SPREP
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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 2/33/1

DATE 3 August 2016

TO: SPREP National Focal Points:
Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

CIRCULAR: 16/48

SUBJECT: **UNEP-GEF Medium Sized Project on the Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the countries of the Pacific Region**

Dear SPREP PIC Focal Points,

I am pleased to inform you that the *Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the countries of the Pacific Region Project* was approved by the CEO of the GEF Secretariat in May, 2016.

A Project Cooperation Agreement is currently being developed to formalize arrangements between UNEP as the GEF Implementing Agency and SPREP as the regional executing agency. It is envisaged that once this process is completed, and when the project team is fully on board, SPREP will inform you on proposed plans for the roll out of project activities which will commence with an inception meeting of all partners involved. Copies of the project document and related information is available on https://www.thegef.org/gef/project_detail?projID=5634

In the meantime, I would like to encourage those countries that are yet to submit Letters of Commitment to submit these to SPREP at your earliest convenience, preferably before the inception meeting. This would formalize your engagement and commitment as a participating country in the project.

SPREP looks forward to working closely with you in ensuring a smooth start to the project and a successful implementation of project activities.

Please do not hesitate to Easter Galuvao, Biodiversity Adviser (easterg@sprep.org) and Clark Peteru, Legal Adviser clarkp@sprep.org should you need further information and clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Roger Cornforth
Acting Director General

RG/EG/ma