

## Second Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-2)

1-5 July 2013  
Nadi  
Fiji Islands

### Agenda Item 12.3: Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac)

#### Purpose

1. To table the Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) progress report, work plan for 2013-2014 and outline its potential contribution towards Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy (2012-2021).

#### Background

2. COSPPac is an AusAID funded 4 year program with a total budget of AUD\$31.5M. COSPPac is managed and implemented by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BoM). The duration of the program is 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2016.

3. The Program is implemented in partnership with Pacific Island Country National Meteorological Services (NMSs) and Land & Survey Departments (LSDs), Geoscience Australia (GA), and the Applied Geoscience and Technology Division of the Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SOPAC/SPC). There are fourteen Pacific partner countries (Cook Islands, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu).

4. The specific outcome of COSPPac is: *Pacific island NMSs and other relevant in-country agencies understand and use climate, ocean and sea level products for the benefit of island communities and governments.*

5. The Program consists of the 5th phase of the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project (renamed the Pacific Sea Level Monitoring Project (PSLM)), the 3rd phase of the Pacific Islands Climate Prediction Project (renamed the Climate and Oceans Monitoring and Prediction Project (COMP), due to the inclusion of Pacific Ocean Climate services), a new Capacity Development and Communications program (CD&C) and a COSPPac Management Unit (CMU).

6. COSPPac deliverables are dictated by the AusAID's development goals and priorities identified by the Pacific partners. Interactions between scientific and development stakeholders in the Pacific over recent years and during the design of the program, identified priorities for the Pacific partner countries for the period July 2012 to June 2016. COSPPac's design and structure was also based on the

recommendations made in an Independent Review Report<sup>1</sup> and at the COSPPac Planning Workshop held in Vanuatu in April 2011. Therefore the COSPPac yearly work plan is targeted towards achieving the program's overarching outcome.

7. COSPPac activities contribute towards a number of "regional and national priorities for action" as outlined in the Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy 2012-2021 (see Annex 1).

8. COSPPac also complements FINPAC, funded by Finnish Government and managed by SPREP (see Annex 2).

9. COSPPac activities are aligned with the World Meteorological Organisation's Global Framework on Climate services (GFCS) (see Annex 3).

## Update

10. The COSPPac Annual Planning meeting and Steering Committee was held in Nadi, Fiji from 30 April to 3 May 2013. As part of the Annual Planning process a workshop was held to review program progress to date and ensure that the 2013-2014 COSPPac work plan is feasible, realistic, aligned with all partners' national priorities and that it complements related work planned by the Pacific partners and their other development partners.

11. Following the planning meeting, the COSPPac Steering Committee meeting was held on Friday, 3 May to discuss the overall governance of the program and to provide strategic oversight and direction for COSPPac. Both meetings were attended by representatives from BoM, GA, SPC/SOPAC, AusAID, SPREP, Pacific Lands and Survey Departments and Pacific NMS Directors. The COSPPac Steering Committee endorsed the work plan for 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014. The final work plan will be circulated in early June 2013.

13. Ms Molly Powers was appointed as the COSPPac Regional Officer in May 2013. The position is located at SPC/SOPAC in Suva and is part of COSPPac CD&C team.

14. During the Pacific Islands Climate Services Forum, which was held at the University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji from 21 to 26 January 2013, it became evident that COSPPac was one of the very few Pacific projects that focuses on climate variability (seasonal timescales) and its applications in a number of climate sensitive sectors.

15. COSPPac activity progress report tabled at the 2<sup>nd</sup> COSPPac Steering Committee meeting is attached as Annex 4.

## Recommendations

16. The Meeting is invited to:

**Support** the implementation of the Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific and **support** the effective coordination of activities between COSPPac and other relevant Pacific regional and national organisations through SPREP's Pacific Desk.

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<sup>1</sup> An Independent Review of Phase 2 of Pacific Islands Climate Prediction Project and Phase 4 of South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project was conducted in early 2010.

## Attachments

- Annex 1: Pacific Key Outcomes (PKO) and Relevant Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) activities
- Annex 2: FINPAC and Relevant COSPPac activities
- Annex 3: GFCS and Relevant COSPPac activities
- Annex 4: COSPPac Summary Progress Report, 1 July 2012 TO 22 April 2013

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