

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

Eighth Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-8)

Weather Ready for a Secure and Sustainable Pacific
10, 11, 14 September 2026 | Nuku'alofa, Tonga

Agenda Item 18.2: WMO Regional Training Centre (RTC) Nadi Updates

Purpose:

- 1) To update the Pacific Meteorological Council on the WMO designation of the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) as a WMO Regional Training Centre in Regional Association V, and on progress towards the operationalisation of WMO RTC Nadi.
- 2) To highlight the WMO RTC Nadi's strategic contribution to regional and national priorities for education, training and capacity development in meteorology.
- 3) To seek PMC's guidance and support for the proposed governance arrangements and the implementation roadmap for the WMO RTC Nadi.

Objectives:

- a) Strategic Progress
To outline the vision for the WMO RTC Nadi, its strategic alignment with key regional and global frameworks, and progress against key milestones achieved and planned.
- b) Governance Framework
To present the proposed governance model and clarify the respective roles and responsibilities of PMC, the RTC Governance Board, host institution, donors, and development partners.
- c) Regional Benefits
To highlight the value of the WMO RTC Nadi for Pacific National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), including workforce development, collaboration, cost-effectiveness, operational benefits, and long-term sustainability.
- d) Guidance and Decision
To seek PMC's endorsement of the proposed governance arrangements, support for the implementation roadmap, and encouragement for Members and partners to actively engage in and support the WMO RTC Nadi.

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

Background:

The Pacific region has identified a critical need to strengthen the capacity of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) to deliver effective weather, climate, water and multi-hazard early warning services. Addressing this need requires increasing the number of WMO-qualified professionals, establishing competency-based learning pathways, and providing continuous professional development to build and sustain a skilled regional workforce.

In response to regional capacity-development needs, Pacific partners have supported the development of WMO RTC Nadi as a sustainable regional center of excellence for education and training in meteorology, hydrology, climate services and related disciplines. Through Resolution 3 (EC-80), adopted at its 80th session in June 2026, the WMO Executive Council formally designated the existing education and training facilities and functions of the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) as a WMO Regional Training Centre in Regional Association V. This designation recognizes FMS's established training capacity, experience and longstanding regional role, with RTC Nadi becoming the 27th WMO Regional Training Centre worldwide.

WMO RTC Nadi will serve as a regional platform for delivering internationally recognized and regionally relevant education and training programmes. It will support the workforce-development priorities of Pacific National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), strengthen regional technical capacity, and promote collaboration with WMO, regional organizations, development partners, academic institutions and other international partners.

The WMO RTC Nadi initiative is being developed in alignment with the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, the WMO Education and Training Strategy, the Pacific Meteorological Strategy (PIMS), the Pacific Strategic Roadmap for Capacity Development and Training (currently under development), and national workforce development plans. Through this alignment, the WMO RTC Nadi will contribute to strengthening operational forecasting, climate and hydrological services, and multi-hazard early warning systems across the Pacific.

A significant milestone is JICA's support for the construction of the purpose-built WMO RTC Nadi facility at the Fiji Meteorological Service in Nadi. Construction is underway, providing the physical infrastructure needed to support the Centre's future operations. In parallel, substantial progress has been made in developing the governance framework, business model, operational arrangements, training programmes, accreditation pathways and regional partnerships required to operationalise and strengthen WMO RTC Nadi as a sustainable regional institution.

The proposed governance arrangements are designed to ensure that the WMO RTC Nadi operates as a regional asset with clear strategic oversight, effective management, and strong engagement from Pacific NMHSs and partner organisations. The governance

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

framework aims to promote transparency, accountability, regional ownership, and alignment with the priorities of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC).

Once operational, the WMO RTC Nadi is expected to deliver significant regional benefits by strengthening the capability of Pacific NMHSs through accredited education, continuing professional development, leadership development, and technical training. It will foster regional collaboration, promote the sharing of expertise and resources, reduce reliance on overseas training, improve the cost-effectiveness of capacity development investments, and support the long-term sustainability of meteorological and hydrological services across the Pacific.

