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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 6/9/10

TO: SPREP Focal Points
Maritime Focal Points

DATE: 7 June 2017

CIRCULAR: 17/28

SUBJECT: Invitation to attend the five day Regional Workshop on Cape Town Agreement of 2012 to be held from the 28th August to 1st September (inclusive) 2017 Rarotonga, Cook Islands

On behalf of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), I write to invite your Government's participation in a "Regional Workshop on the Cape Town Agreement of 2012" from 28th August to 1st September 2017, to be held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, hosted by the Government of the Cook Islands. A draft programme for the workshop is attached at Annex 1.

The aim of the workshop is to provide Member Governments with the assistance they may need in implementing the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977 (the Agreement). In this connection, it is expected that the entry into force and implementation of the Agreement will make a significant contribution for the safety of ships, in general, and the safety of fishing vessels, in particular.

The workshop is intended specifically for high level decision-makers from maritime Administrations and fishery authorities. The participants should be in a position to influence future ratification/accession to the Cape Town Agreement of 2012.

It is envisaged that one (1) participant will be sponsored to attend this Workshop from the following countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Niue, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Unfortunately the IMO funding does not extend to the territories of American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Tokelau, and Wallis and Futuna as well as non-IMO Member States, therefore participation in this training will be at your own cost for these nationals.

Nominating authorities are kindly requested to take into account the objectives of the workshop and ensure that the professional background and responsibilities of the nominated participants are in line with the workshop's aim and target audience.

It would be appreciated if you could complete the attached registration form (Annex 2) at your earliest convenience but no later than **Friday 14th July 2017**.

Please note the pre-workshop requirements. Each delegation is expected to deliver a country presentation outlining the implementation of the 2012 Cape Town Agreement in their country, safety of fishing vessels and number of fishing vessels in their Administrations and problems encountered, if

any, to apply the existing standards. The information on preparation of country presentations, by means of a questionnaire, is set out in Annex 3.

For further information please contact Mr. Anthony Talouli, Waste Management and Pollution Control Division on anthonyt@sprep.org.

I look forward to receiving your early response and in closing, thank you for your consideration of this valuable training workshop.

Yours sincerely,



Easter Galuvao
Officer In Charge