

# SIXTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENERGY AND TRANSPORT MINISTERS MEETING

## RESOLUTION OF SENIOR ENERGY OFFICIALS

(Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 6 May 2026)

1. The Senior Energy Officials Meeting (SEOM) was convened in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on 4–5 May 2026, on the margins of the Sixth Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers' Meeting (PRETMM6), under the theme of "*Scaling Connectivity for a Prosperous Blue Pacific*." The SEOM was attended by Government officials responsible for energy, and national delegates from Members of the Pacific Community (SPC), including the following: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, Guam, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Representatives of regional and international organisations, development partners, civil society organisations, academia, industry, and the private sector also attended (Annex 4).
2. The Meeting expressed its appreciation to the Government and People of Papua New Guinea for hosting PRETMM6, and to SPC for the organisation and secretariat support provided to the meeting. As per the Pacific SEOM Terms of Reference adopted in 2025, the Chair of SEOM is the host country, in that regard, Papua New Guinea presided as Chair.

### Resolutions on Agenda Items

3. The meeting considered the following items [and resolved] as follows:

#### **E1 – Midterm Review of FESRIP 2021–2030**

The Meeting received the findings of the independent midterm review of the Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP) 2021–2030 which assessed the first five years of implementation. The review drew on a mixed-methods approach encompassing custom questionnaires sent to all 27 SPC member countries, online surveys to approximately

300 stakeholders, 45 one-on-one consultations, and four validation workshops, reaching over 100 individuals across 14 Pacific Island countries including national energy authorities, utilities, regional agencies, development partners, academia, and the private sector.

The review found that FESRIP's strategic direction and regional relevance remain strong, and that there is broad policy alignment between national energy priorities and the framework's six priority areas. However, it identified significant gaps in operational delivery. The review proposed a refreshed approach, FESRIP 2.0, which reorients the framework from a strategy document to a delivery-focused instrument.

### **Energy Officials:**

- I. **Acknowledge** the findings of the independent midterm review of FESRIP 2021–2030, including the determination that while the framework's strategic direction and regional relevance remain strong, significant gaps in operational delivery, monitoring, and baseline measurement have limited progress and must be addressed in the remaining period to 2030.
- II. **Endorse** the direction of FESRIP 2.0 as a reorientation of the framework towards a delivery-focused instrument, with a tiered implementation structure centred on power sector transformation, strengthened data and digital systems, and embedded national capacity supported by regional organisations, and incorporating affordability, sustainability, and gender equity as cross-cutting components.
- III. **Agree** that FESRIP 2.0 should incorporate quantifiable baseline metrics, a clear shift from ad hoc pilot projects to coordinated large-scale deployment, and the prioritisation of grid readiness ahead of project commissioning, recognising that renewable energy assets that are commissioned without adequate grid preparation fail to deliver their intended benefits.
- IV. **Stress** the critical importance of operation and maintenance as a non-negotiable component of any energy capital investment and call on development partners and PICTs to ensure that O&M planning, resourcing, and institutional capacity are embedded within project design rather than treated as an afterthought.
- V. **Request** SPC and CROP agencies to:

- ensure that data collection methodology for FESRIP 2.0 reporting includes in-country engagement and direct support to national energy authorities, recognising that remote survey methods alone have not yielded sufficient country-level data in the first FESRIP cycle.
  - develop with relevant development partners, a detailed FESRIP 2.0 implementation plan within three months of this meeting, incorporating outcomes from the pre-PRETMM6 regional workshops, for presentation to development partners for financing consideration and subsequent submission to Energy Ministers for endorsement.
  - establish regular CROP-level energy working groups supported by technical sub-groups, enabling structured regional dialogue, peer learning, and coordinated country support on a continuous basis rather than through periodic standalone reviews.
- VI. **Urge** all PICTs to engage actively with FESRIP 2.0 by linking national energy priorities and investment programmes to the framework, recognising that regional endorsement through FESRIP and PRETMM processes has been demonstrated as an effective vehicle for securing development financing, as evidenced by the Vanuatu and Solomon Islands capacity expansion planning experience following the 5th PRETMM.
- VII. **Recommend** that future FESRIP reviews be conducted on a more frequent basis, moving towards annual or biennial benchmarking rather than a single midterm review, to enable timely course correction and maintain momentum.
- VIII. **Recommend** that disaster resilience, rapid energy system recovery and transportation be explicitly incorporated as a priority consideration within FESRIP 2.0, recognising the increasing frequency, intensity, and compounding nature of disasters across the region, which continue to damage energy infrastructure, disrupt essential services, and impose severe and recurring impacts on communities and national economies.

## **E2 – Priority Area A: Energy Policy, Planning and Capacity Development**

The Meeting presented five Energy Policy, Planning and Capacity Development initiatives related to Priority Area A. These included the Pacific Adoption of Waste-to-Energy Solutions (PAWES) project advocacy brief, Papua New Guinea's experience of FESRIP governance and

country ownership, the Pacific Island Grid Readiness Assessment Framework (PieGRAF), ADB's current and proposed Pacific energy programmes, and the Pacific Women in Power (PWIP) programme.

**Energy Officials:**

- i. **Endorse** the PAWES advocacy brief and encourage PICTs to integrate waste-to-energy into national waste management strategies and energy plans, recognising that waste-to-energy must be positioned as a waste management solution with energy as a core benefit, and that small-scale fit-for-purpose systems are most viable in the Pacific context.
- ii. **Encourage** SPC, SPREP, and development partners to work with members to support the development of bankable waste-to-energy project pipelines across the region, with particular attention to enabling regulatory frameworks, cross-ministry coordination mechanisms, and private sector engagement.
- iii. **Welcome** Papua New Guinea's eight proposals and request SPC, in consultation with CROP agencies and member countries, to consider and respond to the proposals in the development of the FESRIP 2.0 implementation plan, with particular attention to the establishment of a Pacific Energy Climate Finance Facilitation Mechanism, a voluntary FESRIP indicator reporting framework, and improved CROP agency coordination.
- iv. **Endorse** the Pacific Island Grid Readiness Assessment Framework (PieGRAF) as a practical and repeatable tool for benchmarking utility grid readiness and call on PICTs and development partners to support its systematic uptake across Pacific utility grids as a prerequisite for directing investment, improving renewable energy absorption, and enabling year-on-year progress tracking.
- v. **Note** the importance of unified, compatible grid control systems as a technical prerequisite for renewable energy integration and encourage PICTs and utilities to address multi-vendor control system incompatibility as part of grid upgrade programmes.
- vi. **Welcome** ADB's continued support to Office of the Pacific Energy Regulators Alliance (OPERA), Pacific Power Association (PPA), and Pacific energy sector development, and

encourage the further development and regional adoption of the PRISM data platform and the proposed Pacific Energy Open Data Portal as tools for improving evidence-based decision-making across the region. (how to access assistance from OPERA).

vii. **Task** SPC to work with members to clarify process for accessing services from OPERA.

viii. **Endorse** the Pacific Women in Power Programme and call on PICTs to strengthen national policies and legislative frameworks to remove barriers to women's entry and retention in technical energy sector roles, to reconfirm support for PWIP and its expansion, and to commit to systematic annual reporting on women's participation in technical roles across utilities, using regional platforms for monitoring.

ix. **Recognise** that energy is an enabler of broader economic and social development and call on PICTs and development partners to integrate productive use of energy considerations into rural electrification project design, ensuring that energy investments are connected to agriculture, fisheries, tourism, and other productive sectors at the community level.

### **E3 – Priority Area C: Sustainable Electric Power Development**

The meeting considered Sustainable Electric Power Development presentations under Priority Area C, moderated by the Executive Director of the Pacific Power Association. These included regulatory development through OPERA, integrated planning frameworks and capacity expansion modelling drawing on case studies from Vanuatu and Solomon Islands, smart electrification and grid resilience, training accreditation and component standards, and the Pacific Renewable Ocean Energy Readiness Programme (PROERP).

The meeting noted that in 2023, the region's collective ambition was for 65% of electricity to be generated from renewable sources; the actual figure was 24%. This 40-percentage-point gap between ambition and reality underscores the urgency of shifting from strategic intent to operational delivery, and from isolated pilot projects to coordinated, utility-grade deployment at scale.

**Energy Officials:**

- i. **Note** with concern the 40-percentage-point gap between the region's 2023 renewable electricity generation ambition of 65% and the actual figure of 24% and reaffirm the urgency of shifting from strategic frameworks to operational delivery, and from isolated pilots to coordinated deployment at utility scale.
- ii. **Acknowledge** the critical role of independent energy regulation in enabling the investment environment required for the Pacific's energy transition, and call on development partners to provide sustained, predictable, multi-year funding to OPERA beyond the current ADB programme through 2028, recognising that short-term, ad hoc regulatory support has proven insufficient to build the durable regulatory confidence that investors and consumers require.
- iii. **Welcome** OPERA's 2026–2028 programme priorities, including the Pacific Energy Regulatory Clearinghouse and the regional regulatory expert pool, and encourage all PICTs whose regulators have not yet engaged with OPERA to do so, recognising the alliance as the primary regional mechanism for building a credible and harmonised regulatory environment.
- iv. **Endorse** the integrated planning framework and capacity expansion modelling approach demonstrated in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands as a replicable model for the region, and call on SPC, UNSW, PPA, and development partners to support its systematic uptake across further PICTs, prioritising in-country data capacity, open-source modelling tools that remain with national institutions, and multi-stakeholder planning processes that include utilities, regulators, and finance ministries at the same table.
- v. **Underscore the importance of** energy planning knowledge being embedded within national energy institutions rather than held by external consultants, and call on development partners to structure technical assistance, accordingly, including through long-term national positions of the kind demonstrated in the Vanuatu case study.
- vi. **Welcome** IRENA's smart electrification framework and call on SPC and CROP agencies to work with IRENA and development partners to support the development of national smart electrification strategies targeting transport, tourism, agriculture, and maritime sectors, recognising that sector coupling is the next critical phase of the Pacific energy transition and requires system planning that goes beyond the electricity sector alone.

vii. **Endorse** the Pacific Renewable Ocean Energy Readiness Programme (PROERP) as a regional implementation platform under the Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP) to accelerate renewable ocean energy deployment across Pacific Island Countries and Territories.

viii. **Note** the recommendation to develop, within two years, national policies, legislations and/or regulations requiring that only components and equipment tested and certified in accordance with International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and Underwriter Limited Standards (ULS) international technical guidelines (as listed in the SEIAPI Guidelines), are permitted in solar PV systems and other renewable energy installations. Also recognising that international standards are met by certified manufacturers, and that developing parallel national standards would be unnecessarily costly and difficult to sustain.

ix. **Note** with concern the emerging challenge of solar panel and battery end-of-life management across the region, as first-generation installations are replaced and generate significant volumes of waste materials with no current regional disposal or recycling pathway, and request SPC, in consultation with SPREP and relevant development partners, to examine options for a regional approach to renewable energy equipment waste management and report findings to the next SEOM.

x. **Welcome** the opening of the Pacific Sustainable Energy Training Centre at the USP TAFE campus in Suva in July 2026 and encourage Pacific Island Countries and Territories to actively engage with the centre for hands-on technical training in solar and renewable energy, and to integrate the centre's accreditation and certification programmes into national workforce development strategies for the energy sector.

xi. **Endorse** PROERP as a regional platform for ocean energy readiness and mandate SPC's PCREEE, UNIDO, and SIDS Dock to mobilise financing and commence implementation of PROERP under PCREEE's third operational phase, recognising the programme as the direct fulfilment of the Ministerial mandate from the 5th PRETMM and as a long-term complement to the region's land-based renewable energy efforts.

xii. **Welcome** Fiji's announcement of the Vatulele Island hybrid ocean energy pilot commencing in July 2026 as a landmark first demonstration of ocean energy deployment in the Pacific, and encourage all PICTs to share information, due diligence documentation, and

lessons learned on emerging energy technologies through SPC, recognising the value of a dedicated regional knowledge-sharing platform for new technology exploration.

xiii. **Note** the Outcome of the *Tassiriki Call* and to take the outcomes forward to the Energy Ministerial.

### **E3. Priority Area D: Low Carbon Transport Energy**

The session focussed on presentations from GGGI, Samoa, Vanuatu, Scinergy and University of the New South Wales to share learnings from countries and encourage members considerations for moving from pilots to scalable e-mobility by aligning transport electrification with power system readiness, enabling policy frameworks, skills development, and regional coordination.

Global shocks and crises continue to drive fuel price volatility and expose Pacific economies to imported fuel dependence. E-mobility in the Pacific is fundamentally an energy security and economic resilience strategy, not just a decarbonisation measure. It is at the intersection of transport, energy and mobility. Speakers highlighted that scaling e-mobility requires a systematic “island mobility” approach: strong enabling policy and regulatory frameworks (standards, charging and battery end-of-life rules), integrated power-system planning and grid readiness (demand forecasting aligned with generation, storage and network upgrades), urban mobility planning, and investment in skills, maintenance and first-responder capacity.

Country experiences illustrated different starting points but demonstrated that fleet electrification can move beyond pilots when procurement is matched with utility coordination and a supportive enabling environment.

#### **The meeting:**

- i. Endorse policy direction that government/public fleets procure EVs where operationally suitable, using fleet replacement cycles to scale predictably.
- ii. Urge the development of national standards for the acquisition, whole of life operations and disposal of EVs.

- iii. Note that EV rollout plans need to be integrated with generation, storage, and grid upgrade planning (including demand forecasting, managed charging options, and network reinforcement).
  - iv. Develop structured capacity development for mechanics, electricians, fleet managers, utilities, and first responders (equipment and protocols for EV incidents).
  - v. Request PCREEE and relevant regional partners to lead regional coordination and policy signalling for e-mobility, including mechanisms for peer learning and shared tools.
  - vi. Enable financing and delivery models that bundle vehicles, charging infrastructure, grid upgrades, and training, leveraging private sector where appropriate.
- Note the need for countries to work together with the private sector and partners to develop or update national e-mobility roadmaps, establish cross-sector coordination platforms, create shared regional resources and encourage investments in country and market solutions

#### **E4 — Priority Area D: Low-Carbon Transport Energy**

The meeting received four presentations under Priority Area D covering e-mobility policy and the enabling environment, practical lessons from EV deployment in Samoa, EV integration from a utility perspective, demand forecasting and grid implications of e-mobility uptake, and the Pacific Hydrogen Roadmap.

The meeting noted the framing established by GGGI across its work in Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu: for Pacific SIDS, e-mobility is not only a climate issue but also an issue of energy security, economic resilience, and affordability. The meeting noted that the Pacific has already lived through repeated fuel shocks and that reducing structural dependence on imported transport fuels is a resilience measure and a fiscal measure as well as a decarbonisation one. The meeting noted Samoa's CAP-IT project as the region's most advanced practical example of large-scale EV deployment and grid integration. The meeting noted the Pacific Hydrogen Roadmap, developed in response to a Ministerial request at the 5th PRETMM in Port Vila, supported by Australia's DCCEEW and developed in partnership with SPC, USP, IRENA, and PPA.

**Energy Officials:**

- i. **Note** that for Pacific SIDS, e-mobility is an energy security, social and economic resilience, and affordability priority as well as a climate mitigation solution, and that reducing structural dependence on imported transport fuels must be treated as a core strategic priority.
- ii. **Recommend** an EV-first approach for government and public vehicle fleets as the most practical and manageable near-term entry point for e-mobility deployment to demonstrate viability and maintain a degree of control over the pace and quality of EV uptake noting however, that national EV standards, charging infrastructure policies, and battery end-of-life pathways are needed to scale and sustain EV deployment, and that import standards are necessary to ensure the quality of vehicles entering Pacific markets.
- iii. **Recognise** EV integration as a power system issue and call on all PICTs to ensure that national utilities are involved from the outset of any EV deployment programme, with grid readiness assessments and network strengthening completed before rather than after deployment and **Support** phased scaling of e-mobility implementation using public-private partnerships and encourage PICTs to draw on the Samoa CAP-IT experience as a reference model for the region
- iv. **Request** PCREEE to strengthen regional coordination, communication, and policy signalling for e-mobility, and to support practical mechanisms for countries to learn from one another and accelerate deployment through active sharing of Pacific EV project data, lessons learned, and technical specifications.
- v. **Encourage** stronger coordination between transport and energy agencies at national level to align EV deployment with charging infrastructure planning, grid readiness, and tariff frameworks, and to explore time-of-use tariff arrangements that could align EV charging with periods of peak solar generation.
- vi. **Develop** structured capacity development certification for mechanics, electricians, fleet managers, utilities, and first responders
- vii. **Note** the Pacific Hydrogen Roadmap developed in response to the 5th PRETMM Ministerial mandate, supported by Australia's DCCEEW and developed in partnership with

SPC, USP, IRENA, and PPA, and encourage PICTs and development partners to provide feedback during the current consultation period. In addition, **note** the potential of ammonia, methanol and palm oil as relevant pathways for maritime decarbonisation, sustainable aviation fuel and biofuel and encourage SPC and development partners to consider how these findings can inform national and regional energy planning.

