SPREP Circular

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

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Date: 19th April 2011

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To: **National Waigani Focal Points:**

Australia, Cook Islands, France, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, PNG, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

Subject: **Regional Training Workshop in the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, and Waigani Conventions.**

BASEL CONVENTION

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

WAIGANI CONVENTION

Background

1. The Waigani, Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions are key international agreements that regulate the use and trans-boundary movement of hazardous chemicals and wastes in the Pacific Region.

2. Signatories to these conventions are obligated to manage and/or track the importation and movement of hazardous chemicals and wastes in the region through administrative processes and submit summaries of national activities on an annual basis to the Convention Secretariat.

3. A lack of training in national obligations and procedures has been identified at the 2010 SPREP Meeting as a critical obstacle to Pacific Island countries completing their obligations under these conventions.

Training Workshop

4. The Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and EU project "Capacity Building related to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA) in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Countries" have generously made funding and training resources available to enable Pacific Island country nominees to attend a 5 day workshop in July 2011.

5. The funding will be in support of [one] participant from each participating country with an additional participant if funding permits. These countries are Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Unfortunately the funding does not extend to Australia, France and New Zealand nominees, therefore participation will be at that countries own expense.

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6. This training workshop will provide country participants with an enhanced understanding of each of the conventions including their history and importance, as well as enhance their capacity to fulfill national obligations under the conventions.

7. A nomination form for attendance at this workshop is attached. It is critical that country nominees are **directly involved** in the day to day administration of these conventions on behalf of their country.

8. Please return the completed nomination form by email to SPREP email address pulemalieh@sprep.org no later than 30th May 2011.

Key Contacts

9. We look forward to continuing to work together with you to ensure the minimisation of environmental damage to the Region from hazardous wastes. If you require further information or clarification please contact Dr. David Haynes at davidh@sprep.org

Yours sincerely,

SPREP
PROE

David Sheppard
Director

DS/DH/ph

Att. – Nomination Form

PACIFIC YEAR OF THE
DUGONG
2011
RESPECT AND PROTECT