

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 3/2/35
DATE: 23 April 2021
CIRCULAR: 21/27

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
CROP

CC: SPREP Partner Organisations
PMC Members – Directors/Heads of
Meteorological Services
Donor Partners (World Bank, GCF)

SUBJECT: **Out-of-Session Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council to consider the Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Investment Programme**

Dear SPREP Focal Points,

It is my pleasure to invite members of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC), namely, the Directors and Heads of National Meteorological Services to attend an Out-of-Session (Virtual) PMC meeting to be held on the 5th of May 2021 at 2pm (Samoa local time) or 5th May 20 at 1am (UTC/GMT).

The purpose of this meeting is to seek approval of the Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Investment Programme.

Background

The Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) is a specialized subsidiary body of the SPREP Meeting of Officials, established at the 14th Regional Meteorological Services Directors (14RMSD) Meeting held in Majuro, Republic of Marshall Islands in 2011 and approved by the SPREP Meeting to facilitate and coordinate the scientific and technical programmes and activities of the regional meteorological services.

PMC members are National Meteorological Services Directors or their equivalent. They provide relevant policy advice to the SPREP Meeting on needs and priorities in relation to meteorology (weather and climate) and related fields in the context of building community resiliency.

At the Fifth meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-5) hosted by the Government of Samoa in August 2019, the members noted the need for long-term strategic investment in capability that supports critical gaps in preparedness and response to severe weather events at short time scales. This is also reiterated in the Pacific Island Meteorological Strategy, the 2015 Nuku'alofa Ministerial Declaration and the 2017 Honiara Ministerial Statement on Sustainable Weather, Climate, Oceans and Water Services for a resilient Pacific.

The PMC unanimously agreed to commission through SPREP in cooperation with members, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and other CROP agency partners to undertake a study to scope a decadal Pacific regional extreme weather, water, and ocean response program initiative.



Progress

In the last few months, the Secretariat (SPREP), Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), WMO, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) and partners collaborated with the support of experts to undertake this task. The long-term strategic Investment Plan is now called the Weather Ready Pacific Decadal Investment Programme.

Recommendation

PMC members are hereby invited to note the dates and time of the virtual meeting and to send your nomination through the national SPREP focal point to the PMC Secretariat, through email to PacMetDesk@sprep.org. For CROP agencies, collaborating organisations, collaborating institutions and technical partners/donor agencies, your nominations are also welcome. All nominations should be received by the 27th of April 2021.

The PMC Secretariat will circulate the details of the Zoom call and Working Papers of the meeting to registered members.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Pacific Meteorological Desk Partnership (PMDP); PacMetDesk@sprep.org or Telephone: +685 21929 should you have any questions.

I thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Chu Shing".

Easter Chu Shing
Acting Director General

EC/TC/rmg