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

## CIRCULAR

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**TO:** **SPREP Focal Points** for Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu  
**Maritime Focal Points** for Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu

**SUBJECT:** Invitation to the IMO/MLTM Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on the London Protocol (14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May 2012), and the Joint session of the Scientific Groups under the London Convention and Protocol 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2012, Jeju, Republic of Korea

On behalf of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and in collaboration with the Ministry of Land Transport and Maritime Affairs (MLTM) of the Government of the Republic of Korea, I write to inform and invite your government's participation to an "IMO/MLTM Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on the London Protocol 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May 2012" and the "Joint session of the Scientific Groups under the London Convention and Protocol 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2012, to be held in Jeju, Republic of Korea. Both these events will be held at the Jeju KAL Hotel and a tentative programme for the workshop is attached at Annex 1.

The Objectives for the Workshop are:

- To sensitize relevant authorities to the implications of ratifying, implementing and enforcing the London Protocol with special emphasis on urban ports and ocean environment;
- To identify future co-operation in the Asia-Pacific region; and
- To have increased ratification of the London Protocol.

The Workshop is aimed at Government administrators, preferable of a senior level with responsibility for the prevention and control of pollution arising from dumping of wastes at sea involving both areas of technical and policy-making decisions. It is highly recommended that nominations are received from persons who have not participated previously in an IMO LP Workshop.

In addition, the Workshop will precede the regular annual joint session of the Scientific Groups under the London Convention and Protocol. The IMO Circular letter No. 3238 (copy at Annex 3) describes the agenda and formalities for registering attendance to this joint session of the Scientific Groups. It is envisaged that Workshop participants would be interested in attending this joint session, to benefit from and learn about the work of the London Protocol.

It is envisaged that one (1) participant will be sponsored to attend this Asia-Pacific Workshop, from the following countries party to the London Convention and London Protocol:

*Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu;*

and this sponsorship is also extended to the joint session of the Scientific Groups.

It would be appreciated if you could have the attached registration form (Annex 2) completed at your earliest convenience but no later than **Wednesday 25 April 2012**. Please note that the country participant will be requested to submit and present a **case study** on current arrangements for dumping at sea in their country and on other related marine environmental issues needing attention at the Workshop.

Please note that additional representatives from each country will also be welcome to attend the Workshop and the joint session of the Scientific Groups, however, any additional representatives would attend on the basis of self-funding only.

I look forward to receiving your early response and in closing thank you for your consideration of this valuable training workshop.

Yours Sincerely,



Kosi Latu

**Acting Director General**

**Annexes**

- (1) Draft Workshop Programme
- (2) Nomination Form
- (3) IMO Circular letter No. 3238