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SPREP Circular

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To: SPREP National Focal Points

Subject: SPREP Support for the Participation of Pacific Country Parties in UNCCD CRIC9, 21-25 February, 2011, UNCCD Headquarters, Bonn, Germany.

Dear Colleagues,

By now you may have received formal invitations from the UNCCD Secretariat regarding your country's delegation to the upcoming review of the implementation of the convention, the 9th Meeting of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, the CRIC9 as above stated.

For your ease of reference, we have attached the meeting's agenda, while the key documents can be downloaded from this link: <http://www.unccd.int/cop/officialdocs/cric9/doclist.php>. You will note that the major part of this meeting is to examine in detail, the findings from the synthesis of national reports that were prepared through the new UNCCD monitoring and assessment system, PRAIS or Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System, as well as key issues related to improving the development and implementation of this new monitoring system.

We are happy to inform you that as the Pacific Reference Centre for PRAIS development, SPREP has appointed two of its staff to attend this meeting to assist Pacific delegations with the agenda in terms of exploring together a collective understanding of the findings from PRAIS reporting last year and formulating collective regional positions on the implications of these results on the interests and priorities of our region. The two staff, Mr. Bruce Jefferies, the new SPREP Terrestrial Ecosystem Management Officer (TEMO) and Mr. Tapa Suaesi, the Environmental Officer (EO) could be reached at the following contacts: Bruce Jefferies - brucej@sprep.org and Tapa Suaesi - tepas@sprep.org

Please convey to us and copying our two participating officers, the names of your confirmed delegations to the meeting. Our two officers will be making arrangements with them to ensure they are able to hold consultations and prepare effective regional interventions throughout the meeting on the various agenda items.

We hope you will all have a fruitful and valuable meeting that will benefit your countries' relevant programs and projects for addressing land degradation, droughts and related key social issues, which this convention seeks to implement.

Yours sincerely

David Sheppard
Director

DS/BJ/ma