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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: HR 17
DATE: 18 October 2017
CIRCULAR: 17/50

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
CROP Organisations
SPREP Partner Organisations

SUBJECT: Introducing the following:

SPREP is pleased to announce the following appointments:

- **Ms. Filomena Nelson, Climate Change Adaptation Adviser**
- **Mr. Rahul Chand, Access and Benefit Sharing Capacity Building Officer**



Ms. Filomena Nelson has been appointed to the position of Climate Change Adaptation Adviser (CCAA) within the Climate Change Division. Filomena holds a Postgraduate Certificate in Humanitarian Leadership from Deakin University, Australia and a Bachelor of Arts double major in Accounting and Financial Management and Management & Public Administration from the University of the South Pacific, Fiji. She joins SPREP from Samoa's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment where she has held various roles for the past 18 years with the most recent one as Assistant Chief Executive Officer for the Disaster Management Office for the last 5 years. Filomena is a national of Samoa and she has two daughters, Francine and Shiloah. She started official duties on Tuesday, 10th October 2017.

The CCAA position leads the Climate Change Adaptation function across the organisation and provides technical advice, support and assistance to SPREP Members particularly on climate change adaptation issues, programmes and projects.



Mr. Rahul Chand has been appointed to the position of Access and Benefit Sharing Capacity Building Officer (ABS-CBO) within the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management (BEM) Division. Rahul is a national of Fiji. He holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Climate Change from the University of the South Pacific and a Bachelor of Applied Science in Environmental Studies from Auckland University of Technology, Fiji. Rahul joins SPREP from Fiji's Department of Environment where he has been working as the Senior Environment

Officer and Acting Interim Project Coordinator for the National ABS project since 2013. Rahul will start official duties on Monday, 23rd October 2017. He will be joined in Apia by his wife Manisha and son, Sriyaan.

This position will provide capacity building and technical support to the GEF funded Regional Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) project.

We welcome Filomena and Rahul to the SPREP family and we look forward to these positions increasing and strengthening relevant support and services to the region.

Yours sincerely,



Roger Cornforth
Acting Director General