#### **E5 — Priority Areas E and F: Improved Energy Efficiency and Petroleum and Other Liquid Fuel Services**

The meeting received five presentations covering the current Pacific fuel crisis and its economic implications, financial instruments for fuel price risk management, Pacific fuel supply chain vulnerabilities and proposed regional responses, IEA energy efficiency support and crisis response measures, and the updating of the regional MEPS product registration system for refrigeration and air conditioning equipment.

##### **Energy Officials:**

- i. **Note** with concern the severity and economic impact of the current Pacific fuel crisis arising from disruption to global fuel supply chains, including the significant fiscal burden on Pacific governments, rising household costs, and the heightened vulnerability of countries whose electricity generation depends predominantly on imported liquid fuels.
- ii. **Urge** the establishment of a regional fuel crisis response mechanism and a harmonised regional crisis response protocol to better support and advise members. This could possibly include strengthened sovereign risk management and development of pooled risk financing/insurance instruments and related legal/regulatory reforms.
- iii. **Note** government-to-government fuel storage agreements to underpin existing commercial supply arrangements, in particular between Fiji and the countries it supplies with fuel, and between Samoa and Tokelau, recognising that commercial agreements between fuel companies do not provide sovereign-level supply security guarantees.
- iv. **Note** the exploration and where appropriate activation of bulk fuel procurement initiatives, and acknowledge the proposal for a North Pacific grouping involving Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, and Nauru noting that they share the same

fuel supplier as a potential near-term grouping, and call on development partners to support financing for this and similar initiatives.

v. **Encourage** all PICTs to develop and where possible legislate mandatory minimum stockholding obligations, and to update national fuel storage data to reflect actual usable storage capacity rather than theoretical maximum capacity.

vi. **Call on** SPC and PRIF to update and maintain fuel supply chain data and early warning indicators for the region, recognising that the most recent comprehensive SPC data dates to 2009 and notes that governments currently lack the data infrastructure needed to mount timely emergency responses.

vii. **Call on** all PICTs to work towards harmonisation of fuel quality standards across the region, and urge SPC to support this work, recognising that harmonised standards would enable shared tanker procurement and deliver cost savings.

viii. **Welcome** ADB's technical assistance on fuel price hedging and the IEA Regional Cooperation Centre's offer of support on energy efficiency policy, data, and crisis response. Note the IEA's Energy Efficiency Policy Training Week and upcoming regional training on energy data and end-use statistics and note its availability for bilateral discussions with any PICT delegation.

ix. **Welcome** international calls for open rules-based trade particularly acknowledging the Pacific's vulnerability at this time for example the Australia – Korea Energy Security Statement.

x. **Endorse** the updating of the existing regional Minimum Energy Performance Standard and Labelling (MEPSL) product registration system for refrigeration and air conditioning equipment and call on SPC to proceed with the technical updating of the system and to strengthen its linkage with Australia and New Zealand standards and call on PICTs to strengthen national legislative frameworks for MEPSL implementation and coordination among relevant national authorities.

xi. **Encourage** PICs that have ratified the Kigali Amendment to progress implementation of their phase-down obligations for high global warming potential refrigerants, recognising

that stronger MEPSL and refrigerant standards deliver simultaneous energy, climate, and cost benefits.

**Day Two: Tuesday**

**E6: Priority Area B: Energy Sector Finance and Cooperation (Session 5A)**

The meeting received six presentations under Priority Area B covering the architecture for programmatic energy delivery, Australia's infrastructure financing and bilateral programmes, the Australian Pacific Partnership for Energy Transition (APPET), New Zealand's energy finance approach, the Regional Project Management Unit Supplementation Scheme (PMU-S), and the EU's energy financing tools and Pacific pipeline.

**The meeting noted:**

- that despite growing investment volumes and high national ambitions, renewable electricity penetration has remained largely static over the preceding decade, with new capacity being absorbed by rising demand, and that the underlying constraint is structural rather than financial.
- the proposal for a regional coordination model led by SPC and supported by SPREP and PPA, comprising a central technical hub, technical working groups, active national Departments of Energy and NEAs, and a central data repository, with two workstreams covering infrastructure development and institutional strengthening, and a dedicated donor coordination working group.
- Australia's AIFFP commitment of more than AUD 380 million in the Pacific energy sector to date and APPET as a AUD 50 million programme through to 2031 focused on upstream technical and policy support and workforce capability building. The meeting noted New Zealand's financing proposals including pooling concessional finance, supporting risk-sharing instruments, remediating ageing solar installations, and its role as a key financier of the TIDES facility.
- the PMU-S as a joint ADB-PPA initiative targeting a September 2026 launch, with USD 3 million committed by ADB and 18 initial projects identified, and the EU's current Pacific energy instruments and its upcoming 2028–2034 financing cycle with a minimum 30% allocation for climate and environment.

- the sustainability challenge for remote standalone grids raised by Vanuatu and the panel's response that accredited design, equipment, and a business model built around energy as an enabler of economic development are essential to achieving financial sustainability.

**Energy Officials:**

- i. **Recommend** that SPC, SPREP, and PPA to establish a regional coordination and technical hub to drive alignment across national and regional energy programmes, manage donor engagement, and provide centralised evidence-based systems, recognising that the shift from project-based to programmatic delivery is essential to converting available investment into outcomes on the ground.
- ii. **Urge** development partners to establish a donor coordination working group under the regional coordination architecture, to improve alignment across partner programmes, reduce duplication, and ensure that development partner support is sequenced behind Pacific-led priorities and FESRIP 2.0 frameworks.
- iii. **Welcome** and commend Australia's continued investment in Pacific energy through AIFFP and bilateral programmes, including the commitment of more than AUD 380 million in the Pacific energy sector to date, and the potential to incorporate climate resilience, local participation, and private sector sustainability from design. In addition, APPET's AUD 50 million six-year programme focused on upstream technical and policy support and workforce and institutional capability building.
- iv. **Encourage** development partners and members to capitalise on the opportunity of COP31 to align and commit programmatic energy investment for the region and realise FESRIP 2.0.
- v. **Welcome** the role of the Regional Clean Energy Commissioner, as endorsed by PRETMM5 and the PIF Leaders, to enhance the programmatic delivery and financing alignment for the Pacific energy transition.
- vi. **Encourage** development partners to pool concessional finance and grants where possible, align their priorities and system standards to ensure compatibility and scalability across

partner programmes, and explore risk-sharing instruments and partial risk guarantees as practical mechanisms to lower the cost of capital for private investors in Pacific energy.

vii. **Encourage** development partners and PICTs to prioritise the remediation of existing solar installations over ten years old as a near-term, cost-effective mechanism for improving energy access and reducing fuel dependence, and to embed investment in operation and maintenance as a standard and non-negotiable component of all energy capital projects.

viii. **Welcome** ADB's technical assistance on fuel price hedging and note its offer of bilateral discussions with any PICT delegation

ix. **Encourage** ADB and PPA to explore whether PMU-S can be extended to cover government ministries tasked with implementing rural electrification and outer island energy projects, recognising that implementation capacity constraints exist beyond the utility sector.

x. **Encourage** all PICTs, including through their Ministries of Energy, to engage actively with PMU-S as it moves towards its targeted September 2026 launch, and request ADB and PPA to ensure that Ministries of Energy are kept informed of PMU-S development and operationalisation alongside utility-level engagement.

xi. **Welcome** the EU's energy financing tools and pipeline in the Pacific, including PACREP, PAWES, ElectrIFI, and GetInvest, and the transition of the Global Gateway strategy as the main pillar of EU cooperation with a minimum 30% allocation for climate and environment, and encourage the EU to prioritise the Pacific energy transition in the allocation of its 2028–2034 regional and bilateral envelopes.

xii. **Welcome** ADB's proposed energy efficiency technical assistance initiative for the Pacific and encourage ADB to advance consultations with member countries and at regional level to develop a programme of support, recognising that energy efficiency is consistently identified as the fastest-acting and most cost-effective short-term response to energy price shocks as well as a long-term contributor to grid stability and energy security.

xiii. **Note** the sustainability challenge for remote standalone grid operations raised by Vanuatu, including the difficulty of attracting private operators to systems that are not economically viable at cost-recovery tariff levels, and call on SPC, development partners, and CROP agencies to consider how de-risking facilities or subsidy mechanisms could support

private operation of remote community energy systems as part of the FESRIP 2.0 implementation framework.

xiv. **Call on** development partners and governments to work together to reduce the time from project approval to implementation on the ground, including by investing in independent technical advice and resolving land tenure issues early, building renewable energy investments permanently into programme designs rather than as project-by-project additions, and engaging the private sector to build local supply chains and skills that reduce dependency on imported materials and expertise.

#### **E6: Priority Area B: FESRIP Updates from Leads, Partners & Countries (Session 5B)**

The meeting received eight presentations under Session 5B covering the outcomes of the first Pacific Energy Investment Forum, the case for scaling collaboration and investment towards 100% renewable energy, regional pooled procurement, and the launch of the Global Programme on Climate-Resilient Renewable Energy Systems for SIDS. Five presentations from UNDP, ISA, UNIDO, TIDES, and PRIF were also delivered.

The meeting noted that the first Pacific Energy Investment Forum, convened from 27–29 April 2026 in Port Moresby, was designed to bridge the gap between regional energy ambitions and the private and institutional capital required to realise them. The meeting noted the convergence across multiple presentations and the Session 5A floor discussion around the Pacific Renewable Energy Investment Prospectus as a practical mechanism for showcasing investment-ready project pipelines to technology providers and financial partners. The meeting noted IRENA's proposal for regional pooled procurement as a delivery tool linked to the SIDS Lighthouses Initiative. The meeting noted the presentation on the G-RES programme seeking endorsement and the launch of its Pacific component.

#### **Energy Officials:**

i. **Welcome** the convening of the first Pacific Energy Investment Forum from 27–29 April 2026 in Port Moresby as a practical step towards bridging the gap between regional energy ambitions and the private and institutional capital required to realise them, and support strengthened ongoing regional coordination to scale up partnerships, finance, and investment in support of FESRIP and PICTs' ambitious renewable energy targets.

ii. **Request** SPC-PCREEE in collaboration with members, work with NEA PNG, Island Minds Vanuatu, and the Smart Energy Council of Australia, OPERA, PPA, and SPREP to:

- develop a Pacific 100% Renewable Energy Investment Prospectus (PREIP)
- showcase pipelines of renewable energy projects to partners
- socialise the PREIP at the margins of PIFLM-55 in Palau and the Pacific Pre-COP 31 events.

iii. **Note** the proposed establishment of a Pacific Renewable Energy Partners Group and engage actively in partner and investor events under the PREIP.

iv. **Note** options to explore regional pooled procurement of renewable energy technologies as a delivery tool for the Pacific energy transition, under the coordination of SPC in close cooperation with IRENA through the SIDS Lighthouses Initiative and establish a Pacific Pooled Procurement Working Group with a clear, time-bound mandate.

v. **Recognise** the critical role of solar energy in advancing the objectives of FESRIP and FESRIP 2.0, particularly in enhancing energy access, affordability, resilience, and sustainability across PICTs, and acknowledge the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a key delivery partner in the Pacific region.

vi. **Encourage** Pacific Island Countries to leverage the ISA Small Island Developing States Platform, developed in partnership with the World Bank, as a digital e-marketplace and project preparation tool to aggregate solar demand, unlock scale, enhance fiscal stability, and secure affordable financing.

vii. **Call on** ISA, in alignment with national and regional priorities, to fast-track capacity building, policy and regulatory support, project preparation, and facilitation of investment in solar energy through Country Partnership Frameworks and Strategies, to enable the solar energy transition across PICTs.

viii. **Encourage** PICTs to prioritise distributed and rooftop solar solutions, including for public infrastructure and productive use sectors, as a cost-effective and rapidly deployable pathway to expand energy access particularly in remote and land-constrained settings, recognising the immediate benefits this can deliver for health, education, and water services.

ix. **Encourage** a more coordinated effort among ISA, regional organisations, and development partners to ensure that solar initiatives are aligned with regional and national energy plans and contribute to a connected, resilient, and sustainable Blue Pacific.

x. **Encourage** development partners and international initiatives to support the Pacific Pooled Procurement Working Group with funding and human resources, and to align technical assistance and financing with the pooled procurement mechanism.

xi. **Note** the Vienna Call to Action on green industrialisation, sustainable energy, climate, and security and its focus on Small Island Developing States.

xii. **Endorse** the Global Programme on Climate-Resilient Renewable Energy Systems for SIDS (G-RES) and welcome the launch of its Pacific component, recognising the contributions of GEF and the Austrian Government to its establishment, and encourage other donors and partners to join the programme.

xiii. **Note** the ADB's fuel price hedging assessment and recommendations for the Pacific.

ix. **Direct** UNIDO, PCREEE, and SIDS Dock to expand G-RES and promote SIDS-SIDS cooperation on climate-resilient renewable energy solutions.

x. **Recalled** the Pacific Energy Ministers shared vision for 100% renewable energy for the Pacific [at PRETMM3], and resolve to use forthcoming political opportunities, including the 55th 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 energy investment and partnership support.

**Recall** that the pathway towards a fossil-free Pacific is not immediate and that a one-size-fits-all approach does not apply across the diverse contexts of Pacific Island Countries and Territories.

xi. **Encourage** the recognition of civil society organisations (CSOs) 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 decentralized energy systems, including microgrids and community-based financing approaches; and invite CSO umbrella organisations, including through PIANGO and its national members, to engage with SPC and CROP agencies in the development and

operationalisation of a defined role for CSOs within FESRIP 2.0 implementation, including through contribution to coordination platforms, workforce development efforts, and community-level feedback mechanisms to support system functionality, accountability, and resilience outcomes.

xii. **Welcome** PNG's offer to host a regional fuel storage hub to build liquid fuel supply chain reliance in the Pacific region, recognising PNG's geographic position, storage capacity, and its role as a major energy hub in the Pacific. Officials discussed SPC and relevant CROP agencies working with PNG and other interested countries to assess the feasibility, modalities, and governance arrangements for regional fuel storage hub.

#### **Session 6: SEOM 2024 & 2025 Outcome Documents & 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM Outcome Statement**

##### **Terms of Reference for PacSEOM and Ministers, SEOM 2024 and 2025 Outcome Statements, and 5th PRETMM Outcome Statement Progress Update**

The meeting confirmed that the Terms of Reference for PacSEOM and Ministers and the SEOM 2024 and 2025 Outcome Statements had been reviewed by senior energy officials at the respective SEOM meetings in 2024 and 2025. The meeting received progress from SPC on update on the implementation of the 27 clauses of the 5th PRETMM Port Vila Outcome Statement, which provided a scored assessment of progress against each clause. The update noted that there is currently no real-time database capable of tracking progress against the Port Vila outcomes or FESRIP implementation, and that this is itself a gap the meeting has agreed to address through FESRIP 2.0. The overall picture shows strong commitments and growing momentum on some fronts, including the Pacific fossil fuel phase-out call, the ICJ advisory opinion process, OPERA strengthening, e-mobility deployment, and ocean energy readiness, while progress has been slow or limited in areas including people-centric just transition policy embedding, grant-based climate finance accessibility, energy capacity building, gender mainstreaming, and national energy planning framework development.

##### **Energy Officials:**

i. **Agree** to forward the Terms of Reference for PacSEOM and Ministers to Energy Ministers for final endorsement, recognising that the Terms of Reference define the governance

structure, roles, and the link between the SEOM and Ministerial decision-making, aligned with FESRIP and PRETMM outcomes.

ii. **Agree** to forward the SEOM 2024 Outcome Statement and the SEOM 2025 Outcome Statement to Energy Ministers for final endorsement, confirming that both documents have been reviewed by senior energy officials at their respective SEOM meetings and represent the agreed collective priorities and commitments of Pacific energy officials.

iii. **Note** the SPC progress update on the implementation of the 27 clauses of the 5th PRETMM Port Vila Outcome Statement, and acknowledge that progress has been uneven across clauses, with stronger momentum in some areas and limited progress in others, reflecting the need for the more robust monitoring and evaluation framework to be embedded in the FESRIP 2.0 implementation plan.

iv. **Note** with concern that there is currently no real-time data system capable of tracking progress against the 5th PRETMM Port Vila Outcome Statement or FESRIP implementation and reaffirm the commitment to developing a dynamic online monitoring platform under FESRIP 2.0 as a priority deliverable of the three-month implementation planning process.

v. **Note** the continued pursuit of the Renewable Energy Commissioner concept, as one of the co-outcomes of the 5th PRETMM, and encourage SPC and partners to progress this towards tangible outcomes.

