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PROTECT PACIFIC WHALES – OCEAN VOYAGERS

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

CIRCULAR

FILE: CONV 2/4/10; CONV 2/5/1 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points

DATE: 22 April 2016

CIRCULAR: 16/28

SUBJECT: **Pacific Regional Joint Preparatory Meeting for the Thirteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Seventeenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), 15 - 19 August, 2016, Samoa**

Dear Focal Points,

In preparation for the Thirteenth Conference of the Parties to the CBD and the Seventeenth Conference of the Parties to CITES, the Secretariat will be conducting a joint preparatory meeting for the Pacific islands region from the 15th – 19th August, 2016 in Samoa.

The main objective of the Preparatory meeting is to provide a forum for the region in particular those countries that are parties to the CBD and CITES to come together and discuss key regional priority issues and prepare regional positions, as appropriate. A key part of the preparatory meeting is to strengthen engagement at COP meetings and continue with the One Pacific Voice which has been a very effective approach adopted by Pacific island countries at past COP meetings.

A draft provisional meeting agenda is attached for your information. Additional information including a detailed meeting agenda and logistics will be provided in due course.

Please contact Easter Galuvao, Biodiversity Adviser easterg@sprep.org, Michael Donoghue, Threatened and Migratory Species Adviser michaeld@sprep.org and Juney Ward, Sharks and Rays Officer juneyw@sprep.org for more information.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Chape
Officer-in-Charge

SC/EG/ma

Provisional Agenda

1. Official Opening
2. Overview and objectives of the meeting
3. Introductions, Organization of work and Adoption of Meeting Agenda
4. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
5. Convention on Biological Diversity - overview of priority issues
6. Key priority issues for the Pacific islands region for CBD and CITES
7. Negotiation Training
8. Pacific Voyage Outreach Campaign
9. Strategies for effective engagement at COP meetings
10. Next Steps
11. Closing