



CIRCULAR

FILE: AP 4/5/5 **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 21 May 2020
CIRCULAR: 20/43

SUBJECT: Review of the Draft Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) Guidelines

Dear SPREP Focal Points,

Pursuant to the Twenty Ninth SPREP Meeting endorsement of the proposed process for finalizing the draft Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Guidelines, I am pleased to inform you of progress to date and to seek your views as follows:

- 1) In November 2019, the Secretariat with funding assistance from the Swedish Fund through the UN Environment, a regional consultation workshop was conducted in Auckland, New Zealand for Members to provide input and feedback on the draft SEA Guidelines. The consultation was attended by representatives of thirteen SPREP Members;
- 2) Following the completion of the consultation workshop, the Secretariat has revised and updated the draft SEA Guidelines taking into account input and feedback from the consultation workshop;
- 3) The revised draft SEA Guidelines incorporating input from the consultation is attached for your perusal and further comments and input.

Please submit your input and feedback to the Secretariat via email to sprep@sprep.org copy joped@sprep.org and gregoryb@sprep.org no later than the 29th May 2020. Following this, the Secretariat will finalize the SEA Guidelines for endorsement by the Executive Board as mandated by the Twenty Ninth SPREP Meeting decision. Additionally, we also kindly request your assistance in facilitating input and feedback from relevant stakeholders in your respective countries particularly the Ministry of Planning and Finance as well as regulatory agencies responsible for managing the EIA and development consent process. The SEA Guidelines is an important strategic planning tool to support and guide strategic planning and decision making for environmental sustainability and ultimately contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals. Thus, your feedback and input will be greatly appreciated.

Kindly note that due to the covid-19 situation, all other associated activities such as capacity building and training on SEA are currently put on hold until further notice.

Should you require further information and or clarification, please contact Mr. Jope Davetanivalu joped@sprep.org and Dr. Gregory Barbara gregoryb@sprep.org

I thank you for your continued assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Director General