



SPC
Secretariat
of the Pacific
Community

SECOND REGIONAL MEETING OF PACIFIC MINISTERS OF ENERGY AND TRANSPORT (Aviation and Maritime)

NADI, FIJI, 2–4 APRIL 2014

Sustainable energy and transport services for all Pacific Island countries and territories

DENARAU COMMUNIQUÉ

1. The Second Regional Meeting of Pacific Ministers of Energy and Transport was hosted by the Government of Fiji at the Sofitel Hotel in Denarau, Nadi and was officially opened by the Minister for Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment, and acting Minister for Minister for Works, Transport and Public Utilities, Honourable Jone Usamate and closed by the Minister for Works, Transport and Public Utilities, Honourable Timoci Natuva. The meeting was chaired by Fiji and was attended by Deputy Prime Ministers from Tonga and Tuvalu, Ministers from Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau and Vanuatu and Heads of Delegations and senior officials from American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, New Caledonia, New Zealand, United States of America and Wallis and Futuna.
2. The meeting was also attended by the United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, H.E. Mr Gyan Chandra Acharya; the Representative of the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative and Chief Executive for the SE4ALL (Sustainable Energy for All) initiative, Ms Susan McDade, and representatives from many international and regional partner organisations, universities, civil society and private sector organisations, and countries.

The Ministers:

3. Expressed their deep gratitude to the Government and people of Fiji and their co-host, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), for the excellent arrangements made in hosting the Second Meeting of Pacific Ministers of Energy and Transport and the preceding meetings of Energy Officials and Transport Officials, and for the generous hospitality extended to them during their stay in Fiji. They further expressed their appreciation to the Honourable Jone Usamate, Minister for Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment, for his superb leadership in chairing the meeting.
4. Applauded the attendance of Mr Gyan Chandra Acharya, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, welcomed his presentation on the post-2015 development agenda and emphasised the importance of the Pacific having such high-level advocates at the UN. The meeting also acknowledged the importance of Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) accelerating the regional process of framing its priorities for the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. Acknowledged that 2014 marks the first year of the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) as well as the International Year of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), bringing the efforts to address issues relating to SE4ALL and SIDS even closer together, and re-affirmed the region's commitment to the vision of SE4ALL and to the achievement of its goals.
6. Acknowledged the importance of the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, and the opportunity for the Pacific to contribute and shape the new development paradigm.

7. Recognised the unique opportunities presented by the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Samoa, in September this year, for the region to highlight its specific challenges and opportunities; welcomed the inclusion of 'sustainable energy for all' in the Pacific priorities to be submitted to the SIDS conference, and called for the inclusion of 'transport for sustainable development'.
8. Recognised the importance of effective partnerships between countries, within countries, and with and amongst development partners and stakeholders in energy and transport to the region's efforts to achieve sustainable development at national and regional levels, and encouraged new ways of thinking and working that could lead to an energy, transport and data revolution in the region.
9. Acknowledged the critical role of the private sector in achieving sustainable energy and transport solutions and encouraged more cooperation and collaboration with relevant private sector industries and enterprises to further enhance the contributions of energy and transport in sustainable development.

Agreed, in relation to energy, that the following would be high priorities for implementation in the next three years:

10. *Further consolidate the Pacific Regional Data Repository (PRDR)* – Welcomed the PRDR initiative and commended the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) for leading the initial work in this important area. Ministers further welcomed the decision for SPC to host PRDR for 12 months on an interim basis, noting that a review of this arrangement will be conducted after 12 months. Ministers look forward to receiving the outcome of the review (to be circulated to them out of session for decision) and its recommendations on the long-term hosting arrangements for PRDR. They agreed that the current steering committee will provide oversight support to SPC during the 12-month interim hosting period.
11. *Enhance private sector participation in energy* – Acknowledged the important role of and immense contribution by the private sector in the energy sector and encouraged more private sector involvement and investment in sustainable energy.
12. *Strengthen mechanisms that promote private sector involvement and interactions* – Supported mechanisms such as the Asian Development Bank–Pacific Power Association energy investor forum, and the proposed Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency to support private sector investments on renewable energy and energy efficiency. Ministers noted the intention to undertake a competitive bidding process to determine the host of the centre and the importance of ensuring regional support to the region's centres of excellence.
13. *Strengthen efforts to maximise energy efficiency and conservation* – Supported measures that increase efficiency and minimise losses in the supply side, and increase efficiency on the demand side.
14. *Expand renewable energy investment* – Encouraged development partners to work with governments, the private sector and communities to expand coverage of renewable energy.
15. *Petroleum products and alternatives to fossil fuels* – Agreed on the importance of continuing petroleum pricing advisory services, encouraging a shift toward higher quality fuel, and increasing efforts to secure better bulk pricing and explore alternatives to petroleum products.
16. *Review, analysis and modelling of 'tariffs'* – Supported review/analysis/modelling of electricity tariffs in each PICT to establish whether there could be better tariff structures that might be more appropriate for Pacific Island countries and considered associated tariff policies and regulations.

Agreed, in relation to transport, that the following would be high priorities for implementation in the next three years:

17. *Transport knowledge management and data sharing agreement on aviation/maritime transport information* – Reaffirmed the importance of access to timely, accurate and reliable data to provide the basis for informed decision-making and policy formulation. Ministers endorsed the concept of a regional transport data repository in the maritime and aviation sectors and agreed to share ‘**non-sensitive**’ data with SPC under a data-sharing agreement. They welcomed SPC’s intention to remodel its data repository as the starting point for the regional repository. Members are to decide what information they can or wish to share.
18. *Seafarer training, certification and watchkeeping to comply with the 2010 Manila Amendments to the 1978 STCW Convention and Code* – The 2010 Manila Amendments came into force on 1 January 2012 and all training is required to comply with the amendments as of 1 July 2013. Certificates issued under the 1995 Amendments need to comply with the 2010 Amendments by 1 January 2017. Ministers requested that SPC provide assistance to maritime administrations, maritime training institutions and other key stakeholders to enable compliance with the 2010 Manila Amendments.
19. *Pacific Islands domestic ship safety* – Noting the importance of safety in all shipping (international and domestic) in the region, affirmed the importance of domestic ship safety. Ministers agreed that maritime administrations need to implement safety management systems to improve safety of domestic shipping, and agreed on the need to review and update maritime legislation to comply with evolving maritime safety instruments.
20. *Hydrographic services* – Acknowledged the critical importance of hydrographic services to enable maritime surveys that lead to production of maritime charts to aid shipping and enable development such as determining locations for new ports for tourism or other economic development and new shipping routes. Ministers supported PICTs becoming members of the International Hydrographic Organization and the South-West Pacific Hydrographic Commission. They agreed to the formation of a dedicated hydrographic unit at SPC to develop and further enhance regional hydrographic services to members.
21. *Enhance private sector participation in transport* – Acknowledged the important role of and immense contribution by the private sector in the transport sector and encouraged more private sector involvement and investment in transport services.
22. *Energy efficiency and sustainable transport* – Acknowledged the need to investigate alternative sources of energy to support the shipping industry.

MEETING OUTCOMES AND RESOLUTIONS

23. Considered and adopted outcomes of the energy officials and transport officials meetings as resolutions of the ministerial meeting. The resolutions are attached to this Communiqué as Annex A (Energy Resolutions) and Annex B (Transport Resolutions).
24. The full text of the Ministerial Outcomes Document is appended to this Communiqué as Appendix 1.