various awareness programs that focus on the well being of the local community in terms of integral human development and environmental safety. He will use this opportunity to outline the impacts of Mining and Forestry Policies of the Government of PNG, which often accommodates environmental hazards in the Mining and Forestry sectors. The Policies are framed in such a way that benefits the developer more than the resource owner. He will be answer questions and up-date the caucus on the Bougainville issue. Most importantly, he wishes to bring to the attention of the participants about the PNG perspective of justice and equality in all matters.

Mr Merra Minne (22) is a student at the University Of Papua New Guinea, studying Environmental Science (year 4). He is the Vice President of the University Environmental Society (UPNG). At the PYCE, he and Raymond wish to outline the two perspectives of environmental problems facing PNG today, mining and forestry as their club normally does in awareness campaigns. The club focusses more attention to environmental perspective that involved lots of programs like, World's Environmental Day, PNG Coastal Clean up plus many more.

Samoa

Allan Stowers (24) works for the AusAID as a project officer, looking after several bi-lateral aid projects. He is also a member for several Board of Directors for Youth Service Providers (ngo's). Previously, Allan worked for the Samoan Ministry of Youth Sports & Cultural Affairs working together with the Dept of Environment on many occasions. Some of the projects Allan has worked on in the past include promoting Organic Farming for youth around the islands. This involved promoting organic fertilizers and traditional methods of agriculture, by way of art competitions in Samoan schools. Before he left the Samoan Government, Allan helped establish funding lines for food tree planting and with the help of Samoan NGO's established a young farmers organic farming organisation.

Adolf Cordtz (29) has undertaken Foundation Studies at the University of NSW and has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Agriculture) from the Charles Sturt University. Adolf is currently involved with a youth group or people from 11-18 years of age. It is a non-denominational youth group. The vision is to train and discipline young people in a Godly way so that the outside influence from the society (ie. drugs, alcohol, etc.) will have no influence over their moral values. He shows a strong commitment to helping teenagers to recognise their values in life. Adolf was a Plant Pathologist in Western Samoa for over two years. Other projects he was involved in include: eradication program for the African snail, Taro Leaf Blight, emphasis on using organic fertilisers, minimising use of pesticides and also studying the effect of pesticides on the environment.

Tonga

Mr Siosuia Latu (22) is an office assistant at the Tonga Environment and Management Planning and Strengthening Project (TEMPP), which is the fusion of the Tonga Department of Environment and the AusAID Tonga Environmental Planning and Enhancement Project. One of Siosuia's projects at TEMPP involves visiting local communities and villages once-twice a week and educating them on environmental issues in their region. He is also a member of the local village church youth group and is responsible for organising recreational activities.

Tuvalu

Kilifi O'Brien (25) is the Environmental Impact Assessment Officer for Tuvalu. Kilifi is responsible for determining when EIA's are required for developments and carrying out some of those required for small projects in the country.

4. PYCE Speaker Bios

Mr James Arvanitakis (Aidwatch)

Background and Experience James is the Campaign Director of AID/WATCH, a community based organisation that "monitors the development dollar". James is currently undertaking his PhD, where he is investigating alternative forms of economic development. James has been a campaigner for a number of years, following an *epiphany* that saw him resign from his position within the banking and finance sector. James has managed projects in Tonga, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Bougainville.

Proposed Presentation "*What is Poverty? What is development?*"

In essence AID/WATCH monitors the development dollar by highlighting the negative impacts of development projects. Aid Watch's main focus is the impacts of official development in Asia, particularly the Mekong area, and the Pacific. They also have an ongoing project of critiquing the Asian Development Bank, and have recently launched Timor Watch, a project that reviews the developments proposals and projects of East Timor. This project

includes reviewing the World Bank proposals as well as projects being managed by non-government organisations.

Associate Professor Dr Sharon Beder(Head of Science Technology and Society, University of Wollongong)

Background and Experience Dr Sharon Beder is author of many articles and books, including *Toxic Fish and Sewer Surfing*, *The Nature of Sustainable Development*, *Global Spin: The Corporate Assault on Environmentalism*, *The New Engineer* and *Selling the Work Ethic*. She graduated from Canterbury University with a first class honours engineering degree and worked as a professional engineer for several years. She has been Environmental Education Co-ordinator at the University of Sydney, Chairperson of the Environmental Engineering Branch of the Institution of Engineers, Sydney, President of the Society for Social Responsibility in Engineering and a director of the Earth Foundation, Australia.

