



# Second Meeting of Ministers for Culture

Report of Meeting

(Solomon Kitano Mendana Hotel, Honiara, Solomon Islands – 4 July 2012)



**SPC**  
Secretariat  
of the Pacific  
Community

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**Compiled by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community**

**Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)  
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## Introduction

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Ministers for Culture, hosted by the Government of Solomon Islands and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), was held on 4 July 2012 at the Solomon Kitano Mendana Hotel in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

It was attended by representatives from American Samoa, Australia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Norfolk Island, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Rapa-Nui (Easter Island), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Countries not in attendance included: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Hawaii, New Zealand, Tonga and Wallis & Futuna.

The meeting was jointly organised by the SPC's Human Development Programme and the Government of Solomon Islands.

The meeting was chaired by the Solomon Islands Minister for Culture and Tourism and the Vice-Chair was the representative of Guam to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture.

This being only the second such meeting (the first was held in 2002) it provided the first opportunity for culture ministers to be updated on developments in the culture sector, at country and regional level, and on the work of development partners such as UNESCO.

Key items on the agenda included presentation for endorsement by ministers of the Regional Culture Strategy (2010–2020) and the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy (2010–2015), and updates on the implementation of these key regional frameworks for advancing cultural development in the region.

On the occasion of the 11<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts, ministers celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> year of the festival by watching a video on its history and receiving a publication about it: *The Festival of Pacific Arts: Celebrating 40 years*.

At the end of the meeting, the ministers adopted a Declaration, confirming their full support and endorsement of achievements to date at regional and national level in culture and the arts, and of the work being done by SPC and its partners in the protection, preservation and promotion of culture.

## Agenda

1. Official opening
2. Elections
  - Chair
  - Vice-Chair
  - Drafting Committee
3. Working hours
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Review of advancements of the culture sector since 2002
  - SPC Presentation on achievements, challenges and the future
  - Selected country updates (Guam, Samoa and Solomon Islands)
  - UNESCO update
6. Regional Culture Strategy (RCS) 2010–2020
7. Pacific Culture and Education Strategy (PACES) 2010–2015
8. Implementation of the RCS & PACES
9. Other business

Draft Declaration

Closing

Special Note: During this meeting two special events were held.

1. Launch of *Handcrafts of the Solomon Islands* booklet
2. Launch of *The Festival of Pacific Arts: Celebrating 40 years* booklet and video.

## **Summary of discussions**

### **Agenda Item 1: Official opening**

1. The meeting was opened with a prayer by the representative from Samoa.
2. The Minister for Culture and Tourism, Hon. Samuel Manetoali made the opening speech on behalf of the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands, Mr Gordon Darcy Lilo. He welcomed the ministers and representatives of the participating Pacific Island countries and territories and noted that this was only their second meeting, the first one having been held in New Caledonia in 2002. He emphasised that the purpose of the meeting was for the ministers to be informed about the role and activities carried out by the major cultural development bodies of the region and to hear reports on cultural heritage preservation, promotion and participation in the region. He urged the ministers to commit to ensuring that cultural development is integrated into social and economic development and not to lose sight of cultural values in this world of globalisation. He urged support for the Regional Culture Strategy 2010–2020 and the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy 2010–2015. He thanked the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) staff for their commitment and hard work in assisting regional and country cultural development efforts, and encouraged ongoing support for this work, in particular in light of recent recommendations of the SPC Independent External Review. He pledged the full support of the Government of Solomon Islands for SPC’s culture work. He highlighted the Festival of Pacific Arts as testimony to the richness of cultures in the Pacific, and congratulated Guam on being the host for the 12th Festival in 2016, wishing them success in this undertaking. (Refer to Annex 1 on page 18 for the Opening Remarks).

### **Agenda Item 2 – Elections**

5. The meeting elected the representative from Solomon Islands as Chair and the representative from Guam as Vice Chair.
6. The meeting appointed a drafting committee composed of representatives from Australia, Fiji, Palau, Papua New Guinea and Guam (Chair).

### **Agenda Items 3 & 4 – Agenda and working hours**

7. The meeting adopted its working hours and agenda.

### **Agenda Item 5 – Review of advancement of the culture sector since 2002**

8. A short DVD of the history of the Festival of Pacific Arts was shown by SPC’s Regional Media Centre to inform the ministers about RMC’s role in broadcasting the festival and to update them on the evolution of the Festival since 2000.

### **Agenda Item 5a – Achievements, challenges and the future**

9. The meeting was provided with an update on developments in the culture sector over the past ten years by the SPC Human Development Programme Adviser, Culture. It focused on: key milestones and initiatives, SPC’s Human Development Programme and key achievements in culture; challenges; and the future.



*a. Key milestones and initiatives*

These were presented as:

- 2004 9<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts in Palau
- 2006 Integration of the Cultural Affairs Bureau into the newly established SPC Human Development Programme
- 2008 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Council of Pacific Arts meetings in American Samoa with the latter being held in conjunction with the 10<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts
- 2010 23<sup>rd</sup> Council of Pacific Arts Meeting in Noumea
- 2010-2013 Approval and implementation of the European Union-funded project: ‘Structuring the Cultural Sector’
- 2012 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Council of Pacific Arts and Culture Meetings, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ministers for Culture Meeting and the 11<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts, all held in Solomon Islands.

*b. Focus of SPC’s Human Development Programme and key achievements in culture*

The work of the Culture Programme is integrated into the work of the Human Development Programme (HDP) as outlined in the HDP Strategic Plan (2008–2012), which focuses on key service areas delivered to member countries and the region. They are described below.

