

*“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 No.17.2: National Emergency Telecommunication Plans (NETP) and opportunity for NMHSs to link**

#### **Purpose:**

1. To report on Regulation in the Pacific for Emergency Telecommunications and the opportunities for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to join the development of National Emergency Telecommunications Plans

#### **Background:**

1. Existing emergency telecoms regulatory frameworks
  2. Incorporating Tampere Convention into policy
  3. National Emergency Telecommunications Plans (NETP)
  4. Harmonising frequencies for disaster
1. The Pacific is a disaster prone area – 10 of the 25 most vulnerable countries are in the Pacific
  2. Disaster related damage have a significant impact on GDP ( Vanuatu Pam 65 %; Fiji Winston 30 %)
  3. Insurance capabilities of any one country would be hard pressed to cover liabilities for the country (and re-insurance is expensive.)
  4. Every dollar invested in preparation and mitigation results in \$4 saved in recovery and this is not counting the lives saved.
  5. We must plan and while most countries have National Plans very few have plans for the ICT infrastructure and systems this leads to need for NETPs
  6. Countries while not acceding to the Tampere convention should adhere and adopt the principles and practices in that convention and use as guide for developing National Plans

7. The Pacific ICT Regulatory Resource Centre is developing a template for NETPS and countries should use the resources available at the Centre to develop their National Plans
8. International Agencies have expressed interest in assisting, chief among them the ITU. Countries should avail themselves of the opportunity to use these resources.
9. Noting the cross cutting nature of ICTs and the need for a NETP Ministers should call for their governments to urgently develop and implement a National Emergency Telecoms Plan.

#### Update:

##### 2. Samoa

First Pacific Island Country to pass legislation creating an NETP: “The purpose of the NETP is to improve the ability of emergency response providers and relevant government officials to communicate in the event of natural disasters and other man-made disasters”. “Improving emergency communications with stakeholders is given priority. For that reason, we use the stakeholder driven approach to develop the NETP, one that includes input from representatives of government ministries, telecommunication providers, NGOs and broadcasters.” The Samoa NETP has not yet been implemented.

3. Tonga, Fiji, and the Solomon Islands are in the process of developing their NETPs.

#### Recommendations:

1. The Meeting is invited to:
  - **Note:** The importance of national meteorological and hydrological services participating in the development of their National Emergency Telecommunications Plans and inclusion in their respective national Emergency Telecommunications Cluster activities.
  - **Request:** The Pacific ICT Regulatory & Resource Center and the World Food Programme Emergency Telecommunications Cluster work closely with the SPREP PICI Panel, in providing advise to the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services.
  - **Endorse:** The importance of national meteorological and hydrological services participating in the development of their National Emergency Telecommunications Plans and inclusion in their respective national Emergency Telecommunications Cluster activities.

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#### Attachments

- Annex 1 [Title of Paper]
- Annex 2 [Title of Paper]

[Date of Submission]