This paper provides PMC with an update on the strategic progress made following WMO designation and towards operationalisation of WMO RTC Nadi, presents the proposed governance framework, outlines the anticipated regional benefits, and seeks the Council's endorsement of the governance arrangements, support for the implementation roadmap, and encouragement for Members and development partners to actively participate in the development and long-term success of WMO RTC Nadi.

Proposed Governance and Next Steps:

The proposed governance framework, presented in Annex 1, provides for strategic regional oversight by the Pacific Meteorological Council; governance, accountability and strategic direction through an RTC Governance Board; and day-to-day operational management by the Fiji Meteorological Service, the host institution for WMO RTC Nadi. The framework will be supported by appropriate technical, academic and partner engagement mechanisms to ensure that WMO RTC Nadi programmes remain responsive to Pacific NMHS needs and align with relevant WMO standards.

The immediate priority is to progress the phased operationalization of WMO RTC Nadi. This includes finalizing governance instruments and operating arrangements, completing the business and financing model, confirming staffing and institutional capacity, prioritizing the initial training portfolio, establishing partnership, accreditation and recognition arrangements, and preparing for initial programme delivery following facility readiness.

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

Recommendations:

The Meeting is invited to:

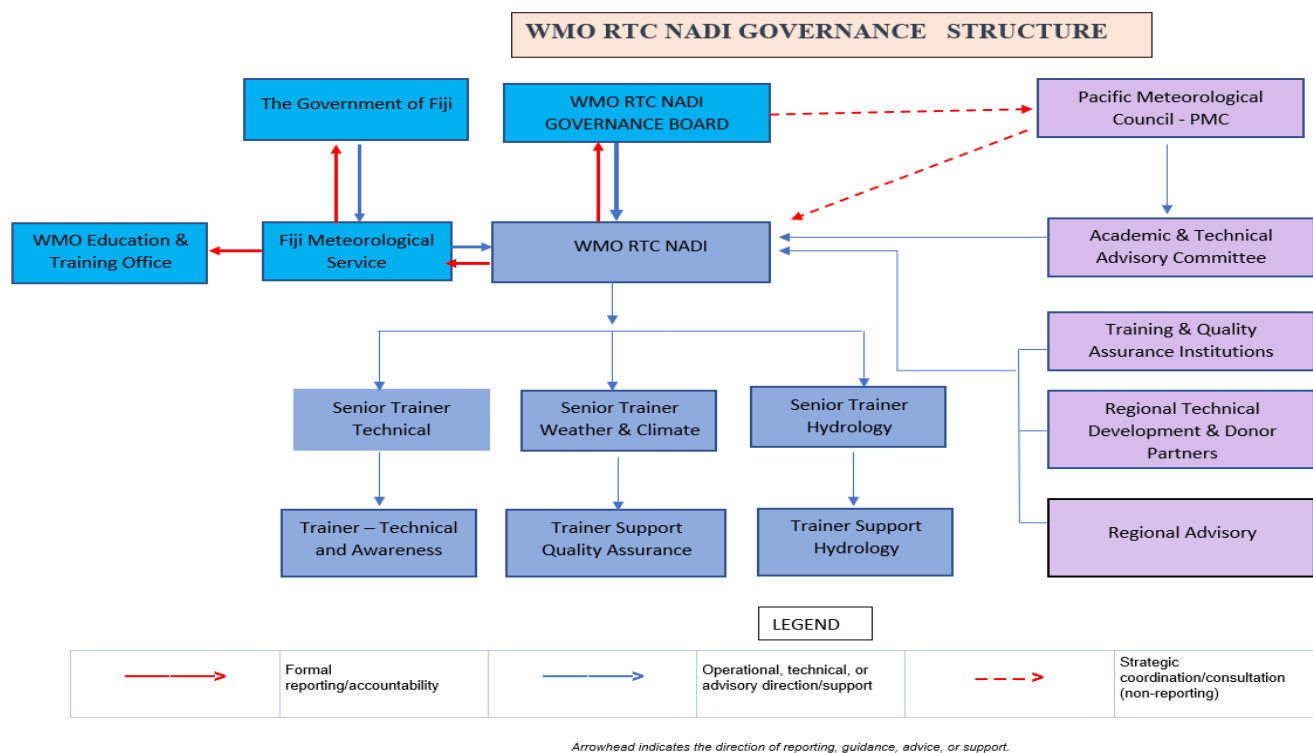
- I. **Note** the WMO designation of FMS as a Regional Training Centre in RA V, approved at EC-80 in June 2026, and progress towards operationalisation of WMO RTC Nadi, including the facility under construction at the Fiji Meteorological Service, development of the proposed governance and operational arrangements, preparation of the business model, training needs assessment and work on priority training, partnership and accreditation pathways.
- II. **Endorse**, in principle, the proposed WMO RTC Nadi governance framework in Annex 1, including the strategic oversight role of the Pacific Meteorological Council, the governance and accountability role of the RTC Governance Board, and the operational management role of the Fiji Meteorological Service as host institution, subject to refinement through the agreed implementation process.
- III. **Support** the phased implementation roadmap for WMO RTC Nadi and request SPREP, in collaboration with the Fiji Meteorological Service, WMO and other donor and development partners, to progress the priority actions required for operational readiness, including institutional arrangements, workforce planning, programme development, accreditation/recognition pathways, sustainable financing and regional participation.
- IV. **Encourage** Members, development partners and relevant education and training institutions to participate in the design, delivery and long-term sustainability of WMO RTC Nadi programmes.

