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CLEAN PACIFIC 2012

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

CIRCULAR

FILE:	**AP 6/9/4; CONV 1/3/1; ORG 1/23**	**TO:**	SPREP National Focal Points
DATE:	10 July 2012		Maritime Focal Points
CIRCULAR:	12/58		

SUBJECT: Invitation to the Regional Workshops on Oil Spill Level 3 training (1st to 3rd October 2012), and the Site Sensitivity Mapping training (4th and 5th October 2012), Apia, Samoa

On behalf of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and in collaboration with the Government of Samoa, I write to invite your government's participation in two regional workshops on "*Oil Spill Level 3 training 1st– 3rd October 2012*" and the *"Coastal Site Sensitivity Mapping Training 4th – 5th October 2012*" to be held in Apia Samoa. A draft programme for the workshops is attached at Annex 1.

The regional workshops are aimed at Government administrators, of a senior level who have the responsibility to respond to a national marine spill incident as the on-scene commander. It is highly recommended that nominations are received for persons who have not participated previously in an IMO Oil Spill training.

The objectives for the Workshops are to:
- Increase capacity of senior officials on the responsibility of the members of an oil spill response team organization and how to effectively respond to an Oil Spill;
- Enhance knowledge of the International Oil Spill Preparedness Response and Cooperation (OPRC) Convention, and Regional Noumea Convention Emergency Protocol; and
- Demonstrate the process of coastal site sensitivity mapping.

We expect that at the end of the week participants will:
- Promote and enhance regional cooperation ahead of the Pacific Marine Spill Contingency Plan (PACPLAN) review process;
- Promote the ratification of the OPRC Convention and Noumea Convention Emergency Protocol; and
- Use the coastal site sensitivity mapping tools to facilitate the development of area coastal site sensitivity maps for their National Marine Spill Contingency Response Plans (NATPLANS).

It is therefore envisaged pending funding availability, that two (2) participants will be sponsored to attend this Workshop, from each of the pacific island countries:

Cook Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Unfortunately this IMO funding doesn't cover funding to the following countries –

American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Marianas, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Niue, Tokelau, Wallis and Futuna therefore participation at this training will be at your own cost.

It would be appreciated if you could have the attached registration form (Annex 2) completed at your earliest convenience but no later than **Friday 17th August 2012**.

Please note that additional representatives from each country will also be welcomed to attend the Workshop, however, any additional representatives would attend on the basis of self-funding only.

I look forward to receiving your early response and in closing thank you for your consideration of this valuable training Workshop.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours Sincerely,

Kosi Latu
Acting Director General

Annexes
(1) Draft Workshop Programme
(2) Nomination Form

KL/AT/ph