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Outcomes of the Senior Energy Officials Meeting

**ANNEX 1:** 2024 PSEO Meeting Outcome – ENDORSED

**ANNEX 2:** 2025 Pacific Senior Energy Official Meeting Outcome Summary

**ANNEX 3:** Terms of Reference for PacSEOM and Energy Ministers Meeting May 2026

**ANNEX 4:** Representatives from the following regional and international organisations, development partners, civil society organisations, academia, industry, and the private sector attended:

# Pacific Senior Energy Officials Meeting

*“Just, Inclusive and Equitable Energy Transition”*

23 – 25 September 2024

Nadi, Fiji

## Outcome

### MEETING BACKGROUND

1. The Senior Energy Officials Meeting (SEOM) was organised by the Pacific Community’s (SPC) Geoscience, Energy and Maritime (GEM) Division through the, Georesources and Energy Programme (GEP). It was chaired by the Government of Papua New Guinea in collaboration with SPC and held at the Novotel, Nadi, Fiji from the 23 – 25 September 2024.
2. The meeting was convened for Senior Energy Officials from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies and development partners.
3. The main purposes of this meeting were to review progress on the implementation of Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP) 2021 – 2030 and the EFATE Outcomes from the Fifth Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM), held in Port Vila, Vanuatu in May 2023.
4. The objectives of this meeting were –
  - a. To consider how to accelerate the attainment of the official Efate Outcome Statement of the 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM.
  - b. To review commitments and progress made by PICTs, CROP agencies and development partners arising from the Efate Outcome of the 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM and to discuss relevant topics of regional interest.
  - c. To assess the implementation of the FESRIP 2021 – 2030 with a view to considering the Terms of Reference to structure the Senior Energy Officials Meeting.
5. The Meeting Agenda is in **Annex 1**.
6. The Meeting was attended by representatives from the following SPC members: Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom and Vanuatu. CROP agencies and affiliated associations which participated in the meeting were the SPC, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the University of the South Pacific (USP).
7. Delegates from the following partners attended the meeting: Alliance for Future Generations (AFG), College of Marshall Islands (CMI), Clay Energy, Global Green Growth

Institute (GGGI), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), International Solar Alliance (ISA), National University of Samoa (NUS), Office of the Pacific Energy Regulator Alliance (OPERA), Pacific Network on Globalization (PANG), Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE), Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands (SEIAPI), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), University of the New South Wales (UNSW), University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG).

8. The list of delegates is in **Annex 2**.

## **OFFICIAL OPENING**

9. Following an opening prayer, SPC welcomed regional and international delegates to this meeting which serves to share information and best practices on approaches, challenges, and status reports on implementation of the FESRIP 2021 – 2030 and the outcomes agreed to by the 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM.
10. As the outgoing Chairperson, Mr. Antony Garae, Director of the Department of Energy, expressed his gratitude on behalf of the Government of Vanuatu for the trust placed in Vanuatu to chair the 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM last year. He also hoped that the positive momentum and spirit of collaboration established during the discussions would continue moving forward.
11. The keynote address delivered by SPC's Director of GEM Division, Ms. Rhonda Robinson, emphasized the collective commitment to addressing Pacific energy challenges and shaping a sustainable future. She highlighted the critical role of the energy sector in socio-economic development and outlined key challenges, including the need to reduce fossil fuel reliance and ensure equitable access to clean, affordable energy. The Director urged for innovative solutions, strong partnerships, and a unified regional approach.
12. The introductory remarks delivered by Mr. Samuel Wagstaff, the Director, Indo-Pacific Pathways for the Department of Climate Change Energy, Environment and Water (DCCEEW) highlighted Australia's commitment to regional partnerships in advancing sustainable energy solutions. Australia highlighted its own ambitious renewable energy targets and emphasized knowledge sharing and collaboration. Ongoing practical support for energy transition in the Pacific was noted, with Australia expressing interest in developing a comprehensive, dedicated partnership to achieve a just, inclusive, and equitable energy future.
13. The meeting thanked outgoing Chairperson Mr. Garae and endorsed the new Chairperson Mr. Meketa from Papua New Guinea, host of the 6<sup>th</sup> PRETMM in 2026. The handover from Vanuatu to Papua New Guinea was completed, and the agenda adopted.
14. The meeting established a Drafting Committee to review the SEOM Terms of Reference and outcomes. Members include Australia, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji (lead), Republic of Marshall Islands, Nauru and Tonga.

## COUNTRY PROGRESS REPORTS AND PAPERS

15. SPC opened the session by recalling the outcomes of the 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM, followed by the key priorities of FESRIP 2021 – 2030, the status of the Pacific energy sector and an update on its implementation in line with SPC's Energy's Projects.
16. SPC is actively collaborating with its member States on implementing the 23 priority areas identified under FESRIP 2021 – 2030, particularly: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 21, as well as on outcomes 21, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 from the 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM.
17. In this session, PICTs in attendance at the meeting provided their reports on their status of implementation of FESRIP 2021 – 2030 and the outcomes of the 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM, at the national level, main challenges, opportunities and need for support going forward.
18. The Reports highlighted their achievements, challenges and new projects or initiatives related to the FESRIP 2021 – 2030 and the outcome of the 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM. The report by each member is shown in **Annex 3**.
19. The meeting appreciated the Chair's practical approach to addressing Tokelau's immediate communication needs, with the offer to donate a Starlink pack and acknowledged the Chair's commitment to the principle of "leaving no one behind" and moving forward as a unified team. The meeting recognised the value of such immediate, practical solutions in addressing the unique challenges faced by remote SIDS like Tokelau and encouraged further exploration of similar collaborative approaches to support energy development across the Pacific region.
20. PICTs used this meeting to request funding support from development partners.
21. **FESRIP #6 - Financing a regional Framework and PRETMM Outcome 25**

The meeting received presentations from Australia (DCCEEW) and UK FCDO on regional support and financing options for implementing FESRIP 2021-2030 and related energy initiatives in the Pacific.

The meeting noted that both Australia and the UK expressed interest in understanding the expectations and priorities of Pacific nations regarding energy sector development and financing.

The meeting further noted the UK's commitment to global climate and clean energy priorities, including its mission to create a world free from poverty on a liveable planet.

The meeting acknowledged UK's dedication to placing climate, nature, and clean energy at the heart of its foreign policy.

The meeting recognised the UK's significant investment in the Pacific renewable energy sector, with a commitment of nearly £30m through to 2030. This includes funding for SPC's CLEARPICS project, support for the NDC Hub, PCREEE, PEGSAP and OPERA and advancement of key FESRIP elements.

The meeting noted the ongoing collaboration between the UK and New Zealand in developing CAMCO's TIDES blended financing platform, which was previously showcased at the PRETMM.

The meeting appreciated the UK representatives' emphasis on the value of attending to hear progress on FESRIP implementation and understand the barriers faced by each country in the region.

## **PRIORITY A: ENERGY POLICY, PLANNING AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **22. FESRIP #1 Energy Planning Tools and Frameworks and PRETMM Outcome 29**

The meeting received a presentation from UNSW on a pilot project and modelling tool for Vanuatu, which explored opportunities to expand the initiative to other countries.

The meeting noted the recommendations for improving energy planning frameworks and key considerations for the region.

The meeting acknowledged the importance of strengthening planning frameworks and utilising open-source tools to engage stakeholders, explore diverse scenarios, and support ongoing, adaptive energy planning.

The meeting further recognised the need to prioritise capacity expansion tools and regional support for inclusive planning processes to help Pacific Island countries meet renewable energy targets.

### **23. FESRIP #2 Capacity development and PRETMM Outcome 28**

The meeting received presentations from UNDP, UNSW and USP on enhancing skills and knowledge in the energy sector to support the implementation of FESRIP 2021-2030 and address outcomes from the 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM.

The meeting noted the identification of key capacity development needs, emphasising the importance of individual, organisational, and governance-level skills, with a focus on achieving a just, inclusive, and equitable energy transition.

The meeting acknowledged the recommendations for capacity development, including the need to conduct training needs assessments and implement competency-based training.

The meeting recognised the importance of incorporating comprehensive on-the-job mentoring in clean energy projects.

The meeting further noted the recommendation to foster collaboration between governments, industry, and educational providers to develop relevant skills and knowledge in the energy sector.

#### **24. FESRIP #4 Women in Energy and PRETMM Outcome 30, 31**

The meeting received a presentation from SPC on addressing gender imbalances in the Pacific energy sector.

The meeting noted the introduction of the Pacific Energy and Gender Strategic Action Plan (PEGSAP) 2021-2030, a regional framework coordinated by SPC, aimed at increasing women's participation in the energy sector and promoting a just clean energy transition. The meeting acknowledged the role of the Pacific Energy and Gender Initiative (PEGI) Steering Committee in providing ongoing guidance for PEGSAP's implementation, which has commenced with support from the US and UK governments.

The meeting further noted the upcoming Women in Energy Conference scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024, which will further discuss these issues and provide recommendations for advancing gender equality in the sector.

#### **25. FESRIP #5 Clean Cooking Technologies and PRETMM Outcome 21, 25**

The meeting received a presentation from SPC on the status of clean cooking technologies in the Pacific region.

The meeting noted the information provided on the clean cooking access rate in the Pacific, including discussion of the Tuvalu biogas project and opportunities to extend it to other countries.

The meeting acknowledged the ongoing Gender Impact Assessment in Tuvalu related to clean cooking technologies.

The meeting recognised that the clean cooking access rate in the Pacific is one of the lowest in the world, with significant impacts on health, environment, and gender equality.

The meeting emphasised the crucial need for continued support from governments, international donors, and development organisations to expand access and adoption of clean cooking technologies in the region.

The meeting noted the recommendations to:

- i. Conduct public awareness campaigns to highlight the health, environmental, and economic benefits of clean cooking;
- ii. Integrate clean cooking solutions into national energy strategies;
- iii. Mobilise international support to work with local governments in promoting clean cooking technologies, developing pilot projects, building capacity, and providing financial support for scaling clean cooking solutions.

### **PRIORITY C: SUSTAINABLE ELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT**

#### **26. FESRIP #11 Penetration of RE into the grids and PRETMM Outcome 29**

The meeting received a presentation from PPA addressing the low uptake of renewable energy (RE) in Pacific Island Countries, despite ongoing investments.

The meeting noted the key challenges identified, including managing increasing variable renewable energy (VRE) penetration and transitioning from fossil fuels to RE.

The meeting acknowledged the emphasis on the need for policy and regulatory readiness to support RE integration.

The meeting recognised the importance of grid preparedness, including the implementation of smart grids, SCADA, and control systems.

The meeting further noted the need for strategic planning with financial and technological support to enable smooth VRE integration, in particular the need for continuous grid stability studies.

#### **27. FESRIP #12 Remote Rural Electrification / Mini-grids and PRETMM Outcome 29**

The meeting received a presentation from GGGI on remote rural electrification and mini-grids.

The meeting noted the information provided on the current status of remote rural electrification efforts in the Pacific, particularly through mini-grids and solar home systems (SHS).

The meeting acknowledged the recommendation to establish partnerships and a centralised platform for sharing best practices and collaborating on renewable energy initiatives, promoting regional cooperation and knowledge sharing.

The meeting recognised the need to implement incentive programmes and public-private partnerships to attract investment in scalable renewable technologies, accelerating investment in the sector.

The meeting further noted the importance of developing training programmes for local capacity building and advocating for comprehensive policies that promote renewable energy growth and address logistical challenges, enhancing community engagement and policy support.

#### **28. FESRIP #15 NDC hub - Implementation of national goals and NDC commitments for renewable electricity**

The meeting acknowledged the comprehensive update on the NDC Hub's implementation of national goals and commitments in line with 1.5°C for renewable electricity, including the significant development of SPC becoming the new host of the NDC Hub.

The meeting recognised the NDC Hub's crucial role in supporting PICTs through policy and institutional strengthening initiatives. This support extends to leveraging climate finance by reinforcing climate change and NDC policy frameworks.

The meeting appreciated the NDC Hub's efforts in enhancing institutional frameworks across the region, noting the importance of these structures in achieving renewable electricity goals and NDC commitments.

The meeting acknowledged the continued collaboration between the NDC Hub, GGGI, and PICTs in advancing towards national renewable electricity targets and fulfilling NDC commitments.

**29. FESRIP #16 RE technologies and emerging technologies and PRETMM Outcome 29, 32, 33, 34**

The meeting received presentations from PCREEE, USP, and UNSW on progress in emerging technologies and ongoing projects.

The meeting noted the comprehensive review of progress on emerging technologies, including solar, wind, ocean thermal energy, seawater air conditioning, bioenergy, and the Pacific Hydrogen Strategy Roadmap.

The meeting acknowledged the updates on the Regional Ocean Energy Readiness Programme and the Solar Technology and Application and Resource Centres (STAR C) project, highlighting successful integration projects and necessary steps to expand their use.

The meeting recognised the collaborative efforts of UNIDO, SIDS Dock, GLOEA, USP, UNSW, IRENA, Global H2E, DCCEEW, and SPC in advancing decarbonisation technologies in Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs).

The meeting emphasised the importance of encouraging tertiary institutions and PICT students to conduct research on diversifying the energy technology mix.

The meeting highlighted the significance of STAR-C's work on solar qualifications and quality infrastructure and stressed the need for thorough consultations in this area.

The meeting called for SPC and partners to form a technology advisory group dedicated to research on emerging energy technologies in the region.

**30. FESRIP #17 Energy Regulation OPERA and PRETMM Outcome 24, 25**

The meeting noted the comprehensive update on OPERA's recent developments, member status, and resource mobilisation efforts, highlighting the crucial role of energy regulators in facilitating the energy transition across the Pacific region.

The meeting noted OPERA's establishment in 2019, hosted by SPC with support from the Asian Development Bank, and its primary objectives: strengthening regional capacity in

utility regulation, enhancing the professionalism of national energy regulators, and expanding outreach through a comprehensive communication strategy.

The meeting recognised OPERA's significant growth, from three founding members in 2016 to thirteen by 2023, and its collaborative efforts in capacity-building initiatives and training to improve regulatory standards throughout the Pacific.

The meeting emphasised the critical role of energy regulators and OPERA in accelerating the energy transition and creating a favourable investment environment in the region, appreciating SPC's support in hosting OPERA.

The meeting expressed gratitude for the ongoing funding from the Asian Development Bank, as well as the support from the Australian Government for the OPERA Coordinator position and the UK Government's financial contributions, recognising their importance in sustaining OPERA's operations and initiatives.

## **PRIORITY D: LOW-CARBON TRANSPORT ENERGY & PRIORITY E: IMPROVED ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

### **31. FESRIP #18 E-Mobility and PRETMM Outcome 25, 35**

The meeting noted the presentation by PCREEE and GGGI and acknowledged the comprehensive discussion on strategies for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) to adopt electric mobility and develop necessary infrastructure.

The meeting noted the overview of current eMobility programmes, including electric vehicle (EV) policies, awareness campaigns, and successful infrastructure and battery disposal projects. GGGI's support for Vanuatu, including GEF-8 funding proposals, was recognised.

The meeting emphasised that eMobility is essential for reducing dependency on fossil fuel imports and requires upskilling, digital literacy, and a strong policy framework. It was further noted that eMobility should be integrated into broader strategies involving public transport, non-motorised transport, and urban planning.

The meeting highlighted the need for PICTs to conduct comprehensive studies on electric vehicles (EVs) and their socio-economic impacts on the electricity sector, environment, and private sector. It also stressed the importance of advocating for the early adoption of eMobility policies, roadmaps, and standards.

The meeting recognised the need for support to enhance the effectiveness of national and regional EV Working Groups. The contributions of organisations such as GGGI, SPC/PCREEE, Charging Interface Initiative (CharIN), and PRIF in advancing eMobility developments in the PICTs were acknowledged.

### **32. FESRIP #21 Energy Efficiency and PRETMM Outcome 25**

The meeting noted the presentation by PCREEE and acknowledged the comprehensive review of initiatives to enhance energy efficiency, including Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) and labelling, and noted the successful follow-up actions from the PALS programme.

The meeting recognised the current status of energy efficiency programmes in the Pacific, particularly the development of PALS Phase 2, will include U.S. standards. The challenges and opportunities in advancing energy efficiency and implementing MEPS and labelling were also identified.

The meeting emphasised the need for expedited finalisation and approval of the PALS Phase 2 funding proposal, recognising its importance in advancing regional energy efficiency efforts.

