

Discussion paper:

Future arrangement for the Heads of Maritime

SPC Secretariat, 2nd Heads of Maritime Meeting

22-26 April 2024

Why do we need a new HoM?

Broad Objectives and Purpose:

- **Strategic Planning and Review:** Evaluate progress on the Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (PRETMM) resolutions and strategise future actions for maritime transport.
- **Framework Development and Integration:** Development and monitor the implementation of the Pacific One-Maritime Framework (POMF) and discuss its integration into the broader 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.
- **Enhanced Regional Coordination:** Strengthen alignment between PICTs' roles and needs, and the supporting activities of regional organizations and development partners.
- **Guidance and Transparency:** Increase guidance and transparency in the SPC's workplan and activities, ensuring clear communication and accountability in maritime sector initiatives.
- **High-Level Networking and Collaboration:** Foster high-level networking and collaboration to enhance regional cooperation and resource mobilization for maritime sector improvements.

Chair

- The Chair of the SPC HoM, by convention, rotates alphabetically.
- At this Meeting (HoM2), it will be Papua New Guinea. The subsequent chaires will therefore be: Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, ...
- If a member is not ready or available to chair, then the rotation jumps alphabetically to the next available member.
- It is the task of the Chair to manage the agenda to ensure the objectives of the meeting are met, mediate discussion, and to identify points of agreement for the meeting “Outcomes Report”

Secretariat and membership

- The Secretariat to the HoM is provided by the Maritime Transport Team, Ocean and Maritime Programme, SPC Geoscience, Energy and Maritime (GEM) Division, Suva.
- Decision makers are the Countries and Territories that are members of SPC
- Officials from Line Ministries and Heads of Maritime Administration
- Additional members are regional organisations, development partners, and stakeholders relevant to the maritime transport sector in the Pacific

Papers

The meeting papers are organised in four categories:

Country reports	Slide decks that serve as a highlight of members' progress based on the Efate Outcome Statement (5 th PRETMM, 2023) and thematic areas as agreed to by PICTs
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Discussion papers	Papers written for the meeting that concern the main topics of the meeting and provide a basis for discussions.
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Information papers	Papers that provide supplementary information relevant to the specific agenda items. They are intended to contribute to, but not be the focus of agenda item discussion.
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Background papers	Papers that are already published and useful to the meeting discussion.
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Outcome Report

- **Compilation and Approval:** Formal outcomes and recommendations from the Chair are compiled and cleared during the meeting.
- **Drafting and Review:** A drafting committee refines the daily outputs to ensure precise and actionable outcomes.
- **Report Purpose:** The report includes key recommendations to the Secretariat and strategic statements for regional and international development partners.
- **Integration and Presentation:** Outcomes are merged with future HoM reports and presented at the Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers Meeting (PRETMM) to shape regional maritime strategies.
- **National, Regional and Global Relevance:** The outcomes report influences discussions at the national level as well as major regional and international meetings, such as those by IMO, APHoMSA, and ESCAP, promoting Pacific maritime priorities on a global stage.

Scope of the HoM

- **Central Coordination and Reporting:** SPC acts as convenor and secretariat, compiling outcomes of maritime transport meetings and decisions across the region, ensuring effective oversight and assessment of implementation priorities.
- **Strategic Oversight:** HoM oversees and reports on the progress of regional maritime transport priorities, guiding the SPC's workplan and resource mobilisation to tackle critical challenges.
- **Annual Meetings and Strategic Execution:** Conduct annual meetings to advance and execute a regional workplan, enhance decision-making processes, and facilitate the practical application of outcomes.
- **Resource Mobilisation and Support:** Focus on creating strategic documents and mobilising resources to assist member states in addressing key improvement areas within the maritime sector.
- **New Meeting Formats and Preparatory Actions:** Establish new meeting formats to produce outcome reports that drive strategic regional actions and integrate them into national efforts, with meetings convened annually or semi-annually as needed.

Recommendations

- **Note** the new draft Terms of Reference for the Heads of Maritime Meetings
- **Agree** to the need for a new format for HoM meetings including a revised meeting format, alignment with regional goals, enhanced collaboration, increased efficiency, and promotion of transparency
- **Commit** to adopt the new Terms of Reference at the 3rd HoM meeting