Policy development: HDP held a cultural mapping, planning and policy workshop in March 2010 immediately after the 23<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting, providing members with a framework to develop culture policies in their countries; between 2010 and 2020 HDP assisted six countries (Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) to carry out their own mapping and planning, and to draft policies for Cabinet endorsement, resulting in five countries completing mapping reports for the first time and having draft policies ready for consultation and endorsement; in 2011 HDP convened a sub-regional workshop on policy implementation, monitoring and evaluation for the six countries to assist with the development of action plans and indicator frameworks for their culture policies; and 2011 and 2012 saw the production and dissemination of two toolkits for culture policies in the Pacific; one for mapping, planning and developing policy, and the second for policy implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Both the ‘Pacific Cultural Mapping, Planning and Policy Toolkit and the ‘Pacific Intangible Cultural Heritage Mapping Toolkit’ were written by a regional consultant and the national mapping reports were researched and written by national consultants.

Building national and regional capacity: A key focus was the hosting of the Festival of Pacific Arts for American Samoa and Solomon Islands, with an emphasis on the build-up to the 11<sup>th</sup> FOPA. HDP technical assistance focused on two areas: logistical assistance and cultural intellectual property protection and awareness. Logistical assistance was carried out through a scoping study for Solomon Islands, completed and published in 2009–2010, and multiple technical support visits. Cultural intellectual property assistance was provided through a partnership with the World Intellectual Property Organisation, which funded and drafted a report on the cultural intellectual property issues related to FOPA, providing advice on measures that should be taken by Solomon Islands, SPC and participating countries to ensure the cultural integrity of the festival. A short information and educational booklet for the public attending the Festival was also provided. Other technical assistance provided by SPC concerned merchandising and sponsorship for the Festival and initial preparations for an updated festival manual.

A second focus area has been on strengthening and utilising the capacity of the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture to address specific aspects of the work of the programme. Council working groups were established in 2008 at the 21<sup>st</sup> Council meeting to advance policy in the areas of culture and education, developing a regional culture strategy, evaluating the festival and strengthening the Council. The Council has since developed two strategies (see below) and provided guidance to SPC and UNESCO for the festival evaluation which was carried out in 2009 and published in 2010. It was the first time the Festival had been evaluated in its over 30 years of existence.

Regional sectoral strategies: The CPAC working groups developed two regional strategies: The Pacific Culture and Education Strategy (PACES) 2010–2015 which was endorsed by the 23rd CPAC and Forum Education Ministers' Meeting (2010); and the Regional Culture Strategy 2010–2020 which was endorsed by the 23rd CPAC and Melanesian Spearhead Group of Ministers for Culture Meeting (2010).

Coordination with CROP and international partners: This is integrated into all the work of the HDP programme. In the area of cultural industries, PIFS has been a key partner through all the stages of the work to build up the cultural industries: from the situation analysis, to the regional consultation with stakeholders, to the design of a development and marketing strategy for Pacific cultural industries, to workshops for cultural producers. There has also been an extension and strengthening of the programme's networks with the UNESCO Institute for Statistics for cultural statistics work, and with the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies (IFACCA), through the Culturetalk distribution list and collaboration with UNESCO, IUCN, SPREP and USP for establishment of the Pacific Heritage Hub.

Community Strengthening: The endangered cultural heritage mapping work has involved a heritage mapping workshop for culture officials and national consultants of six countries in collaboration with the Pacific Islands Museum Association and facilitated by the Fiji Museum. The workshop, held in Korotogo, Fiji, was also attended by two facilitators from the University of the South Pacific and the National University of Samoa. The focus was on teaching communities to map endangered heritage sites and practices in country, through a hands-on, practical approach and then to map a site or practise in-country.

The cultural industries work focuses on cultural producers, artists and small businesses. In addition, direct support has been provided to these groups, with, for example, the development of funding proposals.

Increased collaboration with SPC programmes: Work is being done on cultural statistics development with the Statistics for Development Programme and the UNESCO Institute for Statistics. An inaugural regional statistics meeting was held in May 2011 and work is continuing at country level, with cultural data collection in censuses and household income and expenditure surveys to start with. Support and advice were also provided to Vanuatu's collection and analysis of well-being data, an ongoing project.

FOPA coordination involves SPC programmes in biosecurity, health (including water and sanitation), broadcasting and the media. HDP is working to include traditional knowledge in SPC's work on climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Improved data, research, information and advocacy: Cultural data, which have been sparse, have been collected and made available through publications on a range of subjects, including: valuing culture, festival evaluation, festival scoping, intellectual property issues and the festival, cultural industries, culture policy and cultural heritage mapping toolkits. The Culturetalk distribution list acts as a network and as an information dissemination and sharing tool for the Pacific and beyond.

#### *c. Challenges*

Challenges include: the wide coverage of the work of the HDP Programme, which is difficult to manage with such limited human and financial resources available for culture within SPC, Pacific governments and development partners; the small culture units in some member countries and their limited capacity; the triple responsibility of raising financial resources, as well as implementing activities and responding to country needs; the significant number of requests for assistance; and the difficulty of working cross-sectorally in SPC, which is still developing effective institutional processes to facilitate this kind of work.

#### *d. The future*

The 2012 Independent External Review (IER) of SPC recommended that SPC should initiate work to move responsibilities for youth and culture to other agencies active in these areas. Specifically, the IER suggested transferring the culture agenda to UNESCO and the youth activities to UNICEF. Given advice from UNESCO that it is unable to take on SPC's work on culture, further assessment will be undertaken and a decision taken on the future placement of the culture programme. For the immediate future, HDP will continue to build up partnerships for its current work programme, e.g. in cultural industries with PIFS, the Commonwealth Secretariat and UNESCO; it will work on securing additional funding; it will continue implementation of regional frameworks and strategies at national and regional level; and it will maintain its FOPA and Council focus.

