



CIRCULAR

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DATE: 16 April 2026
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TO: SPREP National Focal Points for CBD: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu

SUBJECT: Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), 21- 25 September 2026, Pacific Harbour, Fiji

Dear Members,

In preparation for the 17th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP17), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) will be convening a preparatory meeting for the Pacific Islands region from 21 – 25 September, 2026 in **Pacific Harbour, Fiji**.

The CBD COP17 is a major opportunity for ensuring that the unique situation of Small Island Developing States are considered effectively in the design of biodiversity protections and monitoring as well as resourcing of biodiversity-related actions over the next decade.

The main objectives of the Preparatory meeting are to provide a forum for the Pacific Parties to:

- coordinate a collaborative approach on key regional priority issues and prepare regional positions, as appropriate.
- strengthen engagement at the COP meeting with the One-CROP approach and facilitation of technical backstopping by regional partners.
- facilitate capacity building with skills for negotiation and enhancing confidence.
- enhance political support.

The Secretariat would like to invite **a total of two (2) nominated country participants from the environment sector**. This would include **one (1) nominated country participant** who is to be a lead negotiator and on the National delegation to the CBD COP17 or concurrent meetings of the COP-MOP in Armenia.

To support preparation for the Pacific Pre-COP CBD, two (2) virtual meetings will be convened in advance. Further details, including dates and modalities, will be shared upon receipt of nominations.

An economy class airfare for the most direct and economical route and daily subsistence allowance will be provided for the nominated representatives.

You may also want to consider broader involvement by legal officers or youth (young professionals) in your country delegations for COP17 and their involvement in the Pacific Pre-COP. You could consider supporting additional delegates participation in the Pre-COP and COP17 through using your Early Action Support grant funding from UNDP or UNEP.

Please submit nominations by completing the attached nomination form (Annex 1) and conveying to the contacts below. To facilitate travel arrangements, we request a scanned copy of your passport biodata page. Please send through your nominations by 5 June 2026 at the latest.

The tentative agenda for the meeting is attached, and the final agenda will be shared in due course.

For further information, please contact Monifa Fiu, Biodiversity Adviser monifaf@sprep.org and Lina Dorovolomo, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Officer linad@sprep.org.

Yours sincerely,



Easter Chu Shing
Acting Director General

Att.

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