



CIRCULAR

FILE: HR 17 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 26 August 2020 **CROP Organisations**
CIRCULAR: 20/71 **SPREP Partner Organisations**

SUBJECT: Introducing the following:

SPREP is pleased to announce the following appointments:



Ms. Ofa Kaisamy, a Tongan national, has been appointed to the position of Manager, Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) within the Climate Change Resilience (CCR) Programme. Ofa holds a Master in Environmental Law from the Australian National University, a Diploma on Ocean Laws and Policy from Aegean Institution, Rhodes, Greece and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of the South Pacific (USP), Vanuatu.

Ofa joined the Secretariat in 2017 as the Access and Benefit Sharing Legal Adviser. Prior to this, she had been employed at the Tonga's Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications as the Principal Legal Analyst and Head of the Legal Division. Ofa will start in her new role on 5 October 2020.

The PCCC is the regional Centre of Excellence for climate change information, research and innovation and is hosted at SPREP in Samoa. In her new role, Ofa will provide strategic oversight and management of the key function areas of the Centre.

Mr. Fred Patison, a Solomon Islands national, is the new Climate Change Finance Readiness Adviser within the CCR Programme. He holds a Master in International Environment Law from Macquarie University, Australia and a Bachelor in Environmental Science from USP, Fiji. Fred's was previously the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Officer before his current appointment as the Pacific-Ecosystems Based Adaptation to Climate Change Project, Solomon Islands Country Manager within the Island and Ocean Ecosystems for the past four years. Fred will start in his new role on 21 September 2020



Through the Secretariat's Regional Implementing Entity role for the benefit of its Members, Fred will lead in providing strategic technical and policy advice and support to Member States in accessing climate finance and technical delivery of readiness programmes to ensure that appropriate projects are developed and executed in an effective and timely manner



Mr. Raymond (Ray) Schuster, a Samoan national, has been appointed as the New Zealand (NZ) Pacific Partnership on Ocean Acidification (PPOA) Project Technical Assistant within the CCR Programme. Ray is a graduate of Victoria University of Wellington, NZ with a Bachelor of Science, Environmental Studies. He has been with SPREP for over two years, working in similar project support roles initially with the Waste Management and Pollution Control (WMPC) Programme in 2018 before moving to CCR in September 2019. Ray permanently took up this role on 1 July 2020.

Ray continues to provide project assistance and support in the management and implementation of the NZ PPOA Project.

Ms. Atitoafaiga (Ati) Tau, a Samoan national, is the new Project Support Officer of the Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD) - funded Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific (SWAP) Project. The position is based within the WMPC Programme. Ati holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Economics & Management) degree from the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. She is no stranger to SPREP having worked productively as a Finance Officer for Projects with the Finance and Administration Department for the past two and a half years. Ati started in her new role on 17 August 2020.



In this role, Ati will primarily provide support to the management and implementation of the SWAP Project to ensure that the specified goals and outputs of the project are effectively and efficiently achieved and delivered within the agreed timeline and budget. She will also assist in enhancing good liaison and engagement among the project beneficiaries and collaborators, AFD, and SPREP to ensure that expected project outcomes will be met and properly disseminated.

Internship

Ms. Kayla Economou has been engaged under the Joint CROP Small Island States (SIS) Attachment Programme for the next 12 months. This programme is coordinated by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and is a capacity building support mechanism for SIS. Kayla is a graduate of Stanford University, United States of America with a Master in Sustainability Science and Practice and a Bachelor of Political Science. She will be working closely with the CCR Programme in the areas of adaptation and climate science and will start her internship later in August 2020.



We extend a warm welcome and congratulations to all our SPREP Community members on their appointments and we look forward to these positions increasing and strengthening relevant support and services to the region.



We would also like to acknowledge the following individuals' services and contributions to SPREP and the region as they pursue other personal developments in their life journeys:

1. Dr. Vicki Hall: Director, Waste Management and Pollution Control – completed her contract on 16 June 2020;
2. Ms. Doyi Kim and Heekyoung Kwon: interns under an agreement with the Korea Meteorological Agency - will complete their internships on 31 August 2020.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General