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

Annex 1: Proposed WMO RTC Nadi Governance Arrangement



a) WMO RTC Nadi Governance Structure

Entity / Position	Primary Function	Type of Authority	Key Decisions / Responsibilities Held
Fiji Government	National host and enabling authority	National enabling authority	Ensures national legal, policy and administrative oversight
Fiji Meteorological Service	Institutional home of RTC Nadi	Managerial/administrative authority	Provides institutional support, staffing, resources and administrative oversight
RTC Governance Board (Oversight Authority)	Provides strategic leadership and governance	Strategic governance and oversight	Oversees RTC strategy, performance, partnerships, priorities and resource requirements
Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC)	Provides regional policy direction and coordination	Regional strategic guidance	Identifies regional priorities and provides recommendations on training and capacity-development needs
WMO Regional Training Centre - Nadi (RTC Nadi)	Manages and delivers RTC programmes	Operational training authority	Implements approved RTC programmes, courses, partnerships and regional training activities.

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

Entity / Position	Primary Function	Type of Authority	Key Decisions / Responsibilities Held
WMO Education and Training Office	Recognizes, monitors and reconfirms RTC Nadi's designation as WMO RTC, receives reports on RTC activities.	International oversight authority	Reviews RTC status and compliance and reports RTC performance to WMO governance bodies.
Academic & Technical Advisory Committee	Provides academic and technical advice	Advisory authority	Advises on curriculum, competency requirements, course content, assessment and technical standards
Training & Quality Assurance Institutions	Supports accreditation and quality assurance	External/independent QA authority	Undertakes accreditation, programme review, moderation and quality-assurance activities
Regional Technical, Development & Donor Partners	Provides technical, development and financial support	Support/partnership authority	Provides technical assistance, funding and support in accordance with agreed programmes and national requirements
Principal Training Officer	Head of RTC Operations. Leads day-to-day management of RTC Nadi	Operational management authority	Manages work plans, courses, trainers, resources, reporting and implementation of approved activities
Senior Trainer - Technical	Leads technical and operational training	Delegated technical training authority	Develops and delivers technical training, assesses participants and supports course improvement
Senior Trainer - Weather & Climate Science	Leads weather and climate training	Delegated technical training authority	Develops and delivers weather and climate training and provides technical guidance
Senior Trainer - Hydrology & Technical Science	Leads hydrology and related technical training	Delegated technical training authority	Develops and delivers hydrology and technical science programmes and assessments
Trainer - Technical & Awareness	Delivers technical and awareness training	Training delivery authority	Conducts practical training, awareness activities and supports participant learning
Trainer Support - Quality Assurance & Administration	Supports RTC quality management and administration	QA / administrative support	Maintains training records, documentation, evaluations, QA requirements and administrative processes
Trainer Support	Provides operational and logistical support	Administrative/operational support	Supports training logistics, course materials, participants, records and general RTC operations