### **Agenda Item 5b - Selected country updates**

9. The meeting was provided with a status report on the situation of culture from the representative of Guam. Issues raised and highlights include: the increasing number of Chamorro people emigrating to the United States; increased efforts to preserve and encourage the use of the Chamorro language in everyday life; and the resurgence in cultural preservation and promotion in the last ten years, despite diminishing local and federal resources. Specifically, this has seen the Department of Chamorro Affairs bring five small agencies — the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities (CAHA), the Guam Museum, the Guam Library, PBS Guam and the Hagåtña Restoration and Redevelopment Authority — come under one umbrella, thereby facilitating sharing of resources without jeopardising federal funds. Efforts are being made to seek more grant opportunities and public-private partnerships to ensure that services for cultural and traditional arts practitioners continue and improve. NGOs are taking a more active role in these efforts. Guam is on track to host the next Festival of Pacific Arts in 2016 (the full paper is attached to this report as Annex 2).

10. The representative from Samoa provided a report on developments in culture from 2000 to 2012, highlighting the fact that, since 2003, the Ministry for Education, Sports and Culture has been the key culture agency of the government. Developments in cultural heritage include documentation of myths and legends; preservation of information on navigation in a monolingual dictionary and audio visual materials; the development of a draft National Culture policy; a National Heritage Conservation Policy in 2001 in collaboration with the Ministry for Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE); and awareness workshops on intangible cultural heritage in 2010 and 2012. In relation to national and international legislation, developments include the Intellectual Property Act, 2011; the National Intellectual Property Strategy; the Public Records Act 2011 (NARA); and an amendment of the Copyright Act 1998. In terms of future directions, Samoa is focusing on developing a national culture and education strategy with an implementation plan and a monitoring and evaluation framework, aligning with the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy. Samoa is also working towards ratification of the 2003 ICH Convention.

11. The representative from Solomon Islands introduced updates in the development of the culture sector by highlighting that this responsibility rests mainly with the state through the public institutions, including: the Solomon Islands National Museum, the Culture Division, the National Art Gallery and the National Archives, which come under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. In terms of policy, the following developments were noted: cultural mapping, planning and policy in Solomon Islands is almost complete, with a scoping study and country report completed; a draft culture policy has been developed and a national culture action plan 2012–2015 is being developed from the draft policy to assist the Ministry as it starts implementing priority areas identified in the action plan workshop. In relation to cultural heritage, the representative highlighted the Protected Areas ACT 2010 (Part 3, 10: 1: a & c), which makes reference to protected areas, especially heritage designated areas; and the Pacific Public Sector Linkages Program — Strengthening of World Heritage Management and Governance in Solomon Islands. In relation to cultural industries, he noted the promotion of art work by the Solomon Islands Arts Alliance through Facebook, the National Arts Gallery & Solomon Islands Artist Association; the updating of the booklet *Handcrafts of the Solomon Islands* by the Facilitating Agricultural Commodity Trade (FACT /SPC) project; and the inclusion of cultural studies into the national education syllabus from Forms 1–3. There were a number of achievements, notably the greater attention given to cultural intellectual property and related issues; the reviewing of the copyright law and the drafting of legislation on traditional knowledge and expressions of culture; new cultural infrastructure, such as the Museum Indoor Auditorium and National Arts Complex; the development of the National Culture Policy; the training of a number of artists in visual, exterior and interior design under APTC/AusAID programme and an Indonesian Government scheme; and the Solomon Islands nomination of the Queens Record by the National Archives to UNESCO memorial of the World. Challenges include the need to establish a vibrant state and private partnership for the development of the culture sector, and to form a pool of skilled, professional culture experts. For the future, efforts will concentrate on developing statistical indicators for cultural products to show the sector's contributions to GDP and on mainstreaming of culture into all sectors of development.

### **Agenda Item 5c - UNESCO Update**

12. The representative of UNESCO provided the meeting with an update on their culture and development programme in the Pacific region. The office, based in Apia, Samoa, has been providing assistance to sixteen Pacific Island country members and one associate member, with an emphasis on the promotion and implementation of priority conventions, namely the 2005 Diversity Convention, the 2003 Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Convention and the 1972 World Heritage Convention.

13. The representative provided detailed background on the ICH Convention, stating that ICH is a concept developed in contrast to tangible cultural heritage, which covers historic monuments and sites. In the Pacific, words such as ‘customs and traditions’, ‘traditional knowledge’ and ‘traditional cultural expressions’ have long been used to describe the concept of ICH, showing that ICH is not a foreign concept to Pacific people. The ultimate goal of the ICH Convention is to safeguard or keep alive cultures that are at risk of being lost due to increased global economic integration, urbanisation and industrialisation. She urged Pacific countries to join the Convention in order to access support for safeguarding their cultures and traditions. She also outlined the obligations of State Parties to the Convention.

14. The UNESCO representative also provided background on the Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005), which was designed as a response to the increased liberalisation of international trade in the 1990s. By recognising the specific nature of cultural goods and services (dual nature – intrinsic and economic), the 2005 Convention affirms the sovereign right of states to adopt culture policies in order to allow cultural industries to develop at their own rhythm and according to their own needs. She emphasised that the Convention is also about ensuring that the environment for the cultural expression of diverse communities, including indigenous peoples, minority groups, women and children is protected. She outlined the availability of funding support contained in the Convention as well as State Party obligations. No financial contributions are expected from State Parties.

15. She urged Pacific Island countries to join both Conventions as a package (the full paper is attached to this as **Annex 3**).

### **Discussion**

16. The representative of Nauru announced that Nauru would sign the Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage before the end of 2012.

17. The representative of Tuvalu thanked UNESCO for the presentation. She informed the meeting that some of Tuvalu’s historical monuments had been demolished in the name of development and that Tuvalu was very interested in ICH and wants to work with UNESCO on this, as culture is central to Tuvalu’s current development plan.

