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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: CONV 1/3/8

TO: SPREP National Focal Points of Parties to Noumea Convention

DATE: 17 September 2015

CIRCULAR: 15/59

SUBJECT: ***Prioritizing of Working Paper 7.2: Marine Litter and Pollution recommendations***

Dear Sirs/ Mesdames:

At the 13th Conference of the Parties for the Noumea Convention, held in Apia, Samoa, Parties were presented with an update of the Secretariat's recent analysis and summary of more than ten years of data about pollution incidents caused by fishing vessels derived from the SPC/FFA Regional Observer Pollution Report Form GEN6. Parties were also requested to endorse the analysis report recommendations.

The Secretariat was directed to solicit Party recommendations and comments on prioritization of the analysis report recommendations.

The attached is a list of prioritized recommendations by the Secretariat for consideration by Parties.

The Secretariat in prioritizing the recommendations used the following five criteria:

1. Part of existing Work;
2. Prior funding available;
3. Tangible benefits;
4. Available local expertise and capacity; and
5. Prioritised within the Cleaner Pacific 2025.

Please provide comments and your national prioritization by 22nd September to:

Anthony Talouli anthonyt@sprep.org SPREP Pollution Adviser

We thank you kindly for your input and comments.

Yours Sincerely,

Kosi Latu
Deputy Director General

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LIST OF RECOMMENDATON (in order of priority by the Secretariat)

(please return with activities numbered in priority order)

Priority	Recommendation	Justification	Part of existing work	Prior funding available	Tangible benefits	Available local expertise and capacity	Prioritised within the Cleaner Pacific 2015
1	Report the pollution incidents to Member countries where the incidents occurred, flag states whose vessels are responsible for the incidents, the Noumea Convention and the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS)						
2	Increase observer coverage to provide more information about amounts and types of pollution by other fisheries						
3	Develop an Outreach and Compliance Assistance programme for regional marine pollution prevention						
4	Invest in expanded capacity of port waste reception facilities						

5	Promote effective enforcement programmes that communicate the message that deliberate pollution incidents are not acceptable						
6	Develop a regional funding mechanism for marine litter management						