The meeting supported the establishment of national coordinating mechanisms, including a regulator representative, to oversee MEPSL implementation, acknowledging the crucial role of effective oversight in the success of these initiatives.

The meeting encouraged Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to update MEPSL regulations to align with Australian and New Zealand standards. It also noted the importance of seeking technical and financial support for the maintenance of the Pacific Appliances Database and addressing energy efficiency in buildings and the economy as a whole.

The Energy Efficiency session reviewed initiatives to enhance energy efficiency, including Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) and labelling, and highlighted successful follow-up actions from the PALS program. It discussed the current status of energy efficiency programs in the Pacific, particularly the development of PALS Phase 2, will include U.S. standards. The session also identified challenges and opportunities in advancing energy efficiency and implementing MEPS and labelling.

## **PRIORITY B: ENERGY SECTOR FINANCE AND COOPERATION**

### **33. FESRIP #9 Cooperation with the private sector in energy and PRETMM Outcome 27 Project Financing**

The meeting received presentations from Fiji, UNDP, IRENA, and GGGI on strategies for increasing private sector investment to support the Pacific region's transition from petroleum to renewable energy.

The meeting noted the importance of innovative financing mechanisms, such as national financing vehicles like the Fiji Rural Electrification Fund (FREF) and Vanuatu National Green Energy Fund (NGEF), green bonds, and microfinancing schemes to increase energy access, particularly in rural areas.

The meeting recognised the need to derisk rural electrification through guarantees and improved loan security, alongside strengthening the regulatory framework.

The meeting acknowledged IRENA's presentation on Project Development and Facilitation Support for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), noting the estimated \$10 billion needed by 2030 for SIDS' energy transition.

The meeting highlighted key initiatives presented:

- a. The SIDS Lighthouses Initiative, calling for robust partnerships to overcome financing challenges.
- b. The Climate Investment Platform (CIP), a joint initiative to mobilise capital for renewable energy projects.
- c. The Energy Transition Accelerator Financing (ETAF) platform, aiming to direct \$1.0 billion (growing to \$5.0 billion) into renewable energy projects in developing countries.

The meeting emphasised the importance of multi-stakeholder platforms and diverse funding instruments, including public lending, equity, debt, and technical assistance.

#### **34. SIDS4 and SIDS Lighthouse initiative**

The meeting received a presentation on the SIDS Lighthouse Initiative (LHI) and the Abu Dhabi Action Agenda for Sustainable Energy (ABAS) from IRENA.

The meeting noted that both the ABAS and LHI focus on mobilising finance, reducing the cost of renewable energy, and addressing institutional and capacity gaps in Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

The meeting recognised IRENA's critical role in providing technical support, facilitating project financing, and building partnerships to accelerate renewable energy adoption in SIDS.

The meeting acknowledged the ongoing priorities of increasing renewable energy deployment, particularly through solar PV, and improving energy resilience in vulnerable regions like the Pacific SIDS.

The meeting appreciated IRENA's commitment to supporting the renewable energy transition in Pacific SIDS and looked forward to continued collaboration in achieving these goals.

#### **35. PRETMM Outcome 21, 22, 23, 25: Dialogue with Development Partners**

The meeting held two panel discussions focusing on regional collaboration and partnerships. The Partner Dialogue Session highlighted the collective efforts of regional and international partners in supporting the Pacific's energy transition.

Panel 1 comprised representatives from the UNDP, ISA, SPREP, NUS, PANG and Clay Energy from the private sector.

Panel 2 included partners from Australia and the United Kingdom (as donors), GGGI, CMI, AFG and SEIAPI.

The meeting acknowledged stakeholders' contributions to the regional energy agenda, reaffirming the call for energy security and urgent decarbonisation. It emphasised improved implementation of regional frameworks, enhanced collaboration, and funding mobilisation for energy programmes, including innovative waste-to-energy solutions.

The meeting stressed regular progress reporting and highlighted alignment with Sustainable Development Goals on clean energy and climate action, recognising the nexus between waste management and sustainable energy production.

The meeting recognised the importance of both youth engagement and effective infrastructure management in achieving sustainable energy goals across the Pacific. It called for the inclusion of youth perspectives in national and regional energy plans, alongside existing gender initiatives, and emphasised the need for improved operation and maintenance of energy infrastructure.

The meeting highlighted successful youth dialogues, such as those offered by the NDC Hub, and stressed the value of awareness programs at various educational levels. It called for support from SPC and donor partners to facilitate youth involvement, ensuring youths understanding of energy sector targets and plans.

Additionally, the meeting emphasised that both youth engagement and improved infrastructure operations and maintenance should be reflected in regional energy strategies and outcomes.

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SEOM**

36. The meeting reviewed the **ToR for the Senior Energy Officials Meeting** as detailed in **Annex 4** for adoption in 2025 and presentation at the 6<sup>th</sup> PRETMM in 2026. The purpose of the TOR is to structure and guide the meeting arrangements of the PacSEOM.

## **PACIFIC SENIOR ENERGY OFFICIALS MEETING OUTCOME**

37. The meeting expressed its appreciation to PICTs, CROP Agencies and development partners for their participation and sharing of information in this meeting.
38. The meeting expressed its appreciation to development partners for their support in this meeting and their contribution to its success. Additionally, extending its gratitude to the SPC for effectively planning and convening the meeting successfully.

**Wednesday 25 September 2024**



# Pacific Regional Energy Meetings Series 2024

"Just, Inclusive and Equitable Energy Transition"

23 – 27 September 2024, Nadi, Fiji

Draft Agenda

<b>Senior Energy Officials Meeting</b>		
<b>DAY 1 – MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2024</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Presenters</b>
08.00 – 08.30	Participants arrival and registration	
<b>Opening session</b>		
08.30 – 08.45	Traditional Welcoming Ceremony ( <i>Vale Ni Sogoo</i> )	
08.45 - 10.00	Opening Prayer	Member country
	Keynote address	Director GEM Division, SPC
	Introduction remarks	DCCEEW
	Introduction of participants	All
	Adoption of agenda	Chair - Vanuatu
	Endorsement of Chair	Vanuatu hand over to PNG
	Call for nomination and endorsement of Drafting Committee	Chair - PNG
	<u>Slido</u>	SPC communications Adviser
10.00 – 10.30	<b>Morning Tea / Networking / Group photo</b>	
10.30 – 10.50	Progress on the FESRIP implementation and on the 5th PRETMM outcome Implementation of SPC Energy Projects	Deputy Director GEP, SPC
10.50 – 12.30	Country presentations <i>10 min/country</i>	Countries
12.30 – 1.30	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
1.30 – 3.00	Country presentations	Countries
	Questions and discussions	
3.00 – 3.30	<b>Afternoon Tea / Networking</b>	
3.30 – 4.25	FESRIP #6 / PRETMM Outcome 25: Financing a regional Framework	Interventions from SPC member countries: Australia (DCCEEW), UK FCDO, US
4.25 – 4.30	Closing Day 1	Chair
4.30 – 5.30	<i>Drafting committee</i>	
6.00 – 8.00	<b>Opening Reception</b>	



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Draft Agenda

Senior Energy Officials Meeting		
DAY 2 – TUESDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2024		
Time	Session	Presenters
08.00 – 08.30	Registration	
08.30 – 08.40	Remarks, Prayer, and Welcome Address	SPC and Chair
<b>Priority A: Energy Policy, Planning and Capacity Development</b>		Scene setter: Vanuatu
08.40- 09.10	FESRIP #1 / PRETMM Outcome 29: Energy Planning Tools and Frameworks	Presentation: UNSW
09.10 – 09.50	FESRIP #2 / PRETMM Outcome 28: Capacity development	USP / UNDP / UNSW / SPC (EQAP)
09.50 – 10.05	FESRIP #4 / PRETMM Outcome 30, 31 FESRIP #5 / PRETMM Outcome 21, 25 Women in Energy & Clean Cooking Technologies	SPC
10.05 – 10.30	<b>Morning Tea / Networking</b>	
<b>Priority C: Sustainable Electric Power Development</b>		Scene setter: Fiji
10.30 – 11.15	FESRIP #11 / PRETMM Outcome 29: Penetration of RE into the grids (and <del>off-grid</del> )	PPA / UNSW / FSM panel discussion
11.15 – 11.35	FESRIP #12 / PRETMM Outcome 29: Remote Rural Electrification, Mini-grids and SHS	Presentation: GGGI
11.35 – 11.50	FESRIP #15 NDC hub / PRETMM Outcome: Implementation of national goals and NDC commitments for renewable electricity	NDC Hub
11.50 – 12.50	FESRIP #16 / PRETMM Outcome 29, 32, 33, 34: Emerging and <del>innovative</del> technologies to accelerate decarbonisation (incl. Hydrogen)	PCREEE / UNSW
12.50 – 2.00	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
2.00 – 2.20	FESRIP #17 / PRETMM Outcome 24, 25: Energy Regulation OPERA	OPERA
<b>Priority D: Low-Carbon Transport Energy &amp; Priority E: Improved Energy Efficiency</b>		Scene setter: Cook Islands
2.20 – 2.50	FESRIP #18 / PRETMM Outcome 35 FESRIP #21 / PRETMM Outcome 25: E-Mobility & Energy Efficiency	PCREEE / GGGI
2.50 - 3.20	<b>Afternoon Tea / Networking</b>	
<b>Priority B: Energy Sector Finance and Cooperation</b>		



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Draft Agenda

3.20 – 4.00	FESRIP #9 Cooperation with the private sector in energy / PRETMM Outcome 27 <u>Project Financing</u>	UNDP, IRENA, GGGI
4.00 – 4.15	Closing Day 2	Chair
4.30 – 5.30	<i>Drafting committee meeting</i>	
6.00 – 8.00	CLEARPICS kick-off event Clean Energy Access for Remote Pacific Island Countries	



DAY 3 – WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2024		
Senior Energy Officials Meeting		
Time	Session	Presenters
08.00 – 08.30	<u>Registration</u>	
08.30 – 08.40	Administrative Remarks, Prayer, and Welcome Address	SPC and Chair
08.40 – 09.45	Review of the draft <u>ToR</u> Senior Energy Officials Meeting	SPC and countries
09.45 – 10.00	SIDS4 and SIDS Lighthouse initiative	IRENA
10.00 – 10.30	<u>Morning Tea / Networking</u>	
10.30 – 12.00	PRETMM Outcome 21, 22, 23, 25: Regional collaboration and partnerships <u>Dialogue with Development partners</u>	<p>Panel session 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, <u>Abduvakkos Abdurahmanov</u></li> <li>ISA, Sandeep K Singh, international solar alliance</li> <li>SPREP, Mr Anthony <u>Talouli</u>, Director Waste Management</li> <li>NUS, Mr Tupuivao <u>Vaiaso</u>, National University of Samoa</li> <li><u>ClayEnergy</u>, Mohammed <u>Tazil</u></li> <li>AFG, Lagi <u>Toribau</u></li> </ul> <p>Panel session 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Australia, Mr Samuel Wagstaff</li> <li>UK, Mr Rick Zwaan</li> <li>GGGI</li> </ul>

**Pacific Regional Energy Meetings Series 2024**  
**"Just, Inclusive and Equitable Energy Transition"**  
 23 – 27 September 2024, Nadi, Fiji  
*Draft Agenda*

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMI - Ms Vasemaca Savu, Dean Academic Affairs, College of Marshall Islands</li> <li>• SEIAPI - Geoff Stapleton, Executive Officer</li> <li>• PANG - Joey Tau</li> </ul>
12.00 – 12.30	Slide – summary of feedback	SPC / UNSW
12.30 – 2.00	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
2.00 – 2.30	Review and Endorsement of Meeting Outcome document and endorsement of draft ToR for the Senior Energy Officials Meeting	Countries
2.30 – 2.45	Closing of the SEOM	Chair
2.45 – 3.00	Traditional Farewell ( <i>Vale Ni Sogoo</i> )	
3.00 – 3.30	<b>Afternoon Tea / Networking</b>	
3.30 – 5.30	Waste-to-Energy Symposium	
6.00 – 09.00	SEOM Closing Reception and Dinner	

## ANNEX 2 – LIST OF DELEGATES

	Country/Organization	Designation	Full Name	Job Title	Email
1	Australia	Ms.	Nikki Fitzgerald	Assistant Secretary, Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Branch	Nikki.Fitzgerald@dcceew.gov.au
2	Australia	Mr.	Samuel Joseph Wagstaff	Director, Indo-Pacific Pathways, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sam.Wagstaff@dcceew.gov.au
3	British High Commission	Mr.	Rick Zwaan	Lead Climate Change Adviser, UK Pacific Development Unit	rick.zwaan@fcdo.gov.uk
4	Cook Islands	Mr.	Tangitamaiti Tereapii	Director, Renewable Energy Development Division, Office of the Prime Minister	tangi.tereapii@cookislands.gov.ck
5	Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)	Ms.	Leola Primo	Programme Manager, Energy and Water Division, Department of Resources and Development	leola.primo@rd.gov.fm
6	Fiji	Mr.	Mikaele Belena	Director of Energy, Department of Energy, Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services & Transport	mikaele.belena@mpwmst.gov.fj
7	Kiribati	Ms.	Ueaniti Kiritimati	Energy Economist, Energy Planning Department, Ministry of Infrastructure & Sustainable Energy	energy.economist@mise.gov.ki
8	Nauru	Ms.	Phaedora Harris	Acting Director of Energy, Department of Climate Change & National Resilience	msphae07@gmail.com
9	Papua New Guinea (PNG)	Mr.	Ronald Meketa	Managing Director	<a href="mailto:Ronald.Meketa@nea.gov.pg">Ronald.Meketa@nea.gov.pg</a>
10	Papua New Guinea (PNG)	Mr.	Larsen Daboyan	Senior Officer Technical Regulations, Technical Regulations Division, National Energy Authority	larsen.daboyan@nea.gov.pg
11	Papua New Guinea (PNG)	Ms.	Kalina Naris	Senior HRM Officer and GESI Officer, Corporate Affairs Division, National Energy Authority	kalina.naris@nea.gov.pg
12	Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)	Mrs.	Angeline Heine-Reimers	Director, Ministry of Environment, National Energy Office	gelheine@gmail.com
13	Samoa	Mr.	Faatauva'a Vaalele Lafai Tavita	Principal Energy Database & Analyst, Energy Policy Coordination and Management, Ministry of Work, Transport and Infrastructure	faatauvaava.tavita@mwti.gov.ws
14	Solomon Islands	Mr.	Gabriel Aimaea	Deputy Director Energy, Energy Division, Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification	GAimaea@mmere.gov.sb
15	Tonga	Ms.	Emeline Fatai Laumanu	Acting Director for Department of Energy, Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Environment, Climate Change and Communications (MEI/DECC)	feauini@gmail.com
16	Tonga	Mr.	Eliate Tuhamoelotu Laulaupeaalu	Principal Energy Planner	tuhamoelotu@gmail.com
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18	Tuvalu	Mr.	Simona Kilei	Director, Energy, Government of Tuvalu	skilei@gov.tv
19	Vanuatu	Mr.	Antony Garae	Director, Department of Energy	gantony@vanuatu.gov.vu
20	Alliance for Future Generation (AFG)	Mr.	Lavetanalagi Seru	Alliance for Future Generation	lagiseru@gmail.com
21	Clay Energy	Mr.	Mohammed Tazil	Business Development Manager	tazil@clayenergy.com.fj
22	CMI	Ms.	Vasemaca Savu	Dean Academic Affairs	<a href="mailto:vsavu@cmi.edu">vsavu@cmi.edu</a>
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27	GGGI	Mr.	Phonesavanh Latmany	Regional Technical Lead for Green Investment	phonesavanh.latmany@gggi.org
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29	IRENA	Mr.	Peceli Nakavulevu	IRENA Pacific Focal Point	PNakavulevu@irena.org
30	International Solar Alliance (ISA)	Ms.	Sandeep K Singh	Regional Program Head - SIDS Energy, International Solar Alliance, Pacific	Sandeepk.singh0090@gmail.com
31	International Solar Alliance (ISA)	Ms.	Rajeshni Lata	Project Administration Lead-Pacific Office	rlata@isolaralliance.org
32	Illustrator	Mr.	Atueta Rabuka	Illustrator, Fiji	rabukaatueta@gmail.com

	Country/Organization	Designation	Full Name	Job Title	Email
33	NDC Hub	Mr.	Amit Singh	Senior Engineer Planning Framework and Capacity Expansion Modelling Development	amitsi@spc.int
34	National University of Samoa (NUS)	Mr.	Tupuivao Vaiaaso	Lecturer, National University of Samoa	t.vaiaaso@nus.edu.ws
35	OPERA	Mr.	Joel Abraham	OPERA Vice-Chair	ceo@fcc.gov.fj
36	Pacific Network on Globalisation (PANG)	Mr.	Joey Tau	Co-Coordinator, Pacific Network on Globalisation	joey.tau@pang.org.fj
37	Pacific Network on Globalisation (PANG)	Mr.	Lagi Toribau	Consultant, Pacific Network on Globalisation	ltoribau@gmail.com
38	Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands-SEIAPI	Mr.	Geoff Stapleton	Executive Officer	geoff@gses.com.au
39	SPREP	Mr.	Anthony Sumasafu Talouji	Director, Waste Management and Pollution Control	anthonyt@sprep.org
40	SPREP	Ms.	Lilian Jacinta Penaia	Technical Waste Officer, PAWES, Samoa	lilianp@sprep.org
41	UNSW	Mr.	Janendra Kumar Prasad	Researcher PhD Candidate, School of Photovoltaic and Renewable Energy Engineering	jay.prasad@unsw.edu.au
42	UNSW	Professor	Iain MacGill	Professor of Energy Systems, Collaboration on Energy Environmental Markets and School of Electrical Engineering	i.macgill@unsw.edu.au
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48	UNDP	Mr.	Abduvakkos Abdurahmanov	DRR-Programme, Suva	abduvakkos.abdurahmanov@undp.org
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50	UPNG	Mr.	Manu Rawali	Lecturer	mrawali@upng.ac.pg; m.rawali@unsw.edu.au
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77	SPC	Ms.	Ane Brown	Programme Accountant	aneb@spc.int

### **ANNEX 3 – MEMBERS’ REPORTS**

The presentations made by Members who attended the meeting and furnished Power Point presentations of their reports, namely, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. These presentations will be made available in the link that will be shared with the participants.

