



NATURAL SOLUTIONS  
PACIFIC

To: SPREP Partners

9 July 2021

**Re: Welcome to the SPREP Independent Review from the Review Team**

Greetings, on behalf of the SPREP Review Team. I have the pleasure to write this message to you as the SPREP Secretariat has listed you and/or your organisation as one of its Partners.

You may already be aware that the task of carrying out this review has been awarded to Natural Solutions Pacific and we have commenced our work. If you would like more information about the project, you can view a brief project overview presentation [here](#).

We envisage a challenging task ahead given a number of issues, not the least of which result from the ongoing impacts of the Coronavirus Pandemic, together with the growth of the SPREP work programme and budget in recent years, and the short timeframe to deliver in readiness for the SPREP Meeting in early September.

In writing this welcome message, I invite you to engage in informing our task. It would be disappointing to conclude with less than optimal input from the organisations that SPREP recognises as its Partners. We are offering you three different ways to engage with the review, these are: a remote group briefing (over Zoom), an online survey and a limited number of one-on-one interviews. If possible, we request that you participate in both a briefing and the online survey, with preference for the survey. If, after the survey, you still have key insights to share with us we would welcome the opportunity to hold an interview with you.

**Consultation Process**

To start the process we are planning three remote briefing sessions which we hope will accommodate your different time zones. You will receive a calendar invitation to one or more of these briefings over the next few days:

North America/Europe: Thursday 15 July, 8am EDT(US), 2pm CEST(Europe)

North America/Oceania: Thursday 15 July, 6pm EDT(US), Friday 16 July, 8am AEST(Australia)

Oceania/Europe: Friday 16 July, 5pm AEST(Australia), 9am CEST(Europe)

In the briefing, we will deliver the project overview presentation (link provided above) and hold a brief discussion with those assembled. After the briefing, we request that all participants take the time to also complete the online survey described below.

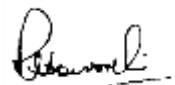
We will be sending you an invitation to participate in the online survey later this week. I hope you, or one of your colleagues will have time to respond to the survey which is intended to gather factual data about your experience of engaging with SPREP's work over the last 5 years. We are interested in all forms of engagement with SPREP's work over the review period, including work that is ongoing, anticipated, or completed. Should you not be able to attend one of the briefings we request that you focus directly on the survey.

Due to the project timeframe, we will only have time to interview a subset of partners. Should you wish to speak with one of us in addition to completing the survey, please indicate this in the last section of the survey and return the completed survey to us so we have time to schedule an interview with you some time over the next 2 weeks.

Finally, please be assured the Review Team stands ready to consult as fully as possible and look forward to hearing from you.

In closing, we look forward to presenting our findings in summary to the SPREP Meeting in early September, and the special meeting to consider our report at the end of September.

Sincere Regards,



Dr Russell Howorth  
Review Team, Project Director  
c.c. Kosi Latu, Director General, SPREP