Proposed presentation “Equity and Sustainability”

The ethical principle of equity, particularly intergenerational equity, is central to the concept of sustainable development. Yet governments all over the world are adopting sustainable development policies that reinforce existing inequities and create new ones. These policies have been strongly influenced by neo-conservative think tanks and corporate lobbyists. Proposed measures to prevent global warming and their inadequacy will be used as a case study.

Dr Kirsten Benkendorff(Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Wollongong)

Background and Experience Dr. Kirsten Benkendorff, B.Sc. Hons 1 (Mq), Ph.D. (UoW) is the 2001 NSW Young Australian of the Year for the Environment. She is also the recipient of the 2000 Young Australian of the Year for Science and Technology. Kirsten coordinates a Marine Bioprospecting Initiative at the University of Wollongong, aimed at conducting research into the conservation and ecologically sustainable development of novel marine resources. She has published a code of ethics for natural products chemists and papers on the conservation benefits and problems associated with marine bioprospecting. Kirsten has also prepared submissions for numerous Government environmental policies and coordinated a position statement on environmental impact assessment for the Ecological Society of Australia. Kirsten also advances community education about marine conservation by actively pursuing media attention, conducting voluntary intertidal tours and through public seminars. She spend all her spare time in her organic vegie garden!

Proposed Presentation “Youth Empowerment and Action”

I never set out to become an environmental activist. However, I have always believed that scientists have an ethical responsibility to pass their knowledge on to the greater community. Unfortunately, the majority of scientists, like most older members of the general public, lose their enthusiasm for environmental activism, they become cynical or are simply too busy to contribute. However, young people have more to lose when it comes to the environment. It is our future at stake. Consequently, as a naive young Ph.D. student I made it my mission to increase public awareness about the environment, using the knowledge that I had gained as a scientist. At first it was difficult because I was labelled as a student or a “greenie” and ignored. However, over time I have successfully discovered ways to gain the respect of my elders. I have also gained the support of other scientists, to the extent where they have trusted me to represent them before parliament and in Government submissions. Along the way I have been inspired by the remarkable achievements of many other young Australians and I hope that by sharing my experiences you can do the same.

Ms Louise Bone_(Melbourne University Private)

Presentation: Roundtable speaker on the “Triple Bottom Line”

Phil Davey_(Media/Campaigns Officer for the Construction Division of the Construction Forestry Mining Energy Union (CFMEU))

Background and Experience Phil has been involved in many industrial campaigns as well as community campaigns over East Timor and S11. Phil is the Vice President of the Sydney May Day Committee and on the Board of APHEDA, the Union movements overseas aid organisation.

Presentation “Promoting Partnerships in the Pacific”

Ms Seema Deo_(Environmental Education Officer, South Pacific Regional Environment Programme)

Background and Experience Seema has been with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme since May 1998 and provides advice and technical assistance in the development and implementation of environmental education and awareness programmes in the Pacific island countries. She is also responsible for the implementation of the Pacific Regional Action Strategy for Environmental Education and Training, 1999; 2003. This document was endorsed by Pacific island environmental officials at the 10th SPREP meeting held in Samoa in 1998 and forms the framework for SPREPs EE activities in the region.

Prior to joining SPREP, Seema worked at Fiji’s Department of Environment where she was the UNEP-funded Ozone Protection Officer and successfully prepared the background paper for Fiji’s Ozone Layer Protection Act which came into force in 1998. She is also a trained high school teacher with experience in several high schools in New Zealand and Fiji.

Proposed Presentation “Education for Sustainability - A New Direction for Environmental Education in Youth Programmes?”

Seema will make a presentation on SPREP's current direction in environmental education in line with the Regional Action Strategy for Environmental Education and Training and on activities conducted to date.

The key focus of the presentation will be on the development of strategies for innovative and participatory approaches to youth education and awareness raising and will investigate the relationship between environmental protection, policies and social and development issues. Members of the audience will be invited to consider their own role in environmental education for sustainable development.

