

1 June 2017

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Consultations on Development of a Law and Climate Change Toolkit,
Thursday 22nd June 2017**

The Ministry of Climate Change and Adaptation, the Commonwealth Secretariat and UN Environment have the pleasure to invite you to participate in a Multi-Stakeholder Consultation on the Development of a Law and Climate Change Toolkit, to be held on Thursday 22nd March 2017, from 9.30 am until 4.30 pm.

Implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change, as well as continued implementation of the UNFCCC, frequently requires the revision of current or development of new policies and legislation at national level. In particular, countries may use domestic law to create overarching obligations to take climate mitigation or adaptation action, as well as to enact a range of measures in other national legislation. Examples of such 'legal intersections' with issues of climate change include laws on emissions, energy markets, land use, water and forestry management, transport, migration, subsidy and taxation, as well as legal frameworks related to climate finance.

The Commonwealth Secretariat, in close cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC) and UN Environment, is presently undertaking work to develop a toolkit that can support countries in reflecting climate change issues across a range of national laws. The language of a 'toolkit' does not imply that there is a single instrumental solution to the development of climate change legal frameworks, but rather aims to provide a resource that can be tailored to local needs.

The Consultation is planned with a view to introducing work on the toolkit, and seeking a wide range of views from key stakeholders as to how such a toolkit could support law reform in support of climate change mitigation and adaptation.

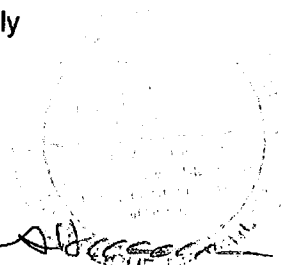
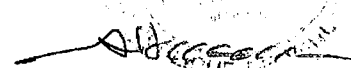
The Consultation is one of a number of such meetings, which the Secretariat is undertaking with small and developing Commonwealth countries. Your views and experience on climate change priorities, issues and laws will feed directly into the development of the toolkit, enabling it to provide the most effective support possible to both Vanuatu and other Commonwealth countries.

The Consultation will take place at VMGD Conference Room. Lunch and tea breaks will be provided. The agenda is attached for reference.

I look forward to welcoming you to the Consultations and to our productive discussions.

Yours sincerely


Katalaina Sapolu
Director, Rule of Law Division
Commonwealth Secretariat



Jesse Benjamin
Director General
Ministry of Climate Change

Consultation on Development of a Law and Climate Change Toolkit

Draft Agenda

Thursday 22nd June 2017

VMGD Conference Room, Port Vila, Vanuatu

Multi-stakeholder Workshop	
09:30 – 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Commonwealth Secretariat presentation on approaches to climate change and national law (based on paper presented to Law Ministers of Small Commonwealth Jurisdictions)
10:30 – 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanuatu presentation on First NDC and National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2016-2030 by Ministry of Climate Change • Vanuatu presentation on national laws relevant to the NDC and Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy by Ministry of Climate Change
12:00 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commonwealth Secretariat presentation on proposals for a law and climate change toolkit
13:00 – 14:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on the aims and scope of a law and climate change toolkit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What would be needed by Vanuatu? ○ How could a toolkit most help Vanuatu? ○ Who would the users of a toolkit be? ○ How should the toolkit be linked with the Paris Agreement process? ○ Which areas of law should be included? • Discussion on options for collaboration between Vanuatu and the Commonwealth Secretariat in development of the toolkit