SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa
E: sprep@sprep.org
T: +685 21929
F: +685 20231
W: www.sprep.org

CLEAN PACIFIC

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

CIRCULAR

File: AP 4/2/13/1

To: SPREP National Focal Points

Date: 6 May 2014

Circular No. 14/42

SUBJECT: Announcement of planned Regional Training Course on Access and Benefit Sharing Contract Negotiation and 5th Pacific Access and Benefit Sharing Workshop 2014

Dear Focal Points,

SPREP, in partnership with the GIZ implemented multi-donor Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Capacity Development Initiative, would like to inform the ABS National Focal points about the plan to conduct a Regional Training and Workshop in 2014.

In partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the ABS Capacity Development Initiative has convened already, four regional workshops and one training course since 2012, contributing to capacity building to promote ABS in the Pacific region.

For this year, I am delighted to announce the following training and workshops:

i) Training course on ABS Contract Negotiation: 05 – 08 August 2014

Feedback from previous workshops showed the need for more technical training. Consequently, training will be provided on an ABS contract negotiation focusing on legal aspects to be included in ABS contracts and skills related to negotiation processes.

This training is planned to take place back to back with the CBD pre-COP meeting in Nadi, Fiji from 11-19 August 2014.

ii) 5th Pacific ABS Workshop 2014: 10-13 November 2014

The topic of this year's workshop will be the valorization of genetic resources and business models of relevant sectors, with a particular focus on marine bioprospecting.

This workshop is planned to take place in Australia back to back with the World Parks Congress (WPC) in Sydney from 12-19 November 2014.

We would like to kindly ask that you note the afore-mentioned dates in your calendars and we will inform you as soon as possible with more detailed information including logistics for both the training and workshop.

For further questions or additional information, please contact Easter Galuvao – Biodiversity Adviser on easterg@sprep.org and Clark Peteru – Legal Adviser on clarkp@sprep.org and copy Anna Bertram annab@sprep.org.

Yours sincerely,

David Sheppard
Director General

DS/EG/ma