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Natural Solutions for Island Resilience

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

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 6/13/2
DATE: 7 January 2015
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TO: SPREP National Focal Points

SUBJECT: Country Waste Management Priorities

Dear Focal Points,

We all recognize that wastes will continue to remain an issue globally as populations grow. The Pacific Region is no exception, although waste management in our region is further complicated by limited land availability, remoteness, the small size of the countries, and unfavourable economies of scale, among others. It is, therefore, essential for the region to continue to have a robust waste management strategy that will address gaps in the provision of waste services across the region. Since the current Pacific Regional Solid Waste Management Strategy 2010-2015 is drawing to an end, SPREP, in collaboration with JICA will commence development in 2015 of a new integrated waste management and pollution control strategy for the region to cover the period 2016 to 2025.

The new strategy will encompass and integrate the regional management of solid wastes, hazardous wastes and marine debris. This will allow enhanced implementation of waste management action plans and integration of monitoring and reporting efforts.

The development of the strategy will involve a number of consultative processes which will allow stakeholders to provide inputs into the document and ensure that the future directions of the waste sector will address regional and national priorities. As a preliminary step, we intend to initially consult countries on their priorities before deriving regional aspirations for the waste management sector.

Please find attached a checklist of some of the proposed SWM initiatives which are either implemented and working in some Pacific Island countries or working in other places outside the Pacific Region. **We would highly appreciate if you can complete the form and send back to us for collation and analysis no later than the 23rd of January 2015.** .Please send the accomplished forms to our Solid Waste Management Adviser, Ma. Bella Guinto, through email:mailto:bellag@sprep.org.

As mentioned, this is just a preliminary process to the bigger task of developing the new strategy. There will be a more detailed baseline survey of waste management services, projects and other initiatives which will form the basis for determining gaps in relation to country priorities and regional aspirations. The future strategic directions contained in the new strategy will revolve around these gaps.

We are also seeking your assistance to designate a primary contact person(s) to work with us in collecting baseline data in your respective countries. **Please provide name(s) and contact details of the nominated person(s) as soon as possible so we can correspond with them directly for assistance.**

The resulting strategy document will enable countries to have a better grasp of what is required to produce better outcomes in managing wastes, with sustainability as a fundamental consideration. The document is also intended as a guide for donors to identify potential projects for funding provision.

With sincere thanks,



Clark Peteru
Acting Director General