



CIRCULAR

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TO: SPREP National Focal Points

DATE: 9 December 2020

CIRCULAR: 20/103

SUBJECT: **Vemööre Declaration: Commitments to nature conservation action in the Pacific Islands region, 2021 – 2025**

Dear Members,

I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the Vemööre Declaration that was endorsed at the 10th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, on 26th November 2020. The Vemööre Declaration was endorsed by 13 of our member countries and territories and 12 members of the Pacific Islands Roundtable for Nature Conservation (PIRT).

The Declaration declares that the global biodiversity crisis is urgent, and that transformative action must not be delayed as the crisis is an existential threat to our Oceans, Islands and People. It calls on all regional partners, stakeholders, communities and governments to work collaboratively, to implement a transformational vision for nature and people.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all participating countries and territories, the Government of New Caledonia as host, PIRT members and partners and all the donors and sponsors that made this Conference a huge success, with over 1900 registered participants.

We will present and highlight the Vemööre Declaration in key regional and international events, including the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15), 7th Our Ocean Conference, IUCN World Conservation Congress and others.

I would like to extend an invitation to our Members who were not able to attend the high-level segment, but who wish to support the Declaration to please send an email to Amanda Wheatley amandaw@sprep.org, and copy Juney Ward juneyw@sprep.org, confirming the inclusion of your country. Please let us know by **8 January 2021**.

Yours sincerely,

Kosi Latu
Director General

KL/JW/ma