

# CIRCULAR

**FILE:** AP\_2/39

**TO:**

**SPREP National Focal Points:**  
Cook Islands, Federated States of  
Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau,  
Papua New Guinea, Republic of  
Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon  
Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu

**DATE:** 20 September 2024

**CIRCULAR:** 24/69

**SUBJECT:** **Invitation to nominate Two Representatives for the Pacific Marine Turtle Forum**

Dear Members,

SPREP, through the By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) Initiative, (KRA 5 of the Pacific European Union Marine Partnership [PEUMP] Programme) and the Pacific BioScapes Programme (PBS) are assessing the extinction risk of turtles in the Pacific and assisting Pacific Island countries and territories to address priority threats to turtle populations.

The BIEM Initiative and PBS are collaborating to host a Pacific Marine Turtle Forum to provide an opportunity to share the findings of the regional turtle extinction risk assessment, turtle use surveys, and ShellBank project progress (a complimentary project with WWF-Pacific). Eleven Pacific countries are invited to attend, i.e. Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Samoa, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands and Kiribati.


SPREP seeks nominations from the 11 member countries (mentioned above) of Ministry Officers (two per country) to participate in the workshop. The Officers will collectively discuss the implications of this work and be supported to identify regional and national level actions and required preliminary steps to address the key threats identified. Please ensure that one of the officers is the National Turtle Coordinator, if one has been designated already.

Travel to attend the workshop, accommodation, and meals, will be covered by SPREP. The 2-day workshop is planned for the 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025.

For further information, please contact:

- Mr Kenneth Kassem, BIEM Initiative Manager [kennethk@sprep.org](mailto:kennethk@sprep.org) and
- Mr Etienne Delattre, PBS Programme Manager [etienned@sprep.org](mailto:etienned@sprep.org)

Yours sincerely,



Simeamativa L. Vaai  
**Officer-In-Charge**

SLV/ED/KK/ma