

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 2/2/24/1 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 17 January 2020
CIRCULAR: 20/03
SUBJECT: **SAVE THE DATE: 10TH PACIFIC ISLANDS CONFERENCE ON NATURE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTED AREAS, 19 – 24 APRIL, 2020**

Dear Focal Points,

I am pleased to inform you that SPREP in partnership with the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRT) and the Government of New Caledonia will be hosting the 10th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas at the Tjibaou Cultural Center Noumea, New Caledonia from the 19 – 24 April, 2020.

The 10th Nature Conference will focus on priority issues relevant to the Pacific Islands including inputs into the post-2020 agenda, management of threats to biodiversity with a strong focus on invasive species, conservation areas, and waste including marine plastics to name a few. The theme for the Conference is *nature conservation action for a resilient Pacific* with six thematic streams addressing:

1. People and nature conservation action
2. Economic development and biodiversity conservation
3. Safeguarding priority sites, including cultural heritage
4. Safeguarding species and genetic diversity
5. Threats to biodiversity
6. Monitoring, governing and financing nature conservation action

The 10th Nature Conference will deliver a new Framework for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific Islands Region. A High-level Segment for Ministers and Heads of Organisations will be convened on the 24th April, 2020 resulting in a Declaration and the celebration of the second Pacific Environmental Leadership Awards will be presented at the Conference.

This conference will bring together a diversity of audience from individuals, communities, academia, private sector, non-government organisations, government organisations and donors and I would like to request that you save these dates in your calendar.

I encourage our focal points to take advantage of the Early Bird Registration <https://www.pacificnatureconference.com/Conference/Registration> and to get involved by expressing your interest to be a speaker or to host a session by submitting a short proposal in the forms available on the website <https://www.pacificnatureconference.com/conference/speakers-and-guidance>.

Further information about the 10th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas can be found on <https://www.pacificnatureconference.com> or contact Juney Ward, juneyw@sprep.org for further information.

Yours sincerely,



Stuart Chape
Acting Director General