18. The representative of Palau raised the issue of the Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005) and the Ministerial Forum in Dakar in 2011, at which several countries, including Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Cook Islands, Samoa, Fiji and Palau were represented. She noted that the Vice President of Palau gave a speech on behalf of the Pacific and was on the main podium with other dignitaries, giving high visibility to the issues of this region. She noted that the Pacific is very diverse and that the Convention is very important for Pacific Island countries.

19. The representative of Norfolk Island stressed that his country had a number of heritage sites, notably historical buildings, and provided a short history of the Norfolk Islands, emphasising the important milestones in attempts in attempts to preserve their culture.

20. The representative of Samoa congratulated Guam on their culture and education and training programme, and requested further information on this programme. In response, the representative of Guam clarified that the programme is a Masters of Traditional Knowledge, in which apprentices work with masters to achieve master status.

21. The representative of Papua New Guinea commended SPC on its work on culture over the years.

22. The meeting commended the work of the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture and SPC in promoting culture and the arts since the 2002 Ministers for Culture meeting.

23. The meeting commended the work of countries in promoting culture and the arts since the 2002 Ministers Meeting.

24. The meeting noted the work of UNESCO in the Pacific region.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Regional Culture Strategy (RCS) 2010–2010**

25. The representative of Fiji in her role as Chair of the CPAC Working Group on the Regional Culture Strategy (RCS) 2010–2020 provided the meeting with some background to the development of the RCS, referring back to the 2002 Ministers for Culture Declaration. She outlined the work of the CPAC Working Group in taking this forward and then elaborated on the national and regional goals of the strategy. She made reference to the SPC/CPAC 25 Working Paper on the Regional Culture Strategy (attached as Annex 4).

26. In summary, RCS sets out the historical context, highlighting the development of the Festival of Pacific Arts and the changing role of the Council of Pacific Arts to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture as it recognised the expanded scope for cultural development. Ministers for culture in their inaugural meeting in 2002, identified the need to have proper management and development of culture in the Pacific, and resolved to address issues such as: the lack of national culture legislation in the region; the promotion of cultural industries; protection mechanisms for culture and heritage; the need for the development of cultural statistics; and the need for support by government and donor partners, as a part of this process. Following consultations by the working group and with the support of SPC, the Pacific Regional Culture Strategy was designed to strengthen Pacific cultures by providing a framework for cultural policy formulation and development, of which an integral part is the mainstreaming of culture into national development plans throughout the four pillars of the Pacific Plan for regional integration.

27. The national and regional goals are outlined in **Annex 4**.

28. In presenting the RCS 2010–2020 to ministers, the chair of the working group referred to the outcomes of the discussions of the 25<sup>th</sup> CPAC meeting. In summary, that meeting had commended the CPAC working group on their hard work and commitment in producing the Regional Culture Strategy ; endorsed the RCS for submission to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ministers for Culture meeting; agreed that the RCS will assist the culture sector at national level with forward planning and budgetary commitments; and endorsed the proposed time line of a period of three months for national consultations by council members to complete the monitoring and evaluation indicators framework for the period 2010–2012. This will guide the SPC Human Development Programme in identifying regional priorities and planning their work of implementing the strategy.

29. Ministers were invited to:

- note the progress made in the development of *Regional Culture Strategy: Investing in Pacific cultures 2010–2020*;
- discuss and note the outcomes of the 25<sup>th</sup> Council of the Pacific Arts and Culture meeting held on 3 July 2012 in Honiara, Solomon Islands in relation to the RCS; and,
- endorse the regional culture strategy and its implementation (attached as Annex 5).

### **Recommendations**

30. The ministers agreed to all the recommendations as stated.

31. Palau applauded colleagues around the table on their progress and the many activities taking place throughout the region, stating that endorsement implies that there will be continued progress in implementation, and thanked the ministers for their endorsement.

### **Agenda Item 7 – Presentation of the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy (PACES) 2010–2015**

32. The representative of Papua New Guinea and member of the CPAC Working Group on Culture and Education presented the background, rationale, objectives, main focus areas, and links with other regional frameworks and endorsement processes to date of the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy (PACES) 2010-2015.

33. PACES was developed over a period of two years by a Council of Pacific Arts Working Group, and key development partners, following the establishment of the working group at the 21st CPAC meeting (April 2008) to work towards bringing the culture and education sectors closer together at national and regional levels. The strategy was elaborated in recognition that, although there have been considerable achievements in the inclusion of arts and culture in education at all levels, particularly over the last two decades, there are still many gaps. The three main areas of rationale are: (i) children are not always able to benefit from learning in their mother tongue, even though this is a cultural right and has been shown to contribute significantly to educational success; nor are they able to learn about their cultures, history and values systematically, even though this should form the basis of a successful approach to wider learning and an understanding of the world they live in; (ii) children and young people in TVET and non-formal education are not always able to fully express their talents in the arts through lack of opportunity in the areas of performing and visual arts, design, and traditional skills and knowledge, such as canoe building, navigation, traditional food technology and preparation, plants for medicine and ornaments, fishing technology, crafts production; and (iii) the culture sector

has not reached its full potential, including in the areas of heritage preservation and the promotion of cultural industries, due to a lack of qualified personnel in the areas of heritage and cultural management and entrepreneurship, museum management, cultural law, cultural economics, Pacific ethno-biodiversity and cultural studies.

34. The three principal objectives of PACES are to: raise the profile of culture in education at all levels; increase the opportunities for training and education for the culture sector itself; and raise the level of priority given to culture by governments. Its three main focus areas are: culture and education in formal schooling, TVET, and tertiary level education; strengthening the culture sector; and improved culture and education communication, advocacy and partnerships. The strategy is linked to and aligned with (a) the Pacific Plan, in particular Objective 11.1 to: ‘develop a strategy to maintain and strengthen Pacific cultural identity’; (b) the Pacific Education Development Framework, with particular reference to Cross-cutting Theme 3: Language and Culture; and (c) the Pacific Youth Strategy (2005–2010), in particular, Component 6: Youth and Identities. To date, a number of regional organisations have endorsed or adopted the strategy, including the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture (2010), the Melanesia Spearhead Group Culture Ministers (2010) and Forum Education Ministers Meeting (2010). CPAC reviewed PACES in its 25<sup>th</sup> Session.

