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PROTECT PACIFIC WHALES – OCEAN VOYAGERS

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

CIRCULAR

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TO: SPREP National Focal Points from Pacific Island Countries

Climate Change Focal Points from Pacific Island Countries

SPREP Partner Organisations

SUBJECT: **INVITE TO INCEPTION WORKSHOP FOR THE IMPACT PROJECT, Samoa 28-30 August, 2017**

Dear SPREP Focal Points from Pacific Island Countries,

You will be familiar with the work of Climate Analytics and Charles & Associates in the past four years in the region through the SURVIVE project and the High Level Support Mechanism (HLSM), focused on building capacity of climate change negotiations. SPREP was the regional partner agency for the HLSM.

A successor project – the IMPACT project – funded by the Government of Germany has been agreed and signed with Climate Analytics, and SPREP will again act as the regional partner agency.

It is well known that Pacific Island Countries are amongst countries highly affected by climate change impacts, but often lack capacities to formulate science-based implementation strategies, to access financial resources and for representation of their interests in international negotiations.

To enhance these capacities, IMPACT project activities will be conducted in five areas, targeting experts from science and policy at the national, regional and international level:

- Analysis of global transformational pathways, including global ambition and requirements in line with the 1.5°C goal to inform implementation and international negotiations;
- Regional analysis of impacts, vulnerability, adaptation, adaptation costs and residual impacts to inform science-based policy-making;
- Improving ability to access international climate finance and shaping the international climate finance architecture;
- National implementation of science-based adaptation and mitigation strategies and capacity building; and
- Support in the elaboration and implementation of the Paris Agreement and its supporting rule-sets.

It is my pleasure to invite two representatives from your country to the IMPACT inception workshop, to be held in Samoa from 28-30 August, 2017.

The overarching objective of this workshop is to launch the regional components of the IMPACT project. Given the nature of the project, I would particularly invite you to nominate two participants (i) with a strong

scientific background in climate change adaptation or mitigation, eg. from your National Meteorological Services and (ii) a policy person with good knowledge of the UNFCCC processes.

SPREP will cover the costs of a return economy airfare, accommodation and meals for two representatives.

The workshop aims to:

- Ensure ownership of the project through the early and effective engagement of regional actors involved in finance, adaptation and mitigation work;
- Create a common understanding of the project, including its vision, objectives, components, boundaries, expected outcomes, operational modalities and implementation plans;
- Initiate mapping of key on-going and planned initiatives in the targeted regions to identify those that will directly benefit from the project scientific and analytical inputs, with the aim to avoid duplication of work and enhance synergies;
- Initiate analysis of gaps and needs regarding scientific support for adaptation and mitigation policy implementation and low carbon development strategies in the region, with the goal to identify and prioritize in which areas the IMPACT project can provide support within the scope of the project capacities.

A more detailed concept and draft agenda will be sent to you in due course. Prior to the workshop, participants are asked to fill out a brief questionnaire as important input to workshop discussions, which will be distributed to participants as soon as the two experts have been nominated.

I invite you to submit the names of your two participants to Espen Ronneberg at SPREP, espenr@sprep.org by 22 July 2017, so that travel arrangements can be made.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General

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