**ANNEX 4 – TERMS OF REFERENCE OF SENIOR ENERGY OFFICIALS MEETING**

**(Attached separately)**

## **ANNEX 2 (of 2026 Pacific Senior Energy Officials Resolutions at Sixth PRETMM)**

### **PACIFIC SENIOR ENERGY OFFICIALS MEETING**

"Collaborative Pathways towards a Scalable, Sustainable and Resilient Energy Transition"

20 – 21 November 2025

**Nadi, Fiji**

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#### **Outcome**

##### **MEETING BACKGROUND**

1. The Senior Energy Officials Meeting (SEOM) was organised by the Pacific Community's (SPC) Geoscience, Energy and Maritime (GEM) Division through the Georesources and Energy Programme (GEP). It was chaired by the Government of Papua New Guinea and held at the Tanoa Hotel, Nadi, Fiji from 20 – 21 November 2025.
2. The meeting was convened for Senior Energy Officials from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies, the private sector, civil society organisations and development partners.
3. The main purposes of this meeting were to review progress on the implementation of the Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP) 2021 – 2030, assess progress on the outcomes from the 2024 SEOM, and advance preparations for the Sixth Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (6th PRETMM) to be held in Papua New Guinea in 2026.
4. The objectives of this meeting were:
  - a. To review the implementation of the 2024 SEOM outcomes and country-level progress
  - b. To assess regional energy data, statistics, and monitoring frameworks
  - c. To strengthen regional energy initiatives and partnerships for Pacific energy resilience
  - d. To discuss financing mechanisms and investment opportunities for energy transition
  - e. To finalise preparatory arrangements for the 6th PRETMM.
5. The Meeting Agenda is added as Annex 1 in the final document.
6. The Meeting was attended by representatives from the following SPC members: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Guam, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, United Kingdom, United States of America. Apologies were noted from Vanuatu, Tokelau and Tuvalu.
7. Delegates from the following partners attended the meeting: Clay Engineering PTE Limited T/A Clay Energy, GGGI (Global Green Growth Institute), Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands (SEIAPI), Pacific Power Association, The University of the South Pacific, Australian Government – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), Individual Consultant (MicroEnergy International GmbH), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (New Zealand), Asian Development Bank, UNSW Sydney, Scinergy International Ltd, Envisory, Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission, Australian Energy Regulator, National University of Samoa, Bio Energy Insight, Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility (PRIF), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), Fiji National

University, Alliance for Future Generations (AFG) and Teulava Consultancy. There were also delegates that attended by joining the meeting virtually due to unavailability to travel including representatives from some country focal points, International Solar Alliance (ISA), International Energy Agency (IEA), European Union (EU), GRO Geothermal Training Programme and Crisil Intelligence.

8. The Meeting was held following the steering committee meetings of the Pacific Adoption of Waste to Energy Solutions (PAWES) Project, Pacific Energy and Gender Initiative (PEGI), Clean Energy Access for Remote Pacific Islands (CLEARPICS), Pacific Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) and EU Electrification projects, and the Office of the Pacific Energy Regulators Alliance (OPERA) Annual General Meeting.
9. The full list of delegates is Annex 2 in the final document.

#### **OFFICIAL OPENING**

10. The meeting was opened by the Chairperson, Mr. Ronald Meketa, Managing Director, National Energy Authority, Papua New Guinea, who welcomed regional and international delegates to the meeting and emphasised the critical importance of regional collaboration in addressing Pacific energy challenges.
11. The meeting noted the Chair's recognition of the significant progress achieved since the 2024 SEOM while acknowledging that substantial work remains to achieve the region's ambitious energy targets. The Chair highlighted that Pacific Island nations face unique challenges including geographical isolation, limited resources, and vulnerability to climate change impacts, while also possessing abundant renewable energy potential.
12. The meeting noted the Chair's emphasis on the transformative period for the Pacific energy sector, with unprecedented global attention on climate action and energy transition presenting both challenges and opportunities for the region.
13. The meeting noted Papua New Guinea's commitment to hosting the Sixth Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (6<sup>th</sup> PRETMM) in 2026, which will serve as a critical platform for advancing regional energy and transport priorities.
14. The meeting noted the Chair's call for:
  - i. Honest assessment of progress and identification of areas requiring additional support.
  - ii. Strengthened partnerships between governments, development partners, private sector, and communities
  - iii. Focus on practical, implementable solutions that can deliver tangible benefits to Pacific communities
  - iv. Enhanced regional cooperation to leverage collective strength in achieving energy security and resilience.
15. The meeting noted the Chair's vision for the SEOM to serve as a platform for sharing experiences, learning from both successes and challenges, and charting a clear path forward for Pacific energy development.

16. The meeting established a Drafting Committee to review the Pacific SEOM and Energy Ministers Terms of Reference and review and finalise the SEOM outcomes. The Drafting Committee was chaired by Samoa and included the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands.

### **Session 1: Setting the Scene – Review of 2024 SEOM Outcomes**

17. The meeting noted the presentation from Ms. Olai Uludong, Deputy Director for the Georesources and Energy Programme at SPC, providing an overview of regional energy security status and progress since the 2024 SEOM.
18. The meeting noted the institutional framework within which the energy programme operates, as part of SPC's Geoscience, Energy and Maritime (GEM) Division, and its role as the premier technical and scientific organisation for the region serving 27 Pacific Island Countries and Territories.
19. The meeting acknowledged that 2025 represents the midpoint of FESRIP 2021-2030, necessitating a comprehensive review of progress against the 23 priority areas to determine whether adjustments are needed for presentation to Ministers at the 6th PRETMM in 2026.
20. The meeting noted the current status of renewable energy electricity generation across the region as reported by IRENA, while recognising that significant gaps remain in electricity access across member countries.
21. The meeting noted that despite increasing investment in the energy sector, the actual implementation of projects necessary for energy transition has not kept pace with financial commitments.
22. The meeting noted the comprehensive portfolio of energy initiatives currently being implemented by SPC, through regional and bilateral arrangements included but not limited to:
  - a. FSM Sustainable Energy and Accompanying Measures (SEAM) Project in partnership with the European Union and Australia DFAT Outer Island Rural electrification project through AIFFP.
  - b. The Office of the Pacific Energy Regulators Alliance (OPERA) supported by Australia – DCCEEW, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).
  - c. The Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) supported by Austria, UNIDO, New Zealand MFAT and the UK FCDO.
  - d. The Clean Energy Access for Remote Pacific Island Countries (CLEARPICS) Project, supported by the UK FCDO.
  - e. The Tuvalu Biogas Project for clean cooking, supported by the United States of America
  - f. The Pacific Adoption of Waste-to-Energy Solutions (PAWES) project is co-funded by the Pacific Community (SPC) and the ACP Innovation Fund, under the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) Research and Innovation Programme. This programme is implemented by the OACPS with financial support from the European Union. The project is led by SPC in partnership with the Secretariat of the

Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The project is piloted in Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu.

- g. Capacity building and scholarship programmes for emerging technologies.
  - h. The Pacific Energy and Gender Strategic Action Plan (PEGSAP) implementation, supported by UK FCDO.
  - i. The Electrification of Kiribati's Line Islands Powered through Solar Energy (EKLIPSE) project is primarily funded by the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).
23. The meeting noted the critical importance of addressing clean cooking, which remains one of the Pacific region's most significant challenges in achieving SDG 7.
24. The meeting noted progress on specific infrastructure projects, including the Kiritimati Island EKLIPSE project, which has successfully connected 150kW to the medium voltage grid with an additional 500kW contract recently awarded.
25. The meeting emphasised the need for harmonised standards for emerging energy technologies, noting the ongoing request from the 2024 SEOM for support to launch Phase 2 of the Pacific Appliance Labelling and Standards (PALS) programme. For this purpose, the energy sector in the region will be consulted.
26. The meeting appreciated SPC's comprehensive approach to supporting countries through bilateral, sub-regional, and regional initiatives while acknowledging that significant additional support from partners and officials is required to achieve regional energy goals.
27. The Meeting acknowledged remarks by Ruben Ross, the Acting Director, Pacific Energy Partnerships, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), Australia, who expressed appreciation to the SPC Georesources and Energy Programme and its leadership for the effective organisation of the 2025 SEOM.
28. The Meeting noted Australia's continued support for key regional energy forums, including the 2025 SEOM, the 6th PRETMM in 2026, and the Pacific Power Association (PPA) Annual Conference through to 2027, as well as its commitment to fund the OPERA Regional Coordinator position beyond 2027.
29. The Meeting noted that this support reflects Australia's view of the critical importance of regional coordination, knowledge sharing, and collaborative capacity-building in policy, planning, regulation, and implementation to advance a just and inclusive energy transition and ensure equitable distribution of its economic benefits.
30. The Meeting further noted that Australia's engagement is enabled through the AUD 50 million Australia–Pacific Partnership for Energy Transition, announced in 2024, which prioritises enabling activities such as energy system modelling, technical studies, and preparatory work, to ensure infrastructure and project investments deliver tangible, lasting outcomes for the Pacific energy transition.

## County Interventions: Progress on FESRIP implementation and 5<sup>th</sup> PRETMM Outcomes

### American Samoa country presentation

31. The Meeting noted the intervention by American Samoa, delivered by the Deputy Director of the American Samoa Power Authority, on behalf of the Government and the Power Authority.
32. The Meeting noted that American Samoa's energy transition is guided by the *American Samoa Renewable Energy Council*, co-chaired by the Territorial Energy Office and the Power Authority. Under this mandate, the territory has revised its target for 50% renewable energy from 2025 to 2028 (due to pandemic-related delays), with a longer-term goal of 100% renewable electricity by 2040.
33. The Meeting noted American Samoa's pipeline of renewable energy projects:
  - A 20 MW solar farm, under construction and expected to be commissioned in early 2026 via a power purchase agreement with an independent power producer
  - A 42 MW wind farm, targeted for commissioning by late 2028 and
  - A 1 MW waste-to-energy facility, scheduled for completion in 2025, based on a municipal solid waste processing plant handling 60–70 metric tonnes per day.
34. The Meeting noted the potential for this waste-to-energy project to serve as a demonstration for other Pacific Island partners.
35. The Meeting noted that American Samoa operates microgrids on its outer islands, including one on Ofu Island, while two low-lying atolls currently remain unelectrified.
36. The Meeting noted ongoing exploration of emerging technologies, including hydrogen storage for future grid balancing and past assessments of geothermal potential, though current geological conditions limit viability.
37. On capacity development, the Meeting noted persistent challenges in attracting and retaining skilled personnel, including electrical engineers and heavy power technicians. To address this, American Samoa is pursuing internal training pathways, including recent graduate recruitment and planned sponsorship of technicians to study electrical and civil engineering at Fiji National University (FNU).
38. The Meeting noted efforts to increase gender diversity in the energy workforce, including the recent recruitment of a female engineer, bringing the total number of engineers within the Power Authority to six.
39. Regarding clean cooking, the Meeting noted that liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) is widely used for household cooking, but biogas initiatives as seen in other PICTs, are not yet in place.
40. On energy regulation, the Meeting noted that while American Samoa has environmental regulators overseeing air emissions and water contamination, it does not currently have a dedicated utility regulator for the power sector.

41. The Meeting noted American Samoa's recent grant-funded procurement of 20 electric vehicles (EVs), with tenders closed and evaluation underway. It also recognised initiatives by the Territorial Energy Office, supported by US Department of Energy grants, to promote energy-efficient appliances, including high-efficiency air conditioners and household equipment.
42. The Meeting noted that, in the absence of direct capital financing for utility-scale projects, American Samoa relies on partnerships with independent power producers through power purchase agreements and other contractual arrangements, supported by technical capacity to evaluate and manage such agreements.
43. The Meeting noted the ongoing 18 MW upgrade of one of the territory's two thermal power plants to ensure grid reliability during periods of low renewable energy generation (e.g., prolonged rain or post-disaster recovery), underscoring the need for firm backup capacity in alternative sources of energy scenarios.
44. The Meeting noted that electricity tariffs have fluctuated significantly, reflecting high fossil fuel dependence: peaking at US\$0.54/kWh in September 2022 and currently averaging US\$0.36/kWh due to lower global fuel prices.
45. The Meeting noted key challenges reported by American Samoa, including but not limited to:
  - Limited land availability and stringent federal environmental regulations constraining large-scale solar development
  - Insufficient capital for utility-led investment
  - Constraints in technical capacity to operate and maintain advanced renewable energy systems
  - A relatively small customer base (approximately 12,000 metered connections across 50,000 residents)
  - Ageing grid infrastructure requiring modernisation to accommodate distributed and variable renewable energy sources; and
  - The absence of a national control centre to coordinate multi-source power generation and grid stability.

#### **Cook Islands country presentation**

46. The Meeting noted the intervention by the Cook Islands, which traced its renewable energy journey to the early 2010s, initiated through the Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIGGAREP), supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) seed funding. This foundational support enabled preparatory studies and catalysed subsequent donor engagement, including from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand, Japan PEC Fund, the European Union, GEF, GCF, ADB and Government of the Cook Islands.
47. The Meeting noted that Cook Islands has achieved 100% renewable electricity supply on several of its Pa Enua Islands through solar PV systems supported by the MFAT, Japan PECF Fund, EU and ADB. Efforts continue to scale renewable integration on the main island of Rarotonga and the tourism-dependent island of Aitutaki that need further Investments into the transition.

48. The Meeting noted appreciation for New Zealand's continued support, particularly for the imminent replacement of end-of-life battery storage systems originally installed over a decade ago (with typical lifespans of 7–9 years), under a contract expected to be finalised before December 2025.
49. The Meeting noted ADB's support for the two-year operational and maintenance phase following system installation, both on outer islands and the mainland, noting that such sustained post-installation support is essential for long-term system viability and achievement of national targets.
50. The Meeting noted that the Cook Islands is currently validating its updated NDC, with completion anticipated by early 2026, and that the recently enacted Electricity Supply Act 2025 passed by Parliament earlier this year is undergoing final operationalisation. The National Energy Policy will be in review for the next six months.
51. The Meeting noted that most current energy transition efforts are focused on grid-scale integration for Rarotonga and Aitutaki, including Phase 2 of the Aitutaki renewable energy project, for which the Cook Islands seeks renewed ADB support.
52. On technology pathways, the Meeting noted that while wind resource assessments were conducted in the early stages of the transition, land constraints and competing land uses now limit wind development. The Cook Islands is therefore exploring alternatives and more prominently hydrogen technologies, with a delegation from German companies scheduled to visit in December 2025 to assess feasibility.
53. The Meeting noted with concern that diesel supply to the Cook Islands is currently being rationed due to shipping disruptions, heightening energy security risks and reinforcing the urgency of renewable energy scale-up.
54. The Meeting noted that electricity tariffs remain among the highest in the region: NZD 0.58/kWh for domestic consumers and NZD 0.82/kWh for commercial users. The Cook Islands expressed confidence that expanded renewable generation, supported by modern battery storage, will help reduce tariff pressures over time.

