



DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE (22.05.2026)

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL (PMC-8)

Hosted by the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga

Nuku'alofa, Tonga

Theme: *Weather Ready for a Secured and Sustainable Blue Pacific*

1. The Government of the Kingdom of Tonga, in partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), will host the Eighth Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-8) in Nuku'alofa, Tonga. The meeting will bring together members of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC), senior government officials from SPREP member countries and territories, development partners, Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) agencies, United Nations agencies, collaborating organisations and institutions and the private sector to discuss, promote and explore opportunities to strengthen meteorology, climate, hydrology, and ocean services in support of sustainable development and resilience in the Pacific.
2. The Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) is a specialised subsidiary body of the SPREP Meeting established to facilitate and coordinate the scientific and technical programme and activities of the Regional Meteorological Services in the Pacific. The PMC comprises the Directors/Heads of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of SPREP Members and provides a regional forum for members to discuss and collaborate on issues related to the advancement of meteorological services in the Pacific. The PMC also provides policy-relevant advice to the SPREP Meeting on the needs and priorities of SPREP member countries and territories in relation to meteorology, weather, climate and related fields.
3. The objective of the PMC is to strengthen the capacity of National Meteorological Services so as to contribute to the safety, well-being and development aspirations of the people of the Pacific through the provision of appropriate weather, climate and related development services. This is pursued through: (i) providing an open forum for members to discuss and collaborate on issues related to the advancement of meteorological services in the Pacific; (ii) building on mutual and complementary strengths in order to develop innovative approaches that support agreed national and regional development goals; and (iii) collaborating with partner organisations and agencies in related sectors.
4. In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the PMC also plays an important role in promoting capacity development in the region, improving members' capability to provide accurate, timely and reliable forecasts and warnings, guiding regional strategies for meteorological and related services, overseeing progress in the implementation of these



strategies, and providing guidance to members, SPREP and partner organisations on weather, climate and associated environmental matters in the Pacific.

5. The theme for PMC-8, “Weather Ready for a Secured and Sustainable Blue Pacific,” reflects the collective ambition of Pacific Island Countries and Territories to strengthen and modernise meteorological services so they are better able to protect lives, livelihoods, ecosystems and economies. The theme recognises that a secure and sustainable Blue Pacific depends on robust and sustainable observing networks, effective early warning systems, strong forecasting and service delivery capacity, and coordinated regional partnerships that can respond to the growing impacts of weather, climate and ocean-related hazards.
6. The PMC-8 theme is closely linked to the Weather Ready Pacific (WRP) initiative, which has emerged as the Pacific-led framework for transforming and sustaining meteorological services across the region. In this context, PMC-8 will provide an important platform to review progress, strengthen regional coordination and guide the next phase of collective action to support resilient and sustainable meteorological services in the Pacific. The meeting will also provide an opportunity to align technical discussions and priorities with broader regional aspirations for resilience, sustainable development and strengthened early warning systems.
7. PMC-8 will be the key technical meeting in the lead up to the Fourth Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Meteorology (PMMM-4) which will be held on the 25 September 2026. The discussions and outcomes of PMC-8 will help shape the priorities, recommendations and technical advice that will be elevated to Ministers for consideration and endorsement. In this way, PMC-8 will contribute directly to informing PMMM-4.
8. **Venue and Dates of the PMC-8 Meetings**
The PMC-8 meeting will be held in Nuku’alofa, Tonga from the 21-23 September 2026, followed by Ministerial meetings from the 24-25 September 2026. The venue details and programme will be confirmed by the Government of Tonga and the Secretariat in due course.
9. **Meeting Schedule**
A series of meteorology-related trainings and workshops (listed in the table) are scheduled for the week preceding the PMC.

