Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan Questionnaire

## BUILDING OUR PACIFIC ISLAND & TERRITORY RESPONSE TO MARINE LITTER

Please find enclosed as a separate file a draft Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan (MLAP) for your consideration and then our joint discussion.

### The draft Pacific Marine Litter Action Plan (MLAP)

This Action Plan:

* 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.

The suggested timetable for our interaction and review of this draft Pacific MLAP for endorsement for Pacific Island Countries and Territories is as follows:

### Our Timetable

**May 2018 circulation of this draft** - for review by all Pacific Island Countries and Territories, collaborating 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 operationalize 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.

This draft is organised within 4 sections. Your attention is drawn to Section 3. Marine litter is grouped within the key sources and for each source key actions are listed.

### Firstly - your Existing Activities to Address Marine Pollution

We recognise there is already many activities underway. Understanding these will also help us collectively determine the final set of priorities for investment under this Action Plan.

**Current Activities** - could you briefly list the key activities on Marine Pollution already underway in your country / territory

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**Your priorities?** – The Action Plan lists a suite of activities and suggested emphasis, but what are your priorities? Put a number against each of the following where 1 = Highest Priority and 11= Lowest Priority.

Building a Policy and Regulatory Framework ☐

Fishing waste ☐

Cruise Ship Waste ☐

Trans-boundary Waste ☐

Take Away Food and Beverage Containers ☐

Plastics and other waste materials generally ☐

Awareness and Action ☐

Tourist Enterprise Waste ☐

Disaster Waste ☐

Catching Water-borne Litter ☐

Coastal Clean Ups ☐

Other? ☐

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### Draft Action Plan

Your feedback and response to each of these proposed actions will assist us collectively finalise the Action Plan and the priorities for investment. Following are a suite of questions around each of these key action areas:

### Fishing waste

The main task is to resource and assist in applying, monitoring and then enforcing the ***2017-04 Conservation Management Measure on Marine Pollution*** [Appendix 3 in the draft]. This could happen as all Pacific Island Countries and Territories renew existing Fishing Access licences and/or establish new access arrangements.

**Timing** – for your country, by when do you estimate the Conservation Management Measure [which comes into force January 2019] can be implemented as part of all fishing access arrangements?

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**Resources** - what resources do you require to ensure the implementation of this Conservation Management Measure?

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### Cruise Ship Waste and MARPOL generally

Recognising the existence of MARPOL and related agreements, the main task is to assist in developing and then applying model cross compliance provisions.

**MARPOL and your Country –** is MARPOL implemented in your country?

If yes – are there any issues in its implementation?

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If no – are there particular reasons MARPOL has not been adopted?

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**Cruise Ships and your Country** Are there particular issues such as difficulty in enforcement that you would like to see addressed in a cross compliance code for Cruise Ships visiting your country?

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### Take Away Food & Beverage Containers plus Plastics generally

An existing Act in the Marshall Islands provides an excellent example of what we might agree to implement as either Country-by-Country Acts or a joint all-of-Pacific Island Countries and Territories Multilateral Agreements

**Country-by-Country Acts or a Multilateral Agreements** –would you prefer Country-by-Country Acts or a Multilateral and why? [Take Away Food and Beverage Containers plus Plastics generally will be a main topic for our discussion at the August Roundtable]

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**Trans boundary Issues –** because of the trans boundary nature of plastics SPREP recommends a regional legal framework. Would you find such an approach useful?

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**Resources** - what resources would you require in implementing your preferred approach?

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#### General Community Awareness and Action

The draft Action Plan provides some examples of activities to foster awareness and then action by our communities.

**Activities** – List what you believe are the priority activities in your Country or Territory to foster awareness and then action. For each activity can you estimate the likely level of resources required?

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#### Tourist Focused Awareness and Action

Thinking now of tourists, cruise ships and tourist resorts are there any additional activities required?

**Activities** – List any tourist focussed additional activities to foster awareness and then action. For each activity can you estimate the likely level of resources required?

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### Disaster Waste

Disasters require rapid and coordinated activities in very short timeframes so the task is to plan ahead and be ready to implement smart waste management systems.

**Developing Standard Operating Procedures** – Would your country wish to be involved in a small working group to develop these SOP’s?

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**If yes** – who is your lead contact?

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**Disaster Response Waste Management Liaison Officers** – which agency should be involved and the best lead contact?

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### Catching Water-borne Litter

Infrastructure investment to trap and remove waste and to install floating booms within major urban areas is recommended as part of the draft Action Plan.

**Infrastructure Investment** – List what you believe are the priority sites in your Country or Territory to trap and remove waste and to install floating booms

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### Coastal Clean Ups

Galvanizing our communities and various groups to clean up our beaches and outer islands is key if we are to gradually ensure a better Pacific Ocean environment. Accompanying land-based facilities are needed to sort and process collected waste.

**Coastal Clean Ups** – List what you believe are the priority sites in your Country or Territory to Clean Up and for each site, estimate the type of assistance you will need to make these Clean Ups happen.

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## Where to from here?

With over 98% of our region covered by ocean, marine litter impacts to ecosystems and coastal communities are heightened by the reliance of island communities upon healthy ocean ecosystems and services.

It is imperative that we work together and that a suite of activities that we agree to is implemented across all Pacific island Countries and Territories.

We need your feedback, your ideas and your involvement.

Feel free to ring me to discuss any particular issues and most importantly, please email back your responses to this questionnaire by Friday 1 June, 2018.

Thank you

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