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

PROTECT PACIFIC WHALES – OCEAN VOYAGERS

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

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 1/5/5; AP 5/3/1

TO: SPREP National Focal Points in: New Caledonia, Wallis et Futuna, Polynésie Française & Pitcairn Island

DATE: 29 July 2016

CIRCULAR: 16/46

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 territories to nominate two workshop participants, as specified in the CBD Secretariat invitation (representing at least environment and fisheries).We also stress that strong ocean resource management expertise from relevant agencies will be important at this event. Territories should forward their nominations to their CBD National Focal Point, with email copy to the CBD Secretariat and to SPREP, **by Monday 8th August**.

   The CBD Secretariat encourages territories to initially seek funds for their participation to the workshop through their CBD signatory party states. If not successful, please inform SPREP and the CBD immediately (contact details below), so that SOI partners can seek alternative funding arrangements for your participation.

2. The primary objective of this event is to enhance the capacity of countries and territories 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 before 8th August to enable CBD processing of participants in time for the workshop. Nominations from territories must be submitted through the appropriate national focal point (party) to the CBD (see details in the attached CBD Secretariat notification).

For further enquiries, please contact:

Warren Lee Long, Coastal and Marine Adviser, SPREP (warren@sprep.org)
Joseph Appiott, Associate Programme Officer (joseph.appiott@cbd.int; secretariat@cbd.int)

Thank you for your prompt support and action.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General

KL/WLL/ma