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

Entity / Position	Primary Function	Type of Authority	Key Decisions / Responsibilities Held
Regional Advisory	Provides regional technical and advisory support to RTC Nadi, supplementing trainer capacity for specialized and surge training needs.	Support	Provides specialist technical input, supports outreach and missions, and facilitates regional knowledge exchange without independent decision-making authority.

b) Status and Legal Basis

The RTC Nadi Governance Board is a regional strategic governance and oversight body for RTC Nadi. It operates under terms of reference endorsed by the Pacific Meteorological Council and within the applicable laws, policies and administrative arrangements of the Government of Fiji and the Fiji Meteorological Service. The designation of WMO RTC Nadi as a Regional Training Centre is separately anchored in its recognition by the WMO Executive Council, following the recommendation of Regional Association V, and in the associated agreement between WMO and the Government of Fiji/Fiji Meteorological Service governing the Centre's establishment and operation; the Governance Board's Terms of Reference operate within, and do not alter, that underlying designation. The Board does not create a separate legal entity and does not replace the statutory, financial, employment, asset-management or administrative responsibilities of the Government of Fiji or FMS. FMS remains the host institution and accountable manager for WMO RTC Nadi.

c) Purpose

The RTC Nadi Board provides strategic direction, regional stewardship and oversight to ensure WMO RTC Nadi:

- Remains responsive to the capacity-development priorities of Pacific NMHSs.
- Aligns with relevant WMO standards, PIMS, EW4All, the Pacific Strategic Roadmap for Capacity Development and Training (under development), and national priorities.
- Operates under sound governance, quality assurance, financial sustainability and performance-management arrangements.
- Maintains effective partnerships with WMO, SPREP, education and training institutions, development partners and donors.
- Delivers an agreed programme of accredited, recognised or competency-based education, training and continuing professional development.

d) Membership

The Board should comprise seven to eleven voting members, supported by non-voting observers. The Head of WMO RTC Nadi should serve as the non-voting Secretary to the Board. Voting members are appointed for a renewable term of three years.

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

No	Membership Category	Proposed Representation	Voting Status
1.	Chair	Government of Fiji – Optional	Voting
2.	Pacific NMHS Representatives	Three NMHS Directors, ensuring subregional and gender-balanced representation	Voting
3.	University of the South Pacific (USP)	One representative with recognised curriculum, accreditation or quality assurance expertise	Voting
4.	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)	Senior Official nominated by SPREP (Director CSI Programme)	Voting
5.	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	Regional Office / Education and Training representative	Voting
6.	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)	JICA representative	Voting
7.	Pacific Community (SPC)	Senior Official nominated by SPC from its GEM division	Voting
8.	Development and donor-partner representative	Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) - COSPPac representative	Voting
9.	Development and donor-partner representative	MetService New Zealand Meteorology Lead, International Development	Voting
10.	Head of RTC Nadi	Principal Training Officer, WMO RTC Nadi	Non-voting Secretary to the Board

