SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa
E: sprep@sprep.org
T: +685 21929
F: +685 20231
W: www.sprep.org

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

Natural Solutions for Island Resilience

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 6/5/4 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 8 March 2016
CIRCULAR: 16/09

SUBJECT: National Trainings on Chemical Waste Management

SPREP wishes to advise that the development of the training manuals for chemical waste management and chemical management toolkits, for national capacity enhancement of participating countries, have been finalized and are ready to be used in training at the regional and national levels. This is one of the key elements of the "Pacific POPs Release Reduction project" which is to be implemented at the national level. The project is executed by SPREP, and the implementing agencies are the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The training manuals were developed by the University of the South Pacific, who were engaged in mid-2015 under the GEF Pacific POPs Release Reduction project to develop and deliver National trainings on chemical inventory development and stockpile management; management and disposal of laboratory and school chemicals; and the regulation and management of chemical imports by Customs staff. Refer to Annex 1 for Training Topics.

The Secretariat invites participating countries of the GEF Pacific POPs Release Reduction Project to submit the names of proposed national candidates and their preferred 2016 dates for national training between April-October 2016. Proposed candidates are strongly encouraged to be representatives of the Environment Departments, Health Ministries, Education Ministries, Science Departments, Laboratory Managers and Officers, Customs officer as well as NGOs, government corporations, and private companies that have laboratories.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Based on the GEF Pacific POPs Release Reduction funding requirements, eligible Member countries for these national trainings are the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Republic of Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

SUPPORT PROVIDED

The GEF Pacific POPs project will be supporting all logistical costs for each country via the engagement of the University of the South Pacific. It is also anticipated that participating countries will assist via in-kind contribution where possible to maximise the opportunity for capacity enhancement in-country in this subject area.

This is a valuable opportunity for training in chemical waste management that should not be missed. I therefore encourage eligible Member countries to participate by nominating suitable candidates for this capacity enhancement at the earliest possible. Please contact Ms. Lusiana Ralogaivau (lusianar@sprep.org) or Professor Bill Aalbersberg, the USP Training Coordinator (Aalbersberg@usp.ac.fj) if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General

KL/LR/fm