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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: AP 5/3/1

TO: SPREP National Focal Points in Cook Islands; Fiji; Kiribati; Marshall Islands; Micronesia; Nauru; Niue; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Solomon Islands; Tonga; Tuvalu; Vanuatu.

DATE: 11 July 2016

CIRCULAR: 16/41

SUBJECT: **Nominations to the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Regional Capacity Development Workshop for the South Pacific.**

Dear Focal Points,

I refer you to the CBD Secretariat's invitation to the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Regional Capacity Development Workshop for the South Pacific (invitation and nomination form attached herewith).

1. SPREP is a co-lead for this workshop with the CBD - Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI), Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner, CSIRO and the French Marine Protected Areas Agency. As such, we strongly encourage our member countries to nominate two workshop participants, as specified in the CBD Secretariat invitation, through their CBD National Focal Point. The CBD Secretariat is in a position to finance the participation of two experts from each country.

2. The primary objective of this event is to enhance the capacity of countries in the region to conserve and sustainably use marine and coastal biodiversity to support the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and to further advance integrated ocean management in the Pacific, which requires all jurisdictions and relevant development and industry sectors to be fully engaged.

All nominations must be received as soon as possible. Nominations must be submitted through the appropriate national focal point to the CBD (see details in the attached CBD Secretariat notification).

Thank you for your prompt support and action.

Yours sincerely,



Roger Cornforth
Acting Director General

RC/DLH/ma