CIRCULAR

FILE: AP_6/4/11
DATE: 13 April 2022
CIRCULAR: 22/30
SUBJECT: Draft Agenda Pacific Region Framework for the Prevention of Pollution by Marine Litter and Microplastics

Dear Members,

Recalling the Noumea Convention COP16 Meeting where the development of a Regional Framework for the Prevention of Pollution by Marine Litter and Microplastics was agreed the Secretariat is pleased to confirm that a virtual consultation workshop will be held for SPREP Member States as noted in our Circulars 21/128, 21/141, 21/152, 22/21 and 22/24 as follows:

   Wednesday 20 April 2022
   12:00pm – 3:00pm, Samoa time
https://sprep.zoom.us/j/95721058140?pwd=YUdDSG1WVTB4Q01ZdEd6TVV2dG51QT09
Meeting ID: 957 2105 8140
Passcode: 726270

The objective of the workshop is to solicit Members input in moving the Pacific Region forward towards a harmonised approach to address this issue and in support of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee process negotiations of a new binding global agreement on plastic pollution.

Session 1 - Information
The first session aims to summarise the UNEA 5 negotiations on the resolution End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument. Other resolutions adopted at UNEA that may have relevance to a new Pacific framework will be summarised, and options for the framework presented.

Session 2 – Forward Action
The second session allows for open discussion on what the preferred option for the Pacific framework should be, the content of the framework and the timeline for developing such a framework, considering the timeline for the development of a binding global agreement to address plastic pollution.

As previously advised the University of Wollongong, Australia, has been engaged to facilitate the development of a framework for the Pacific Region on marine litter and plastic pollution. A short background presentation by Prof. Greg Rose, University of Wollongong, can be found here.

Tentative Pacific Region Framework for the Prevention of Pollution by Marine Litter and Microplastics Workshop Draft Agenda

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<td>Welcome and opening remarks</td>
<td>Mr Sefanaia Nawadra, DG, SPREP</td>
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Current status of governance of plastics in the Pacific

Mr. Anthony Talouli, A/DWMPC, SPREP

Session 1 INFORMATION

Global discussions towards an International Agreement

5 minute summaries by countries that participated in UNEA proceedings
Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Palau, Samoa, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, United States of America

3 minute summaries by NGOs that participated in UNEA proceedings
CIEL, EIA, WWF, Massey

Global Resolutions and Implications for the Pacific Regional Framework

UNEA 5 resolutions relevant to the governance of plastics
UoW

Options for the type of regional framework
UoW

Session 2 FORWARD ACTION

Discussions on the Pacific Regional Framework

Preferred option for the type of regional framework
SPREP/UoW

Content of the regional framework
SPREP/UoW

Timeline for development of the regional framework
SPREP/UoW

Options for contribution and participation in international negotiations towards a new global agreement to address plastic pollution
SPREP/UoW

Final Reflections and Next Steps

Closing remarks
Mr. Anthony Talouli, A/DWMPC, SPREP

Please contact Anthony Talouli, A.Director WMPC Programme anthonyt@sprep.org who will assist with this workshop.

We look forward to engaging with you in the development of this regional initiative.

Yours sincerely,

Sefanaia Nawadra
Director General