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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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DATE: 10 August 2017

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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: Circular to Members and CROP on COP 23 preparations by CROP

Dear Members,

I am writing to update you on the plans for support to Pacific Island Countries for COP 23 that SPREP is undertaking on behalf of collaborating partner agencies.

First of all SPREP will convene the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR), and will join the Disaster Platform organized by SPC and ISDR, in joint meetings 2-6 October in Suva. We are referring to this as the Pacific Resilience Week with the theme of Pathways to Pacific Resilience. There will be two days of PCCR by itself and two days of joint meetings, with the last day left open for other related meetings. SPREP will be sending out an invite to climate change focal points shortly as well as a draft agenda.

Secondly, as in previous years SPREP will convene the Pacific negotiations preparations meeting (formerly known as the High Level Support Mechanism) from 12-14 October in Nadi, with the possibility of a Ministerial preparations meeting on 16 October to take advantage of the Nadi pre-COP meeting convened by the Presidency. SPREP will be funding two participants from each Pacific Island Country, and this may include a Minister should the country so wish. We see this as an important contribution to the overall success of Pacific preparations.

We are also working towards preparing a side event at COP 23, in cooperation with Tuvalu and Vanuatu. A request for an exhibit space has also been submitted in conjunction with one of our cooperation partners. This is yet to be finalised, including opportunities for other CROP agencies to utilise the space.

Alongside these activities we will be working as a CROP+ team to provide further updates to the briefing papers developed by Senior Officials during the Suva climate change events in July this year. This will also include preparing a communications strategy as in past years, and we are seeking to support Pacific media in covering the COP.

In addition we will continue to offer our support to the Fiji Presidency, the Climate Change Champion and the Fiji delegation in any way that we can.

I am therefore inviting views or suggestions from your team on how to best manage these events to optimise impacts and visibility for the Pacific in the preparation for as well as at the COP.

Yours Sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General