Mr Damien Farrell & Ms Danielle Kennedy_(BrightStar Environmental)

Presentation “Global environmental issues, global environment solutions and waste management technology”

Mr George Harrison(Lord Mayor of Wollongong)

Presentation Welcoming address

Ms Nina Lansbury_(Research Coordinator, Mineral Policy Institute, Sydney)

Presentation: Roundtable speaker on The Mineral Policy Institute as an NGO in the Asia and Pacific

Prof John Merson(Senior Lecturer in the School of Science and Technology Studies at University of New South Wales)

Background and Experience Prof John Merson combines his academic research with an active career as a science journalist and broadcaster with the ABC Science Unit and other media outlets. His research interests lie in the economic and social impact of science and technology. He has published widely on technology and development issues in Asia and Europe and more recently has been working on the social and economic impacts of information technology. For a number of years he was a member of the New South Wales Education Commission, and he continues to act as a consultant on science and technology issues for a number of government departments and industry groups. For his work in journalism he was awarded the Australian China Council-National Press Club Prize in 1981 and a United Nations Peace Prize in 1989.

Presentation: Keynote Address – Community Based Solutions to Resource Conservation in the Pacific

Mr Gerald Miles_(Head of Environmental Management and Planning, SPREP)

Background and Experience Editor of Pacific Islands Environment Outlook-Geo2000 Series

Proposed Presentation “The State of the Environment Pacific”

The Pacific Islands are confronted by a number of common challenges: geographical isolation, fragile environments, rapid population growth, limited land resources, a dependence on marine resources and vulnerability to external threats. These challenges both contribute to and limit the region's ability to address the priority environmental problems that are placing pressure on their lifestyles, natural resources and economic development. The priorities include: loss of biodiversity, threatened freshwater resources, degrading coastal environments, climate change and sea level rise and pollution. This presentation will provide an outlook for the Pacific Island's environment and where the region's future will depend on action today.

Professor John Morrison (Head of Environmental Science : University of Wollongong)

Background and Experience John Morrison is BHP Professor of Environmental Science and Coordinator of the Oceans and Coastal Research Centre at the University of Wollongong where he has worked since the end of 1992. Originally trained as a chemist (PhD from Queens University Belfast), he has spent much of his working life in developing countries where he applied his scientific expertise to addressing environmental issues, particularly land and water management. Prior to coming to Wollongong he was Professor of Chemistry at the University of the South Pacific (1985-92), and Scientific Coordinator (1988-92) of the South Pacific Regional Marine Pollution Assessment and Control Project (SPREP POL).

His current research interests include: Marine pollution problems in the South West Pacific, particularly land based sources, lagoons, estuaries and river discharges into the marine environment; Science and management of coastal water bodies in New South Wales; Environmental projects in the Sydney/Illawarra/Shoalhaven region including re-use of sewage sludge and effluent, landfill site revegetation, acid sulphate soils management, water and sediment quality in Port Kembla Harbour; Waste management; Studies on the long-term impact of agriculture on tropical soils. He has carried out research and numerous environmental consultancies in over 30 countries in Africa, Asia and the South Pacific.

Proposed Presentation “Waste Management in the Small Island Developing States of the South Pacific – An Overview”

Many countries in the South Pacific face critical problems with regard to waste management. Failure to adequately address these problems is leading to escalating environmental and health problems for Pacific Islanders, and serious consequences for economic development based on tourism, export agriculture and small 'clean' industries.

This paper reviews the causes and consequences of many of these problems and provides recommendations for action to improve the situation. Improvements will result from a combination of technical, economic and social changes. The main change required is waste management being given a higher priority in government planning so that sustainable funding mechanisms can be developed for these activities. Governments also need to develop integrated waste management policies, strategies and plans, and provide support through appropriate legislative and institutional frameworks.

