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CLEAN PACIFIC

The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 2/1/4
DATE: 20 May 2013
CIRCULAR: 13/32

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
[*Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu*]

SUBJECT: **Proposal for a regional Medium Sized GEF Project (NPIF-Pacific) to assist PICs ratify and implement the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising out of their Utilization**

Dear All,

We refer to Circular 13/26 of 23 April 2013, where we advised we would follow up on accessing a two million dollar regional project funded by the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) to assist Pacific Island countries implementing the Nagoya Protocol.

GEF, UNEP and SPREP have recently joined together to create a GEF regional Medium Sized Project titled "Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the countries of the Pacific" (hereafter NPIF-Pacific).

In addition to this planned project, there are also 3 other processes on ABS occurring in the region.

i) the "ABS Initiative" a GIZ funded project which together with SPREP and the Government of Australia provides assistance to the region by way of regional meetings and training.

ii) a Medium Size Project Pilot Project administered through UNDP. Cook Islands and Fiji appear to be pursuing this avenue

iii) a MSP Global Support project for Early Ratification of the Nagoya Protocol administered through UNEP. FSM and RMI appear to be pursuing this avenue (approximately USD 30,000.00 per country).

We would ask countries pursuing option iii) to consider joining the NFIP-Pacific project because there are significantly more funds available and the added benefits of belonging to a collective programme with centrally managed processes.

As this is a regional project the funds would be managed by SPREP which will provide the deliverables for each participating country.

A draft Project Identification Form is attached for your perusal. Countries wishing to participate should identify a person to act as focal point for this project. There are no financial obligations for countries. However, in-kind contributions such as staff time have been factored in and costed as 10,000 per country over the life of the project (refer to "C").

Under "A.2 Stakeholders" please identify at least one stakeholder group, apart from your office that will be involved in the implementation of the project.

Also attached is a sample Letter of Endorsement for signature by your GEF operational focal point. Please submit this to Clark Peteru – Legal Advisor clarkp@sprep.org and Easter Galuvao – Biodiversity Adviser easterg@sprep.org by 7 June.

Yours sincerely,

David Sheppard
Director General

Attach: Draft PIF
Sample Letter of Endorsement

KL/cp/tf