35. It was recommended that the Pacific Islands Ministers for Culture take note and endorse the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy 2010–2015 for implementation.

#### **Discussion**

36. The representative of Fiji expressed appreciation for the work done on the strategy and provided endorsement for PACES.

#### **Recommendations**

37. All the recommendations in relation to PACES 2010–2015 were endorsed as stated.

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Other business**

38. The representative of Samoa raised the issue of holding meetings of Pacific Ministers for Culture more frequently.

39. The representative of Papua New Guinea agreed that the ten-year gap between meetings was too long and proposed that Ministers meet biannually.

40. The representative of Fiji clarified that the RCS 2010–2020 recommends that ministers meet on a biannual basis.

41. The representative of Kiribati thanked the Government of Solomon Islands and the people, through the minister, for the hospitality and warm reception accorded to the Kiribati delegation; and acknowledged and thanked CPAC and SPC for their work in preparing the CPAC and ministerial meetings. She emphasised that it was very useful in assisting ministers to reflect on their role as ministers for culture in their countries. She indicated support for all the recommendations and agreed that they should meet more regularly. She sought clarification from SPC on how such meetings could be facilitated jointly by SPC and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and requested that the two organisations discuss this matter and agree on a way forward for jointly convened biennial meetings of ministers of culture.



42. The representatives of Guam and American Samoa expressed concern that they would be excluded if the meeting was convened jointly by SPC and PIFS as they were not members of PIFS.

43. Tuvalu supported the suggestion of the jointly convened meeting and thanked SPC for organising the 25<sup>th</sup> CPAC and ministerial meetings.

44. The meeting agreed that ministers of culture should meet biennially as recommended.

#### **Draft declaration**

45. The meeting considered the draft declaration as presented.

#### **Discussion**

46. The representative of Samoa requested that Point 5 be amended to include all forms of education. The meeting endorsed this amendment.

47. The representative of Fiji requested that Point 6 be amended to include the Secretariat of the Melanesian Spearhead Group and the Pacific Islands Museum Association. The meeting endorsed this amendment.

48. The representative of Samoa requested that the Polynesia Leaders Group be added to Point 6. This raised further discussion about the need to include similar regional groupings. The meeting agreed that this was appropriate and approved the amendment to include both the Polynesia Leaders' Group and the Micronesia Chief Executives Summit.

#### **Ministerial declaration on culture**

49. The Meeting unanimously endorsed the following ministerial declaration as a statement encapsulating their agreement and endorsement of key developments and milestones in the culture sector since 2002 and in recognition of the importance of culture in the development of the Pacific Island region.

## Declaration of the Second Meeting of Pacific Ministers for Culture

The Pacific ministers for culture met for their second meeting since 2002 at the Solomon Kitano Mendana Hotel, Honiara, Solomon Islands on July 4th 2012, immediately after the 25th Council of Pacific Arts and Culture meeting and in conjunction with the 11th Festival of Pacific Arts. In recognition of the importance of culture in the Pacific Islands region and to uphold the vision that Pacific cultures are valued, cherished and supported, the ministers:

- i. commended the work of the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture and SPC in promoting culture and arts since the 2002 Meeting of Ministers for Culture ;
- ii. commended the work of countries in promoting culture and arts since the 2002 Meeting of Ministers for Culture ;
- iii. noted the work of UNESCO;
- iv. endorsed the *Regional Culture Strategy: Investing in Pacific Cultures 2010–2020*, and commended countries and territories on their implementation of the strategy so far, including in the areas of national culture policy; protection of cultural rights; expanding cultural industries; mainstreaming culture in other social and economic sectors; strengthening the culture sector, including the cultural industries, at the regional level; and integrating arts and culture into education and training.
- v. endorsed the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy 2010-2015 and its emphasis on the promotion of arts and culture in all forms and at all levels of education, on creating more opportunities for the development of cultural sector, and on improving communication, advocacy and partnerships to link culture and education.
- vi. urged the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture, SPC and partner agencies such as the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the Melanesian Spearhead Group Secretariat, the Polynesian Leaders' Group, the Micronesian Chief Executives Summit, UNESCO, the World Intellectual Property Organisation and the Pacific Islands Museum Association to continue strengthening their work in the protection, preservation and promotion of culture with the full support and endorsement of the Pacific ministers for culture.
- vii. agreed that the ministers for culture should meet biennially as per the Regional Culture Strategy.

## Closing

50. In the absence of the SPC Director-General, the Manager of the Human Development Programme, Linda Petersen, delivered the closing remarks. She thanked the ministers and representatives for their presence and for placing priority on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Pacific Ministers for Culture. On the issue of more regular meetings, she indicated that SPC would continue to discuss the matter through CPAC and with culture focal points. She indicated that SPC was increasingly looking to countries to fund their own participation in such meetings and thanked the ministers for their financial commitment in attending. She noted the acknowledgement of the usefulness of the meeting in updating ministers on recent developments in the culture sector, both at regional and national level, and in guiding their work and role as ministers in this important area. She thanked them for their endorsement of the Regional Culture Strategy 2010–2020 and the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy 2010–2015 and for their high level commitment to ongoing and future implementation of these strategies. She congratulated countries on developments in the culture sector and emphasised the urgent need for additional institutional capacity and resources. She challenged ministers to champion this work at future high level regional forums. The full text of her remarks is attached to this report as **Annex 6**.

