

Joint news release

20 March 2018 | *For immediate release*

“Moana Taka Partnership” unfolds exciting recycling possibilities for the Pacific islands

The China Navigation Company (CNCo) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) have today signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to address critical waste management issues in the Pacific islands.

Known as the “Moana Taka Partnership”, this MOU allows for CNCo vessels to carry containers of recyclable waste from eligible Pacific island ports, *pro bono*, to be sustainably treated and recycled in suitable ports in Asia Pacific.

“This historic partnership will be of great benefit to our Pacific islands, and one for which we are very appreciative to The China Navigation Company,” said Mr Kosi Latu, Director General of SPREP.

“Our Pacific islands face an immense waste management challenge. With many geographical limitations, the Moana Taka Partnership can help us address the problem of taking our recyclable waste off island for proper recycling. This is a great step, or shall we say paddle, in the right direction.”

Mr James Woodrow, Managing Director of CNCo said, “China Navigation has provided sustainable shipping solutions to the Pacific islands for 80 years. Today, the communities in the Pacific islands are facing some of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time and CNCo is committed to being part of the solution. As soon as we became aware of the critical need for sustainable waste management in the region, we worked urgently with the SPREP and UN Environment to put this partnership in place.”

Under this agreement, Pacific island countries who have insufficient or inappropriate landfill space to store waste, have inadequate waste treatment facilities, and the financial inability to ship recyclable waste are eligible for this opportunity. The types of materials that are considered recyclable include plastics, aluminium cans, waste oil and ozone depleting substances.

The signing took place across Samoa and Singapore on 20 March to mark the Global Recycling Day 2018.

"Better waste management is absolutely critical for Pacific island nations. Landfills should be the last option and throwing it all in the ocean is not an option. We need to innovate, and this kind of public-private partnership is the way forward. Only when we work together can we overcome one of the biggest environmental challenges of our time," said Mr Erik Solheim, Executive Director of UN Environment.

21 countries are eligible for these opportunities: American Samoa, Cook Islands, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Wallis and Futuna.

**Enclosed: Photograph of the MOU signing in Singapore.
Photograph of CNCo vessel, MV Coral Chief, at Port Moresby, PNG.**

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About SPREP

SPREP is the regional coordinating organisation for the protection and sustainable development of the Pacific island environment. SPREP was established by its Member government's in 1992 to support cooperation and coordination across the region. With headquarters located in Apia, Samoa, SPREP works closely with its 26 Member countries and territories – along with partners, donors and local communities – to deliver on environmental management and sustainable development in the region. For more information on SPREP, visit www.sprep.org.

About CNCo

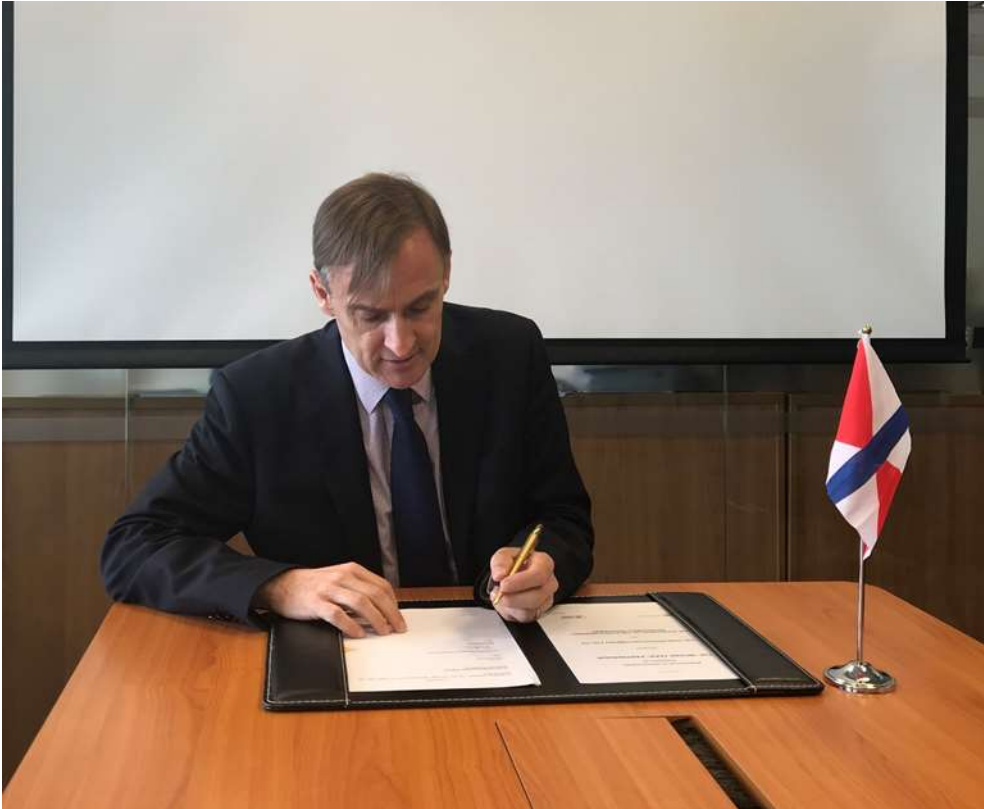
The China Navigation Company (CNCo) is the wholly-owned, deep-sea shipping arm of the Swire group. Headquartered in Singapore, the company has branches in 15 countries operating a global network of multipurpose liner, dry bulk and bulk logistics shipping services through its three business divisions – Swire Shipping, Swire Bulk and Swire Bulk Logistics. CNCo was founded in 1872 to operate Mississippi-style paddle steamers on China's Yangtze River. Today, it owns and operates a fleet of over 100 eco-friendly container and multipurpose vessels, bulk and cement carriers, providing sustainable shipping solutions to enable global trade. For more information of CNCo, visit www.swirecnco.com.

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James Woodrow, MD, CNCo signing the MOU in Singapore.



MV Coral Chief, is one of the CNCo's vessels servicing the Pacific islands.