#### **Federated States of Micronesia country presentation**

55. The Meeting noted the intervention by FSM, which highlighted the recent launch of its updated *National Energy Policy (2024–2050)* and *Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 Roadmap*. These documents align with the *Strategic Development Plan*, *Infrastructure Development Plan*, and the newly endorsed *Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0)*, launched at COP30 in November 2025.
56. The Meeting noted that FSM's primary energy priority is expanding electricity access, currently at 76% nationally, with significant disparities across states, most notably in Chuuk State, where only 35% of the population has access and only two of forty municipalities are electrified.

57. The Meeting noted ongoing efforts to improve access and renewable integration simultaneously, particularly through off-grid solar systems for Chuuk's outer islands, while the main island remains connected to a central grid.
58. The Meeting noted new project commitments from ADB, and the World Bank aimed at scaling up renewable energy and rural electrification. However, it noted FSM's reporting of three critical implementation challenges:
- A severe shortage of qualified contractors, resulting in repeated rebidding of tenders and attempts to bundle projects to attract bids,
  - Limited local technical capacity, particularly in social and environmental safeguards, which necessitates reliance on external consultants who often fail to build enduring in-country expertise; and
  - The absence of a national *Energy Act*, which FSM identified as a fundamental barrier to effective coordination across its five governmental tiers (national and four state governments) and to the establishment of an independent energy regulator.
59. The Meeting noted FSM's view that an *Energy Act* would strengthen institutional coherence, support utility harmonisation (given the presence of four separate state utilities), and enable progress toward its national targets of 100% electricity access and 70% renewable energy generation by 2030.

#### **Fiji country presentation**

60. The Meeting noted the intervention by Fiji, which highlighted recent progress in the national energy sector since the 2024 SEOM.
61. The Meeting acknowledged that Fiji's updated NDC has now been expanded to include the agriculture sector, with a focus on reducing methane emissions and addressing hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) use, in addition to its existing electricity sector targets.
62. The Meeting noted Fiji's legislative efforts to improve the investment-enabling environment for renewable energy, including reforms to strengthen the regulatory and policy framework particularly important given the current structure of a single utility operator.
63. The Meeting noted positive developments under the new utility management, including increased transparency through monthly public reporting on renewable energy generation and energy mix.
64. The Meeting noted that Fiji achieved a 57% renewable energy share in its electricity generation mix in 2024, primarily from hydropower (55%) and increasing contributions from biomass.
65. The Meeting observed that electricity demand grew by 9% in 2024, significantly above the typical 3–4% annual growth driven largely by commercial, industrial, and construction sectors.
66. The Meeting acknowledged concerns regarding future demand pressures, particularly from planned electrification of the transport sector. A 2019 study by UNESCAP and GGGI had projected that full fleet conversion to electric vehicles (EVs) could increase electricity demand up to seven-fold.

67. The Meeting noted that, having largely exhausted its viable hydropower potential, Fiji's near-term renewable energy strategy focuses on solar power, but with a cautious, phased approach due to technical grid integration challenges.
68. The Meeting recorded Fiji's emphasis on prerequisite for grid modernisation including transmission upgrades and advanced control systems before scaling variable renewable energy (VRE) sources to ensure system stability and reliability.
69. The Meeting welcomed Fiji's interest in piloting demonstration projects for emerging technologies, including EV charging infrastructure and green hydrogen, to assess technical, economic, and institutional readiness prior to policy and investment decisions.
70. The Meeting noted the engagement of potential private investors interested in hydrogen production and grid-connected electrolysis systems, but recognised that infrastructure gaps, resource availability, and high capital costs remain key barriers.
71. The Meeting further acknowledged the need for a robust, scalable rural electrification model to extend grid and off-grid access to underserved communities, reinforcing the importance of targeted support for infrastructure investment and operational sustainability.

#### **Guam country presentation**

72. The Meeting noted the intervention by Guam, marking its first participation in the Pacific Senior Energy Officials Meeting, and welcomed its alignment with regional energy dialogue.
73. The Meeting noted Guam's updated renewable energy targets, established under Public Law 35-46: 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2045, with current renewable penetration at 16%.
74. The Meeting noted progress on the revision of Guam's *Strategic Energy Plan*, last updated in 2013, with finalisation expected by the end of 2025 or early 2026.
75. The Meeting noted that the Guam Power Authority (GPA) remains the sole public utility on the island and has developed an *Integrated Resource Plan (2022)* outlining a pathway to the 2045 target, prioritising solar photovoltaics and battery energy storage systems (BESS), alongside the phased retirement of ageing power plants.
76. The Meeting noted GPA's grid resilience efforts, including infrastructure hardening and distributed generation planning to reduce outage durations following a major typhoon event that left 98% of customers without power for up to several months.
77. The Meeting noted GPA's focus on energy efficiency, including but not limited to:
  - commercial building energy audits
  - island-wide deployment of smart meters and
  - appliance rebate programmes to incentivise uptake of high-efficiency equipment.
78. The Meeting noted that electricity tariffs currently at US\$0.31/kWh are adjusted biannually through a regulated Levelised Energy Adjustment Clause, linked to fuel cost fluctuations.

79. The Meeting noted the 2023 *Guam Energy Baseline Study* by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), which provided strategic insights on project prioritisation, institutional capacity, and system planning.
80. The Meeting noted that Guam currently has no large-scale clean cooking programmes, though the Guam Energy Office implements the US Department of Energy's *Weatherization Assistance Program*, including in-home retrofits and removal of inefficient appliances.
81. The Meeting noted a regulatory requirement mandating integration of battery energy storage systems (BESS) with all new solar projects to enhance grid resilience and contribution to system stability.
82. The Meeting noted the termination of Guam's *EV Rebate Programme*, previously funded under the US Office of Insular Affairs' *Energising Insular Communities (EIC) Grant*, due to realignment of federal priorities.
83. The Meeting noted the imminent commissioning of the new 198 MW Dededo Power Plant, designed to operate on ultra-low-sulphur diesel or regasified liquefied natural gas, with lower emissions and full compliance with US federal environmental standards. Though delayed by turbine repairs, full operation is anticipated before the end of 2025.
84. The Meeting noted GPA's active renewable energy initiatives, including but not limited to:
- utility-scale solar procurements
  - a pilot *Virtual Power Plant* programme and
  - mandatory BESS pairing for solar generation.
85. The Meeting noted government-wide energy efficiency measures, including but not limited to:
- mandatory high-efficiency air-conditioning and inverter standards for public buildings
  - completed LED lighting upgrades across multiple agencies and
  - a conditional award from the US Department of Energy for an *Energy Codes Implementation Programme*.
86. The Meeting noted the *Port of Guam Clean Energy Master Plan* and collaboration between the Guam Energy Office and the Port Authority, including an ongoing project to install solar-powered LED lighting along the port seawall for safety and efficiency.
87. The Meeting noted the planned launch by December 2025 of the *Guam Energy Infrastructure Dashboard*, intended to coordinate infrastructure investments, avoid funding duplication, and ensure alignment with grid capacity and planning.
88. The Meeting noted recent installation of public EV charging stations and growing community interest in electric mobility, alongside efforts to expand EV awareness and engagement.
89. The Meeting noted federally funded energy equity programmes targeting low-income households and those with high energy burdens, aimed at reducing monthly electricity costs and improving access to efficiency upgrades.

90. The Meeting noted key challenges identified by Guam, including but not limited to:
- heavy reliance on imported fuels and vulnerability to typhoons and supply chain disruptions
  - a high residential electricity burden and
  - the cancellation in August 2025 of the US\$62 million *Solar For All Grant*, which had been earmarked for a community rooftop solar and virtual power plant initiative across public schools projected to benefit 2,400 households annually with 20% bill reductions and enable a household solar-plus-storage loan programme.

91. The Meeting noted that, despite the grant cancellation, Guam has completed preparatory planning for the *Plug-and-Play Solar Programme* and is seeking alternative financing to advance this priority.

### **Kiribati country presentation**

92. The Meeting noted the intervention by Kiribati, which presented an overview of its current energy landscape and ongoing transition efforts.

93. The Meeting noted that Kiribati's primary energy supply comprises biomass (46%), petroleum (40%), and solar (6%), with petroleum dominating transport (80%), fishing (7–8%), and electricity generation (5%).

94. The Meeting noted that national electricity access stands at 90.8%, though only 35% of households are connected to the grid primarily in South Tarawa and 4.7% have access to lighting-only systems on outer islands.

95. The Meeting noted that installed power generation capacity is dominated by diesel (89%), with solar PV contributing approximately 25% of total electricity supply.

96. The Meeting noted that electricity tariffs remained stable from 2017 to 2024, but increased by approximately 50% in 2025, reflecting comparable rises in global petroleum product prices.

97. The Meeting noted the conclusion of the *Kiribati Integrated Energy Roadmap (2017–2025)* implementation period and noted the priority to review, renew, and realign the next-phase roadmap with updated national energy priorities and targets.

98. The Meeting noted the *Energy Act 2022* as a foundational enabler for the energy transition, though only around 35% of its provisions are currently being implemented and enforced by the Energy Planning Department, underscoring the need for enhanced institutional capacity, training, and resourcing to achieve full operationalisation.

99. The Meeting noted that the energy sector in Kiribati is regarded as inclusive, with women holding key leadership roles including the CEO of the Kiribati Green Energy Solution and engineering positions within the Public Utilities Board (PUB). Approximately 23% of staff in electricity utilities are women.

100. The Meeting noted progress on renewable energy deployment, including the anticipated commissioning of a 5 MW grid-connected solar PV system in early 2026. Current renewable

energy contribution to electricity generation is approximately 40%, though investments have been concentrated in South Tarawa, with limited grid infrastructure on outer islands.

101. The Meeting noted that rural electrification on outer islands remains reliant on portable solar devices providing basic lighting, while schools and select communities benefit from standalone solar systems.
102. The Meeting noted Kiribati's forward-looking initiatives, including plans to pilot floating solar PV systems and expand solar access to outer islands to meet basic energy needs.
103. The Meeting noted ongoing work to strengthen energy regulation, including development of a Renewable Energy Network Code, currently on track for completion, with future opportunities to further enhance the regulatory framework to support renewable integration.
104. The Meeting noted Kiribati's priorities to:
  - reapply and scale solar PV systems across outer islands
  - expand energy demand assessment and management surveys
  - improve energy data collection to build a reliable national energy database and
  - foster knowledge sharing and innovation to accelerate adoption of best-practice technologies and lessons learned.

#### **Nauru country presentation**

105. The Meeting noted the intervention by Nauru, which outlined progress against its updated *National Energy Roadmap (2022–2030)* and five priority energy targets:
  - 75% renewable energy share in total power generation
  - 50% reduction in fossil fuel use for electricity generation
  - 20% of vehicles to be electric and
  - 30% energy savings achieved through energy efficiency measures.
106. The Meeting noted that these targets are embedded within the *National Sustainable Development Strategy*, specifically under Infrastructure Goal 1 (“provide a reliable, affordable and secure sustainable energy supply to meet socio-economic development needs”) and Infrastructure Goal 4 (“improve infrastructure and provide reliable and sustainable transport services”).
107. The Meeting noted that Nauru's energy planning is guided by several key frameworks, including the *National Energy Policy Framework*, the *National Energy Roadmap*, the *EV Roadmap*, and the broader *National Sustainable Development Strategy*.
108. The Meeting noted capacity development initiatives, including but not limited to:
  - vocational training in renewable energy offered by FNU
  - dispatch of five mechanics to China for EV maintenance training and
  - participation of four women (“mamas”) in Barefoot College, India, for foundational solar PV installation training.

109. The Meeting noted the Department of Climate Change and National Resilience has received technical support from Elemental Consulting, a New Zealand technical specialist building capacity for national energy audits.
110. The Meeting noted limited progress on clean cooking, with only two small-scale biogas systems operational constrained by insufficient local maintenance capacity.
111. The Meeting noted that Nauru's current renewable energy penetration stands at 11% but is projected to rise to 57% upon commissioning of the 6 MW solar PV project, funded by ADB and paired with a 2.5 MWh BESS, expected to be operational by 1 December 2025.
112. The Meeting noted that, to date, only 95 households (government, commercial, and residential) are connected to solar systems.
113. The Meeting noted Nauru's commitment under its updated NDC to generate 50% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030, a target it anticipates achieving with the December 2025 solar commissioning.
114. The Meeting noted that the Energy Bill is finalised and awaiting introduction to Parliament, marking a key step toward formalising the regulatory framework for the energy transition.
115. The Meeting noted energy efficiency initiatives supported by New Zealand, including but not limited to:
- a rebate scheme for energy efficient appliances, jointly delivered by the *Nauru Energy Efficiency and Decarbonisation Support (NEEDS)* project and Nauru Utilities Corporation (NUC)
  - LED retrofitting of government buildings; and
  - metering systems to track energy use by time and location in key government buildings.
116. The Meeting noted ongoing project implementation, including but not limited to:
- the *Solar Sustainable Urban Development Project* (ADB), aimed at enhancing energy efficiency and urban resilience
  - a solar PV system funded by the International Solar Alliance (ISA), currently 45% complete
  - a reverse osmosis (RO) system funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), commissioned on 13 November 2025; and
  - an additional 2.5 MWh BESS to augment the 6 MW solar farm, currently in development.
117. The Meeting noted key challenges, including and not limited to:
- limited land availability for large-scale renewable deployment
  - high project costs
  - heightened vulnerability to climate change impacts
  - limited local technical and maintenance capacity
  - ageing electricity infrastructure and

- high technical and commercial losses.

118. The Meeting noted Nauru's recognition of significant opportunities, particularly in solar energy potential, and expressed appreciation for continued support from development partners and regional institutions.

### **Niue Country presentation**

119. The Meeting noted the intervention by Niue, who emphasised shared regional challenges and the importance of Pacific solidarity in advancing the energy transition.

120. The Meeting noted that Niue's *National Sustainable Energy Roadmap (2015–2025)* is due to expire in November 2025, with targets of 40% renewable energy by 2020 and 80% by 2025, alongside goals for energy efficiency, mobility, and reliable energy supply.

121. The Meeting noted progress on legislative modernisation, including the drafting of a new *Energy Bill* to update the legal and regulatory framework, governance arrangements, and institutional structure for electricity and energy supply.

122. The Meeting noted that electricity access remains at 100%, though generation continues to rely entirely on fossil fuels. Tariffs have not kept pace with costs ranging from NZD 0.50 to 0.70/kWh, resulting in a high fiscal subsidy burden, as the rate remains far below the actual cost of generation.

123. The Meeting noted the convening of Niue's Second National Energy Summit in July 2025 to review implementation, reassess priorities, and guide the development of the next-phase energy strategy.

124. The Meeting noted stakeholder consultations conducted under an ADB-supported project, covering gender, clean cooking technologies, and energy security—reinforcing the need for inclusive planning.

125. The Meeting noted ongoing infrastructure upgrades, including but not limited to:

- New Zealand funded Niue Renewable Energy Project (NREP2), a new 2.79 MW solar PV system, 8.19 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and network upgrades to increase safety and resilience
- the *Clean and Resilient Energy Development Support Project*, co-funded by the Island Trust Fund and ADB, aimed at improving efficiency, reliability, and disaster resilience and
- the commissioning of a modernised power station in September 2024, featuring new generation units, upgraded offices, and enhanced renewable energy integration capacity.

126. The Meeting noted technical challenges in grid integration, including a recent island-wide outage triggered by an automatic frequency drop during the transition from solar to diesel generation, highlighting ongoing work to stabilise hybrid system operations.

127. The Meeting noted efforts to replace aging infrastructure, including transformers exceeding 30 years of service, though these upgrades have required extended outages in some areas.

128. The Meeting noted key constraints, including but limited to:

- limited technical and financial capacity for renewable integration and grid modernisation
- insufficient local expertise in battery management and grid operations, leading to reliance on external contractors and
- the need to strengthen energy efficiency measures across sectors.

129. The Meeting noted Niue's identification of opportunities to build local technical capacity, particularly in renewable energy systems, battery storage, and grid operations to reduce dependence on external support and enhance long-term sustainability.

### **Palau Country Presentation**

130. The Meeting noted the intervention by Palau, reaffirming its national target of 100% renewable electricity by 2032, underpinned by guiding policies focused on reliability, resilience, and decarbonisation.

131. The Meeting noted recent regulatory adjustments to accommodate the entry of Palau's first independent power producer (IPP), while recognising the need for further policy modernisation, including an update to the National Energy Policy (last revised in 2010) and reform of tariff-setting frameworks to better align with renewable energy integration.

