



SPREP
Secretariat of the
Pacific Regional
Environment Programme

PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa
E: sprep@sprep.org
T: +685 21929
F: +685 20231
W: www.sprep.org

SPREP Circular

File: AP 6/5/4
Date: 20 January 2011
Circular: 11/09
To: National Focal Points:
Cook Islands, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau,
PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
Subject: **Update on the *Pacific POPs Release Reduction through Improved Management of Solid and Hazardous Wastes* project**

Background

1. This circular provides an update on the *Pacific POPs Release Reduction through Improved Management of Solid and Hazardous Wastes* project, which is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), co-financed by the French Development Agency (AFD) and other agencies, and being implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

2. You will recall that the aim of this US\$3.5 million project (GEF grant) is to reduce the releases of persistent organic pollutants in the Pacific Island states through the introduction of integrated whole-system approaches to the environmentally sound management of solid and hazardous wastes.

Update

3. An update was provided to SPREP members in *Information Paper 2*, which was provided during the 21st SPREP Meeting in Madang, PNG in September 2010. Since that time, the following progress has been made:

- The Secretariat has been contracted by UNEP as the executing agency for the project preparation phase of the project. The outcome of this will result in the completion of a full-sized project document to be submitted to the GEF CEO for endorsement.
- Consultants have been identified to deliver the components of the full-sized document.

Next Steps

4. The Secretariat with the endorsement of UNEP will engage the selected Consultants. Over the next few weeks, these Consultants will be gathering information, which may necessitate contact with yourselves or appropriate technical staff. The Secretariat, with assistance of UNEP, will coordinate these information requests to minimize the burden on members. I therefore take this opportunity to personally ask for your support and cooperation in providing the Consultants with any necessary information.

5. A consultation workshop will be planned for April 2011 at a specific date to be advised. This workshop will require your participation to ensure that the

project design addresses your country and regional priority issues within the scope of the project. Further details on this workshop will be forthcoming.

6. Members that have signed but not ratified the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Palau and Tonga) are urged to do so, or they will be ineligible for support under this project. After ratification, these Members will also be required to complete their National Implementation Plans as required under the convention in order to qualify for support under this project.

7. Parties to the Stockholm Convention that have not submitted their National Implementation Plans to the Stockholm Secretariat are advised that these Plans **must** be submitted by the end of the project development phase in order to receive GEF funding support along with AFD support under this project. These parties are Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, PNG and Vanuatu.

Key Contacts

8. We look forward to working together with you to ensure that the Secretariat can deliver a successful project design. If you require further information or clarification please contact Dr. David Haynes (davidh@sprep.org).

Yours Sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Acting Director

KL/DH/ph