CIRCULAR

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DATE: 30 October 2026
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TO: SPREP National Focal Points
Copy: SPREP GEF ISLNDS National Focal Points (Pacific Project)

SUBJECT: Invitation for nomination to the 5th Steering Committee Meeting of the GEF ISLANDS Pacific Project (11 - 12 February 2027) and the following meetings:

1. **11th Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC11) of the Waigani Convention and 10th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the Pacific Region;**
2. **5th Clean Pacific Roundtable**

Dear Focal Points,

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) kindly invites nominations for participation in the above meetings, to be held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea from the 10-19 February 2027. SPREP acknowledges the kind support of the Government of Papua New Guinea in hosting these important meetings through the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority.

The 5th Project Steering Committee Meeting of the GEF ISLANDS Pacific Child Project (11-12 February 2027) to discuss and endorse the workplan and budget for implementation in the year 2027. Additionally, the meeting will identify challenges and share Best Practices to support the swift implementation of activities in the remaining 12 months of the project.

We are cognizant of your involvement in many other national and international engagements over the coming year, but as the GEF Pacific Project moves into the final year of critical implementation, I encourage all GEF ISLANDS Pacific participating country focal points to attend this opportunity to meet in person to explore the project outcomes and learn from your peers' experience.

The 5th Project Steering Committee meeting will be collated with the following SPREP meetings:

1. **11th Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC11)** of the Waigani Convention and 10th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Pacific Regional Centre for Training and Technology Transfer for the Joint Implementation of the Basel and Waigani Conventions in the Pacific Region (10 February 2027)
   - The main focus of the 11th STAC Meeting is to update members on the progress of the 2025-2026 Work Programme and the Workplan on the Review of Recommendations of the Waigani Convention. In addition, the STAC members will review and provide scientific and technical recommendations on matters to be referred to the 14th Waigani Convention COP;

2. **5th Cleaner Pacific Roundtable** (15 – 19 February 2027)
    - The 5th Clean Pacific Roundtable (CPRT) is the Pacific region's premier biennial multi-stakeholder forum on waste management and pollution prevention. Convened under the theme “Innovate, Implement, Invest: Delivering a Cleaner Pacific 2036", the Roundtable will bring together governments, development partners, private sector representatives, civil society, academia, and youth to share experiences, strengthen partnerships, and identify practical actions to support the implementation of the Cleaner Pacific 2036 Roadmap. The Roundtable will provide a platform to advance regional cooperation on waste and pollution management, circular economy initiatives, sustainable financing, innovation, governance, monitoring, and digital data systems.

SPREP is pleased to fund the participation of one delegate from Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Naoero, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu to attend the above meetings. For countries that are not Parties to the Waigani Convention, the funded delegate is expected to arrive in time to participate in the GEF Islands Project meetings and the 5th Cleaner Pacific Roundtable.

We would appreciate if the attached meeting registration form could be completed and returned by Friday, 6 November 2026, to confirm attendance, and enable the Programme Management Unit to commence preparations for your travel. Please be advised that meeting papers and information booklet will be circulated closer to the meeting dates.

Kindly be advised that, for security reasons, accommodation will be arranged and booked directly by the Secretariat. All sponsored travel arrangements will adhere strictly to the SPREP Travel Policy, inclusive of economy return airfare via the most direct and economical route.

Should you require any further clarity or information, please contact Mr Dean Solofa, ISLANDS Pacific Project Manager on deans@sprep.org, Soseala Tinilau on sosealat@sprep.org. All filled nomination forms to be forwarded to Davina Tiitii on davinat@sprep.org

Your attendance at these meetings is greatly valued and we look forward to your engagement and valuable contributions.

Yours sincerely,

Salesa Nihmei
Officer-In-Charge

Att.

SN/SB/rk