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CLEAN PACIFIC

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

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 2/2/18/1B **TO:** All SPREP Focal Points
DATE: 18 September 2013
CIRCULAR: 13/69

SUBJECT: **Now Accepting Nominations for the Pacific Islands Environment Leadership Awards**

Dear Focal Points,

It gives me great pleasure to announce nominations for the Pacific Islands Environment Leadership Awards (PIELA) is now open. The PIELA have been established specifically to reward and promote the contributions of individuals, communities, non-governmental organizations, private enterprises and countries towards achieving an environmentally sustainable Pacific. The awards will also incorporate the Pacific Environmental media awards developed by the SPREP Communications Team.

While there are a number of global environment awards that Pacific countries and territories are eligible for, the PIELA is the first Pacific region-focused environment award system established to date. I encourage all SPREP members and partners to engage in the PIELA nomination process as this is an opportunity for the Pacific to celebrate its environmental successes.

To nominate an individual, project, organization or country simply complete and return the nomination form to SPREP before **18 October 2013**. A PIELA Nomination Form and Information Note is attached with this circular for your perusal. Additional nomination forms, details on the PIELA categories, eligibility and assessment criteria are available on the SPREP website (www.sprep.org/pacificnatureconference/piela).

The inaugural PIELA presentations will be made at the Opening Reception of the 9th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas on 2 December 2013. All registered delegates will be able to attend this event, so if you have yet to register for the conference I encourage you to so now as registration closes 31 October 2013.

For more information on the PIELA or Pacific Nature Conference, please contact SPREP via email at pacificconference2013@sprep.org.

Yours sincerely

David Sheppard
Director General

DG/SC/EG/NW