Mr Peter Robinson (UoW Deputy Vice Chancellor)

Presentation: Welcoming address

The Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP(Federal Member for Murray and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment and Heritage. Dr Stone is also the Government's Representative on the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation)

Background and Experience The Parliamentary Secretary has delegated responsibility for the Bureau of Meteorology. Her other key areas of responsibility relate to water and vegetation policy development and management of the Greencorp program. Dr Stone has been awarded several degrees including a BA Hons Anthropology, Monash University, a MA Rural Sociology, La Trobe University, a Grad Dip Tertiary Education, Hawthorn CAE and a PHD in Economics and Business, Monash University. Dr Stone has worked in the agricultural and natural resources sectors as well as in social planning and community work. She has sat on many committees including the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Primary Industries, Resources and Rural and Regional Affairs and the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs. Dr Stone is also the author of a number of publications addressing issues such as race relation, education, guide books for the naturalist field, and natural resource management and community. Her work on natural resources has included particular focuses on land and water including salinity.

Presentation: Welcoming address

Ms Mere Takoko_(Founder Totara Nations Charitable Trust and PYCE Delegate)

Background and Experience Mere is a member of the Nations of Ngati Porou, Rongowhakaata and Ngati Hako. In 1998, Mere formed Totara Nations Charitable Trust, a youth-based organisation. The purpose of Totara Nations is to promote healthy lifestyles for Maori families and communities that are environmentally sustainable and culturally appropriate.

Presentation **“Resource Ownership in the Pacific”**

4. PYCE Agenda

Tuesday 17th April

Time	Event
9:30am	<p>Field Trip - Environmental issues and management in the Wollongong Area Venue: Mt Keira (with YEEP)</p>
11:15am	<p>Field Trip - SWERF Waste Management Plant, Whytes Gully Hosted by Brightstar Environmental (with YEEP)</p>
2:00pm	<p>Roundtable - "Organisations, government agencies and industry" Guest speakers: Louise Bone - Melbourne University Private, James Arvantakis – Aid Watch, Nina Lansbury – Mineral Policy's Institute, Body Shop (TBC). Each speaker to present for 5-10mins with an extra 5mins for questions.</p>
3:00pm	Afternoon tea
4:00pm	<p>Traditional Welcome by Dharawal and Wodi-Wodi Traditional Owners (Roy Kennedy) Country Papers: Delegate Presentations based on Environmental Issues in their countries</p>
6:30pm	BBQ at North Beach
8:00pm	Informal chat space and question time

DAY 1 - Wednesday 18th April

Time	Event
9:00am 10mins 20mins 30mins 30mins	<p>Opening Ceremony</p> <p>Welcome by Lord Mayor Mr. George Harrison and UoW Vice Chancellor Mr Gerald Sutton Welcoming Speech (Dr Sharman Stone -PS to the Minister for Environment and Heritage) Opening Address (Mr James Moody and Mr Andrew Stanton) Key Note Address (Prof John Merson)</p>
10:30am	Morning Tea
11:30am	<p>Address (Ms Seema Deo - Environmental Education Officer South Pacific Regional Environment Programme)</p> <p><i>"An Introduction to SPREP and Environmental Education and Training in the Pacific"</i> Questions and discussion</p>
12:30pm	Lunch Break
1:30pm	Address (Brightstar Environmental)
1:50pm	Goal Setting and Objectives, Code of Ethics and Guidelines
2:30pm	<p>Address (Assoc. Professor Sharon Beder - UoW Science and Tech Studies - author "Global Spin")</p> <p><i>"Equity, Sustainability and Technology"</i> Questions and discussion</p>
3:15pm	Afternoon tea
3.30pm	<p>Workshop - "Equity, Sustainability and Technology"</p> <p>Panel Discussion including Assoc, Prof. Sharon Beder, Ms Mere Takoko, Representative from the Body Shop, Prof Robert Whelan, Ms Nina Lansbury, Ms Seema Deo. "What is sustainability and how can it be achieved?" Format - 2 minute introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question to the Panel: "What is sustainability?" 3-4 minute answers • Question to the Panel: "How can sustainability be achieved?" 3-4 minute answers • Questions from the floor
5:30pm	Unicentre Buffet Dinner
7:00pm	<p>Taking Stock</p> <p>Introduce Pacific Youth Environment Strategy and Pacific Youth Action Plan Introduce report for Rio + 10 and Declaration</p>

DAY 2 Thursday 19th April "...Big Day....."

