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CLEAN PACIFIC

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

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP3/2/41/1 **TO:** CROP Organisations

DATE: 19 February 2014

CIRCULAR: 14/10

SUBJECT: Regional consultation on Climate Services for the Pacific Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) from 31 March to 4 April 2014, Rarotonga, Cook Islands

Dear Partners,

As you may be aware, the Heads of State and Government, Ministers, and senior officials from over 150 countries and 70 organisations attending the World Climate Conference – 3 in 2009, decided unanimously to establish the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to guide the development and application of climate services worldwide. The GFCS is a global partnership of governments and United Nations and international agencies that produce and use climate information and services aimed at enabling society to better manage the risks and opportunities arising from climate variability and change, through identification of user needs, bringing providers and users of climate services together, development of capacities for using climate services, and building operational climate services that can assist decision makers to reduce vulnerability and adapt to climate impacts.

The GFCS Implementation Plan was approved by the First Session of the Intergovernmental Board on Climate Services (IBCS) in July 2013.

As part of the early actions, WMO with partners is supporting national and regional consultations to facilitate identification of specific gaps and needs in countries and regions as well as critical elements for the implementation of climate services. It is with this background that the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and WMO are organising a regional consultation on Climate Services for the Pacific Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) from **31 March to 2 April 2014, in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.** The consultation will also serve as an opportunity to prepare for the participation of WMO and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) from the region to the 3rd International Conference on SIDS, in September 2014, in Apia, Samoa.

In addition, there will be a series of meetings on:

(a) April 3rd for NMHSs' Directors on a range of topics including: (i) 3rd International Conference on SIDS; (ii) Pacific SIDS / LDCs and Instanbul Plan of Action; and (iii) Implementation Planning for SIDS component of Canada funded project "Programme for implementing GFCS at Regional and National scales", to which you are also invited to participate.

(b) April 4th for NMHSs' Directors or representatives on the following: (i) Discussion on the Pacific Meteorological Council; and (ii) the Finland-Pacific (FINPAC) project.

Your participation at these meetings is very valuable in aligning climate services to better support sectoral developments at the national level. Some of you may be requested to also give presentations on the possible partnerships to address climate services.

In connection with the above, it is my pleasure to invite you or your representative to attend these events.

Enclosed for your information is the Concept Note for the consultation. The programme will be circulated once finalised.

I would be grateful if you could kindly notify SPREP (by email to Neville Koop (nevillek@sprep.org) and Joyce Tulua (joycet@sprep.org), cc: Filipe Lucio (flucio@wmo.int), Mary Power (mpower@wmo.int) and Henry Taiki (henryt@sprep.org) or fax: +685 202 31) as soon as possible by completing the attached nomination form ***no later than 26 February 2014***.

I look forward to your participation.

Yours sincerely,

Kosi Latu
Acting Director General

Encl:

KL/NP/clg/jt