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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 2/2/20 **TO:** SPREP Members and Partners

DATE: 20 May, 2015

CIRCULAR: 15/39

SUBJECT: **18th Meeting of the Pacific Islands Round Table for Nature Conservation, 9-10 July, 2015, Suva - Fiji**

Dear SPREP Members and Partners,

SPREP in collaboration with members and partners of the Pacific Islands Round Table for Nature Conservation, will convene its 18th Annual Meeting from the 9 - 10 July, 2015 in Suva, Fiji.

As you are aware, the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRT) is a coalition of nature conservation and development organizations, governments, inter-government, donor agencies and community groups created to increase effective conservation action in the Pacific Island Region. It was formed in 1997 at the request of Pacific Island countries and territories. The forum enables those organizations working on nature conservation in the Pacific to improve their collaboration and coordination towards effective conservation action. It is the key coordination mechanism for the implementation of the Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific Island region 2014-2020 which was adopted at the 9th Pacific Islands Conference for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in Suva, Fiji in December 2013. The Framework was subsequently endorsed by the SPREP governing council at the 25 SPREP Annual Meeting in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands in September, 2014.

The 18th meeting of PIRT will focus on implementation of the Framework and its key objectives. The agenda of the meeting was designed with this focus in mind, covering a range of topics including ways to strengthen the Round Table mechanism, critical and emerging conservation issues, cross cutting issues, key regional and global policy instruments and frameworks, funding and financing opportunities to support the implementation of the Framework and key biodiversity conservation priorities in the region. A key feature of the meeting would be the renewal of membership of the Round Table. This is also an opportunity for potential and new members to confirm and announce their intentions to be members of the Round Table.

Attendance and participation at the Round Table meeting is on a voluntary and self funded arrangement. In this regard, we would highly recommend for those who would be interested to attend to consider and explore funding opportunities from various sources. We would also welcome any financial support that our partners may be able to provide to sponsor participants to the meeting and/or direct financial contributions to support meeting logistics and costs.

SPREP is currently the Secretariat of the Round Table and should you need further information, please contact the Secretariat on pirtsecretariat@sprep.org or Easter Galuvao, Biodiversity Adviser easterg@sprep.org.

Yours sincerely,

Kosi Latu
Acting Director General

Attachment:

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