



MINISTER OF FINANCE
GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS

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Kia Orana

Re: Invite to Inception Meeting to plan for Cook Islands National Implement Entity (NIE) status

I am pleased to invite you to attend our NIE Inception meeting being held on Thursday 16 January 2014 at the Red Cross Building. The purpose of this meeting is to:

- introduce the project to all key stakeholders and align roles and responsibilities; and
- to explain the role of climate finance readiness for accessing international climate funds such as the Adaptation Fund.

This workshop marks a key milestone in our voyage towards achieving direct access to climate change funding. The Cook Islands Joint National Action Plan and our recent Climate and Disaster Compatible Development Policy clearly articulate our priorities and plans in our efforts to adapt to climate change and direct access is important to efficiently fund and deliver these plans.

The Frankfurt School of Business and Management have been contracted by MFEM to resource this process. They are experienced in this specialist field and assisted SPREP to obtain certification as a Regional Implementing Entity (RIE). However, achieving NIE is a team effort and we need your involvement in the workshop to take this forward successfully.

Please RSVP to vanessa.jenner@cookislands.gov.ck prior to Wednesday 8 January 2014. Pre-reading will be sent to you in the New Year.

I would like to acknowledge the European Union and Secretariat of the Pacific Community for supporting the Cook Islands on this journey towards greater financial independence.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Brown', followed by a period.

Honourable Mark Brown
Finance Minister

Attached: Draft Agenda