

CIRCULAR

FILE: CONV 2/4 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Point for New Zealand and Australia

DATE: 14 July 2026

CIRCULAR: 26/67

SUBJECT: **Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), 21- 25 September 2026, Pacific Harbour, Fiji**

Dear Members,

In preparation for the 17th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP17), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) will be convening a preparatory meeting for the Pacific Islands region from 21 – 25 September 2026 in **Pacific Harbour, Fiji**.

The CBD COP17 is a major opportunity for ensuring that the unique situation of Small Island Developing States are considered effectively in the design of biodiversity protections and monitoring as well as resourcing of biodiversity-related actions over the next decade.

The main objectives of the Preparatory meeting are to provide a forum for the Pacific Parties to:

- coordinate a collaborative approach on key regional priority issues and prepare strategic regional positions, as appropriate.
- strengthen engagement at the COP meeting with the One-CROP approach and facilitation of technical backstopping by regional partners.
- facilitate capacity building with skills for negotiation and enhancing confidence.
- enhance political support with participants in the CBD Process and key priorities of PICTs.

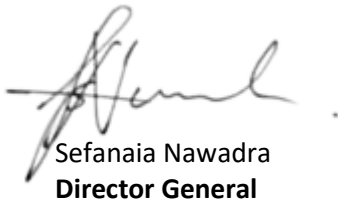
The Secretariat would like to invite relevant technical officers from Australia and New Zealand who can provide input and technical support during the preparatory meeting, and ideally who may also be potentially attending CBD COP17. We specifically request technical support on any of the following including Nagoya Protocol and Digital Sequencing Information (DSI), resource mobilisation and weaving the nexus of the TPC negotiation skills to tackle biodiversity loss of our PICTs. We are happy to discuss these needs in more detail as required.

You may also want to consider broader involvement for your country delegations for COP17 and their involvement in the Pacific Pre-CBD COP17.

Please submit nominations by completing the attached nomination form (Annex 1) and conveying to the contacts below.

The tentative agenda for the meeting is attached, and the final agenda will be shared in due course. For further information, please contact Monifa Fiu, monifaf@sprep.org and Lina Dorovolomo, linad@sprep.org.

Yours sincerely,



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