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 2012

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

CIRCULAR

FILE: STF 5/2
DATE: 10 April 2012
CIRCULAR: 12/27

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
CROP Organisations
Collaborating Organisations

SUBJECT: Introducing:
1. Mr. Neville Koop (MeCA)
2. Dr. Gianluca Serra (GEF-PF)

SPREP is pleased to announce the following new recruits who have joined the Secretariat.

- Mr. Neville Koop has joined SPREP as the Meteorology & Climatology Adviser (MeCA) through a secondment from the Commonwealth Secretariat. Mr. Koop is an Australian national and holds a Postgraduate diploma in Meteorology from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology Training College, Melbourne, Australia. He has been working in a number of international and regional organisations mainly in the field of Meteorology/Climatology and recently, as Manager/Consultant Meteorologist at Nadraki Holdings Fiji, Ltd. He started official duties on 21 March 2012.

This MeCA secondment is for two (2) years and is based within the Climate Change Division with the main objective of providing technical support for meteorological and climate services to the Pacific Island Countries & Territories.

- Dr. Gianluca Serra has been appointed to the position of Global Environment Facility - Project Facilitator (GEF-PF). Dr. Serra is a national of Italy whose qualifications include a MSc and PhD in marine behavioural ecology and conservation as well as Post-docs in predator control and wildlife management, marine biodiversity monitoring and conservation and in insular invasive species control. He joins SPREP with extensive experience from several international donor-funded conservation projects including previous work with FAO, GEF, BirdLife/RSPB, EU and IUCN where he has served as an expert in biodiversity monitoring and conservation, protected area management, data collection and scientific analysis (including GIS spatial analysis), capacity building, planning responsible ecotourism and project management. He started official duties on 26 March 2012.

The GEF-PF will assist with the operation of the GEF Invasives and Biodiversity Projects, particularly to assist SPREP and participating countries in complying with UNEP and GEF reporting requirements, and to facilitate the operations of the projects.

We welcome our new recruits to SPREP and look forward to further improving our services to the region with their arrival.

Yours sincerely,

Netatua Pelesikoti
Officer-In-Charge