

Twenty Third SPREP Meeting of Officials

4-6 September 2012
Noumea
New Caledonia

Agenda Item 9.2.2.2: Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy (PIMS) 2012-2021

Purpose

1. To seek endorsement of the Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy 2012-2021 (Attachment I).
2. To seek support and commitments from Members, Partners and Donors for implementation of the Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy 2012-2021 (PIMS).

Background

3. The Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) meeting in 2011 tasked the Secretariat with coordination of further development and finalization of a Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy to replace the earlier strategy, which ended in 2011. The Secretariat and the WMO office in Apia constitute the Pacific Meteorological Desk Partnership (PMDP) which undertook this task including: hiring a consultant; convening discussions with partners and National Meteorological Services during the WMO meeting in Honiara 2011; and collating inputs through email.
4. In March 2012 the PMC through its Chair endorsed the PIMS.
5. This Strategy highlights Meteorological Services priorities for action for the next ten years. The strategy is for partners, donors, and Member countries to implement and for the PMDP to provide support in the areas of: coordination; fundraising; technical advice; and monitoring and evaluation.
6. The Strategy is closely aligned with the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) Regional Area V Asia and Pacific (RA V) Strategy however, it is more focused on Pacific meteorological needs. Implementation of the PIMS will provide a major contribution from the Pacific to implementation of the RA V Strategy.

The Strategy

7. PIMS provides a strategic framework for strengthening the capacity of National Meteorological Services (NMS), either through direct national support or through coordinated, coherent, and sustained regional support. It is recognized that NMS will play increasingly important roles as the gatherer and custodian of basic weather and climate data for the region upon which the on-going efforts to adapt to climate change and extreme weather events are based.

8. The vision of the Strategy is for National Meteorological Services (NMS) of Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) to be able to provide better and more relevant weather and climate services to their people, so that they in turn may make more informed decisions for their safety, socio-economic wellbeing, prosperity, and sustainable livelihoods. It is also envisaged that better weather and climate information from NMS will facilitate more targeted strategies for climate change adaptation and disaster risk management.

9. The Strategy focuses on the following priority areas:

- Improved aviation services.
- Improved end-to-end Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS).
- Enhanced infrastructure for weather and climate services.
- Enhanced development of climate services.

10. There are a number of existing and new projects which complement the PIMS strategy and the Secretariat will coordinate the implementation of regional projects supporting NMS in the region, such as the FINPAC, PACCSAP and PI-GOOS, to ensure the support for NMS in the region is consistent and coherent with the PIMS vision.

Recommendations

11. The Meeting is invited to:

- **Note** and **endorse** the Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy 2012-2021 (PIMS) as the principal guide to regional cooperation between meteorological services and partners for the region; and
- **Note** and **endorse** the role of the Pacific Meteorological Desk Partnership in supporting implementation of the Strategy and in servicing the Pacific Meteorological Council.