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

Natural Solutions for Island Resilience

CIRCULAR

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DATE: 30 April 2015

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
Waigani and Basel Convention Competent Authorities & Focal Points

CIRCULAR: 15/35

SUBJECT: **Waigani Convention Training Workshop for Pacific Island Countries, and GEFPAS POPs Release Reduction Project Steering Committee Meeting - 20-24 July, 2015, Suva, Fiji.**

Dear Sirs/ Mesdames:

The Pacific Regional Centre (PRC) for training and technology transfer for the joint implementation of the Basel and the Waigani Conventions, integrated within the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) is pleased to extend an invitation to your country to participate in an upcoming Waigani and Basel Convention Training Workshop for Pacific Island Countries, which will be held from the 20th-23rd July, 2015, in Suva, Fiji. The 2nd GEFPAS POPs Release Reduction Steering Committee meeting will also be held on 24th July 2015, following the conclusion of the training workshop.

The regional training workshop and Steering Committee Meetings are funded by the GEF-PAS POPs Release Reduction project, which is implemented by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and executed by SPREP.

The key objective of the workshop is to build the capacity of PICs on completing the requirements for trans-boundary movement of hazardous waste under the Waigani and Basel Conventions with a secondary objective being to discuss and update the roles and obligations of the Focal Points (FPs) and Competent Authorities (CAs). The workshop will also be presented with the main outcomes of the 5th Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee meeting held in March this year.

The PRC/SPREP has the honor to invite all regional Waigani and Basel Convention PIC Parties to identify **four potential representatives** to attend this important workshop. Nominated Convention Focal Points and Competent Authorities and appropriate national Customs staff will be prioritized to attend the workshop.

The names and contact information of the designated representatives should be communicated to Dr. Frank Griffin (frankg@sprep.org) at the Secretariat of the Waigani Convention, no later than **29th May, 2015**. Please note that all non-Fijian participants will be supported financially to attend and participate in the workshop. Steering Panel members will also be financially supported to attend that meeting.

Your country's participation is of the utmost importance to the success of training workshop and is a key step toward the effective implementation of the Waigani and Basel Conventions at both the regional and national levels.

We look forward to your support and participation.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Acting Director General

KL/FG/jf