

## **Outcome Statement of the Energy Ministers Meeting at the Sixth Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (PRETMM6)**

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 7 May 2026

The Energy Ministers Meeting convened on Thursday, 7 May 2026 at APEC Haus, Port Moresby during the Sixth Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (PRETMM6), which was held under the theme "*Scaling Connectivity for a Prosperous Blue Pacific*". The meeting was chaired by the Honourable Sir Ano Pala, KBE, MP, Minister for National Planning and Monitoring, Papua New Guinea.

The Meeting was attended by Energy Ministers and designates from Pacific Islands Countries and Territories (PICTs) and convened by the Pacific Community (SPC). Also in attendance were representatives from CROP agencies, development partners, regulators, industry, academia, civil society and the private sector (Annex #). The meeting noted that PRETMM6 is a multi-day regional process through which outcomes across pre-associated technical, investment and capacity-building meetings, officials' deliberations, partner dialogue and ministerial discussions which included the Pacific Senior Energy Officials Meeting (PacSEOM) 2026, convened 5 and 6 May 2026.

Deliberations during the meeting were anchored in the Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP) 2021–2030, the Efate Outcome Statement and Port Vila Call to Action of the Fifth PRETMM, the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, and the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders.

The Energy Ministers noted the resolutions submitted by PacSEOM and the interventions made.

### **The Energy Ministers:**

i. **Reaffirm** the Efate Outcome Statement and the Port Vila Call to Action adopted at the Fifth PRETMM, and the region's standing commitment to transition away from fossil fuels, accelerate decarbonisation, strengthen energy security, and advance a just, inclusive and equitable energy transition that places Pacific peoples at its centre, recognising that for Pacific Island Countries and Territories the energy transition is not solely an environmental ambition but an economic, sovereignty, security, affordability and survival imperative.

ii. **Recognise** that the region's central challenge is no longer one of vision or strategy but of delivery at scale, grounded in data and evidence, in national and system readiness, and in coordinated investment behind Pacific-determined priorities.

iii. **Agree** that Pacific Energy Ministers reaffirmed their shared vision for 100% renewable energy for the Pacific (at PRETMM3), and resolve to use forthcoming political opportunities including the 55<sup>th</sup> Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting in Palau, the Leaders Ascent Dialogue, and the Pacific pre-COP in Fiji and Tuvalu to build regional and wider international momentum for renewable investment and partnership support.

## **Governance and Senior Energy Officials Meeting Matters**

iii. **Welcome** the report of the SEOM Chair on the resolutions of PacSEOM 2026 and **acknowledge** the substantive work undertaken by Senior Energy Officials over the two days preceding this Meeting.

iv. **Approve** the updated Terms of Reference for the Pacific Senior Energy Officials Meeting and the Energy Ministers Meeting, building on the 2024 adoption, as the standing governance and accountability framework linking technical advice from officials to political direction from Ministers, defining the mandate, roles and responsibilities of both bodies, and providing flexibility for Ministers to convene outside the formal PRETMM cycle to respond to emerging priorities and maintain momentum on regional decisions; and **adopt** the editorial amendment to clause 8 clarifying that the Energy Ministers Meeting may convene every three years either as part of PRETMM or as otherwise determined by the Ministers and the Secretariat in consultation with Member countries.

v. **Endorse** the 2024 and 2025 PacSEOM Outcome Statements, as reviewed and agreed by Senior Officials, as the formal record of regional commitments at the officials' tier of the regional energy architecture, complementing the Terms of Reference as the standing governance and accountability framework for the Pacific energy transition; and **agree** that the 2024 and 2025 PacSEOM Outcome Statements and the updated Terms of Reference shall be annexed to this Outcome Statement.

## **FESRIP Mid-Term Review and the Direction of FESRIP 2.0**

vi. **Welcome** the findings of the FESRIP Mid-Term Review presented by independent reviewer, and **acknowledge** its central finding that the Pacific energy transition is fundamentally a delivery challenge rather than one of ambition, despite strong policy alignment, increasing investment over the past two decades, and ambitious renewable energy targets across the region (with many countries having committed to 100 per cent renewable energy by 2030, 2035 or 2050).

vii. **Note with concern** the persistent and widening gap between regional ambition and the actual rate of renewable energy penetration on the ground, including the gap between the 2023 regional aspiration of 65 per cent renewable electricity and the actual figure of 24 per cent achieved across the region, and **recognise** that this gap reflects weaknesses in data systems, planning, project preparation and delivery architecture, which together constrain financial access, rather than a shortfall of policy alignment or ambition.

viii. **Endorse** the adoption of FESRIP 2.0 for the remaining 2026–2030 period, including its strategic shift from strategy formulation to implementation-focused delivery, and its implementation framework structured around system foundations, sector transformation, and the enabling environment.

ix. **Approve** the three dominant delivery priorities identified for FESRIP 2.0:

- strengthening grid readiness and system integration capability, including storage, control systems, SCADA and protection upgrades, to enable the absorption of renewable capacity at scale;
- improving project preparation and bankable investment readiness, recognising that financing constraints in the Pacific often reflect a shortage of well-prepared bankable projects rather than a shortage of capital; and
- building technical capacity, both in-country and at the regional level, including at the institutional level, to deliver and sustain the transition.

