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

Natural Solutions for Island Resilience

CIRCULAR

FILE: HR 5/19/2/11
DATE: 15 September 2015
CIRCULAR: 15/58

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
CROP Organisations
SPREP Partners Organisation

SUBJECT: **Introducing the following:**

- **Ms. Payal Maharaj (YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAMME: Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation Coordinator)**

SPREP is pleased to announce the following appointment within the Secretariat:



Ms. Payal Maharaj, national of Fiji, has been appointed to the position of Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation Coordinator (PIRTC) within the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Division. Payal holds a Master in Climate Change Studies and a Postgraduate Degree in Biodiversity and Conservation from the University of the South Pacific, Fiji as well as a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Biotechnology and Zoology from Banglore University, India. She joins SPREP from the Institute de Recherché pour le Développement (IRD) and University of New Caledonia where she has been working as an Intern Graduate Student for the last year. She has also had brief work experiences with the Ministry of Education (Fiji and Tuvalu); University of the South Pacific and Fiji National University. Payal works with the Biodiversity & Ecosystem Management Team and she started official duties on Monday, 3rd August 2015.

The Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation Coordinator position has the primary role of providing technical, administrative and coordination support to SPREP to carry out its duties and functions as Secretariat of PIRT. This is also a short-term opportunity provided by the Secretariat for the learning and development opportunity of a young Pacific Islander graduate. This position is funded by Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale.

We welcome our new staff to SPREP and looking forward to this position increasing relevant support and services to the region.

Yours sincerely,

David Sheppard
Director General