Dates (2026)	Meeting	Attendance
14 and 19 September	Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) Panels Pacific Island Climate Services (PICS) Panel	<i>By membership only</i> Directors, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services



	- Pacific Island Marine and Oceans Services (PIMOS) Panel - Pacific Island Aviation Weather Services (PIAWS) Panel - Pacific Island Communications and Infrastructure (PICI) Panel - Pacific Island Education, Training and Research (PIETR) Panel - Pacific Hydrological Services (PHS) Panel	- Nominated Staff, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services - Technical and Development Partners
15-16 September	Weather Ready Pacific Liaison Platform	<i>By invitation only</i> - Directors, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services - Technical and Development Partners
17-18 September	Leadership Training	<i>By invitation only (Closed Meeting)</i> - Directors, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services - Senior Management, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services
17-18 September	Pacific Media Training	<i>By invitation only (Closed Meeting)</i> Nominated Pacific media
17-18 September	Hydrology Forum	<i>Pre-registered participants only</i> - Directors, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services - Government Officials- Hydrology sector - Hydrology Stakeholders



		• Technical and Development Partners
21-23 September	Eighth Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-8)	<i>Pre-registered participants only</i> • Directors, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services • Government Officials- National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Hydrology sectors, etc. • Private Sector • Technical and Development Partners • Meteorology Community
24 September	Ministerial Briefing on PMMM-4	<i>By invitation only (Closed meeting)</i> • Ministers responsible for Meteorology • Directors, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services
25 September 2026	Fourth Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Meteorology (PMMM-4)	<i>Pre-registered participants only</i> • Ministers responsible for Meteorology • Directors, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services • Government Officials- National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Hydrology sectors, etc. • Private Sector • Technical and Development Partners • Meteorology Community

10. Private Sector Exhibition Booths

PMC-8 will feature exhibition booths by private manufacturing companies showcasing weather and climate-related equipment and technologies.



11. Side Events

The PMC-8 meeting will provide limited opportunities for side events to be held alongside the main programme. These side events may include technical briefings, partner showcases, sunrise sessions, lunchtime events, or sunset networking events. Side events will provide an opportunity for development partners, technical agencies, collaborating institutions and other stakeholders to present relevant initiatives, tools, innovations and partnership opportunities that contribute to strengthening weather, climate, water, ocean and early warning services in the Pacific. Further guidance on the application and scheduling of side events will be provided by the Secretariat.

12. Objectives of the PMC-8

The objectives of PMC-8 are to:

- a. Facilitate and foster coordination, networking, sharing of information and discussions among PMC members, development partners, CROP agencies, United Nations agencies, collaborating organisations and institutions on the current status and advancement of weather, climate, water, ocean and related services in support of national development and a resilient Blue Pacific;
- b. Provide a platform for members to discuss and collaborate on issues related to the advancement of meteorological services in the Pacific;
- c. Build on mutual and complementary strengths to develop innovative and sustainable approaches that support the sustained achievement of agreed national and regional development goals;
- d. Promote capacity development and improved capability of members to provide accurate, timely and reliable forecasts, warnings, climate information and associated services;
- e. Review progress in the implementation of regional meteorological priorities, including progress through PMC panels and related regional coordination mechanisms, identifying achievements, challenges, gaps and opportunities for future action;
- f. Discuss progress, priorities and strategic direction under the Weather Ready Pacific initiative as a key regional framework for strengthening meteorological services and supporting early warnings in the Pacific;
- g. Provide key strategic documents to members, SPREP and partner organisations with respect to programmes related to weather, climate and associated environmental matters in the Pacific; and
- h. Develop and agree technical recommendations and regional priorities from PMC-8 to contribute to the deliberations of the Fourth Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Meteorology (PMMM-4).

13. Expected Outcome

The expected outcomes of the PMC-8 meeting are:

- a. Increased awareness of progress, achievements, challenges and gaps in the advancement of meteorological services in the Pacific since the previous PMC meeting;
- b. Strengthened partnership, networking and coordination among NMHSs, development



partners, CROP organisations, United Nations agencies, collaborating organisations and institutions;

c. Improved shared understanding of regional priorities and strategic actions required to strengthen weather, climate, water, ocean and early warning services in the Pacific;

d. Guidance from members and partners on the future direction of Weather Ready Pacific and related regional initiatives;

e. Technical guidance and updates from relevant PMC panels and associated institutions on their work and future priorities in support of meteorological services in the region; and

f. Agreed technical recommendations and priorities from PMC-8 to inform and contribute to the Fourth Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Meteorology (PMMM-4).

14. PMC-8 will reaffirm the commitment of Pacific Island Countries and Territories and their partners to work together in building a Weather Ready, secured and sustainable Blue Pacific, where meteorological services are resilient, responsive, coordinated and capable of delivering the information and warnings needed to safeguard lives, property and development gains across the region.

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