



CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 2/39
DATE: 23 June 2022
CIRCULAR: 22/53

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
CITES Management Authorities
CITES Scientific Authorities
SPC, FFA, USP

SUBJECT: **Invitation to attend a virtual *Marine Turtle Workshop for Pacific CITES Parties - 12 and 13 July 2022***

Dear Members,

We are pleased to invite Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to a two-day virtual workshop on Marine Turtles on 12 and 13 July 2022.

Since the Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) in 2019 there have been a number of developments in relation to Marine Turtles under the Convention. As part of SPREP's support to Members ahead of the COP 19 to be held in Panama in November 2022, will be partnering with the non-government organisation TRAFFIC in delivering the workshop to provide updates and an opportunity to discuss:

- CITES and related agreements and developments since 2019
- Regional Marine Species Programme and Action Plan for Marine Turtles: 2022-2026
- Findings of the Pacific Marine Turtle Extinction Risk Assessment
- CITES processes going forward
- National level Implementation of CITES
- The regional priorities going forward for inclusion in any CITES Decisions or Resolution.

This workshop is part of a wider programme of work to support CITES Parties and other Pacific countries achieve regional and national marine species conservation priorities and is funded through the By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) Initiative, Key Result Area 5 of the Pacific European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP) programme.

The draft agenda is attached in Annex 1. Prior to the workshop the following materials will be distributed to participants:

1. National CITES implementation tables;
2. Pacific Party Presentations, blank three-slide template; and
3. Background documents and links for relevant information.

The Secretariat is pleased to invite nominations of officials to attend this virtual workshop which will be run via Zoom. Numbers are not limited and we welcome participation from CITES focal points in both the Management and Scientific Authorities and relevant government departmental staff. Officials should complete the nomination form in Annex 2 by Friday 1st July to confirm their interest in this event.

For additional information or enquiries, please contact Karen Baird karenb@sprep.org.

Yours sincerely,



Easter Chu Shing
Acting Director General

Att.

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