CIRCULAR

FILE:	AP 6/16	**TO:**	SPREP Focal Points
DATE:	2 May 2018		CROP Organisations
CIRCULAR:	18/28		SPREP Partner Organisations

SUBJECT: **Invitation to review Draft Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan and to complete Questionnaire**

Dear Focal Points and collaborating partners,

This circular calls your attention to kindly review the Draft Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan (MLAP) and complete the questionnaire document.

Draft Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan (MLAP)

The Draft Pacific MLAP aims to set out activities and responsibilities to minimize marine litter across the Pacific Island Countries and Territories. The Draft Pacific MLAP will contribute on building onto the Pacific Regional Waste and Pollution Management Strategy 2016-2025 (Cleaner Pacific 2025) which was adopted by SPREP member countries in 2015.

This Draft Pacific MLAP:

- supports and assists in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, demonstrating our regional commitment to sustainable development;
- builds on existing policy and regulatory frameworks;
- fosters greater implementation and stronger enforcement of these existing frameworks, especially for all fishing activities and shipping generally;
- recommends further development of policy and regulatory frameworks where there are key gaps, especially for Take Away Food and Beverage Containers;
- allows for adaption as research and investigations better define the key problem areas;
- resources community and tourist industry through increased awareness of best practice waste-disposal behaviours;
- ensures issue-specific sources such as tourist resort and disaster waste are better managed;
- invests in key infrastructure in larger urban environments – especially catching water-borne litter; and
- re-enforces community behaviour through major investment in coastal clean-ups across all Pacific Islands.

Our Timetable

May 2018 circulation of this draft - Pacific MLAP for review by all Pacific Island Countries and Territories, Partners and Agencies;

June 2018 your feedback – your input into the final Plan is essential if we are to adequately cater for the needs and aspirations of us all and our Pacific Ocean;

July 2018 building the final plan – SPREP will be working with you all to finalise the plan, nominate lead countries and champions for all actions, and determine the priority localities for funding;

August 2018 roundtable discussion and launch – SPREP will host this forum at the Clean Pacific Roundtable, 20-25 August 2018, fostering discussion on how we operationalise the Action Plan building on your responses in June to this questionnaire and our work with you in July to develop more details on all proposed activities.

I therefore seek your assistance and input in reviewing the Pacific MLAP and completing the attached questionnaire identifying current gaps on Marine Litter work within our region. Please email all responses to anthonyt@sprep.org by 1st June 2018.

I thank you in advance for your assistance and support of this timely review, and look forward to receiving all your comments by 1st June 2018.

Yours sincerely,



Stuart Chape,
Acting Deputy Director General

Attachments: 1) Marine Litter Action Plan
2) Marine Litter Questionnaire