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The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

## **CIRCULAR**

FILE: AP 6 / 5 / 6 / 5

DATE: SPREP National Focal Points
PacWaste National Focal Points

CIRCULAR: 14/97

**SUBJECT:** PacWaste HealthCare Waste - Request for Country Information and Support

Dear PacWaste Beneficiary Countries,

Most of you would now be aware that the PacWaste project, funded by the European Union and implemented by SPREP, recently released <u>baseline survey reports</u> for healthcare waste management for 15 countries on the SPREP website.

The information contained in the country baseline reports identified the need to improve the management of healthcare in 42 hospitals and also indentified high temperature incineration as the preferred healthcare waste treatment technology for Pacific Island countries.

With the PacWaste healthcare waste baseline study now completed, SPREPS' PacWaste team will be putting these recommendations into effect and will need the full support and co-operation of countries to do this successfully. Participation in PacWaste as a demonstration country is of course entirely voluntary, but will require joint efforts to successfully implement the offered interventions.

In accordance with the Consultant's findings and recommendations, one of the first actions taken by SPREP has been the release of a <u>tender</u> seeking financial offers for the supply of up to 28 high temperature healthcare waste incinerators for installation across the Pacific region and Timor Leste.

It is important to note that although the tender identifies the total number of incinerators and the potential hospital sites, the final allocation will not be determined until the tender evaluation process is complete and the offers reconciled with the available project budget.

As part of the final process in ensuring that high temperature incinerators offered for the treatment of healthcare waste are appropriate for the potential country recipients, SPREP requires further information from each of the countries/hospitals as detailed in Annex 1.

To enable us to provide the best healthcare waste management assistance, please kindly prepare a response answering the questions presented in Annex 1 by email to stewartw@sprep.org by no later than COB **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014**.

On behalf of SPREP and the PacWaste project team, I look forward to working with you to secure best possible healthcare waste management in the Pacific region.

Yours sincerely,

David Sheppard

Director General