

**OUTCOMES OF THE
SECOND MEETING OF
PACIFIC MINISTERS OF ENERGY AND TRANSPORT

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY**

**NADI, FIJI
2-4 APRIL 2014**

SECOND MEETING OF PACIFIC MINISTERS OF ENERGY AND TRANSPORT

(Nadi, Fiji, 2–4 April 2014)

1. The Second Meeting of Pacific Ministers of Energy and Transport was officially opened by the Minister for Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment and Acting Minister for Works, Transport and Public Utilities for Fiji, Honourable Jone Usamate. The meeting was chaired by Fiji and was attended by ministers and heads of delegations from the following members of the Pacific Community – American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna. The meeting was hosted by the Government of Fiji at the Sofitel Hotel in Denarau, Nadi. It was closed by Honourable Timoci Natuva, Minister for Works, Transport and Public Utilities.
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 international and regional partner organisations, the private sector, civil society and universities, including Arizona State University, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Clay Engineering, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Union, GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), the Pacific Maritime Transport Alliance, the Pacific Power Association (PPA), the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility (PRIF), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, the Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands, Sunlabob Renewable Energy, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the University of the South Pacific and the World Bank.

The Ministers:

3. Expressed their deep gratitude to the Government and people of Fiji, and 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 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, UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, noting this was the first time such high-level representation had been seen at a sectoral ministerial meeting in the Pacific, and that this demonstrated the importance accorded by the UN not only to the region but also to energy and transport in achieving sustainable development. The meeting welcomed his presentation on the post-2015 development agenda and emphasised the importance of the Pacific having such high-level advocates participating in the process of developing the post-2015 development agenda within the UN. The meeting also acknowledged the importance of Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) accelerating the process of framing the region's priorities for the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

5. Recognised the critical link between energy and transport in achieving sustainable development goals through supporting economic growth. Ministers called energy a ‘key enabler’ of development, underscoring the importance of the nexus between sustainable energy and transport access, along with health, water, food and education. Access to sustainable energy and transport leads to poverty reduction and improved livelihoods in PICTs.

UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL (SE4ALL)

6. Acknowledged that 2014 marks the first year of the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for All 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. Welcomed the Secretary-General’s statement, presented by the Under-Secretary-General, encouraging and commending PICTs in progressing sustainable energy for all.
7. Re-affirmed the region’s commitment to the vision of SE4ALL and to the achievement of its goals, and welcomed the participation of and presentations by the Representative of the UN Secretary-General’s Special Representative and Chief Executive for the SE4ALL initiative, Ms Susan McDade, to the meeting.

THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

8. Acknowledged the importance of the discussion on the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the opportunity for the Pacific to contribute to and shape the new development paradigm, including through the Third International Conference on SIDS.
9. Emphasised that the following issues should be considered key Pacific priorities in terms of energy, infrastructure and transport: the unique vulnerabilities of Pacific SIDS in addressing energy and transport; the role of appropriate incentives and the removal of subsidies for fossil fuels; the importance of better planning in urban areas to increase the use of public transport; the importance of improved connectivity for improved trade and economic development opportunities; the SE4ALL initiative’s integrated approach to access, efficiency and renewable energy, as a strong model for an energy goal among the SDGs; having a stand-alone SDG on energy, in line with SE4ALL targets and indicators; and inclusion of transport in the sustainable development goals.

THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SIDS IN SAMOA IN SEPTEMBER 2014

10. Recognised that the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Samoa in September this year presents a unique opportunity for the region to highlight the specific challenges it faces as a result of its many unique characteristics.
11. Acknowledged that sustainable energy is the most critical driver for development and welcomed the inclusion of ‘sustainable energy for all’ in the Pacific priorities to be submitted to the upcoming SIDS conference.
12. Recalled the theme of the 2012 Forum Leaders meeting in Cook Islands – ‘Large Ocean Island States’ – as highlighting many of the unique challenges faced by the region. The Pacific is a maritime region, with 98.5% of its total area of approximately 36 million square kilometres (approximately 4 times the size of China) consisting of ocean. It is characterised by small islands (many of which are atolls), remoteness, propensity for natural disasters and high cost of doing business, among other features.

13. Emphasised the importance of transport as a key enabler of sustainable development that must be included in the Pacific priorities for the SIDS conference. In a region in which almost 99% of the total area is covered by ocean, sustainable, effective and efficient maritime transportation underpins livelihoods. Simply put, in the Pacific, without transport, neither 'sustainable energy for all' nor 'sustainable development' will be achieved. The meeting agreed that 'transport for sustainable development' must be included in the Pacific priorities to be submitted to the upcoming SIDS conference.

EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

14. Recognised that effective partnerships between countries, within countries, and with and amongst development partners, private sector and stakeholders in energy and transport are critical to the region's efforts to achieve sustainable development at the national and regional levels. Ministers acknowledged that many examples of strategic and effective partnerships already exist and encouraged all countries and partners to sustain and further enhance effective partnerships.
 - a. Requested that the governments of Tonga and New Zealand jointly submit a briefing in consultation with the United States and France to IRENA regarding accession to full membership for Pacific Island territories, currently considered associate members, and including procedures to enable non-members to access full or associate membership. Full membership would permit them to access IRENA's tariff review support and apply for grants under the United Arab Emirates–Pacific Partnership Fund, as well as further benefits (accession to full membership, transitioning from associate to full membership).
 - b. Requested that ADB and SPC continue collaborating on providing technical assistance to PICTs to address their energy sector regulation challenges.
 - c. Endorsed the Transport Services Implementation Plan 2015–2020, which is the operational plan to implement and monitor progress against the Framework for Action on Transport Services, and noted that regional support should complement national efforts.
 - d. Welcomed the offer by New Caledonia to share its experience in the preparation of a transport master-plan to facilitate the movement of people and goods.
15. Called for innovative ways of thinking and working with all partners that could lead to an energy, transport and data revolution in the Pacific Islands region.
16. Urged PICTs to become members of the International Hydrographic Organization and the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission and tasked SPC to collaborate with development partners on a regional approach to hydrographic services delivery.

PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT IN ENERGY AND TRANSPORT

17. Acknowledged the critical role of the private sector in achieving sustainable energy and transport solutions and encouraged more cooperation and collaboration with, among and between relevant private sector industries and enterprises to further enhance the contributions of energy and transport in sustainable development.

18. Encouraged PICTs to pursue private sector involvement in the development and deployment of alternative transport fuel products and provide a fertile enabling environment with appropriate economic incentives for the establishment of viable alternative energy industries.
19. Recognised the Central Pacific Shipping Commission (CPSC) as a model of effective partnership and private sector involvement in supporting efforts to improve access and connectivity to regional and global markets. Ministers requested that SPC continue to provide assistance to CPSC in its administrative duties until CPSC is financially viable.
20. Encouraged shipowners, operators and seafarers in PICTs to actively promote maritime safety in the domestic shipping industry.

ADOPTION OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE ENERGY OFFICIALS MEETING AND THE TRANSPORT OFFICIALS MEETING

21. Considered and adopted the outcomes of the Energy Officials and Transport Officials meetings as resolutions of the ministerial meeting. The resolutions are attached to this document as Annex A (Energy Resolutions) and Annex B (Transport Resolutions).

ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

22. *Key pillars underpinning energy security for sustainable development in the region* – Re-affirmed the importance of the 7 pillars underpinning the Framework for Action on Energy Security in the Pacific (FAESP), emphasised their continuing relevance to the region’s efforts to achieve sustainable energy development and committed to continue efforts to progress their implementation within respective national energy roadmaps, plans, policies and strategies as appropriate for each country or territory. The seven pillars are:
 - i. Leadership, governance, coordination and partnership
 - ii. Energy planning, policy and regulatory frameworks
 - iii. Energy production and supply
 - a. Petroleum and alternative fuels
 - b. Renewable energy
 - iv. Energy conservation
 - a. Energy efficiency and conservation
 - v. End-use energy consumption
 - a. Electric power
 - b. Transport energy use
 - vi. Energy data and information
 - vii. Financing, monitoring and evaluation
23. *Effective partnerships for sustainable energy* – Commended existing partnerships in the energy sector to enhance energy security and called for such partnerships to be expanded. Ministers acknowledged some examples of existing partnerships, including: (i) PRIF partners implementing the commitments they made at the Tonga and New Zealand Energy Summits of 2013; (ii) a joint effort by SPC and the World Bank to explore the feasibility of using liquefied natural gas (LNG) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) as cleaner and cheaper fuel for power generation and transportation in the region; (iii) a joint initiative by SPC and UNEP to phase out inefficient lighting in the region; (iv) joint initiative by Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau, European Union and SPC in the delivery of the north Pacific renewable energy project covering the three countries; (v) South–South

collaboration between PICTs and the Caribbean on enhancing energy regulation and; (vi) the Vocational Training and Education for Clean Energy partnership between the United States Agency for International Development, the University of the South Pacific and New Zealand.

