

Thirty Second SPREP Meeting of Officials

2-4 September 2025

Sheraton Aggie Greys Hotel & Bungalows
Apia, Samoa

“Sustaining our Pacific Environment in Harmony with our Cultures”

Agenda item 9.1.2: Outcomes of the Seventh Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-7)

Purpose:

1. Inform the SPREP Meeting on the 7th Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council Meeting Outcomes.
2. To seek the endorsement and commitment of the SPREP Meeting, Members and development partners for the outcomes of the 7th Pacific Meteorological Council and its implementation.

Background:

3. The PMC is a specialized subsidiary body of SPREP established to facilitate and coordinate the scientific and technical programmes and activities of the Regional Meteorological Services. The PMC comprises of the Directors/Heads of Meteorological Services of SPREP member countries and territories with combined objectives aimed to strengthen the capacity of the NMHSs, contributing to the safety, well-being, and development aspirations of the Pacific people during the provision of weather, climate, water, ocean and related development services by:
 - Providing an open forum for members to discuss and collaborate on issues related to the advancement of hydro-meteorological services in the Pacific;
 - Building on mutual and complementary strengths to develop innovative approaches that help sustain national and regional development goals stated by each nation; and
 - Collaborating with partner organizations and agencies in related sectors to achieve development objectives.
4. The theme for PMC-7 focused on the work of the PMC “*At the frontline of weather, climate, water and ocean actions in the Pacific*”. The PMC- and related meetings were hosted by Vanuatu in Port Vila, from the 9th -20th September 2024. This reflects PMC working together with members and partners to address the critical challenges posed and opportunities provided by weather, climate, water, and ocean dynamics in the region. PMC will play a pivotal role in coordinating efforts among Pacific Island nations and partners to enhance hydrometeorological services, improve early warning systems, and develop sustainable practices for hydrology, weather, climate and ocean management.
5. The Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) NMHSs, CROP agencies, United Nations’ agencies, development partners, collaborating organisations and institutions take enormous pride in their contributions to sustainable development for PICTs that has been made to date. This meeting assisted with the coordination efforts of the NMHSs and partners to ensure that gaps in delivering appropriate and timely information to save lives are discussed and addressed.

6. The PMC-7 was organised around the following objectives:

- Facilitate/foster coordination, networking, sharing of information, and discussions among PMC's members, development partners, CROP agencies, UN agencies, collaborating organisations, and institutions on current status and advancement of weather, climate, water, ocean, and related development services in support of national development and a resilient Pacific;
- Review the PMC and the Pacific Met Desk Partnership coordination role, scope of operations, and required resourcing including the PMC Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedures;
- Discuss the Weather Ready Pacific progress and any updates;
- Review the progress in the implementation of the PIMS through the PMC Panel work, identifying achievements, challenges, and gaps;
- Present the reviews of the regional strategies related to the PMC (Pacific Island Met Strategy, Pacific Climate Change and services Research Roadmap, and the Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services);
- Provide an opportunity for national Hydrology services, National Disaster Management Offices, and national stakeholders to participate in the PMC meeting; and
- Ensure the meeting is socially inclusive.

7. The Weather Ready Pacific (WRP) initiative featured prominently at the recent PMC meeting. As a flagship initiative of the Pacific Meteorological Council, WRP was endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in 2021 and continues to play a critical role in advancing the region's resilience agenda. It is a key enabler of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, particularly in realising the vision of a resilient, safe, and sovereign Pacific. WRP directly supports several Regional Collective Actions (RCAs) outlined in the 2050 Strategy Implementation Plan. These include strengthening multi-hazard early warning systems (Theme 5: Climate Change and Disasters), enhancing ocean monitoring and risk management (Theme 6: Ocean and Environment), upgrading meteorological and ICT infrastructure (Theme 7: Technology and Connectivity), and improving access to essential services and climate information (Theme 2: People-Centered Development). Through these contributions, WRP not only reduces disaster risk but also reinforces the region's capacity for climate adaptation, ocean governance, and sustainable development.

