

CIRCULAR

FILE: AP_5/4/9 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 19 April 2022
CIRCULAR: 22/32
SUBJECT: UN Ocean Conference 2022 - SPREP Scoping Workshop on 4 May 2022

Dear SPREP Focal Points,

After several COVID-19 related postponements, the 2022 United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) is confirmed to be held in hybrid format from **27 June to 1 July 2022 in Lisbon, Portugal**. The Ocean Conference, to be co-hosted by the Governments of Kenya and Portugal, comes at a critical time as the world is seeking to address many of the deep-rooted problems of our societies exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. These will require major structural transformations and common shared solutions that are anchored in the SDGs while we have the opportunity to build back better. To mobilize action, the Conference will seek to propel much needed science-based innovative solutions aimed at starting a new chapter of global ocean action.

The theme of this year's conference is: ***"Scaling up Ocean Action Based on Science and Innovation for the Implementation of Goal 14: Stocktaking, Partnerships and Solutions"***.

The conference is organised around 8 Sessions of Interactive Dialogues: 1) Marine Pollution; 2) Circular Blue Economy; 3) Marine and Coastal Ecosystems; 4) Ocean Acidification; 5) Sustainable Fisheries; 6) Scientific Knowledge and Capacity Building; 7) United Nations Law of the Sea; 8) SDG interlinkages. The eight interactive dialogues are designed around clusters of targets related to Goal 14. The clusters will also help to galvanize momentum towards the implementation of Goal 14 in the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Decade for Ocean Science. There are also several special events and side events associated with the Conference. The meeting format and structure can be found on this link [Conference Website](#).

To prepare Member States for effective participation and coordinate our approach on the environment dimension the Secretariat is convening two workshops. **The first is a Scoping Workshop on 4 May 2022** to discuss our approach for the conference and identify what Member States will need to engage effectively in the environment dimension of the Conference. We will also discuss potential side events and communication and advocacy needs.

The second will be a Preparatory Workshop to provide and guide Member States through documents and materials that will be developed based on the identified needs from the Scoping Workshop.

You are invited to the UNOC 2022 SPREP Scoping Workshop scheduled for **4 May 2022 at 1:00pm Samoa time**. A draft programme is attached and the link for the meeting as follows, **where participants must register via the link**:

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: May 4, 2022 1:00 PM Samoa

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://sprep.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkdO-hqzsjG9ZlGYFT1-fogqjinINIsVZ>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

After the SPREP Scoping Workshop on 4 May 2022, the **Preparatory Workshop is tentatively scheduled for the 2nd week of June** but if the opportunity arises to combine efforts with our CROP Partners, we may defer to a joint workshop.

To confirm attendance or for more information please contact Peter Davies, Marine and Coastal Ecosystem Adviser peterd@sprep.org

I look forward to engaging with you through this preparatory process.

Yours sincerely,



Sefanaia Nawadra
Director General

SN/PD/rmg

Att.