

CIRCULAR

FILE: HR 17 – Circulars

DATE: 27 April 2023

CIRCULAR: 23/31

TO: SPREP National Focal Points

CROP Organisations

SPREP Partner Organisations

SUBJECT: Introducing the following:

SPREP is pleased to announce the following appointments within the Secretariat:

GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) DEPARTMENT



Mr. Niten Kumar has been appointed as the IT Network and Systems Engineer. Mr. Kumar is a Fiji national and joined SPREP from the Fiji National University where he had been working for the past 13 years in similar capacities; his more recent role being the Enterprise Systems Engineer since 2021. He started work remotely, from SPREP's sub regional office in Fiji, on 3 April 2023 and will relocate to Samoa shortly.

In his role, Mr. Kumar will lead in building, administering and managing the SPREP local and wide area network; providing high level technical support for Information and Communications Technology (ICT) systems portfolio; building, deploying and maintaining hardware systems in support of SPREP portfolio of Regional ICT tools and applications; as well as developing and administering appropriate security solutions to safeguard SPREP ICT infrastructure.



Mr. Setefano Finau has been appointed as the IT Support Officer. Mr. Finau joined SPREP from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa where he had been working as an IT Officer for the past year. He started in his new role on 17 April 2023 and will be providing support and assistance to the IT Team on SPREP-wide applications and databases, IT infrastructure, services, processes, and other technical end user support concentrating on IT capacity building.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

The Finance and Administration Department has welcomed the following Finance Officers whose key roles include provision of financial services and support to the Secretariat:



Ms. Viona Numia joined SPREP from the Development Bank of Samoa where she had been working as a Finance Payable Officer since 2017. Ms. Numia started in her new role on 13 March 2023.



Ms. Premna Pedebone joined SPREP from Samoa Commercial Bank where she had been working as a Senior Finance Officer for the past year and previously as a Loans Officer. Ms. Pedebone started in her new role on 27 March 2023.



Ms. Tifaimoana Tofilau joined SPREP from Accounting firm, Penn & Co, where she had been working for the past two years as a Graduate Accountant and Auditor. Ms. Tofilau started in her new role on 3 April 2023.

PROJECT COORDINATION UNIT (PCU)



Ms. Faia'e Faamanu-Falanaipupu has been appointed as the Project Support Officer for the PCU. Ms. Faamanu-Falanaipupu was most recently with the United Nations Development Program as the Finance and Administrative Assistant. She started in her new role on 4 April 2023 and will lead the PCU's administration, financial and systems functions as well as provide technical and administrative support to the PCU in coordination and carrying out oversight of the SPREP climate financing project portfolio.

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 have come to an end as they pursue other career and professional developments:

1. Mr. Bradley Myer – *Project Manager, Regional Invasive Species Project*
2. Mr. Epeli Tagi – *IT Network and Systems Engineer*

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

Yours sincerely,



Easter Chu Shing
Acting Director General

ECS/MTC/mtc