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 2/24

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
CROP Focal Points
Partner Organization

DATE: 25 May 2017

CIRCULAR: 17/24

SUBJECT: **Review and Development of a Regional Shark and Ray Action Plan to be incorporated into SPREP Marine Species Action Plan 2018-2022.**

Dear Focal Points,

As you will be aware, SPREP and its members have been taking a leadership role in promoting the conservation of sharks and rays in recent years. Although these species were not included in the last Marine Species Programme Action Plan (MSAP) 2013-2017, a supplementary regional shark action plan was discussed by Pacific members during the last review of the MSAP in 2012, which followed similar themes and objectives to the rest of the MSAP.

The current MSAP which includes turtles, cetaceans (whales and dolphins) and dugongs, will be reviewed this year, and SPREP will include a new section on sharks and rays in the MSAP for 2018-2023, It would be very helpful for us if you would kindly complete the attached template to indicate any actions that may have been implemented by your government at the national level.

We should also like to hear from you about whether you consider that the actions in the template are still relevant and/or whether you wish to propose any actions/issues/challenges that should be addressed in the new plan.

We kindly request to provide your completed templates with any new proposed themes, objectives, actions by the **1st July 2017**.

For further information, please contact Ms. Juney Ward, Shark and Ray Conservation Officer on juneyw@sprep.org

Yours sincerely,

Kosi Latu
Director General