

*“Sustainable Weather, Climate, Oceans and Water Services for a Resilient Pacific”*

## **Fourth Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-4) Working Papers**

14-18 August 2017  
Honiara  
Solomon Islands

### **Agenda Item 22**

Climate and Ocean Services Program for the Pacific (COSPPac).

#### **Purpose:**

To provide an update of COSPPac activities and transition of products to SPREP and SPC.

#### **Background:**

1. It has long been recognised that weather, climate and ocean services have a fundamental part to play in helping Pacific Island countries with disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation. COSPPac has successfully built capacity in Pacific NMHSs to allow for services to be established and the broader goals to be met.
2. COSPPac works with Pacific Island stakeholders to analyse and interpret climate, oceans and tidal data to produce valuable services for island communities. This information helps island communities to prepare for, and mitigate the impacts of severe climate, tidal and oceanographic events.
3. COSPPac is funded by the Australian Government and implemented by the Bureau of Meteorology. COSPPac partners with many other agencies to deliver the Program: the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Geoscience Australia, the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).
4. COSPPac is six year program (2012-18) funded by DFAT. Initially, COSPPac was a four-year program with a total budget of \$31.5M, scheduled to be completed by June 2016. Program received a one-year extension of \$5M initially in 2015, with further one year extension to 2017-18. Total budget is approximately \$39.3M.
5. The extension followed a DFAT initiated Independent Progress Review (IPR) in 2014 which was clear in stating the importance of having components of COSPPac relocated to the Pacific wherever possible. In response, COSPPac has been in active transition since 2015; staffing within the BoM has been significantly reduced and recruitment and training of similar positions has taken place in our Pacific Regional Organisation Partners as part of the transition process. The recruitment of position in SPC and SPREP is now complete.

6. The priority for the final years of the Program is the transition of COSPPac's products and services to the Pacific regional partners (SPREP and SPC) where appropriate.
7. COSPPac activities to June 2018 will also include updates to CliDE including bug fixes and improvements, completion of a transition plan and administrator and user manuals.
8. DFAT increased funding to complete the installation of the Tuvalu sea level gauge (completed June 2017) with the Tonga gauge expected to be completed by November 2017.
9. The transition of COSPPac products and services has been a first of its kind the progress has been going very well. During 2017-18 as products and services are transitioned the Bureau will be continuing to support the Pacific organisations in their first full year of running services operationally.

### Recommendations:

1. The Meeting is invited to:
    - **Note** the update on COSPPac activities and transition progress.
    - **Acknowledge** the collaborative effort and successful transition of COSPPac activities with SPC, SPREP and the partner country NMHSs.
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