24. *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. Ministers welcomed the establishment of mechanisms that promote private sector involvement, such as the ADB–PPA energy investor forum and the proposed Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency to support private sector investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency.
25. *Energy knowledge management* – Reaffirmed the importance of access to timely, accurate and reliable data to provide the basis for planning and monitoring of energy development and contribution of energy to sustainable development in the region.
 - a. *Pacific Regional Data Repository (PRDR)* – Welcomed the PRDR initiative and commended 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 to 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, and agreed to launch the repository at the side event during the SIDS conference in Samoa.
 - b. *Solar water heaters* – Commended Fiji and New Caledonia for their work on solar water heaters and welcomed their offer to share their experiences with other countries and territories.
26. Agreed to the establishment of the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency – A Sustainable Energy for All Centre of Excellence that would be progressed through a competitive tender process to consider bids to host the regional centre. Ministers further agreed that the selection process would involve a panel comprising PICTs and development partners; this group would make a recommendation on the hosting arrangements to be circulated for consideration by Ministers out of session. The Ministers requested that PIFS work with the concept proponent and funder – the United Nations Industrial Development Organization – and the tender panel to facilitate the process, and also agree that appropriate support be accorded to the various centres.
27. Acknowledged the coordinated efforts of the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility Working Group (PRIF WG) and the Pacific Energy Advisory Group (PEAG).
28. Noted the need from countries to be able to have comprehensive collective updates of projects and support to their energy sectors and called on the PRIF WG and PEAG to assist countries by producing combined progress reports using the PRIF WG’s matrix and utilising the energy security indicators adopted for the FAESP (including Pacific Infrastructure Performance Indicators) to measure the impacts and outcomes on PICTs’ energy security status.

TRANSPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

29. *Key pillars underpinning transport for sustainable development in the region* – Re-affirmed the importance of the 7 pillars underpinning the Framework for Action on Transport Services in the Pacific; emphasised their continuing relevance to the region’s efforts to achieve efficient, effective and sustainable transport services and committed to continue efforts to progress their implementation within respective national transport plans, policies and / or strategies as appropriate for each country or territory. The seven pillars are:
- i. Leadership, governance, coordination and partnerships
 - ii. Capacity development, policy, planning and regulatory frameworks
 - iii. Transport security and safety
 - iv. Improved access
 - v. Environmental impact, technology and energy
 - vi. Transport data, information and knowledge
 - vii. Sustainability, monitoring and evaluation
30. *Effective partnerships for sustainable transport services* – Commended existing levels of partnerships in the transport sector to enhance transport security in relation to regularity and affordability of shipping services. Ministers acknowledged some examples of existing partnerships, including the newly established Central Pacific Shipping Commission.
31. 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.
32. Welcomed the continued efforts by SPC to work with partners and members on maritime issues and acknowledged SPC’s comparative advantage in providing ongoing policy, legal and technical assistance to PICTs in developing and updating transport-related policy and legislative frameworks, as well as training standards.
33. Encouraged continued development and implementation of programmes targeting shipping safety, training and certification of seafarers and other cooperative regional arrangements covering broader issues such as search and rescue, and aviation safety and security.
34. Noted the development of the Central Pacific Shipping Commission, which has addressed the issue of irregular shipping services to smaller island states and provided positive socio-economic impacts in the central Pacific, and welcomed plans to assess the feasibility of developing a similar scheme for the eastern Pacific countries.
35. Endorsed the Transport Services Implementation Plan 2015–2020, the operational plan to implement and monitor progress against the Framework for Action on Transport Services.
36. Endorsed the importance of assessing the potential increased penetration of LPG and the potential introduction of LNG to reduce the environmental impact of fossil fuels and significantly reduce energy costs. Ministers also noted that introducing the use of LNG may require significant new investments in port facilities and other infrastructure to secure the advantages of potential

environmental impact and significantly reduced cost. The use of LNG as a clean transportation fuel demonstrates how low-cost energy can be used to support regional transport services.

37. Encouraged PICTs to review, update and implement national maritime legislation and planning to reflect recent developments in search and rescue and requested PICTs that are not signatories to consider acceding to the 1979 International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue.
38. Agreed to expedite (where relevant) their respective countries' acceptance of the 2009 amendments to the Pacific Islands Civil Aviation Safety and Security Treaty (PICASST) in order to ensure that the Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO) is able to provide technical advice and assistance to parties to PICASST across the range of areas endorsed by the PASO Council of Directors, including implementation of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) regulations.
39. Affirmed their support for PASO as the regional aviation safety and security organisation in the Pacific and their support for the reform process for PASO agreed by the PASO Council of Directors with the intent of strengthening PASO as an ICAO Regional Safety Oversight Organisation.
40. Encouraged effective enforcement by PICTs of national legislation and regulations, and requested that SPC explore options for establishing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on port state control in the Pacific region (a 'Pacific MOU' similar to the Tokyo and Paris MOUs).
41. Acknowledged the benefits of developing and updating national maritime transport policy as a means to support sustainable development in the maritime sector in both national and regional contexts.
42. Encouraged maritime administrations in PICTs to implement safety management systems to improve safety in domestic shipping.

THIRD REGIONAL MEETING OF THE PACIFIC MINISTERS OF ENERGY AND TRANSPORT

43. The next Energy and Transport Ministers meeting will be hosted by the Government of Tonga in 2017.