## Annex 1 - Opening remarks

### SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

#### SECOND MEETING OF MINISTERS FOR CULTURE

(Honiara, Solomon Islands, 4 July 2012)

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President of Nauru  
Ministers for Culture in the Pacific  
Distinguished representatives of Pacific Island Territories  
SPC Officials  
Senior government officials  
Observers  
Ladies and gentlemen

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*Good fala morning long iufala everi wan.* Let me first of all convey my Prime Minister's apology for not coming today; he has an important engagement this morning. He does, however, send his good wishes to all of us for a fruitful discussion.

Distinguished delegates, let me also welcome all of you to Honiara and thank you for the friendship we have shared in the last couple of days. It has been a hectic time for all of us but I believe you have enjoyed your time so far. Welcome once again to Honiara.

Today we are gathered here as ministers for cultures of the Pacific region to discuss important issues relating to the cultures of our people. You will all realise that this meeting is just the second meeting held since the last one in New Caledonia ten years ago. It is clear that culture ministers' meetings are not held as frequently as we would want and I hope that later on we will look at the frequency of our meetings.

As we know, ladies and gentlemen, the meeting today is important as it provides an opportunity for ministers to gain knowledge of the role and activities carried out by the major cultural development bodies of the region and to hear reports on the situation in the Pacific Islands with regard to cultural heritage preservation, promotion and participation since 2002. As ministers responsible for culture in the region, it is important that we make a commitment, at this level, to ensure our cultural development flows hand in hand with our social and economic development. We must not lose sight of our cultural values in this world of globalisation.

I note from the agenda that this meeting will be discussing very important issues such as the Regional Culture Strategy 2010–2020 and the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy 2010–2015. These are important undertakings and I encourage all of us to give support to the work of the officials to ensure our cultural development is maintained sustainably.

Ladies and gentlemen, I must also take this opportunity to thank the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) for the commitment and hard work in assisting us with our efforts in cultural development. I am very encouraged to see that, over the years, SPC has taken a lot of responsibility in this regard and I would encourage us to support and work together with SPC to advance our cause in the region. I note that there has been some discussion on the issue of work programmes of SPC in culture but let me say here that Solomon Islands fully supports SPC's programme in terms of assisting members to advance our cultural undertakings.

It is therefore important that we take a pride in our undertakings and help each other in enhancing our cultural development in the region. This region is very rich in our cultures and people and I am confident that gatherings, in particular the Festival of Pacific Arts, is testimony to our common desire to build our nations' vibrant cultures in our own diversity.

Ladies and gentlemen, I do not wish to bore you, but let me take this opportunity to congratulate Guam, who will be carrying the festival torch after Solomon Islands. I can assure Guam that the Government and people of Solomon Islands support you in your preparations and we hope you will host a successful event when your time comes.

On this note, distinguished ministers, ladies and gentlemen, I hope you will take back to your respective countries and territories important tools and knowledge that will assist in further cultural development of the Pacific region, gleaning much from the work of all of the participants in this meeting. We are one people living in one region with diverse cultures and heritages.

I thank you all for listening and I have the honor to declare the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Pacific Ministers for Culture now open.

Thank you so much.

## **Annex 2 - Status of culture in Guam**

### **SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY**

#### **SECOND MEETING OF MINISTERS FOR CULTURE**

(Honiara, Solomon Islands, July 4 2012)

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5 (b)**

*(Paper written and presented by Mrs. Monica Guzman, Chairperson, Department of Chamorro Affairs, Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities)*

The current cultural landscape on Guam has seen tremendous challenges over the last 200 years. Western influences, immigration, global technology and economic dependence have had a dramatic impact on the four thousand-year history of culture, language and values.

According to the 2010 census, the population of Guam stands at 159,358 of which 37.1% are of Chamorro ancestry, followed by Filipinos at 26.3% and Pacific Islanders coming in third at 11.3%. The number of Chamorros living in the United States increased to 147,798, with California seeing the largest community at 45,000. Although there has always been a Chamorro population overseas, the overwhelming numbers underscore the grave reality that our people are emigrating and many do not return. Many do not return.

It has been said that language is at the very root of culture. While Chamorro is one of two official languages in Guam, English is the primary spoken word. In order to maintain our native tongue, the government of Guam adopted an official orthography for the Chamorro language as a foundation for language curricula in our schools.

As a result, Chamorro language classes are mandatory in the public elementary and middle schools (grades 1-8), and one year of instruction at the high school level. Guam's Board of Education also just recently approved the inclusion of cultural instructors in the school system. Unfortunately, despite numerous mandates imposed by lawmakers over the years, funding for the Chamorro Studies division of the Department of Education has been limited.

In 2011, the first-ever Chamorro Language Assessment Survey was conducted by the non-profit organization, Pã'a Taotao Tano. The results of the survey indicate the marked decline in the use of our language with less than 25% of our native population having any fluency. This underscores the need for additional resources and public awareness efforts to encourage the preservation and use of our language in our everyday lives.

Despite these challenges, the last ten years has seen resurgence in cultural awareness, preservation and activity at the grassroots, business and government levels.

Guam government agencies and departments are aggressive about cultural preservation, despite diminishing local and federal resources. The reorganisation of the Department of Chamorro Affairs brought five small agencies, including the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities (CAHA), the Guam Museum, the Guam Library, PBS Guam and the Hagåtña Restoration and Redevelopment Authority under one umbrella. This allows the disparate agencies to share resources and limited local funding without jeopardising federal funds. Emphasis is being placed on seeking more grant opportunities and public-private partnerships to ensure that services for cultural and traditional arts practitioners continue and improve.

Guam CAHA, with the assistance of the Legislative Chair on Culture, passed legislation that establishes guidelines and criteria for the Masters of Traditional Art Recognition Program. Through a partnership with Louis Vuitton, Guam CAHA is in its second year of awarding grants for an apprenticeship program with recognised masters in blacksmithing, weaving, traditional tattoo arts and carving. Federal funds enable the agency to continue the Arts in Education grant programs with a focus on cultural practices.

