SPREP CONFERENCE – NOUMEA, NEW-CALEDONIA
(3 – 7 September 2012)

VISA REQUIREMENTS

Visas are **no longer** required for entry into New Caledonia for stays of up to three months for nationals of all SPC member countries except Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Tonga. Participants from Tonga, the only one of these countries without an in-country French mission, should contact SPC for assistance with visa procedures as soon as their delegation to CRGA is confirmed.

AIRPORT TRANSFERS ON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

The airport transfers will be ensured by the "Mouettes shuttle" for all delegations on arrival and departure from Noumea, New Caledonia.

TRANSPORT

Delegates will be accommodated in hotels within easy walking distance of SPC headquarters. Transport will be provided if there is bad weather.

CURRENCY

The currency used in New Caledonia is the Central Pacific Franc (XPF). Current approximate exchange rates for some major currencies are as follows:

Currency XPF 100 Francs
= 0,85 euro
= 1,10 dollar US
= 1, 10 dollar AUS
= 1, 34 dollar NZ

Major international credit cards are accepted at most hotels and some restaurants and stores. Travellers cheques can be exchanged at the Bank BCI (113 Route de l'Anse Vata), 10min walk from the SPC headquarters.

All major foreign currencies can be exchanged for the local currency through automatic teller machines of that same bank and surrounding hotels.

POWER SUPPLY

New Caledonia uses '2 round-pin plugs'. The power supply is 240 volts.

CLIMATE

The average daily temperature in New Caledonia in September is around 25 degrees Celsius. It can be as cold as 18 degrees during night time.

TIME ZONE INFORMATION

The standard time zone in New Caledonia is GMT/UTC + 11 hours.

IT / COMMUNICATIONS

Telephone, fax and Internet facilities will be available to delegates at the conference venue. Internet services will be free but the costs for international telephone calls and faxes will be the responsibility of the participants incurring them.

LANGUAGES

The meeting will be conducted in English and French. Simultaneous interpretation and translation services will be available.

DRESSCODE

Field trips are offered on Saturday 1st September and Friday 7th September. You will need closed-toe shoes, casual wear, raincoat, hat and sun glasses.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

Noumea has a good health system. A hospital and doctors located near the SPC and phone number are available at your hotel's reception desk.