

# CIRCULAR

**FILE:** HR 17 – Circulars **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points  
**DATE:** 7 March 2023 CROP Organisations  
**CIRCULAR:** 23/12 SPREP Partner Organisation:

**SUBJECT: Introducing the following:**

The Secretariat is pleased to inform of the following appointments within the Secretariat:

## **CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE (CCR) PROGRAMME**



**Mr. Semi Qamese**, is the new Project Manager for the Intra-African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States, Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building (PACRES). Mr. Qamese is no stranger to SPREP having worked as the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, PACRES since 2019. In his role, he leads the Project Team and delivery of the Intra ACP GCCA+ Climate Change in the Pacific ACP Region Project.



**Mr. Timothy Breese** has been appointed to the position of Climate Change Adviser. Mr. Breese is a national of New Zealand (NZ) and joined SPREP from the Gisborne District Council, NZ where he had been the Planning and Performance Manager for the last two years. Prior to this he worked for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, NZ in a number of roles including several diplomatic missions to Jordan, Solomon Islands and Turkey. Mr. Breese started remotely in September 2022 and relocated to Apia in January 2023 with his family to take up his role. In his role, Mr. Breese leads the policy and science team within the Climate Change and Resilience Programme. He also provides policy, strategic and technical advice, support and assistance to the SPREP Members particularly on climate change issues, projects and programmes.

## **ISLAND AND OCEAN ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAMME**



**Mr. Elizur Nashon** is the Senior Finance and Administration Officer, Pacific Biodiversity and Sustainable Land-Seascapes (Pacific BioScapes) Programme. Mr. Nashon is a national of Fiji and he joined SPREP in September 2022 from the European Union (EU) Delegation to the Pacific where he had been working for the last four years as the Initiation Finance and Budget Officer. Mr. Nashon is based in the Secretariat's

Suva office. In his role, he leads the financial and administration functions of the EU Intra-ACP Pacific BioScapes Programme.



**Mr. James Fakau** has been appointed to the position of Information Technology and Administration Officer, Pacific Regional Invasive Species Support Service (PRISMSS). Mr. Fakau is a Samoan national and joined SPREP from the United Nations Development Programme where he had been working as an ICT Assistant since 2020. He started official duties in December 2022. In his role, Mr. Fakau provides information technology and office administrative support to the PRISMSS

project.

### **WASTE MANAGEMENT AND POLLUTION CONTROL (WMPC) PROGRAMME**



**Ms. Renee Kamu** is the Finance and Administration Officer for the Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (ISLANDS) Pacific Child Project. Ms. Kamu is a national of Samoa and joined SPREP in August 2022 from the Samoa Ministry of Finance under the Green Climate Fund Vaisigano Catchment Project where she was working as the Finance Manager. In her role, Ms. Kamu leads the financial and administration functions of the ISLANDS Pacific Child Project.



**Ms. Ngaire Ah Ching** is the new Senior Finance and Administration Officer, Pacific Ocean Litter Project (POLP). Ms. Ah Ching is a Samoan national and is no stranger to SPREP having worked with the WMPC Programme since 2020 under various temporary roles with the projects including Pacific National Implementation Plans and Minamata Initial Assessment, Clean Pacific Roundtable as well as the ISLANDS Pacific Child Project. In her new role, Ms. Ah Ching provides financial and procurement services support to the POLP project and team, in addition to assisting with the management and implementation of project activities.



**Mr. Zhiyad Khan** is the Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Officer, POLP. Mr. Khan is a national of Fiji and he joined SPREP from The Pacific Community where he had been working over the last ten years in various roles, including as the Communications and Liaison Officer. In his role, Mr. Khan develops and delivers project visibility including successful development and implementation of a regional Communication and Engagement Strategy to support the POLP project.



**Dr. Mohammed Zullah** has been appointed as the Pollution Adviser. Dr. Zullah is a national of Fiji. He started remotely in November 2022 and recently relocated to Apia with his family. He joined SPREP from the The Pacific Community (SPC), where he had been working as the Maritime Safety and Energy Adviser and Head of Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre in the Pacific since January 2020. In his role, Dr. Zullah leads the Pollution Team within the WMPC Programme and provides strategic, policy and technical advice; support and assistance to SPREP Members on pollution issues, programmes and projects.