In 2009, the Guam Visitors Bureau initiated a new island-wide branding campaign, 'We Are Guam,' which focuses on our heritage, traditions and cultural practices as the essence of the Guam brand and who we are as a people. Programs like the Guam Island Fiesta Tour, which highlights the traditions of each village fiesta and markets these events to our visitors, have emerged. The Hafa Adai Pledge program encourages local businesses and organizations to incorporate the Chamorro language and culture into their business protocols. To date, over 250 businesses have signed the Pledge. In partnership with the Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association, cultural sensitivity training is being developed for the visitor industry, and improvements to the tour guide certification program at the Guam Community College are being addressed.

In 2010, the government of Guam floated a bond to construct a Guam Museum and restore various historic buildings in the capital city of Hagåtña. The previous site of the Museum suffered serious infrastructure damage during a typhoon in 2002 and has since displayed exhibits in shopping malls for brief periods. The engineering and design phase are under way, with groundbreaking expected to take place in 2012 and completion in 2014. The Guam Museum Foundation was founded in 2005 and works with the government-funded employees of the Guam Museum.

Non-governmental organizations have also begun to play a greater role in the preservation of the Chamorro culture. Historic Inalahan, a cultural village in the south, aims to recreate life in Guam during the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Ginen I Hila' I Maga' Taotao Siha, a Chamorro language-based NPO, focuses on traditional storytelling and literary arts. The Hurao Academy, a Chamorro language immersion school, has been developed through federal grants. This private school provides year-round language and cultural immersion for children of all ages and is growing in popularity. The University of Guam hosts a Chamorro Language competition for the middle schools annually, with close to 3,000 students in attendance.

Pã'a Taotao Tano conducts the Annual Dinaña Minagof Dance Festival and Competition with delegates from Guam, Rota, Saipan, Tinian and California. They now boast 14 thriving traditional dance houses or *guma* on Guam, in addition to its ongoing cultural arts programs in our villages. The I Finlalai'an group focuses on traditional Chamorro chants that have minimal western influence.

With new technologies, a growing number of blogs and websites have emerged that provide outlets and sources of research for our people. Most notably [guampedia.com](http://guampedia.com), an online encyclopedia founded in 2002, is a comprehensive resource about the history and culture of Guam. The Guam Preservation Trust, founded in 1999 also utilizes the web for e-press publications, in partnership with guampedia.

These are just a few of the many efforts that are ongoing by the Government of Guam and non-profit organizations to help preserve, protect and promote our unique culture, heritage and traditions. Although the statistics show a decrease in the practice of and, arguably, the eventual loss of the Chamorro language, the strong commitment of many individuals and organizations in Guam and the Northern Marianas has helped to stem the tide. Through collaboration and cooperation, a renaissance of our traditions and heritage is manifesting itself in our people and bringing more focus to our uniqueness as a Pacific culture.

Participation in cultural conferences and gatherings is increasing and interest in our history and cultural practices is spurring more of our people to engage in its preservation. As a result, pride of place is now gaining momentum on Guam, in the Northern Marianas and among Chamorros internationally. Guam's preparations for hosting the 12<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts will most certainly be a nexus for the next surge in cultural pride and preservation.



## **Annex 3 - UNESCO update**

### **SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY**

#### **SECOND MEETING OF MINISTERS FOR CULTURE**

(Honiara, Solomon Islands, July 4 2012)

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5 (c)**

*(Paper written and presented by Dr Akatsuki Takahashi, Programme Specialist for Culture, UNESCO Office for the Pacific States)*

This UNESCO report aims at providing Pacific culture ministers with updates on progress in the UNESCO programme on culture and development in the Pacific. The main purpose of the report is to encourage Pacific countries to join the 2003 Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention and the 2005 Diversity Convention as a 'package'.

As primarily standard-setting organisation, UNESCO has developed a set of normative instruments which include the following six core conventions; Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005), Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003), Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (2001), Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Cultural Property (1970), and Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954 and its 2009 Protocol). The UNESCO Office for the Pacific States in Apia, Samoa, has been providing its assistance for sixteen countries and one associate member in the Pacific with its emphasis on the promotion and implementation of the priority conventions, namely the 2005 Diversity Convention, the 2003 Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention and the 1972 World Heritage Convention.

UNESCO's normative instruments all together provide a comprehensive coverage of culture. The goals of these instruments are two-fold: protection and promotion. Protection is needed, especially for cultures that are threatened and in danger for some reason. However, protection is not enough for cultures to evolve and develop. Culture being a dynamic and living process, it can flourish not in isolation but through interactions with other cultures. UNESCO conventions are intended to identify a solution, striking a balance between protection and promotion.

#### **World Heritage Convention (1972)**

Heritage is a reservoir of our ancestors' knowledge and wisdom. Therefore, nobody can own this heritage. We are simple custodians. Custodians are those who are entrusted to take care of heritage when we are around on Earth so that it will be transmitted to the future generations in the best condition. The UNESCO World Heritage Convention adopted in 1972 was instrumental in promoting the new concept of 'Heritage of Humanity' as global public goods.

The World Heritage Convention enjoys the strongest level of ratification, and over nine hundreds sites are inscribed on the World Heritage List. However, as time goes by, geographical in-balance among World Heritage sites has become an issue. Most of the inscribed sites turned out to be historic buildings from European region. This is the reason why countries whose cultures are not monumental,

but are expressed in different forms, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices and rituals, etc. requested UNESCO to elaborate a new international convention that could cover such intangible aspect of heritage.

#### Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003)

With this as background, the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage was adopted in 2003. Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) is a concept developed in contrast to tangible cultural heritage, which covers historic monuments and sites. In the Pacific, terminologies like customs and traditions, traditional knowledge (TK) and traditional cultural expressions (TCE) have long been used to describe the concept of ICH. This shows that ICH is not a foreign concept to the Pacific people.