Time	Event
9:00am	<p>Presentation - Mr Michael Wilson <i>"Climate Change and Greenhouse Issues in the Pacific"</i> Questions and Discussion</p>
9:40am	<p>Introduction to the Youth State of the Environment Reporting process Mr James Moody and Ms Sapoporn Saeung</p>
10:30am	Morning Tea
11:00am	<p>Address - (Mr Gerald Miles - Editor of Pacific Islands Environment Outlook - Geo2000) <i>" Pacific State of the Environment"</i> Discussions and Questions</p>
12:30pm	Lunch
1:15pm	<p>Workshop "Pacific Youth State of the Environment Report" Mr James Moody - Identify environmental issues of priority Plan and draft the first Pacific Youth SoE.</p>
3:00pm	Afternoon Tea
3:30pm	Taking Stock
4:45pm	<p>Address - (Mr Phillip Davey - CFMEU) <i>"Promoting Partnerships in the Pacific"</i> Questions and Discussion</p> <p>Address - (Mr James Arvanitakis - Aid watch) <i>"Combatting Poverty Issues in the Pacific"</i> Questions and Discussion</p>
5:30pm	Welcome BBQ dinner hosted by the SRC
5:00pm	<p>Workshop - "Partnerships in the Pacific" Roleplay – Partners in environment and development Discussion – The challenges of partnerships</p> <p>Workshop - "Poverty and Development" Discussion - Alleviating poverty and exploring alternative models of development Mapping exercise - exploring the links between environment and poverty</p>
8:00pm	Reporting of workshop outcomes

DAY 3 Friday 20th April "...Another Big Day..."

Time	Event
9:00am	<p>Address (Mere Takoko - Delegate and Founding member - Totara Nations Charitable Trust) <i>"Issues of Resource Ownership in the Pacific"</i> Discussions and Questions</p>
9:25am	<p>Workshop - "Resource Ownership in the Pacific" Table building exercise – identifying the positive and negative aspects of public and private ownership Discussion – is it possible to strike a balance between the different forms of ownership?</p>
10:30am	Morning tea
11:00am	<p>Address - (Prof John Morrison - Chair of Environmental Science UoW - Author "Waste Management in the Pacific") <i>"Waste Management Issues in the Pacific"</i> Questions and Discussion</p>
11:40am	Workshop - "Issues of Waste Management in the Pacific"
12:30pm	Lunch
2:00pm	<p>Asia Pacific Youth Forum on Environmental Education and Management <i>"The Role of Young People in Decision Making for Ecologically Sustainable Development"</i></p>
7:15pm	Dinner hosted by Vice Chancellor of UoW Mr Gerard Sutton
8:00pm	<p>Taking Stock (James Moody, Jacqui Elliott, Nacanieli Cakacaka) Finalising Youth inputs to Rio + 10 and Declaration Revise Pacific Youth Environment Strategy and Pacific Youth Action Plan</p>

DAY 4 - Saturday 21st April - Global Youth Service Day

Time	Event
9:00am	Address - (Dr Kirsten Benkendorff - Young Australian of the Year - Science and Technology 2000) "Youth Empowerment and Action" Questions and discussion
10:00am	Workshop - "Youth Empowerment and Action" Taking Stock – Finalise Pacific Youth Environment Strategy and Pacific Youth Action Plan
10:30am	Morning tea
11:00pm	Taking Stock
12:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm	GYSD activities (media stunt - celebration)
3:00pm	Formal presentation of Revised Pacific Youth Action Strategy and Pacific Youth Action Plan Formal presentation of Declaration and youth inputs to Rio + 10
4:00pm	Closing Ceremony
7:00pm	Formal Dinner and Global Youth Service Day Celebrations

Day 5

Time	Event
10:00am	Recovery...optional for delegates

5. PYCE Organising Committee

- James Moody
- Jacqui Elliott
- Jasmine Sydee
- Nacanieli Cakacaka
- Shau Teo
- Andrew Stanton
- Viisti Dickens
- Jesse Wynhausen
- Catherine Blakey

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The PYCE would like to recognize the contributions made by all of our sponsors, without whom the PYCE would not have been possible.

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Aveda Science

University of Wollongong SRC

A big thankyou for your confidence and trust in our vision