x. **Approve** quantifiable targets, grid readiness, and operation and maintenance as core principles for any energy investment going forward under FESRIP 2.0, recognising that long-term operational sustainability must be embedded in the framework from the outset, having been identified through the Mid-Term Review as insufficiently addressed under FESRIP 1.0.

xi. **Endorse** the explicit incorporation of disaster resilience as a priority consideration within FESRIP 2.0, recognising the elevated and compounding exposure of Pacific Island Countries and Territories to climate, geophysical and economic shocks.

xii. **Endorse** the treatment of data as strategic infrastructure under FESRIP 2.0, including the strengthening of digital infrastructure at country and regional levels, integrated data systems to support robust energy planning, and improved data-sharing arrangements among Members, development partners and Independent Power Producers (IPPs), to **support** transparency in Power Purchase Agreement negotiations and evidence-based long-term planning.

xiii. **Encourage** the recognition of civil society organisations as implementation partners in the Pacific energy transition, particularly in supporting community-level delivery, inclusive engagement, capacity building, and the deployment, adoption and long-term sustainability of decentralised energy systems including microgrids and community-based financing approaches; and **invite** civil society umbrella organisations, including through the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO) and its national members, to engage with SPC and CROP agencies in the development and operationalisation of a defined role for civil society organisations within FESRIP 2.0 implementation, including through contribution to coordination platforms, workforce development efforts, and community-level feedback mechanisms.

xiv. **Call on SPC**, working with relevant CROP agencies and partners, to develop the FESRIP 2.0 implementation plan within three months of PRETMM6, including a continuous monitoring and evaluation framework allowing Members and partners to track progress against country-level and regional targets in real time, and **encourage** development partners to commence financing conversations immediately and to align technical and financial support with FESRIP 2.0 delivery priorities.

### **Regional Coordination and Delivery Architecture**

xv. **Approve** the establishment of a regional coordination and technical mechanism, led by SPC and supported by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

and the Pacific Power Association (PPA), to drive alignment across national and regional energy programmes, embed technical support, integrate planning, financing and procurement, and coordinate engagement with development partners.

xvi. **Recall** the Efate Outcome Statement of the 5th PRETMM, the decision of Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in 2023 to establish a *Regional Energy Commissioner for a Just Transition to a Fossil Fuel Free Pacific*<sup>1</sup> following the Review of Regional Architecture, and the subsequent decision of Leaders in 2024 to operationalise this commitment.

Request SPC, in collaboration with PIFS and in consultation with members, to develop a Terms of Reference outlining the governance, financial, technical and operational arrangements, including where the *Renewable Energy Commissioner* sits within the regional architecture, for a decision of Leaders at the 55th Pacific Island Forum Leaders Meeting (PIFLM) in Palau from 30 August to 4 September, 2026.

Agree that the PRETMM drafting group will provide oversight of this process and clear the draft Terms of Reference prior to its transmission to Leaders via the Forum Officials Committee.

Call on partners to explore ways to contribute to Pacific Renewable energy transition through contributions to national transition funds, co financing of projects or contributing to suitable multilateral funds.

xvii. *Endorse* a deliberate shift from fragmented, project-by-project approaches to programmatic delivery, with partner support sequenced behind Pacific-determined priorities and focused on long-term impact.

### **Energy Security and Fuel Resilience**

xviii. *Note with concern* that the fuel security situation facing the region constitutes a structural vulnerability that exposes Pacific economies to external shocks beyond their control, and *acknowledge* the experience of a Member currently under a state of economic emergency, who has resorted to electricity-saving measures, including the early closure of government offices, in order to safeguard national fuel supply for power generation.

### **Monitoring, Workforce, and Regulatory Institutions**

xix. *Note and welcome the* monitoring platform under FESRIP 2.0 as a priority deliverable of the three-month implementation planning process.

xx. *Call on* Pacific Islands Countries and Territories (PICTs) to actively engage with the Pacific Sustainable Energy Training Centre, opening at the University of the South Pacific in July 2026, and to integrate its accreditation programmes into national workforce development strategies.

xxi. *Call for* sustained, multi-year funding to the Office of the Pacific Energy Regulators Alliance (OPERA) beyond the current Asian Development Bank programme through to 2028 and

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<sup>1</sup> Renewable Energy Commissioner

recognise that a credible and stable regulatory environment is a precondition for investor confidence and for the realisation of the regional energy transition.

### **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion**

xxii. *Call on* PICTs to strengthen national policies that remove barriers to women's participation in technical energy roles and *commit* to systematic annual reporting on women's participation across utilities and energy sector institutions.

The Ministers for Energy reaffirmed their collective commitment to a connected, resilient and sustainable Blue Pacific, and to working collaboratively with all partners to ensure that the outcomes of PRETMM6 translate into tangible, measurable benefits for Pacific peoples.

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2026 Energy Ministers Meeting, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea