

## CIRCULAR

**FILE:** CONV 2/5/1

**TO:** SPREP National Focal Points:  
Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Palau,  
Papua New Guinea, Samoa,  
Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu

**DATE:** 29 August 2018

**CIRCULAR:** 18/51

**SUBJECT: Save the Dates: CITES Pre-CoP18 Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting,  
25 – 29 March 2019, Samoa**

Dear Focal Points,

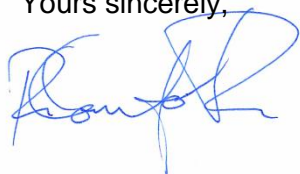
The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) will be convening a Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Eighteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) from the 25 – 29 March, 2019 in Samoa. This circular is to kindly request to note these dates in your calendars.

The main objective of the preparatory meeting is to provide a forum for the Pacific Parties to come together and discuss key regional priority issues and prepare regional positions, as appropriate. A key part of the meeting is to also strengthen the Pacific's engagement at COP meetings and continue with the One Pacific Voice which has been an effective approach adopted by Pacific island countries at previous COP meetings.

We will be sending a formal invitation at a later date with nomination, provisional meeting agenda and travel support details. For any queries in the interim, please contact Juney Ward at [juneyw@sprep.org](mailto:juneyw@sprep.org).

Please also note that the deadline for applications for funding support to attend the CITES CoP18 meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka from the 23 May to 3 June is the **31 December 2018**. We request for CITES Parties to submit their application for funding support from the Sponsored Delegates Project. Attached is the notification to the Parties and Application Form for financial assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Roger Cornforth  
**Acting Director General**

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