

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 6/9/2 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 3 May 2023
CIRCULAR: 23/35
SUBJECT: **Invitation to the Regional workshop for the development of a regional strategy and action plan in relation to Ships' Biofouling and Invasive Aquatic Species, 17-18 July 2023, Suva, Fiji**

Dear Members,

On behalf of International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), I write to invite your governments participation in the Regional workshop for the development of a regional strategy and action plan in relation to Ships' Biofouling and Invasive Aquatic Species, 17-18 July 2023, to be held in Suva, Fiji. The workshop is kindly hosted by the Government of Fiji. A draft programme for the workshop is attached at, Annex 2.

The objectives for the Workshops are to: -

- familiarize participants with the IMO Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling;
- to present and discuss the strategy and action plan biofouling management for the SPREP region.

The Workshop is aimed at government administrators, preferable at a senior level with responsibility for technical and policy-making decisions relating to the prevention and control of pollution arising from shipping, particularly in the areas of biofouling management, marine biosecurity, port and dry dock operations and in-water cleaning

It is envisaged that two (2) participants will be sponsored to attend this Workshop from the following countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Niue, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Unfortunately the IMO funding does not extend to the territories of American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Tokelau, and Wallis and Futuna as well as non-IMO member countries therefore participation in this training will be at your own cost for these nationals.

Nominating authorities are kindly requested to take into account the objectives of the workshops and ensure that the professional background and responsibilities of the nominated participants are in line with the workshop's aim and target audience.

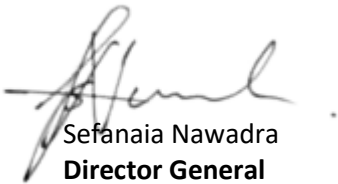


Sustainable, transformative and resilient for a **Blue Pacific**

It would be appreciated if you could complete the attached registration form (Annex 1) at your earliest convenience but **no later than Friday, 26 May 2023**. For further information please contact Pollution Adviser, Mohammed Asid Zullah on mohammedz@sprep.org

I look forward to receiving your early response and in closing, thank you for your consideration of this valuable training workshop.

Yours sincerely,



Sefanaia Nawadra
Director General

Annex 1: Registration

Annex 2: Information Note

Annex 3: Proposed Agenda

Annex 4: Provisional Programme