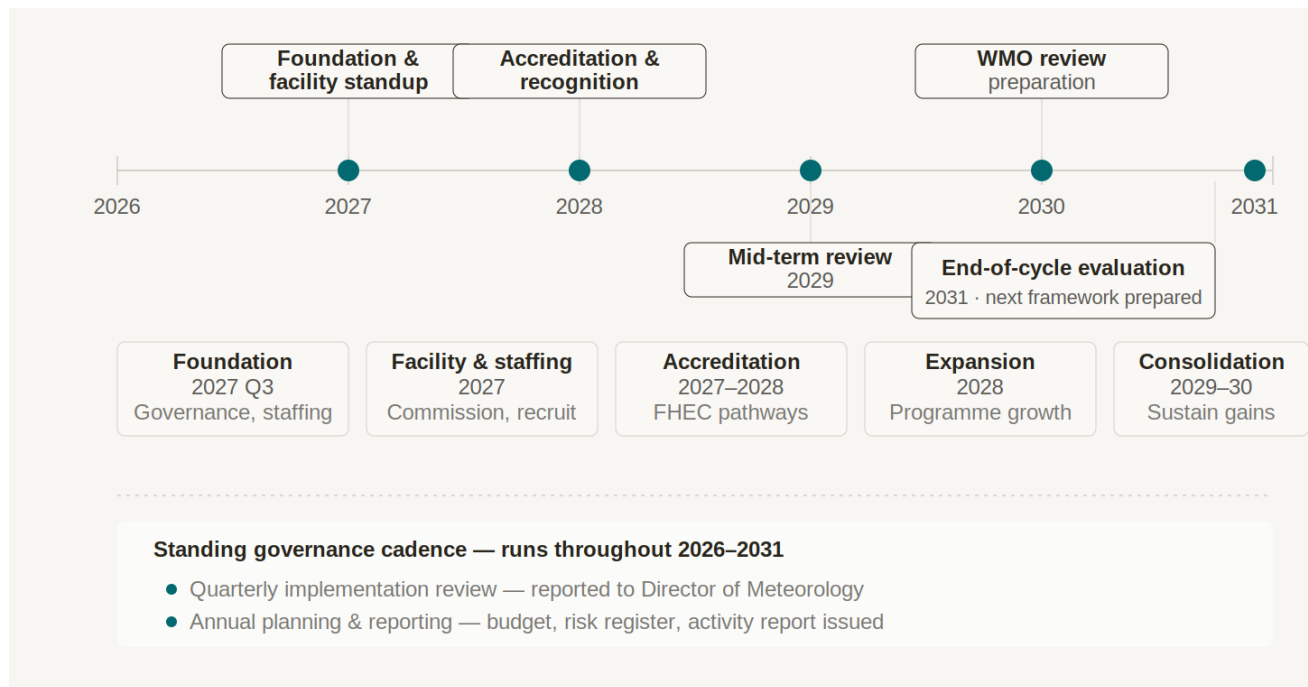
EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

Annex 2: WMO RTC Nadi Implementation Roadmap (Operational Plan)

This roadmap provides implementation phases, milestones, decision points, responsibilities, and indicative timing for the progressive operationalization of WMO RTC Nadi. Progress is to be reviewed quarterly and reported to the Director of Meteorology, with partner roles and contributions confirmed in writing.



EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

Annex 3: Key WMO RTC Nadi Documents Already Prepared by FMS

Governance, strategic, operational, quality-assurance and student-administration documentation

FMS has already prepared a substantial set of documents to support the governance, operation, quality assurance, training delivery, and long-term sustainability of WMO RTC Nadi. The documents below can be reviewed, aligned, and formally approved or updated as implementation progresses.

Completed & controlled	4 of 9
Academic Governance & QA Framework Student Tuition & Grievance Arrangements Academic Integrity & Honesty Documentation Student Acknowledgement Form	
Version 1.0 issued	2 of 9
Terms of Reference for WMO RTC Nadi Effective on approval Funding / Sponsorship Agreement Controlled document, Version 1.0 No completion date stated	
Draft — pending endorsement	2 of 9
Integrated Strategic & Operational Framework 2026–2031 — tracked-change draft RTC Fiji Business Plan 2026–2030 — for review and endorsement	
Reference only	1 of 9
Earlier Strategic/Operational Framework & Business Plan drafts Retained as supporting development records	