

Agenda Item 13.1: Progress on the Pacific Island Climate Services (PICS) Panel



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



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Pacific Meteorological Council Meeting

14-18 August 2017. Honiara, Solomon Islands

Progress report on PICS Panel activities

- Planning meetings
- NCOFs review
- Revised ToR
- Recommendations



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Planning meetings

- The third PICS Panel meeting was held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, 21-23 March 2016
 - Updates from recent regional meetings
 - Update on PI RCC, and PI CCC
 - Challenges of sectors in using climate information
 - Discussion on Roadmap, PICOF-2 and Compendium
 - Re-election of chair and vice chair
- PICS Panel teleconferences on 28 April and 21 June 2017
 - Update on PI RCC
 - Feedback on Roadmap and PIMS review
 - Contribution to PMC-4 and PICOF-3 agendas
 - Revised the 2017/18 Priority Actions (PMC-4 WP13.1 Att1)

NCOFs review

- Based on NCOFs held in PNG, Kiribati and Vanuatu in 2015 and 2016
- Key lessons learned include
 - Costs for running an NCOF can be high, so look for funding opportunities
 - Maximise the opportunity by combining the event with something else (e.g. a consultation workshop)
 - Link NCOFs to the timing of the regional PICOF
 - Focus discussions on sector impacts, rather than climate forecasts, and work towards producing tailored services
 - Consider dissemination mechanisms, the use of intermediaries and obtaining feedback
- A PICS Panel report has been written (PMC-4 WP13.1 Att2)



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Revised Terms of Reference (PMC-4 WP13.1 Att3)

- Additional PMC representative – New Caledonia
- Additional regional organisations – MeteoFrance & IFRC
- Additional sector representatives – Agriculture & NDMO
- Include reference to Actions listed in the Roadmap (replacing the PICS Panel Action Plan)

Noting that:

- The role of the PICS Panel is to provide technical advice to the PMC (i.e. not to implement proposed activities); and
- Membership remains open-ended to allow for the PMC members to volunteer their experts to participate in the PICS Panel activities and for the PICS Panel to invite experts either from its PMC members or its partners or climate users to its meetings and discussions.

Recommendation

The Meeting is invited to:

- Note that the PICS Panel is now primarily using teleconferences for its meetings, as a cost-saving measure;
- Suggest that countries holding NCOFs in the region consider the lessons learned from Papua New Guinea, Kiribati and Vanuatu; and
- Endorse the 2017/18 Priority Actions (document PMC-4 WP13.1 Att 1) and revisions to the Terms of Reference (document PMC-4 WP 13.1 Att 3).