

SPREP-Tok

A monthly e-bulletin from the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

ISSUE 58 • SEPTEMBER 2019

MESSAGE FROM MR. KOSI LATU, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SPREP

Ni sa bula fom the SPREP campus,

September was a whirlwind of a month for the Secretariat, with the convening of key meetings in Apia, namely the Waigani and Noumea COPs, the Pacific Environment Forum, the 29th SPREP Meeting of Officials and the SPREP Ministerial - the High Level Talanoa Dialogue.

The 29th SPREP Meeting was held over three days at the beginning of September, bringing together representatives from SPREP's 21 Pacific island Members and five Metropolitan Members to discuss key issues pertaining to the Secretariat, which was followed by the Environment Ministers and High-Level representatives Talanoa.

We also celebrated the opening of the highly-anticipated Pacific Climate Change Centre, a Centre of Excellence and shared resource for Pacific island countries in September. I would like to once again thank the Governments of Japan, Samoa and New Zealand for their generous contributions to this important regional Centre.

Some of the highlights from these important events are included in this issue of the SPREP-Tok. Happy reading!

Soifua,



Mr. Kosi Latu, Director General of SPREP.

SPREP-Tok LATEST NEWS



THE PACIFIC CLIMATE CHANGE CENTRE IS OFFICIALLY OPEN!

The long-awaited Centre of Excellence, more formally known as the Pacific Climate Change Centre, was officially opened in Apia on the final day of the 29th SPREP Meeting of Officials. The centre is a shared resource for Pacific island countries and territories and was funded by the Government of Japan through grant aid to the Government of Samoa, with additional funding support provided by the Government of New Zealand to assist in the resourcing of the PCCC.

[READ MORE ...](#)



SPREP-Tok

ISSN: 2311-861X

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
(685) 21929 | PO Box 240 | Apia, Samoa | sprep@sprep.org | www.sprep.org

Our vision: A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

 Click to follow us on [FACEBOOK](#) and [TWITTER](#).

SPREP RECEIVES USD 200,000 BOOST FROM PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA



The Government of the People's Republic of China and SPREP continue its strong partnership into another year, with the official handover of the 2019 financial assistance from the Chinese Government to the Secretariat, valued at USD 200,000.

[READ MORE ...](#)

TWENTY-NINTH SPREP MEETING OPENS IN APIA



A resilient Blue Pacific. This was the guiding theme of the 29th SPREP Meeting of Officials which brought together the 21 Pacific island Members and five metropolitan Members of SPREP to discuss key issues for the region, the governance of the organisation, and to approve the 2020-2021 workplan.

[READ MORE ...](#)

OCEANIA PACIFIC AT 18TH UN WORLD WILDLIFE CONFERENCE



The 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora convened in Geneva, Switzerland following the cancellation of the meeting in May in Sri Lanka.

[READ MORE ...](#)

AGREEMENT TO INITIATE NEW RESEARCH ON KEY ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS FOR PACIFIC ISLANDS



SPREP has renewed its five-year partnership agreement with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), providing a framework for continued cooperation to improve collaboration and encourage technical exchange in a variety of areas.

[READ MORE ...](#)

ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS' HIGH-LEVEL TALANOA CONCLUDES IN APIA



Environment Ministers from around the Pacific Region met in September in Apia, Samoa at the conclusion of the 20th SPREP Meeting of Officials, to identify key priorities in relation to some of the most pressing environmental issues faced by the region.

[READ MORE ...](#)

CELEBRATING OUR YOUNG PACIFIC ISLAND ENVIRONMENT CHAMPIONS



The opportunity to commemorate a young Pacific island environment champion has presented itself with a new youth category introduced in the second Pacific Islands Environment Leadership Awards now open for nomination.

[READ MORE ...](#)

RAISING AWARENESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF DATA FOR DECISION MAKING



A new resource for short, quick pops of information has been developed by the Inform project to help those working in the Pacific enhance their speeches, media interviews, soundbites, presentations and general message-sharing on Pacific islands environmental data.

[READ MORE ...](#)

EXCEPTIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP ACKNOWLEDGED AT MINISTERIAL TALANOA.



Environmental awards honouring the exceptional roles of key people and their governments were presented at the closing of SPREP's Environment Ministers and High-Level representatives Talanoa in Apia.

[READ MORE ...](#)

SAMOA WASTE OIL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME LAUNCHED



A unique pioneering initiative for the proper management of hazardous waste in Samoa was launched at the conclusion ceremony of the 15th Noumea Convention and the 10th Informal Waigani Convention COPs.

[READ MORE ...](#)

PACIFIC OCEAN LITTER PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN PACIFIC ACTION AGAINST PLASTIC POLLUTION



Participants at the Pacific Environment Forum themed "Circling away from non-essential single-use plastics", were provided an overview of the Australian-funded POLP, which aims to strengthen Pacific action against single-use plastics.

[READ MORE ...](#)

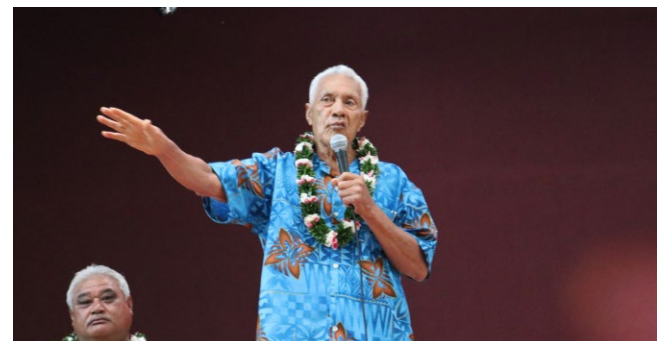
FROM UN CLIMATE SUMMIT IN NEW YORK TO PACIFIC RISK MANAGEMENT `OHANA MEETING IN AMERICAN SAMOA



The voice of 16-year-old Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg made ripples in American Samoa at the opening of the Pacific Risk Management `Ohana (PRiMO) meeting in September - `Ohana being the Hawaiian word for family.

[READ MORE ...](#)

REMEMBERING THE AMERICAN SAMOA TSUNAMI TEN YEARS ON



Village mayors from five villages in American Samoa that were affected by the earthquake and tsunami in 2009 share their stories at the Pacific Risk Management `Ohana meeting.

[READ MORE ...](#)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 29TH SPREP MEETING



SAMOA APPOINTED NEW CHAIR OF 29TH SPREP MEETING



ACCELERATING ACTIONS TO ADDRESS OCEAN ACIDIFICATION IN THE PACIFIC



WALLIS AND FUTUNA'S INNOVATIVE ECOLOGICAL TAXATION



SPREP ACHIEVEMENTS HIGHLIGHTED IN 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



GUIDELINES FOR DISASTER WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE PACIFIC TO BE LAUNCHED IN 2020



SAMOA LEAVES A LEGACY FOR THE GREENING OF FUTURE PACIFIC GAMES



8TH PACIFIC ENVIRONMENT FORUM FOCUSES ON TACKLING PLASTIC



NEW ZEALAND DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION BOOSTS REGIONAL RESPONSE TO INVASIVE SPECIES



A PARTNERSHIP FORMED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS WILL BENEFIT THE PACIFIC REGION



SPREP-Tok

ISSN: 2311-861X

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

(685) 21929 | PO Box 240 | Apia, Samoa | sprep@sprep.org | www.sprep.org

Our vision: A resilient Pacific environment sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

Click to follow us on FACEBOOK and TWITTER.