

CIRCULAR

FILE: CONV 1/5/1; CONV 2/7/1 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
Waigani and Basel Convention
Competent Authorities & Focal
Points

DATE: 4 December 2018

CIRCULAR: 18/72

SUBJECT: **Seventh Meeting of the Waigani Convention Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC-7) and the Sixth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Waigani and Basel Conventions (SCPRC-6), 19th–21st February 2019; and Fifth GEF-PAS uPOPs Project Steering Committee meetings – 25th February–1st March 2019**

Dear Sirs/ Mesdames:

As agreed to in the Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Waigani Convention (COP-9) held in Apia in September in 2017, I am pleased to advise that the *Seventh Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC-7) of the Waigani Convention and the Sixth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the joint implementation of the Waigani and Basel Conventions (SCPRC-6)* will be held from the 19th–21st February 2019. In addition to these meetings, the *Fifth Meeting of the GEF-PAS uPOPs project Steering Committee (GEF-PAS uPOPs-5)* together with an *evaluation meeting of the Minamata Initial Assessment and the National Implementation Plan projects* and a *consultation meeting for the ISLANDS proposal under the GEF-7 funding cycle* will be held from the 25th February–1st March, 2019. All these meetings will be held in Nadi, Fiji.

The venue and the provisional agendas for all the meetings will be forwarded to the nominated participants when they have been secured and finalized respectively.

I would like to therefore invite nominations from all Parties and appreciate it if the name(s) of the *designated, suitable representative, alternative and accompanying experts and advisers* could be sent to the Secretariat by the 21st December 2018. Please be advised that funding is available to support the attendance of **two** representatives from each of the Countries (excluding Australia and New Zealand) who are Parties to the Waigani Convention.

The Parties to the Waigani Convention are: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

This invitation is also extended to the non-Waigani Convention parties in the region, namely Marshall Islands, Nauru and Palau to nominate a *designated, suitable representative, alternative and accompanying experts and advisers* to attend and participate in all these meetings. Again, please be advised that funding is available to support the attendance of **two** representatives from each of the Countries.

Please be further advised that one of these nominated representatives will be participating in the STAC-7, PRC-SC-6, GEF-PAS uPOPs-5 and the evaluation meeting for the MIA and NIP meetings. As such, the nominated representative should be involved in the implementation of the Waigani, Basel, Stockholm and Minamata Conventions at the national level. The second of the nominated representatives, preferably should be the national operational focal point for the GEF or their nominee. This is because this nominated representative will participate at the consultation meeting for the ISLANDS proposal under the GEF-7 funding cycle which is under development.

We look forward to receiving your country's nominations by the 21st December and thank you kindly for your consideration and encourage participation at all the aforementioned meetings.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General

KL/FG/rs