

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP_6/4/11 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points

DATE: 12 November 2021

CIRCULAR: 21/141

SUBJECT: **Pacific Region Agreement on Prevention of Pollution by Marine Litter and Microplastics**

Dear Members,

Recalling the Noumea Convention COP16 Meeting where the development of a Regional Framework was agreed and the possibility of implementation by way of a Protocol discussed, the Secretariat is pleased to circulate a zero draft of potential elements, including sample text, for consideration towards the development of the draft Regional Framework. The draft Regional Framework would serve as the starting point for diplomatic negotiations for the Pacific Region, on marine litter and plastic pollution.

We kindly invite you to provide comment on the zero draft in preparation for the first workshop to be held on 7th December 2021. A meeting invitation will be circulated.

To assist with your review, a short explanatory covering letter to the consultation document is provided. A video is also provided that outlines the supporting information and can be accessed from the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1eFITQzOGELAIF3jTbMh-v9XTTUSTyyAM?usp=sharing>

Please note that all stakeholders have the option to engage directly with the University of Wollongong at any time throughout the timeline outlined below.

Timeline for development of a non-negotiated draft regional framework (2021):

Zero draft – consultation format	Circulate Friday 12 November 2-week review period
	Comments returned by 30th November
First Draft	Circulate Friday 3rd December 1 week review period
Workshop 1 (first draft review)	7th December
Second Draft	Circulate Wed 15th December 2-week review period
	Comments returned by 18th January 2022
Workshop 2 (second draft review)	Tues 25th January 2022
Final Draft	Circulate to SPREP 15th February 2022



Please contact Anthony Talouli, Acting Director WMPC Programme anthonyt@sprep.org for further information.

We look forward to engaging with you in the development of this regional initiative.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kosi Latu", is positioned above the printed name.

Kosi Latu
Director General

KL/AT/dt

Att.