



## Sixth Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-6)

Sustaining Weather, Climate, Water and Ocean Services for a Resilient Blue Pacific

14-16 August 2023, Sofitel Fiji Resort and Spa, Denarau, Nadi, Fiji

---

### Agenda item 15.3: Proposed Regional Instrument Centre in Fiji

#### Purpose of the paper:

1. To report on the progress of the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) hosting a WMO Regional Instrument Centre (RIC).
2. To encourage FMS to step up its efforts toward the early establishment of the RIC.

#### Background:

1. Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) has been conducting group training courses on instrument maintenance and calibration for Pacific Island Countries since 2012 with the support of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), including the one jointly funded by JICA and WMO in 2017.
2. At its Fifth session in 2017, PMC endorsed FMS to pursue a RIC proposal with the President and the Management Group of RA V in coordination with the Commission for Instrument and Methods of Observation (CIMO) and other relevant departments of WMO.
3. Subsequently, WMO RA V, at its 17<sup>th</sup> session in 2018, encouraged Fiji to apply for becoming a RIC once it meets the RIC Term of Reference.
4. With the existing facilities and capabilities, FMS, is supporting NMHSs by providing calibration services, and offers calibration training upon request
5. The hands-on calibration training has improved the observation quality and the traceability of measurements in the region.

#### Progress:

1. Fiji Met Services continue to support PMC member countries with calibration of sensors and instruments including Kiribati, Tuvalu, Nauru, Tonga, Samoa, Cook Islands and others
2. Efforts to meet WMO RIC and ISO17025 requirements have been explored and additional technical and financial support is needed for FMS to meet the requirements to be a WMO Recognized RIC
3. JICA will start a 4-year technical cooperation project with Fiji Met Service from 2024, to further develop its capacity for meteorological and hydrological services and to develop and strengthen FMS's capability for the calibration of meteorological instruments
4. Fiji Met Services in collaboration with the RIC Tsukuba, Japan is planning a a training course on instrument maintenance and calibration for PICs in October/November 2023 under the JICA Third-Country Training Programme, "Sustained Activity of FMS for Developing Capacities for Meteorological Services in the South Pacific (2022-2025)".

#### Recommendations:

**The meeting is invited to:**

- Note the continued efforts of Fiji Met Services, JICA, Australia (BoM) and other partners to provide instrumentation and calibration services and capacity development training to the region
  - Request further technical and financial assistance for FMS to further develop technical capacities and systems to attain WMO RIC status and ISO requirements (ISO/IEC 17025; 9 ) and competency certification, in order to be accredited as a WMO Regional Instrumentation Calibration Center (RIC)
- 

**Link**

- WMO Regional Instrument Centres  
[https://community.wmo.int/en/activity-areas/imop/Regional\\_Instrument\\_Centres](https://community.wmo.int/en/activity-areas/imop/Regional_Instrument_Centres)