



CIRCULAR

FILE: AP_6/15 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 1 April 2022
CIRCULAR: 22/26

SUBJECT: Invitation to attend the virtual Marine Litter Workshop “Tackling marine litter: From coastal clean-up to decision making”, hosted by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme as part of the SWAP Project

6 April 2022 – Virtual (via Zoom) - 2.00 pm – 4.15 pm Samoa Standard Time

Dear Members,

Plastic pollution particularly marine pollution is the result of harmful chemicals entering the ocean, polluted wastewaters, industrial, agricultural and residential waste, garbage from ships, and the spread of invasive organisms. A major source of marine pollution is related to plastics intentionally thrown from shore or boats, or are unintentionally carried by winds or streams.

A report by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation has revealed that there are now over 150 million tonnes of plastics in the oceans. That's about one tonne of plastics for every three tonnes of fish. If the trend continues, plastics will outweigh fish in the oceans by 2050.

Pacific islands are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of marine litter, due to the particular value and sensitivity of their coastal environments.

To discuss this issue and the tools that can be used in the struggle against this marine litter problem (awareness, clean-ups, audits, etc.), SPREP, through the AFD-Funded SWAP (*Committing to Sustainable Waste Actions in the Pacific*) Project is pleased to invite you to attend a two-hour virtual workshop “Tackling marine litter: From coastal clean-up to decision making” to be held on **Wednesday 6th April 2022 at 2pm Samoa Standard time**.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to join us on this special occasion. Should you require any further information please visit the dedicated webpage: <https://www.sprep.org/sprepswap-marine-litter-workshop>

Or do not hesitate to contact Mrs Julie Pillet at juliep@sprep.org, SWAP Project Coordinator.

Please confirm your participation via the online Registration Form: <https://form.jotform.com/insightpact/marine-litter-workshop>.

Yours sincerely,

Kosi Latu
Director General