



Concept Note

Sixth Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers' Meeting (6th PRETMM)

APEC House, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Dates: 4th-8th May 2026

“Scaling Connectivity for a Prosperous Blue Pacific”

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Introduction

Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) continue to face pressing challenges related to climate change, energy insecurity, and reliance on fossil fuels. The 5th Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers' Meeting (5th PRETMM) in 2023 established a strong regional solidarity and solid foundation through landmark commitments such as the Port Vila Call to Action and the reaffirmation of the Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP) 2021–2030.

Maritime transport underpins Pacific connectivity, trade, and access to essential services, yet it is under growing pressure from climate impacts, ageing and vulnerable infrastructure, high operating costs driven by fossil-fuel dependence, limited digitalisation, and persistent capacity and financing gaps. Recognising that these shared challenges require a collective response, Ministers at the 5th PRETMM (2023) mandated the development of the Pacific One-Maritime Framework (POMF) as a unified, Pacific-led pathway for maritime transformation. The 6th PRETMM provides a critical opportunity to consider, advance, and endorse this regional direction.

As we approach the 6th PRETMM, there is a timely opportunity to evaluate progress, identify implementation gaps, and renew regional commitments toward a just, equitable, and climate-resilient energy and maritime transport transition. This meeting will enhance regional and international partnerships to accelerate access to finance, innovative technologies, and inclusive governance mechanisms that underpin energy and maritime transport sectors.

Updating Energy and Transport Ministers on sectoral progress and providing a platform for strategic deliberations will be essential to guide the next phase of regional efforts over the coming three years and beyond.

Origins and Purpose

The Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers' Meeting (PRETMM) was first held in 2011. This first meeting took place in Noumea, New Caledonia. It was organised by the Pacific Community (SPC). It was established as a high-level ministerial forum bringing together ministers and senior officials from Pacific Island Countries and territories responsible for energy and transport across the Pacific to:

- Discuss and coordinate regional efforts in the energy and maritime transport sectors;
- Review progress on regional frameworks for energy security and maritime transport;
- Align national and regional strategies with global commitments; and
- Promote sustainable, modern, and efficient energy services and safe, reliable maritime transport.

Key Milestones

- **Third PRETMM (Tonga):** With the theme: Affordable, Reliable and Sustainable Energy and Transport Services for All. This reflected the region's commitment to improving access to essential services while promoting sustainability and resilience in the face of climate change and development challenges.
- **Fourth PRETMM (Samoa):** With the theme: Sustainable Energy and Transport Services for the Blue Pacific. The 4th PRETMM emphasised the importance of advancing sustainable and resilient energy and transport systems across PICTs, aligning with broader regional goals for climate resilience and sustainable development.
- **Fifth PRETMM (Vanuatu):** With the theme: Accelerating Decarbonisation in the Blue Pacific. The 5th PRETMM focused on the progress of decarbonising energy and transport sectors throughout the PICTs, promoting a just transition towards a fossil fuel-free Pacific. Supported inclusive growth, particularly through gender and youth engagement in energy and transport sectors, i.e. Pacific Women in Maritime and Energy initiatives.

Focus of the Meeting

The **6th PRETMM**, hosted by Papua New Guinea in 2026, will be a pivotal platform to advance scalable solutions that improve connectivity across the Blue Pacific. Building on the momentum from the 5th PRETMM, including the Efate Outcome Statement and Port Vila Call to Action, the meeting will:

- Assess progress in the energy transition, climate resilience, maritime safety, and inclusive development across PICTs.
- Highlight the critical role of scalability in expanding infrastructure and services that enhance regional connectivity, economic growth, and social inclusion.
- Review and adopt the midterm reviews of the Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific (FESRIP) 2021–2030 as a guiding roadmap for delivering secure, sustainable, and climate-resilient energy services.

- Energy Ministers will consider endorsing the mid-term review or take note of the resolution.
- Formally endorse and launch the Pacific One-Maritime Framework (POMF), to unify coordinated action across maritime transport sectors aligned with the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.

By focusing on scalable approaches, the meeting will reinforce collective ambition to achieve a just, orderly and equitable transition that strengthens connectivity, fosters resilience, and supports sustainable development for all Pacific communities.

Expected Outcomes

- Recognition of progress made since the 5th PRETMM in 2023, with a clear understanding of remaining challenges and opportunities.
- Endorsement of ongoing and new regional commitments in energy and maritime transport sectors to be implemented over the next three years.
- Formal endorsement of the Pacific One-Maritime Framework (POMF) to guide integrated maritime transport development.
- Strengthened regional partnerships and mobilisation of resources to support scalable, innovative solutions that improve connectivity and resilience across the Blue Pacific.

Output

- The Senior Officials of Energy and Heads of Maritime will deliberate on key issues and priorities and produce sector-specific Resolutions, which will inform and guide the Ministerial discussions.
- The Energy and Transport Ministers will deliberate and endorse the Outcome Statement of the 6th PRETMM.
- The finalised Outcome Statement will be circulated among PICTs and partner organisations to guide coordinated regional action.

By embracing scalability as a core principle, the 6th PRETMM will catalyse transformative improvements in connectivity that empower Pacific communities and safeguard the Blue Pacific.

Participants

It is expected that a Cabinet Minister or Assistant/Associate Minister responsible for Energy and Maritime Transport from each PICT will attend. In addition, senior government officials (one energy and one maritime transport official) from each PICT, as well as representatives of development partners, will participate.

Location and Dates

The Ministers' and Officials' meetings will be held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, from 4th to 8th of May 2026, pending endorsement through the Papua New Guinea Government process. These dates are tentative and require confirmation by Papua New Guinea and the 6th PRETMM Working Committee.

Format

The PRETMM Meeting will be held in person. The meeting will be conducted in English and French, with simultaneous interpretation and translation of key papers. Interpretation will not be available for side meetings.

Pacific Energy and Maritime Transport Officials Meeting

The Officials' meeting, covering Energy and Maritime Transport, will occur in a virtual format in the months leading up to the 6th PRETMM and an additional in-person session will take place during the 6th PRETMM in the days prior to the Ministers' meeting.

The purpose of these meetings is to familiarise officials with the Ministers' agenda, consider and endorse select papers, and prepare the sector-specific Resolutions and Ministers' Outcome Statement, for Ministers' endorsement at the conclusion of the Ministers' meeting on the 8th of May 2026.

Organisation and Facilitation

The Government of Papua New Guinea, in collaboration with SPC and supported by partners, will organise the 6th PRETMM.

Hosting

The Government of Papua New Guinea will host the 6th PRETMM.

Agenda

A provisional programme and more detailed agendas for the Ministers' and Officials' meetings will be jointly prepared by the Government of Papua New Guinea and SPC in early 2026. The programme, agenda, papers, and other key information will be available on the [6th PRETMM website](#).