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICES: Communications and Outreach**



**Ms. Christine Tuioti**, is the Outreach and Support Officer. Ms. Tuioti is a Samoan national and joined SPREP in May 2022 from the Japan International Cooperation Agency where she worked for two years as a Project Assistant for the Project for Capacity Building on Climate Change Resilience in the Pacific. In her role, Ms. Tuioti provides support to the Communications and Outreach team in implementing SPREP outreach activities to raise environmental awareness and raise the profile of environment issues, SPREP, its partners and relevant actions.

### **GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS**

#### **Project Coordination Unit (PCU)**



**Ms. Vitolina Samu** has been appointed to the position of Project Implementation Officer. She started in this role in June 2022. However, Ms. Samu has been with SPREP since 2018 as the Project Implementation Support Officer and had also been acting in the role of Project Development Specialist. Climate Resilience and Adaptation since August 2019. In her new role, Ms. Samu manages SPREP's Readiness Portfolio and supports the implementation of PCU's project portfolio.



**Ms. Salome Tukuafu** has been appointed as the Project Development and Implementation Officer. Ms. Tukuafu is a Tongan national and started in this role in June 2022. Prior to this, she had been working as a Consultant over the past four years with a number of international organisations including SPC, Asian Development Bank, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development. In her role, Ms. Tukuafu provides project management expertise to the PCU's project portfolio.



### Finance and Administration Department



**Ms. Valelia Iusitino** has been appointed to the position of Finance Officer. Ms. Iusitino is a national of Samoa and she started in June 2022. Prior to joining SPREP, she was previously with Samoa Commercial Bank where she had been working for the past eight years in various roles. Ms. Iusitino provides financial services and support as part of the Finance team.



**Ms. Pouvigina Tuaia** joined the Administration Team as **Cleaner/Teaperson** in August 2022. Ms. Tuaia is a Samoan national and has held similar roles at the Development Bank of Samoa and Insel Fehrman Hotel, Samoa for the past couple of years. She provides office maintenance and support services.

### Human Resources (HR) Department

The HR Department welcomed the following nationals of Samoa who have been appointed as Human Resources Officers.



**Ms. Olivia Hogarth** joined SPREP from FAO, Apia where she had been working as a HR Specialist for the past two years. Prior to this, Ms. Hogarth was employed in a number of private sector companies including Eat the Kiwi, Samoa Pure Water and Samoa Association of Sports and National Olympics Committee.



**Ms. Ada-Fanua Ott** joined SPREP from Apia Concrete Products where she has worked in various roles in the areas of Administration, HR, Executive and Management Support. Ms. Ott also previously worked in Customer Service at Air New Zealand in Auckland, NZ as a Recruitment Ambassador.

The new HR Officers started in their roles in late 2022. They provide advice, guidance, services and support on HR policies, issues and procedures.

We look forward to these positions increasing and strengthening relevant support and services to Members and the region.

We would also like to acknowledge the following individuals' services and contributions to SPREP and the region as their contracts came to an end in 2022 and as they pursue other career and professional developments:

1. Mr. Paul Anderson – *Inform Project Manager*
2. Mr. Wayne Asera – *IT and Administration Officer, PRISMSS*
3. Dr. Gregory Barbara - *Environmental Assessment and Planning Officer*
4. Mr. Rahul Chand – *Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), Capacity Building Officer*
5. Mr. James Faiumu – *ABS, Technical and Finance Officer*
6. Ms. Hetta Fuimaono – *Finance Officer*
7. Rachel Levi – *Accountant*
8. Ms. Azarel Mariner-Mai'ai - *Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific, Capacity Development Officer*
9. Ms. Laura Mitchell – *Intra-ACP GCCA+ PACRES, Finance and Administration Officer*
10. Mr. Sepasitiano Paulo – *HR Officer*
11. Mr. Unity Roebeck – *Turtle Database and Conservation Officer*
12. Mr. Michael Taiki – *PacWaste Plus Regional Project Officer, Vanuatu*

To meet our full team at SPREP please visit <https://www.sprep.org/our-team>.

Yours sincerely,



Sefanaia Nawadra  
**Director General**

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