132. The Meeting noted that, while Palau fell short of its NDC target of 45% renewable energy by 2025, it has reached approximately 20% renewable penetration on the grid through the IPP. Planned near-term initiatives, including procurement of battery energy storage systems are expected to support higher renewable dispatch and advance progress toward the 45% goal.

133. The Meeting noted that Palau's current generation capacity, comprising diesel gensets and the IPP is technically sufficient, but operational challenges have arisen due to suboptimal integration. Specifically, large low-speed diesel generators are experiencing increased wear from frequent cycling and operation below efficient load levels.

134. The Meeting noted Palau's consideration of procuring smaller, high-speed gensets to complement the IPP and improve hybrid system flexibility and reliability.

135. The Meeting noted significant maintenance and logistical challenges, including the off-island repair of critical equipment such as a diesel generator recently shipped to Australia highlighting high costs and long lead times for technical interventions.

136. The Meeting noted ongoing efforts to modernise communications and control systems across substations and generation facilities, including deployment of remote monitoring and supervisory control infrastructure, recognising this as a new but essential capability requiring both hardware, software, and human capacity development.

137. The Meeting noted persistent grid reliability risks due to ageing transmission and distribution infrastructure, compounded by vegetation encroachment and exposure to severe weather events underscoring the need for long-term, climate-resilient solutions.
138. The Meeting noted progress in capacity development, supported by international partners, to train local staff on emerging technologies, grid management, and hybrid system operations.
139. The Meeting noted Palau has ongoing work to strengthen energy governance through development of a regulatory framework that enhances the energy sector's ability to accelerate renewable integration and adopt efficient strategies to address energy data collection, demand management, and implementation of innovative technologies to build a reliable energy system for Palau.

#### **Papua New Guinea country presentation**

140. The Meeting noted the intervention by Papua New Guinea, which reported on recent developments in national energy governance and renewable energy planning.
141. The Meeting acknowledged that PNG's *National Energy Policy (2017–2027)* the foundational framework for the National Energy Authority (NEA) and its regulatory functions is now under formal review. The review aims to strengthen institutional arrangements, clarify mandates, and update the *National Energy Authority Act* to reflect current and emerging sector needs.
142. The Meeting welcomed the recent launch of five renewable energy sub-sector policies, covering geothermal, hydro, biomass, wind, and solar. A dedicated *Women in Energy Policy* is in final draft form and expected to be launched in the second quarter of 2026.
143. The Meeting recorded ongoing work with the ADB to develop enabling frameworks for emerging technologies, including ocean energy and advanced geothermal and wind applications.
144. The Meeting noted that PNG has completed a national wind resource assessment and is undertaking site-specific studies, recognising the country's geographic diversity including mainland highlands, coastal areas, and over 200 inhabited islands requires tailored electrification solutions.
145. The Meeting noted the piloting of a 100-kW solar PV mini-grid on one island, with lessons being applied to scale similar solutions across other remote islands. Access to financing remains a key constraint for wider replication.
146. The Meeting noted the release of three key technical and regulatory documents:
  - a *Grid Code for the Main Grid* to support grid densification and expansion
  - a *Grid Extension Code* to guide infrastructure development beyond the main networks; and
  - *Solar PV Hybrid System Guidelines* to facilitate safe and effective integration of solar generation into isolated and hybrid systems.

147. The Meeting noted PNG's national target of 70% electricity access by 2030, which officials acknowledged will be challenging to achieve within the remaining four-year timeframe.
148. The Meeting noted that, to accelerate progress, the NEA has recommended partial privatisation of the sole national utility to open the market to private investment. To date, 18 licences have been issued to independent power producers (IPPs), representing potential cumulative capacity of up to 1 GW of renewable energy if fully developed within three years.
149. The Meeting noted that IPPs require confidence in a stable legislative, regulatory, and commercial environment, including bankable power purchase agreements and long-term project sustainability to commit investment.
150. The Meeting noted the complexity of coordination across multiple line agencies, landowners, and stakeholders in PNG, and expressed appreciation for PNG's commitment to regional collaboration in overcoming shared energy transition challenges.

**Samoa Country Presentation:**

151. The Meeting noted the intervention by Samoa, highlighting national progress across policy, project implementation, and emerging priority areas.
152. The Meeting noted Samoa's Pathway for the Development of Samoa 2020–2035, which includes a target of 70% renewable energy use by 2030, as well as ongoing work on several draft energy sector documents.
153. The Meeting noted that the Energy Management Act 2020 remains in force, and the Energy Sector Plan (2023–2027) is currently undergoing its mid-term review, presenting an opportunity for peer input and regional alignment.
154. The Meeting noted Samoa's leadership in waste-to-energy, noting the implementation of 71 biogas systems (residential and community-scale) in 2024, with the National University of Samoa serving as the implementing agency of the PAWES Project and is present at the meeting.
155. The Meeting noted Samoa's participation in the Pacific Women in Power programme through the Electric Power Corporation (EPC), contributing to gender inclusion in the energy workforce.
156. The Meeting noted that, according to the 2021 Census, LPG remains the dominant clean cooking fuel in households.
157. The Meeting noted key infrastructure projects in the pipeline, including but limited to:
- the Savai'i 4MWh Solar plus BESS Solar projects;
  - the West 33 kV Transmission Line Upgrade; and
  - the Apolima Island project, which has achieved 100% stand-alone renewable electrification.

158. The Meeting noted Samoa's updated NDC, currently in draft and expected to be launched in November or December 2025.
159. The Meeting noted ongoing technical studies, including a green hydrogen feasibility assessment and continued advancement of waste-to-energy applications.
160. The Meeting noted that Samoa is an active member of the Office of the Pacific Energy Regulators Alliance (OPERA).
161. The Meeting noted the commissioning of Samoa's first solar-powered EV charging station, supported by the *CAP IT Project*, serving government electric and hybrid vehicles (76 EVs plus 20 hybrid vans), as well as a solar carport installation at the Mulifanua Wharf (25 kW solar PV with 75 kWh battery storage).
162. The Meeting noted collaboration with the Energy Efficiency Monitoring Team (EEMT) and noted a request to update the regional appliance database, specifically to include models currently missing from the Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) system.
163. The Meeting noted priority financing needs, including but not limited to:
- the Savaii Solar Farm (4 MW plus 2 MWh BESS) and;
  - Afulilo Dam 3MW Solar plus 1MWh BESS – needs funding
  - Apia Township Solar Hybrid Streetlights, supported by the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP); and
  - the Grid Upgrade of the west pure 33kV transmission line, supported by the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) GridSECURE program.
164. The Meeting noted institutional transition challenges following the recent realignment of the energy division from the Ministry of Finance to the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, with the Energy Management Act 2020 still formally under the purview of the former, requiring coordination to ensure policy continuity.
165. The Meeting noted Samoa's interest in developing an SDG 7 Roadmap, identifying this as a current gap and opportunity for regional technical support.

### **Solomon Islands Country Presentation**

166. The Meeting noted the intervention by Solomon Islands, which reported on key outcomes following the National Energy Summit held in 2024, centred on two strategic priorities: universal electricity access and affordable electricity tariffs.
167. The Meeting noted Solomon Islands' dual access targets: Renewable Energy Road Map (RERM) for Honiara grid, 100% by 2030 (as endorsed at the Energy Summit) and 100% by 2050 (as reflected in its updated Nationally Determined Contribution).
168. The Meeting noted that electricity tariffs remain among the highest in the region, at approximately SBD 0.70/kWh (approx. USD 0.09), while electricity demand is growing at 2–3% per annum.

169. The Meeting noted ongoing legal and institutional reforms, including but not limited to:

- a review and amendment of the outdated Electricity Act (presumed to refer to the Electricity Supply Act or similar legacy legislation); and
- progress toward establishing an independent energy regulator, supported by the United Kingdom, with a regulatory framework now finalised and enabling legislation under development.

170. The Meeting noted submission of Solomon Islands' Third NDC, which includes a commitment to deploy 20 MW of renewable energy capacity through new projects.

171. The Meeting noted the advancement of the Tina River Hydroelectric Project (15 MW), targeted for commissioning by 2028, which is expected to significantly improve both access rates and tariff affordability.

172. The Meeting noted the adoption of a national E-Mobility Policy, currently pending formal approval.

173. The Meeting noted that broader energy sector reforms are underway to encourage private sector participation in power generation.

174. The Meeting noted key challenges, including but not limited to:

- high capital costs for project development
- limited private sector engagement
- gaps in technical skills and human resource capacity and
- the need for updated fit-for-purpose legislation.

175. The Meeting noted opportunities in:

- regional and international capacity-building initiatives
- targeted climate and development financing
- enhanced access to energy data and analytical support; and
- strong political commitment to energy reform and legislative modernisation.

### **Tonga Country Presentation:**

176. The Meeting noted the intervention by Tonga, reaffirming its national renewable energy target of 70% by 2030, as enshrined in its Energy Act, which is currently being implemented.

177. The Meeting noted Tonga's achievement of 100% rural electrification across five outer islands through hybrid solar-battery systems, supported by multiple development partners. An additional six islands operate hybrid solar-diesel systems.

178. The Meeting noted that, despite progress on outer islands, grid-connected renewable energy penetration on the main island stands at 27%, with ongoing donor-supported projects to expand solar integration into the central grid and strengthen utility capacity.

179. The Meeting noted the transformative socio-economic impacts of rural electrification, including but not limited to:

- enabling remote communities to host formal meetings and governance activities.
- supporting tertiary students on outer islands to pursue distance learning (e.g., law and other degrees at the University of the South Pacific) via reliable internet connectivity; and
- facilitating “Smart Island” initiatives that integrate energy, digital access, education, health, and safety.

180. The Meeting noted Tonga’s ongoing efforts to operationalise key regulations under the Energy Act, including licensing frameworks for electricity generators and petroleum suppliers, alongside continued advancement of electric mobility (EV) and other clean energy initiatives.

181. The Meeting noted the importance placed on aligning tertiary education curricula with national energy workforce needs to ensure a pipeline of locally qualified technicians and professionals.

182. The Meeting noted a list of priority project proposals under consideration including grid modernisation, additional solar and battery deployments, and regulatory strengthening many of which remain unfunded and presented as part of Tonga’s engagement with potential development partners.

183. The Meeting noted key challenges, including but not limited to:

- coordination gaps across government agencies, the utility, and sector stakeholders; and
- limited capacity for monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL), which hinders evidence-based decision-making and project sustainability.

184. The Meeting noted an urgent operational concern: a current shortage of fuel supplies during the 2025 summer period, raising energy security risks and underscoring the need for timely logistical and supply-chain support.

### **Australia country intervention**

185. The Meeting noted the intervention by Australia, which clarified that while it is not a member of FESRIP governance group, it remains an active regional partner and provided a progress update on its domestic and regional climate and energy commitments.

186. The Meeting noted Australia’s updated NDC, submitted in September 2025, strengthening its emissions reduction target to 62–70% below 2005 levels by 2035 (covering all sectors and greenhouse gases), an increase from its previous 2030 target of 43% below 2005 levels. Australia reaffirmed its commitment to achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

187. The Meeting noted Australia’s renewable energy target of 82% renewable electricity in the National Electricity Market (NEM) by 2030, with renewable generation averaging 39% in 2023 and reaching approximately 43% in Q4 2024.

188. The Meeting noted the launch of Australia’s *Net Zero Plan* and associated *Sectoral Plans*, which provide a strategic framework to deliver its 2035 and 2050 climate goals.

189. The Meeting noted the likely outcomes of Australia’s bid to host COP31, including:

- Türkiye would host the physical conference and World Leaders Summit

- Australia would preside over the formal COP negotiations, with the Minister for Climate Change and Energy serving as President of the negotiation process and
- the Pre-COP would be held in the Pacific region.

Australia reiterated that its motivation for this arrangement is to:

1. elevate the priorities and voices of Pacific Island countries
2. reinforce multilateral cooperation on climate action and
3. advance shared regional interests.

### **Panel Discussion 1 on FESRIP Priority A: Energy Policy Planning and Capacity**

190. The Meeting heard a robust panel discussion from academic representatives from the University of New South Wales/Scinergy Consulting, USP and FNU on strategies to strengthen grid readiness, planning frameworks, and the alignment of national energy plans with on the ground realities, drawing on perspectives from government, academia, and technical institutions.
191. On grid readiness, panellists converged on the view that policy alone is insufficient, many countries have renewable energy targets and high-level strategies yet lack actionable implementation roadmaps, or even foundational legislation such as an *Electricity/Energy Act*. One panellist questioned whether targets are sometimes politically motivated to attract climate finance, rather than technically grounded highlighting a disconnect when utilities are excluded from early policy design.
192. A recurring theme was the institutional gap between policymakers and implementers. Several speakers stressed that utilities, often bearing operational risk, remain marginalised in national energy planning, resulting in unrealistic timelines, under-resourced mandates, and grid instability during RE integration. The Meeting noted the strong consensus that meaningful utility engagement is non-negotiable for credible planning. Palau is an exception to this statement. It has the Palau Energy Transition Coordination & Development Group (PETC&DG) that slowly began in 2024 and is now thriving in 2025, to ensure utilities are directly involved in national and development planning towards a stable and reliable energy system during renewable energy transition, integration and implementation.
193. On capacity development, the panel emphasised that training must go beyond short-term project delivery. A panellist warned that brain drain, particularly of skilled engineers and technicians, undermines sustainability unless deliberate succession planning *and in-country* mentorship are embedded in all donor-supported initiatives. Support for regional institutions such as the Fiji National University Engineering Programme was widely endorsed as a long-term, scalable solution.
194. While panellists acknowledged the availability of climate and development funds, they jointly critiqued the complexity of application processes: proposal requirements often exceed the administrative capacity of small energy departments. Several called for donors to co-develop simplified, Pacific-contextualised templates, and to provide *in-kind* support for proposal writing as a matter of equity and efficiency.

195. Regarding planning frameworks, the Meeting noted an intervention on gender-informed planning: one panellist observed that energy poverty disproportionately affects women, as primary fuel collectors and caregivers. Further noting that clean cooking and lighting directly impacts health, safety, and education outcomes for women and girls. The panel agreed that gender analysis must be *integrated into baseline studies and project design*, not treated as an add-on.
196. Community engagement was cited repeatedly as a critical success factor. Panellists cautioned against “technical-only” planning: solutions imposed without local input, particularly from rural communities and marginalized people, often fail post-commissioning. There was strong support for participatory resource mapping, co-designed tariff models, and feedback loops that allow communities to shape, not just receive, energy services.
197. On technical planning, the Meeting recorded a clear consensus that diversification is essential: over-reliance on a single technology (e.g. solar PV) increases vulnerability to climatic variability (e.g. prolonged cloud cover). Panellists urged that feasibility studies must account for long-term climate trends and include hybrid system design, especially storage, demand-side management, and backup generation as standard practice.
198. In closing, the panel challenged governments and partners to ensure national energy plans reflect *integrated systems thinking*: policy, regulation, finance, technical capacity, gender equity, and community agency must be addressed in concert and not in silos.

#### **Panel Discussion 2 on FESRIP Priority B: Energy Sector Finance and Cooperation**

199. The panel discussion on Priority B: Energy Sector Finance and Cooperation, underscoring the region’s shared priority to mobilise diverse financing, strengthen institutional capacity, and deepen private sector engagement to accelerate energy transition.
200. The panel comprised representatives from the Australian Government (DCCEEW), the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP/DFAT), Asian Development Bank (ADB), the International Solar Alliance (ISA), the Transforming Island Development through Electrification and Sustainability Initiative (TIDES – jointly supported by New Zealand MFAT and the UK FCDO, implemented by Camco), and the International Energy Agency (IEA).
201. The meeting acknowledged Australia’s new AUD \$50 million Australian Pacific Partnership for Energy Transition (APPET), which aims to strengthen technical planning, regulatory frameworks, and institutional capacity across PICTs through long-term, country-led partnerships and regional coordination, including support for OPERA and CRETAN and welcomed the complementary AUD \$350 million Pacific Climate Infrastructure Financing Partnership, which is already delivering large-scale renewable energy, climate-resilient infrastructure, and community off-grid projects across Fiji, Tuvalu, Kiribati, PNG and Solomon Islands.
202. The meeting recognised ADB’s commitment of over \$1 billion in the energy sector over the past decade, including \$1.6 million for OPERA, \$1.65 million for the Pacific Power Association, and \$1 million for accelerating energy transition, and noted the launch of its successor facility, the Emerging Areas Sustainable Solutions Investment Facility, which will prioritise cross-

sectoral integrated solutions that link energy with health, transport, water, and nature-based solutions, including AI-enabled project design and performance benchmarking.

