



Sustainable, transformative and resilient for a Blue Pacific

## CIRCULAR

**FILE:** AP 6/5/7, CONV 1/5/1,  
CONV 2/18, AP 6/5/9

**TO:** SPREP Focal Points  
Minamata Convention Focal Points  
Waigani Convention Focal Points  
INC Focal Points  
GEF ISLANDS Focal Points

**DATE:** 11 July 2023

**CIRCULAR:** 23/57

**SUBJECT:**

1. Pacific Preparatory meeting for the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention (MC COP-5) on Mercury;
2. Extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Waigani Convention;
3. GEF ISLANDS Pacific Project Steering Committee (PSC) and
4. The Pacific Preparatory meeting for the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC-3) meetings

Dear Focal Points,

I am pleased to inform you that the Secretariat and the Government of Palau will be hosting the following meetings at the West Plaza Hotel at Lebuu Street, Koror in Palau from 12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The schedule of the back-to-back meetings is as follows:

1. 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023: The Pacific sub-regional preparatory meeting relating to the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the COP to the Minamata Convention on Mercury for the Pacific Parties to the Minamata Convention to prepare for the COP-5 in Geneva from 30 October to 3 November 2023.
2. 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023: The Extraordinary Meeting of the COP to the Waigani Convention to deliberate on the proposal to amend the Waigani Convention to facilitate the adoption of the Basel Convention Plastic Waste Amendments of 2019.
3. 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023: The 2<sup>nd</sup> ISLANDS Pacific Project Steering Committee (PSC-2) discuss the current progress of the ISLANDS project, share highlights of 2022/2023 activities, and facilitate interactive discussions on national and regional projects.
4. 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023: The Pacific preparatory meeting for the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of the intergovernmental negotiating committee (INC-3) on plastic pollution to further discuss the Pacific SIDS (PSIDS) positions and strategies for the INC-3.

We look forward to your attendance to the series of meeting outlined above. Kindly note that the Secretariat will provide more information including the Agenda, nomination and registration forms in the coming month.

For more information, please contact Mr Anthony Talouli, Director Waste Management and Pollution Control Programme at [anthonyt@sprep.org](mailto:anthonyt@sprep.org) and copy Mr Joshua Sam, Hazardous Waste Management



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Adviser at [joshuas@sprep.org](mailto:joshuas@sprep.org) and Ms. Renee Kamu ISLANDS Pacific Child Project, Finance & Administration Officer at [reneek@sprep.org](mailto:reneek@sprep.org).

Yours sincerely,

Easter Chu Shing  
**Acting Director General**