



SPREP

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



10th Pacific Islands Conference

NATURE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTED AREAS

Nature Conservation Action for a Resilient Pacific

CIRCULAR

FILE: MTG 1/12 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Point
DATE: 3 July 2020
CIRCULAR: 20/57

SUBJECT: Second SPREP Executive Board Meeting 2-4 September 2020 and Friends of the Chair on Sustainable Financing

Dear Members,

Further to SPREP Circular 20/51, please find attached the latest version of the draft provisional agenda for the Second SPREP Executive Board meeting and the suggested working hours of the meeting. The provisional agenda has been tightened to reflect the virtual format that has been adopted, precipitated by the impacts of COVID-19 that prevents the meeting from convening face to face.

Due to the virtual format the Executive Board will convene over three working days from 2 - 4 September with the proposed working hours of 12pm to 5pm (Samoa time) to allow for time differences within the region.

In connection with the above, Members will recall that the Second SPREP Executive Board consists of:

1. **New Zealand** representative for Metropolitan members
 - Sub-grouping - Australia, France, New Zealand, United Kingdom, and United States of America
2. **French Polynesia** representative for Polynesian members and French-speaking members
 - Sub-grouping – American Samoa, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Wallis and Futuna
3. **Guam and Kiribati** for Micronesian members
 - Sub-grouping – Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau
4. **New Caledonia** representative for Melanesian and French-speaking members
 - Sub-grouping – Fiji, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, plus French Polynesia, Wallis and Fortuna.

Kindly note that American Samoa has confirmed with the Secretariat that they are not available to represent the sub-grouping of Polynesia and hence this has now been passed alphabetically to French Polynesia. The Cook Islands was the representative for Polynesia in 2018 noting the initial deferral of American Samoa.

The DDG has been in contact with the sub-regional representatives to offer facilitation for preparatory meetings of the constituencies. The Secretariat stands by ready to assist in this process through the DDG.

The Executive Board will also include the Troika of:

1. **Solomon Islands** (Incoming 2020 Chair)
2. **Samoa** (2019 Chair)
3. **Papua New Guinea** (2018 Chair)

Kindly note the SPREP Executive Board Meeting is a closed meeting. SPREP Members who wish to attend virtually as an Observer must write formally to the Chair in advance of the meeting, to seek consideration of their attendance. Please also note due to the budgetary impacts of COVID-19 upon the Secretariat, the Meeting shall convene in English only. This is an extraordinary one-off arrangement kindly agreed to by the Executive Board French-speaking representatives of French Polynesia and New Caledonia. The Secretariat remains firmly committed to bilingualism. All working papers will be translated and circulated in advance as per usual.

As the meeting will be held in a virtual format, there will be no drafting committee. The outcomes of the meeting will be circulated to the Executive Board for review and endorsement within one week after the conclusion of the meeting and circulated thereafter to all SPREP Members.

For further information regarding the Executive Board and the provisional agenda, please contact apiseta@sprep.org copy rogerc@sprep.org.

Friends of the Chair on Sustainable Financing

As a follow-up to the 29th SPREP Meeting the Secretariat seeks volunteers for membership of the Friends of the Chair on Sustainable Financing. Virtual meetings will convene to consider the:

1. Budgetary impacts of COVID-19 to the 2020-2021 Work Programme and Budget
2. The follow-up of the 29th SPREP Meeting recommendation for the proposal from the Secretariat on the adoption of a salary movement of up to USD 300,000 in total for all staff, subject to clear identification of specific funding available.
3. Report to the 2020 Executive Board for a decision on SPREP staff salaries.

The Friends of the Chair meetings will convene via Zoom on the following dates and times:

- Thursday 16 July at 2-3.30pm (Samoa date and time)
- Thursday 30 July at 2-3.30pm (Samoa date and time)

Confirmed advice on representatives including contact details is appreciated by Friday 10 July and may be forwarded to the Executive Officer (audreyp@sprep.org). Further information including draft agenda and relevant background documents will be shared with the confirmed representatives.

For any further information and assistance regarding the forthcoming Second SPREP Executive Board Meeting on 2 to 4 September and the Friends of the Chair on Sustainable Financing, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General