8. In 2023, the WRP Implementation Plan and Governance Framework received formal endorsement by the PMC, marking a significant milestone in the initiative's progress. Backed by generous financial commitments—AUD 30 million from Australia, NZD 20 million from New Zealand, and USD 800,000 from the United Kingdom—along with technical assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), implementation is now well underway. SPREP has successfully established the Programme Management Unit (PMU), and activities are actively being rolled out at the national level across the region.

PMC-7 and related meetings

Dates (2024)	Meeting
9-10 September	Women In Leadership Workshop 2.0
11-12 September	Media and Communication Mana Class Training
13-14 September	Pacific Meteorological Council Panels' Meetings
16 September	3D-Printed Automatic Weather Station (PAWS) Training
17-19 September	Seventh Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-7)
20 September	First Weather Ready Pacific Steering Committee Meeting

9. There are over 70 recommendations, requests and endorsements by the PMC-7. The details of the report is in WP 9.1.2/ Information Paper 1.

10. Below are key outcomes of the PMC-7 for consideration of the SPREP Meeting

- Continued to recognise that the infrastructure investment under the Weather Ready Pacific is critical for addressing the climate emergency in the Pacific.
- Endorsed the high-level activities of the Weather Ready Pacific inception phase.
- Approved, the mandate of PMC and Weather Ready Pacific in relation to other hazards will be limited to PMC Members who provide those non-meteorological services pending the Weather Ready Pacific /EW4All alignment review. e.g. PMC and Weather Ready Pacific may decide to carryout geohazard activities in Samoa, Tonga, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu because they are within the mandate of the National Meteorological Services of these countries and noting that some members have existing arrangements with geohazards departments.
- Recommended that Weather Ready Pacific and other related early warning system initiatives in the region include anticipatory action as a key component in programme design and delivery.
- Recommended that the aviation issues raised via audits and other reporting shall be addressed as soon as practicable as it could pose risk to aviation safety, with appropriate corrective action plans to be developed by States.
- Recommended that the Weather Ready Pacific Project Management Unit and the Systematic Observation Financing Facility Secretariat develop a Memorandum of Understanding under the guidance of their Steering Committee chairs.
- Requested that regional institutions and/or development partners develop and make available training to all Pacific Island meteorological services on quality management systems, safety management systems, risk management, root cause analysis, internal auditor trainings, quality tools and competency-based assessments to be made accessible to staff. This should include an element of 'train the trainer', to ensure that the knowledge and skills can continue to be shared within each organisation.
- Requested assistance to ensure aviation meteorological personnel providing aviation weather service to undergo relevant basic instructions package training for Meteorologists and Technicians (observer).
- approved the Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services (2024-2033); and
- Recommended mobilizing of resources for the strengthening pacific engagement and coordination of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the implementation of the Pacific Climate Change Research Roadmap.
- Adopted the SPREP eLearning Platform as the primary repository for ICT eLearning courses.
- Noted with appreciation the establishment of the new Meteorology and Climate Science Programme at SPREP.
- Recommended the development of a Pacific Infrastructure and Communication Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan to guide the work of the PICI Panel.
- Recommended partners and donors to use national and regional analyses to incorporate sufficient funding to support training, maintenance and sustainability of Observations Communication and Infrastructure services

- Noted the ongoing efforts by Fiji Met Service, NIWA, JICA, Australia (BoM), and other partners to provide instrumentation and calibration services and capacity development training to the region and to FMS.
- Recommended that the PMC Secretariat formalise the working relationship between the Met Community and the Pacific Disability Forum through an MOU.
- Called on the international community to further advance research on tropical cyclones and develop case studies to allow progress in their forecasting and warning, through all existing programmes including the WMO World Weather Research Programme.
- Endorsed Hawaii, United States of America as the venue for the Eighth Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-8) and the Fourth Ministerial Meeting on Meteorology (PMMM-4) in 2026.

Recommendation:

11. The Meeting is invited to:

- 1) **Note** the outcomes of the 7th Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council; and
- 2) **Request** development partners to invest in the Weather Ready Pacific as the programme to coordinate the wider implementation of people-centred end-to-end multi-hazard early warning systems for all Pacific island countries and territories.
