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CLEAN PACIFIC

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

CIRCULAR

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DATE: 26 February 2014

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TO: SPREP National Focal Points Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

CC: National Focal Points American Samoa, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Republic of Marshall Islands, Nauru, Northern Marianas, Palau, Tokelau, United States of America, Wallis et Futuna Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Basel Convention Secretariat, Rotterdam Convention Secretariat, Stockholm Convention Secretariat, SAICM Secretariat

SUBJECT: **Fourth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC 4) of the Convention to Ban the Importation into Forum Islands Countries of Hazardous and Radioactive Wastes and the Management of Hazardous Wastes within the South Pacific Region (Waigani Convention)**

Third Meeting of the Steering Committee (SCPRC 3) of the Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and the Waigani Conventions in the South Pacific Region integrated within the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme

I am pleased to advise Parties that the **Fourth Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC 4) of the Waigani Convention**, followed by the **Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre (SCPRC 3)** is scheduled to be held at the SPREP Headquarters, Apia, Samoa on 16-17 June 2014.

The STAC meetings as you may recall were established in accordance with Decision II/1 of the first meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Waigani Convention (Waigani Convention COP-1). Its primary objective is to facilitate the implementation of the Convention through considering issues relating to the scientific, technical and legal implementation of the Convention for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties.

You will further note that the Steering Committee is mandated under Article VII of the MOU establishing the Centre and was convened in 2008 and 2010 to advise on the development and implementation of the activities of the Centre and to enhance national support to its work from countries served by the Centre.

Funding is available to support the attendance of one representative from each of the countries who are Parties to the Waigani Convention. Your country is welcome to send additional participants at your own cost.

The Parties to the Waigani Convention are:

Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

We are also pleased to extend an invitation to non-parties to the Waigani Convention and relevant organisations having an interest in the management of hazardous waste in the Pacific region to participate in STAC 4 as observers, although we regret to advise that we will not be able to provide financial assistance for attendance.

In order to assist us with the travel and relevant logistical arrangements, please complete the attached nomination form and return it to SPREP at the earliest convenience. This form should be sent to Mrs. Pulemalie Habiri, Programme Assistant for the Waste Management and Pollution Control Division at pulemalieh@sprep.org or fax to +685 20231. For any questions regarding the programme of the meeting, please contact Dr. Frank Griffin, Hazardous Waste Management Adviser at frankg@sprep.org.

Your country's participation is of utmost importance to the success of the STAC 4 and is a key step toward the implementation of the Waigani Convention. We look forward to your support and participation.

Yours Sincerely,



Stuart Chape
Officer-In-Charge