

CIRCULAR

FILE: HR 17 – Circulars **TO:** SPREP National Focal Points
DATE: 28 November 2024 **CROP Organisations**
CIRCULAR: 24/85 **SPREP Partner Organisations**

SUBJECT: Introducing the following:

SPREP is pleased to announce the following appointments within the Secretariat, based at Headquarters in Apia:

CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE (CCR) PROGRAMME



Mr. Timoci Nakalevu has been appointed to the position of **Climate Change Adaptation Officer**. Timoci is a national of Fiji and is a graduate of the University of the South Pacific (USP) with a Postgraduate Diploma in Geography and Climate Change, as well as Bachelor of Arts degrees in Geography and Population Development and Economics and Management. He will join SPREP from the Pacific Community (SPC), where he has been working for the last five years in various roles initially as a Project Officer for the Ridge to Reef Programme and currently as Project Manager for the Land Resources Division, Pacific Organic Learning Farms Network project. Timoci will start in his new role in **February 2025**.

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND GOVERNANCE (EMG) PROGRAMME



Ms. Lagi Reupena is the new **Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Officer**. Lagi is a national of Samoa and she is no stranger to SPREP having joined in November 2018 initially as a temp under the Inform Project, EMG before her permanent appointment as the Environmental Data Officer in August 2019. Lagi is a graduate of Beijing International Studies University, China with a Master in Management. She started in her new role on **Monday, 21 October 2024**.

ISLAND AND OCEAN ECOSYSTEMS (IOE) PROGRAMME



Ms. Nolani Hazelman is the new **Pacific Youth Wetlands Coordinator under the Young Professionals Programme**. Nolani is a Samoan national and is a graduate of the USP with a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Management. She has been taking up short term internships with Conservation International as the Communication Intern and Ma-naaki Project in 2023 and Event Coordinator for the Pacific Youth in early 2024. Nolani started in her new role on **Monday, 18 November 2024**.



Dr. Martin Hitziger has been appointed to the position of **CMS-CITES Pacific Officer**. Martin is a German national and holds a Doctor of Science from ETH Zurich, Switzerland as well as two Masters in Science from Bayreuth University, Germany and LSE London, United Kingdom. He will join SPREP from CITES Secretariat where he has been working as an Associate Scientific Support Officer for the past six years. Martin will start in his new role in **February 2025**.

LEGAL UNIT



Ms. Kathleen Taituave-Afereti, is the new **Environmental Legal and Policy Officer**. Kathleen is a Samoan national and holds a Master of Laws in Environmental Law (with Merit) from the University of Auckland, New Zealand (NZ). She also holds a Bachelor of Laws and a Professional Diploma in Legislative Drafting from USP, Vanuatu. Kathleen joined SPREP from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Samoa, where she has been working since 2016 in various positions and recently as the Assistant Chief Executive Officer for the Legal Services Division.

She started in her new role on **Monday, 11 November 2024**.

GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

STRATEGIC PLANNING, PARTNERSHIPS AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION DEPARTMENT



Ms. Kim Robertson is the new **Gender Adviser**. Kim is a national of NZ who is based in Vanuatu. She is a graduate of the University of Otago, NZ with a Bachelor (Honors, First Class) in Geography. She brings to SPREP years of experience having supported gender equality programmes in the Pacific region in gender mainstreaming and accountability as well as gender data and statistics in countries and territories as well as with regional and international organisations including the Pacific Community (SPC). She has worked extensively in Vanuatu and as well as many other countries and territories in the region. Kim started remotely in her new role on **Monday, 4 November 2024** and will relocate to Samoa at the end of November 2024.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT



Mr. Lui Sea is the new **Cleaner/Teaperson**. Lui is a Samoan national and had held similar roles at the Samoa Airport Authority and Electric Power Corporation over the past few years before joining SPREP. He started in his role on **Tuesday, 15 October 2024**.

The following Samoan nationals have been appointed as **Finance Officers**:



Ms. Astrid Koon Wai You joined SPREP from Penn & Co Chartered Accountants where she worked as a Graduate/Assistant Accountant since 2021. She is a graduate of the National University of Samoa (NUS) with a Bachelor of Commerce. Astrid started in her new role on **Monday, 11 November 2024**.



Ms. Lupeuluiva Overhoff joined SPREP from Vodafone Samoa, where she worked as an Accounting Technician for the past two years. She is a graduate of NUS with a Bachelor of Commerce. Lupe started in her new role on **Monday, 11 November 2024**.



Mr. Samuelu Esera joined SPREP from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade where he had been working as an Account and Administration Officer for the past eight months and was previously with the Samoa National Provident Fund for over five years as a Senior Finance Clerk. He is a graduate of NUS with a Bachelor of Commerce. Samuelu started in his new role on **Monday, 25 November 2024**.

INFORMATION SERVICES



Mr. Adrian Roma is the new **Information Technology Support Officer**. Adrian, a Samoan national, is a graduate of Victoria University, Wellington and holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. He joined SPREP from Encode Software Solutions, Samoa where he had been working for the last two years as a Junior Web Developer. Adrian started in his new role on **Monday, 18 November 2024**.

To meet our full team at SPREP please visit <https://www.sprep.org/our-team>

We look forward to these positions increasing and strengthening relevant support and services to our Members and the region.

We would also like to acknowledge the services and contributions of the following staff to SPREP and the region:

1. Mr. Rohit Prasad – Bycatch and Integrated Ecosystem Management, Finance and Administration Officer, December 2024.

On behalf of the Secretariat Executive, Senior Leadership Team and Staff, I wish all SPREP Members a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'ECS'.

Easter Chu Shing
Acting Director General