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GOVERNMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Note No: 12/91

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Independent State of Samoa presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Cook Islands and has the honour to refer to the Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), adopted in Apia, Samoa on 16 June 1993, and came into force on 31 August, 1995.

The Ministry has further the honour to inform that under Article 10 paragraph 5 of the Agreement Establishing the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the Government of Samoa in its capacity as Depositary to the Agreement wishes to notify the Government of the Cook Islands of the request by the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland to become a member of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The Government of Samoa would be grateful if the Government of the Cook Islands could indicate as soon as convenient, but no later than 6 months of receiving this notice, whether or not it objects to this request. A copy of the official request from the Government of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland dated 14 November 2011, signed by Mr William Hague, and addressed to the Prime Minister of Samoa is enclosed.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Independent State of Samoa avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Cook Islands the assurances of its highest consideration

Apia, 27 February, 2012

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Cook Islands
Rarotonga



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Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

London SW1A 2AH

From the Secretary of State

14 November 2011

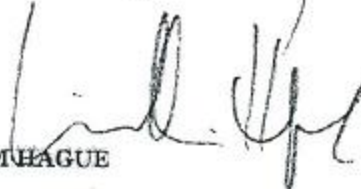
Honourable Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi
Prime Minister
APIA

Dear Prime Minister,

It was a pleasure to see you at CHOGM in Perth last month.

I write in regard to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland becoming a member of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. My Minister of State, Jeremy Browne, formally announced the United Kingdom's wish to become a member at the Pacific Islands Forum in Auckland on 9 September 2011, where you were present.

In accordance with Article 10, Paragraph 5, the Government of the United Kingdom hereby expresses its request to become a Party to the Agreement by acceding to it. I would be grateful if the Government of Samoa, as depositary, would inform the other States party to the Agreement of our intention. I look forward to hearing from you after the six-month time period to lodge objections to UK membership has elapsed. In the event there are no objections, we can then take the next steps towards UK membership of the Secretariat.

Friendly

WILLIAM HAGUE