PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT
Excelling Together for the People of the Pacific

CIRCULAR
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PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM
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TO : OFFICIAL CONTACTS OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS
[Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu & Vanuatu]

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: CROP ORGANISATIONS
[PASO, PIDP, PIFFA, PPA, SPC, SPREP, SPTO, USP]

FROM : MEG TAYLOR, DBE, SECRETARY GENERAL

SUBJECT : **NEXT STEPS FOR THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE STRATEGY FOR RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT IN THE PACIFIC: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (SRDP)**

In September 2015, at the Pacific Island Forum Leaders meeting in Papua New Guinea, it was decided to extend the existing strategies for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, the *Pacific Island Framework for Action on Climate Change* (PIFACC) and the *Regional Framework for Action* (RFA) respectively, for one year, allowing time for the SRDP to be further developed taking into consideration issues raised by Forum Island Countries and associate members. As such, your support will be needed to finalise the SRDP in advance of the next Pacific Island Forum Leaders meeting which will occur from 7 - 11 of September 2016. An updated SRDP with country support is to be presented to the Specialist Sub Committee on Regionalism of the Forum Officials Committee on 13 - 16 June 2016.

2. After extensive development and consultation, the Pacific Community (SPC) Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Council meetings endorsed the SRDP in principle in 2014, noting the issues to be addressed. In 2015, the Forum Officials Committee (FOC) considered concerns raised by some countries regarding issues to be addressed, such as loss and damage. The Committee encouraged all relevant parties to work towards being in a position for Leaders to endorse the draft SRDP. In light of these decisions taken by the FOC, SPC - CRGA and the SPREP Meetings, the Technical Working Group (TWG) will facilitate the endorsement of the SRDP in 2016.

3. Taking into account concerns raised by members and relevant global agreements in 2015 including the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Sustainable Development Goals, the TWG has facilitated revisions of the SRDP. *The updated SRDP (Attachment 1) is circulated for your consideration and any further comments by Friday* ***13 May, 2016****.*

4. To facilitate the update of the SRDP, we encourage any response as a single national response if possible. The absence of response will be interpreted as no objection. The final version of the SRDP will be sent to the Forum Officials Specialist Sub Committee on Regionalism meeting by the 1 June for inclusion in their 13 – 16 June meeting, (see Attachment 2 for key dates).

5. We look forward to working with you to finalise the SRDP in a timely manner to reach the 2016 Pacific Forum Leaders Meeting, through the SSCR and regional processes.

6. Any follow up questions or additional support required by officials can be forwarded directly to Scott Hook at Forum Secretariat on email: scotth@forumsec.org; Netatua Pelesikoti at SPREP on email: netatuap@sprep.org; and Paul Taylor at SPC on email: pault@spc.int.

Meg Taylor, DBE
Secretary General

cc: **Attachment 1:** Updated *Strategy for Resilient Development in the Pacific: An Integrated Approach to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management* (SRDP), 25 April 2016
Attachment 2: Key Dates for Approval Process