



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



10th Pacific Islands Conference

NATURE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTED AREAS

Nature Conservation Action for a Resilient Pacific

Noumea, New Caledonia

19-24 April 2020

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 2/2/24/1

TO: SPREP National Focal Points

DATE: 17 February 2020

CIRCULAR: 20/09

SUBJECT: **10th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, Tjibaou Cultural Center, Noumea, New Caledonia 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 it would be a great opportunity for all member countries and territories to contribute and share successes, best practices and lessons learnt from the efforts implemented to preserve the Pacific's unique biodiversity.

A participant travel assistance is available for participants to apply and ensure their conference participation. Please complete the travel assistance form attached in **Annex 1** and submit before the **28th February, 2020**. We encourage the submission of one representative from each SPREP member country and territory to attend the conference. Funding under the travel assistance is limited and we encourage you to explore other funding sources through other organisations or donors supporting your country and territory to support travel to the conference should you not be successful.



A drafted programme of the conference is attached in **Annex 2** and to register for the conference please visit <https://www.pacificnatureconference.com/conference/registration>.

Further information about the 10th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas can be found on <https://www.pacificnatureconference.com> or contact the conference organisers at pacificconference2020@sprep.org for further information.

Once again, I would like to thank all SPREP members for their support and looking forward to working in partnership with you all to deliver a successful conference for the Pacific.

Yours sincerely,

Kosi Latu
Director General

KL/JW/ma