

CIRCULAR

FILE: CONV_2/18 Plastic Convention **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 27 March 2023
CIRCULAR: 23/19
SUBJECT: Update on Pacific Preparations for the second session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-2) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution

Dear Members,

The Secretariat with funding support from the Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, is pleased to update Members on the Pacific preparations for the **second session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-2)** to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution including in the marine environment, scheduled to be held from 29 May to 2 June 2023 in Paris, France, following the first session of the INC (INC-1) held in Punta del Este, Uruguay. The draft Preparatory Plan is attached as Annex 1.

The broad objectives of the preparatory plan are to:

- Recap and unpack the outcomes of the INC-1;
- Develop negotiations and engagement strategies for INC-2; and
- Coordinate the Pacific Voices at the INC-2.

The following methodology of activities and timelines consisting of virtual and face-to-face meetings and trainings has been planned to sufficiently prepare Members for INC-2.

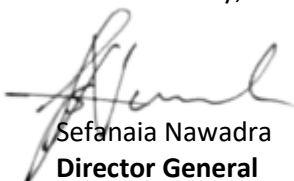
- i) Virtual sessions: There are four planned virtual sessions to prepare members for INC-2 before and after the in-person preparatory meeting in Rarotonga, Cook Islands. The Secretariat also plans to hold a number of virtual negotiation training sessions as well.
- ii) In-person preparatory meeting: An in-person preparatory meeting will be held from the 24 to 25 April 2023 in Rarotonga, Cook Islands. The Secretariat plans to hold another in-person meeting and negotiations training prior to the commencement of INC-2 in Paris. These plans are subject to confirmation of a room to bring together our Pacific delegates.

The Secretariat will be sharing the following documents in the coming week:

- Provisional Agenda to the Regional Preparatory Conference for INC-2, Cook Islands;
- Outcomes of INC-1; and
- Information on the virtual sessions i.e., calendar invites on exact dates and programme.

For further information please contact Mr. Anthony Talouli, Director of Waste Management and Pollution Control (anthonyt@sprep.org).

Yours sincerely,


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Director General