203. The meeting welcomed the commencement of TIDES, a private sector impact fund and market development facility, as a pioneering model to scale commercially viable renewable energy investment in the Pacific region with an initial focus on Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu. The initiative will provide flexible debt financing as a pathway to mobilise private capital beyond traditional aid modalities.
204. The meeting noted ISA's expanding engagement in the Pacific, including country partnership frameworks with Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, establishment of STAR-C centres, and the planned Asia-Pacific Solar Facility in 2026, and welcomed its flagship SIDS Platform, which seeks to aggregate regional demand, harmonise standards, and facilitate procurement and finance for solar and green hydrogen deployment.
205. The meeting appreciated the IEA's commitment to deepen engagement with the Pacific through its new Singapore office, its annual Global Conference on Energy Efficiency, and targeted capacity-building initiatives, including policy training, the Energy Efficiency Progress Tracker, and a self-paced online toolkit, and encouraged PICTs to leverage these resources to advance national energy efficiency ambitions aligned with the global target to double the rate of improvement by 2030.
206. The panellists stressed that while financing and technical tools are increasingly available, enhanced coordination, alignment, and sequencing of support remain critical. It called for stronger collaboration across development partners, regional agencies and national institutions, particularly through the Pacific Community (SPC) as the premier science and technical organization mandated to lead and to coordinate the energy sector to avoid duplication, co-design capacity-building, and ensure pacific lead and country ownership of planning, implementation and monitoring.

### **Panel Discussion 3: FESRIP Priority C Sustainable Electric Power Development**

207. The panel discussion on *Emerging and Innovative Technologies to Accelerate Decarbonisation* underscored the urgent need for PICTs to diversify their energy mix and accelerate the transition towards low-carbon solutions in the energy sector.
208. The panel discussion recognised that achieving regional energy targets requires addressing technical, financial, and governance challenges while leveraging innovative technologies such as ocean energy, hydrogen, and geothermal. The overarching goal remains to strengthen resilience through quality energy infrastructure, reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels, and align with global climate commitments.
209. The panel discussion highlighted common challenges, including persistent disconnects between agencies, capacity gaps, and financing constraints. Integration of renewables into grid and off-grid systems remains technically complex, compounded by land-use restrictions and regulatory variability. The Meeting noted the need for the continued development and subsequent adoption of an energy quality infrastructure framework and management system for the region.

210. The panel discussion stressed the importance of coordinated action, robust governance, and the adoption of harmonised technical standards to ensure quality infrastructure and long-term performance. Participants emphasised the need for strengthened partnerships, resource mobilisation efforts, and national policy development to support implementation.
211. The panel called for accelerated efforts to mobilise investment, build technical and regulatory capacity, and advance emerging technologies such as ocean energy, hydrogen, and geothermal. SPC was urged to continue monitoring progress, while regional institutions and development partners were encouraged to align resources and expertise to achieve shared decarbonisation goals.

**Panel Discussion 4: FESRIP Priority D: Low-Carbon Transport Energy and Priority E: Improved Energy Efficiency and Priority F: Petroleum and Other Liquid Fuel Services**

212. The panel discussion on Low-Carbon Transport, Energy Efficiency, and Petroleum Services emphasised the critical need for PICTs to adopt integrated strategies that address decarbonisation in the transport sector, through improving energy efficiency, and strengthening petroleum supply resilience. These priorities are essential to reduce dependency on imported fossil fuels, therefore enhancing energy security, and in support of sustainable development. SPC was requested as the regional voice to champion ensuring the regions energy sector create an enabling environment to regulate imported fossil fuels to address challenges at the regional and national level on decarbonization strategies, fuel supply security, and sustainable development energy strategies.
213. The panel recognised that achieving these objectives requires coordinated action across technical, financial, and policy domains. Initiatives such as UNDP's regional e-mobility and maritime decarbonisation programme in Samoa, PCREEE's Pacific Appliance Labelling and Standards (PALS), and petroleum sector reforms were highlighted as key enablers. All interventions are encouraged to align with countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and embed sustainability through local capacity building.
214. Common challenges identified include inadequate testing facilities for appliance standards, high logistics costs, fragmented procurement practices, and institutional capacity gaps. The discussion stressed the importance of modernising petroleum infrastructure, introducing regional standards for storage and handling, exploring bulk purchasing options and embedding capacity-building components in private sector contracts. Lessons from Nauru demonstrated how strategic procurement and renewable integration can reduce diesel reliance by up to 50%
215. The panel underscored the vulnerability of Pacific utilities to fuel price volatility and fiscal stress, noting that non-cost-reflective tariffs and heavy fossil fuel dependence exacerbate economic risks. Hedging strategies using financial instruments such as swaps were proposed as viable options, supported by ADB's technical assistance facility to build readiness through policy reforms, capacity building, and pilot projects in selected countries.
216. The panel called for accelerated efforts to mobilise investment, strengthen regulatory frameworks, and scale up capacity-building initiatives. Development partners were urged to prioritise funding for appliance standards and testing, including PALS Phase 2, support contingency planning for petroleum supply chains, and advance low-carbon transport

solutions. SPC was encouraged to lead coordination efforts to harmonise standards, avoid duplication, and ensure alignment with national and regional energy strategies.

217. The meeting appreciated that there is a crucial need for a balanced approach between renewable energy, energy efficiency and fossil fuels in the pacific region's energy transition plans. A balanced approach to energy security, grid stability and reliability ensures a Just, and Equitable energy transition that is fit for purpose for the region's needs.

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SEOM**

The meeting reviewed and endorsed the **ToR for the Pacific Senior Energy Officials Meeting and the Energy Ministers Meeting**, as detailed in **Annex 3** for adoption and will be presented to Energy Ministers at the 6th PRETMM in 2026 in PNG. The purpose of the TOR is to structure and guide the meeting arrangements of the PacSEOM and the Energy Ministerial Meeting.

#### **PACIFIC SENIOR ENERGY OFFICIALS MEETING OUTCOME**

The meeting expressed its appreciation to the Senior Officials, representatives of member countries, partners, donors, civil society organisations, and the Secretariat – SPC, for the 2025 SEOM.

**Friday 21 November 2025**

#### **ANNEXES**

Annex 1: Meeting Agenda

Annex 2: Full list of delegates

Annex 3: ToR for the Senior Energy Officials Meeting and the Energy Ministers Meeting

## **Terms of Reference**

### **Pacific Senior Energy Officials Meeting (PacSEOM) + Energy Ministers**

#### **1. Purpose & Vision**

The purpose of the Terms of Reference (ToR) is to guide the convenings of the Pacific Senior Energy Officials Meeting (PacSEOM) and the Energy Ministers. The ToR outlines the vision, objectives, composition, governance, measures of success, and convening arrangements for PacSEOM and the Energy Ministers, aimed at addressing challenges, sharing best practices, and fostering collaboration to achieve a Just, Inclusive and Equitable Energy Transition across the region, aligning with FESRIP 2021–2030, Energy Ministers convenings, including the Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (PRETMM) outcomes.

This ToR is guided by the outcomes of the 2023 Efate Outcome Statement, which reaffirmed the region's commitment to accelerating decarbonisation in the Blue Pacific, prioritising a people-centred approach to a Just and Equitable Transition towards a Fossil Fuel Free Pacific, and calling for the establishment of a Pacific Energy Commissioner. This ToR is also aligned with the 2023 Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting Communique, which states that Leaders “aspire to a Just and Equitable Transition to a Fossil Fuel Free Pacific, acknowledging that the pathway is not immediate nor is it one-size fits all,” and that Leaders “committed to the transition away from coal, oil and gas in our energy systems, in line with IPCC pathways for limiting global average temperatures to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels with a peak in fossil fuel consumption in the near term

This ToR provides strategic guidance for both the Pacific Senior Energy Officials and Energy Ministers Convenings, supporting a Just, Inclusive and Equitable Transition, while remaining a separate track under the Georesources and Energy Programme (GEP) of Pacific Community's (SPC) Geoscience, Energy and Maritime (GEM) Division.

#### **2. Background**

The PacSEOM is a mandated meeting of SPC, in its capacity as the lead technical CROP agency for the Energy sector. The PacSEOM provides a vital platform to discuss scope, opportunities and challenges surrounding national and regional programming, policy mainstreaming, capacity building and resource mobilisation within the energy sector. The meeting serves as an opportunity for candid discussions, enables the evaluation of successes and failures, and facilitates the realignment of activities towards addressing pressing priorities of SPC member countries and territories in relation to their energy transition. The meeting convenes Senior Energy Officials from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) annually, alongside relevant Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies, development partners and other relevant stakeholders.

In support of these objectives, the region has also established the Office of the Pacific Energy Regulators Alliance (OPERA) as a dedicated regional regulatory mechanism. OPERA was created under the direction of the 4th PRETMM in 2019, with the support of SPC and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and was formalised under a Memorandum of Understanding in 2021. Hosted by SPC's Suva Regional Office, OPERA's primary goals are to strengthen regional capacity in utility regulation, promote the independence and professionalism of national energy regulators, and provide a network for regulatory cooperation and knowledge sharing. OPERA works closely with the Pacific Power Association (PPA), which leads on technical and operational aspects of the power sector, while OPERA focuses on regulatory frameworks and governance to support the region's energy transition and resilience agenda.

The meeting convenes Senior Energy Officials from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) annually, alongside relevant Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies, development partners and other relevant stakeholders.

The PRETMM has provided a platform for Ministers responsible for energy to offer political leadership, strategic direction, and regional advocacy on energy transition and resilience. The Ministerial convening enables the Pacific to present a unified voice in international energy forums and to guide the implementation of regional frameworks such as FESRIP and PRETMM outcomes, in close coordination with PacSEOM.

### **3. Objectives**

PacSEOM objectives remain focused on reviewing FESRIP/PRETMM implementation, identifying regional targets, enabling peer exchange, and guiding planning toward subsequent Ministerial meetings.

#### Energy Ministerial Objectives:

1. Regional policy leadership: to progress a Just, Inclusive and Equitable Energy Transition aligned with FESRIP and PRETMM.
2. Financing: discuss and leverage regional and international financing opportunities towards energy transition.
3. Energy and Transport nexus: promote policies and actions that simultaneously support sustainable energy development and resilience, recognising the interconnectedness between energy and transport sector.
4. Gender and Social Inclusion (cross-cutting): mainstream gender equality and social inclusion in all energy sector policies, programmes and convenings, in line with the Pacific Energy and Gender Strategic Action Plan (PEGSAP), the Pacific Energy Gender Initiative (PEGI), and the commitments of the 2023 PRETMM.

### **4. Governance & Reporting Structure**

PacSEOM operates within the regional governance structure and reports to higher bodies for comprehensive oversight.

PacSEOM (Senior Officials) → Energy Ministers (PRETMM) and any other energy ministerial meetings: PacSEOM reports directly to the Energy Ministers (PRETMM) and provides inputs to the SPC regional convenings.

This reporting chain ensures that technical and policy recommendations from senior officials are considered at the ministerial level, then elevated to the SPC's highest governing body, and ultimately inform regional leadership and decision-making at the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders level.

### **5. Chairperson & Deputy Chairperson**

The PacSEOM Chair follows the host country of each PRETMM;

For the Energy Ministers Meeting, the Chairperson shall be the Minister responsible for the energy sector from the host country, serving for a three-year period. The hosting and chairing of the Energy Ministers Meeting is through a bidding process and endorsed at the joint energy and transport final

day, through a process where countries express interest in hosting on the last agenda item of the Ministers Outcome document. The decision is made in an open and transparent agreed process by consensus at the Joint Energy and Transport final agenda item. The Energy Ministers Meeting convenes in parallel to the Transport Ministers Meeting after the PRETMM opens jointly on Day 1 as part of PRETMM standalone sectoral meetings with SEOM and Heads of Maritime (HOM) take place on Day 2 and Day 3 jointly adopt and endorse the outcome to be forwarded to the PIFLM, as determined by the Ministers and the Secretariat in consultation with member countries.

## **6. Membership & Participation**

PacSEOM includes Senior Energy Officials or designates from SPC Members. Observers/advisers include CROP agencies, UN agencies, development partners, CSO, IGOs, NGOs, academia, and expert contributors from private sector partners (such as energy utilities, independent power producers, technology providers, and consultants); professional and industry associations (e.g., SEIAPI, PEGI, PacWIMA, national energy associations); regulatory bodies (e.g., OPERA, Utility Regulatory Authority (URA)); technical and research institutions (e.g., PCREEE, Pacific Fusion Centre); financial institutions and investors; and community-based organisations and local user groups.

Energy Ministers and their designates are included for the Ministerial layer; participation extends to CROP agencies, UN bodies, development partners and academia for both tiers.

## **7. Secretariat**

SPC's GEM Division, through GEP, provides planning, logistics, documentation, interpretation/translation (if required), online portals, and resource mobilisation for PacSEOM.

The GEP/OMP Programmes also administers financial arrangements supporting the combined PacSEOM + Energy Ministers' meetings, which may also include support from members or development partners.

## **8. Meeting Frequency & Format**

PacSEOM: annual face-to-face or ad-hoc virtual meetings; in-person meetings is hosted in Fiji as host country for SPC GEM; circulars are circulated 3 months in advance for PacSEOM, agenda circulated at least one month in advance; minutes/action items circulated within two months.

Energy Ministers meet every 3 years, either as part of the Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (PRETMM) as determined by the Ministers, and the Secretariat in consultation with member countries. PacSEOM convenes annually (or ad hoc virtually) and immediately before the Ministerial session to endorse agenda items that feed into the Ministers' agenda.

PRETMM planning follows a 12month timeline, 6 months prior for the circular to be sent out through CRGA foreign affairs focal points. 3 months prior, both sectoral secretariats have finalized the logistical and hosting arrangements with the host country.

## **9. Agenda Setting & Decision Making**

The Chair, with the Secretariat and members, sets the agenda; PacSEOM drafts linked agenda items for Ministerial consideration; consensus is the default for decisions.

PacSEOM endorses items for Ministerial consideration; if consensus is unresolved, items are deferred. Agreed outcomes will then be considered for adoption by the Ministers. Minutes and action items

circulate within three months. Formal process: PacSEOM, in consultation with the Secretariat and incoming Ministerial Chair, shall draft a linked agenda including item title, rationale, expected decision, and lead country/agency. Circulate at least two months prior or a timeline appropriate.

The formal process for agenda setting requires that PacSEOM, in consultation with the Secretariat and incoming Ministerial Chair, shall draft a linked agenda that includes the item title, rationale, expected decision, and lead country/agency. The draft agenda must be circulated to all members at least two months prior to the convening, or within a timeline appropriate to the meeting context.

## **10. Success Metrics & Review**

PacSEOM outcomes and measures include country preparation, ownership, leadership, value-add to PRETMM/Leaders, collaboration with academia/stakeholders, civil society organisations, gender inclusion, and resource mobilisation. PacSEOM KPI targets include  $\geq 75\%$  implementation at national level and  $\geq 80\%$  member satisfaction that outcomes inform high-level fora.

Additional participation metrics include:

- At least 40% women's participation in PacSEOM and Ministerial convenings and related events.
- At least 20% youth participation (defined as delegates aged 18–35) in PacSEOM and Ministerial convenings and related events.
- Number of gender-responsive and youth-inclusive policies or initiatives adopted as a result of PacSEOM or Ministerial recommendations.

Ministerial KPIs:

1.  $\geq 75\%$  of Ministerially endorsed actions implemented within 24 months.
2. Ministerial endorsement with agenda items adopted by PacSEOM.
3. Regional policy coherence where number of regional or international energy-policy documents, (e.g, FESRIP updates, PPA, OPERA, IRENA, IEA, PIF, UNGA) that explicitly reference PacSEOM endorsed recommendations or agreed targets.

## **11. Amendments & Approval**

This ToR may be reviewed three years or earlier upon request with two-thirds support; revised ToRs are adopted at PacSEOM and presented to PRETMM and at a standalone Energy Ministers meeting, prior to the PIFLM that given year.

Amendments to the combined ToR require a two-thirds majority of the member countries and must be circulated 30 days before the meeting.

The timing and process for the mid-term review of this ToR shall be aligned with the mid-term review of the FESRIP, ensuring that the assessment of ToR effectiveness, progress, and recommendations for improvement are coordinated with the regional review of FESRIP implementation and priorities. The findings of the ToR mid-term review will be tabled at the PacSEOM and the PRETMM for endorsement and further action.

## ANNEX 4 (of 2026 Pacific Senior Energy Officials Resolutions at Sixth PRETMM)

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42	University of New South Wales	Edoardo Santagata	Research Fellow	
43	Tax and Accounting Center Inc.	Cheryl Joy Fernandez-Abila	Research Fellow, Global Ocean Accounts Partnership	
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