CIRCULAR

FILE: AP_6/4/11  TO: SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 5 August 2021  CIRCULAR: 21/81
SUBJECT: Pacific Declaration on Plastics

Dear Members,

In response to on-going regional concerns about the disproportionate impact of plastics and increasing inflows of plastics into the region, there is a growing call from Pacific islands countries and territories for a regional position on plastic pollution that supports a legally binding global plastics treaty. SPREP and Partners, Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) and Centre for International Environmental Law (CIEL), have been working to support countries to draft this regional plastics Declaration.

Please find attached a draft of the proposed Pacific Declaration on Plastics which supports a global plastics pollution treaty. This draft has been developed in consultation with Pacific Island countries from the Oct 2020 Zero Draft consultation and follow-up consultations with EIA, CIEL and SPREP on June 9, 2021, at the ‘Virtual Dialogue on the Emerging Global Framework on Plastics and Plastic Pollution’.

We kindly request your input and comments on the draft declaration by Friday 13th August, 2021. We hope to finalize this draft by early August with a view to tabling the Regional Declaration on Plastics for endorsement at the Environment Ministers’ High-Level Talanoa on the 10th of September ahead of UNEA 5.2 in February 2022.

UNEA 5.2 will decide on whether to establish an International Negotiating Committee for a new global plastics treaty, so this declaration would be timely.

Yours sincerely,

Kosi Latu
Director General

KL/AT/dt

Att.