

CIRCULAR

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DATE: 23 August 2018
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TO: SPREP National Focal Points

SUBJECT: Consecutive meetings for the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the CBD-6th National Report Technical Support Regional Workshop, 24th to 28th September 2018, Samoa

Dear Focal Points,

Two consecutive meetings will be hosted at the SPREP campus in Apia, Samoa for the:

- Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 14th Conference of the Parties (CoP) to the CBD, and
- CBD-6th National Report Technical Support Regional Workshop.

These meetings will be held at the SPREP campus in Apia, Samoa. It is anticipated that the country representative for both of these meetings, will in most cases be the same participant.

CBD Pre-COP Meeting, 24-26 September

In preparation for the 14th CBD Cop, the Secretariat will be conducting a preparatory meeting for the Pacific islands region over three days from the 24th to 26th September 2018.

The main objective of the Preparatory meeting is to provide a forum for the region in particular those countries that are parties to the CBD to come together and discuss key regional priority issues and prepare regional positions, as appropriate. A key part of the preparatory meeting is to strengthen engagement at COP meeting and continue with the One Pacific Voice which has been a very effective approach adopted by Pacific island countries at past COP meetings.

CBD 6th National Report Technical Support Regional Workshop, 27-28 September 2018.

As part of the technical support project for the Sixth National Reports (6NR) to the CBD, UN Environment and UNDP are holding a regional workshop to assess the status of the reports preparation and to offer technical assistance where needed.

The main objectives of the technical support workshop are:

- Hold a collective discussion on the status of the project implementation, exchange views and share experiences;
- Clarify possible doubts concerning the formats, information sources and tools available;
- Hold one-to-one or small groups sessions to go through the work done so far on the online reporting tool.

Draft provisional meeting agendas for both meetings are attached for your information (Annex 1). Additional information including detailed meeting agendas will be provided in due course.

We invite you to please nominate one country participant, preferably a representative who will be on the National delegation to the CBD CoP 14, or concurrent meetings of the COP-MOPs in Egypt; and who is preparing the CBD 6th National Report. If this is not the same person then please nominate an additional participant for the National Report Technical Workshop. **Please submit nominations by 31st August 2018 by completing the attached nomination form (Annex 2).**

With regard to coverage of travel expenses associated with participation, UN Environment encourages countries that are part of the 6NR project to use funds allocated in their project. However, should financial difficulties arise, please contact Antony Kamau, UN Environment, Project Manager-CBD 6th National Reports antony.kamau@un.org, to find a suitable solution.

For countries who are not currently in the 6NR project, SPREP will find alternative funding for travel and DSA.

Please note that **SPREP will fund DSA for all participants for the CBD pre-CoP meeting portion.**

Please contact Amanda Wheatley, Acting Biodiversity Adviser amandaw@sprep.org and Antony Kamau, UN Environment, Project Manager - CBD 6th National Reports antony.kamau@un.org for more information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Roger Cornforth', written in a cursive style.

Roger Cornforth
Acting Director General

RC/JW/ma

CBD Pre-COP Meeting
24-26 September 2018
Apia, Samoa
SPREP

Provisional Agenda

1. Official Opening
2. Overview and objectives of the meeting
3. Introductions, Organization of work and Adoption of Meeting Agenda
4. Convention on Biological Diversity - overview of priority issues
5. Key priority issues for the Pacific islands region for CBD
6. Negotiation Training
7. Pacific Voyage Outreach Campaign
8. Strategies for effective engagement at COP meetings
9. Next Steps
10. Closing

CBD-6NR Technical Support Workshop for Pacific Region
27-28th September
Provisional Agenda

1. Introduction and Opening remarks
2. Workshop Overview and Adoption of the meeting objectives
3. Overview of the 6NR: Structure, workplan and discussion on challenges
4. Tools and guidelines available for 6NR production
5. Meaningful Stakeholder engagement and gender inclusion in BD conservation and reporting
6. Use of Biodiversity indicators in National Reporting: Tips and Information Sources
7. Spatial data and UN Biodiversity Lab
Assessment of progress towards ABTs/National Targets
8. One-to-one/small group technical support