The ICH Convention is the first binding multilateral instrument to safeguard ICH. The ultimate goal of the ICH Convention is to safeguard or keep alive cultures that are at risk of being lost due to economic integration, urbanisation and industrialisation. By joining the ICH Convention, Pacific countries will be able to safeguard their cultures and traditions. By using two Lists and one Register, state parties will be able to enhance their cultural profile at global level. Last but not least, becoming state parties will allow them to have access to the ICH Fund in order to support safeguarding projects.

After joining the Convention, state parties will assume responsibility for drawing up ICH inventories. This must be done by communities themselves, not through the lens of foreign experts coming from abroad. Reports that state parties shall submit to UNESCO on a regular basis (four or six yearly) will allow for long-term monitoring on the safeguarding status of cultures. State parties must make a financial contribution to the ICH Fund (Article 25). But when a country so wishes, it can withhold this payment, by declaring, at the time of the deposit of its instruments of ratification, that it shall not be bound by this provision.

#### Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005)

The 2005 Diversity Convention was a response to the move towards the liberalisation of international trade in the 1990s. By recognising the specific nature of cultural goods and services (dual nature – intrinsic and economic), the Diversity Convention affirms the sovereign right of a state to adopt cultural policies in order to allow cultural industries in the development world to develop at their own rhythm and be based on their own needs.

The Diversity Convention is more than trade. It is also about ensuring environment for the cultural expression of diverse communities, including indigenous peoples, minority groups, women and children. The Convention establishes the International Fund for Cultural Diversity in order to support related projects. State parties to the Diversity Convention are all eligible to this International Fund. Over 120 countries, including Australia and New Zealand, are parties to the Diversity Convention.

No specific legislation is needed before joining the Diversity Convention. After ratification, state parties are required to make a regular reporting to its Intergovernmental Committee. This will allow for long-term monitoring of cultural policies. There is no financial implication, since the Diversity Fund is composed of voluntary contributions from both public and private sectors.

### **Recommendations**

UNESCO strongly recommends that Pacific countries will speed up the process of joining the 2003 ICH and 2005 Diversity Conventions as a ‘package’.

## Annex 4 - Regional Culture Strategy 2010–2020

### SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

#### TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF PACIFIC ARTS & CULTURE

(Honiara, Solomon Islands, 3 July 2012)

#### AGENDA ITEM 7

*(Paper written and presented by Adi Meretui Ratunabuabua, Principal Cultural Development Officer, Fiji's Department of National Heritage Culture and Arts)*

1. The draft Regional Culture Strategy is presented to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture (CPAC) for its final comments before presentation to the Ministers for Culture. The draft strategy has been in development through wide stakeholder consultations held by the CPAC working group since December 2009, chaired by Fiji.

2. The Council has endorsed in principal an earlier version of the draft strategy entitled 'Investing in Pacific Cultures 2010–2015' the 23<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting in Noumea, 2010 which was later titled 'Investing in Pacific Cultures 2010–2020'. The extension to 2020 is to allow for regional monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the strategy at three-year intervals: for the periods 2012–2014, 2015–2017 and 2018–2020 and at the end of each plan.

#### **3. CPAC will be invited to:**

1. Give final endorsement and comments on the regional culture strategy for submission to the Minister's for Culture at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Ministers for Culture in Honiara Solomon Islands at the 11th Festival of Pacific Arts.
2. Following endorsement by the ministers for culture for the strategy, a period for national consultations by council members within a suggested timeline of three months to complete the activities undertaken in the monitoring and evaluation indicators framework. (To be confirmed by CPAC). This will guide the culture section of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community to confirm regional priorities and work plan periods for the implementation of the strategy.

#### **4. Background**

The draft regional culture strategy sets out the historical context and the development of the Pacific Festival of Arts and the changing role of the Council of Pacific Arts to the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture and a much larger scope for cultural development that takes into consideration the call from the issues identified in the Pacific region.

5. During the first meeting of ministers for culture in 2002 held in Noumea, New Caledonia, one of the issues presented to the ministers by CPAC was the need to have proper management and development of culture in the Pacific. The ministers resolved to address the issue and their agreements are contained in the Noumea Declaration of 2002.

Among the issues addressed in the declaration are:

- a) the lack of national cultural legislation in the region;
- b) promotion of the cultural industries;
- c) protection mechanisms for culture and heritage;
- d) the need for the development of cultural statistics;
- e) the need for support by government and donor partners.

6. Following consultations by the working group and with the secretariat support of SPC, the Pacific Regional Culture Strategy was designed to strengthen Pacific cultures by providing a framework for cultural policy formulation and development, an important part of which is the mainstreaming of culture into national development plans through the four pillars of the Pacific plan for regional integration.

7. The draft regional strategy now consists of seven national goals for investing in Pacific cultures 2010- 2012 and three regional goals. These include:

- at the national level:
  - i. mainstream culture into national social and economic development planning and policy;
  - ii. protect and promote cultural rights;
  - iii. develop and maintain cultural sites, spaces and infrastructure;
  - iv. expand the Pacific cultural industries;
  - v. mainstream arts and culture in education and training;
  - vi. promote funding and investment in the culture sector;
  - vii. mainstream culture in other economic and social sectors;
- and the regional level:
  - viii. strengthen the cultural sector at the regional level;
  - ix. develop cultural standard setting tools;
  - x. strengthen PIF's capacity to implement objective 11 of the Pacific Plan in collaboration with SPC.

8. The draft regional culture strategy is an enabling policy document that lays the foundation that will create an environment conducive to future investment, development and growth, not only for the culture sector but for the region as a whole. Its vision: *Pacific cultures that are valued, cherished and supported – now and in the future* is supported by its mission which is:

- to foster an inclusive culture sector that is relevant to an encompasses all aspects of the daily lives of Pacific peoples
- is supported by the public and private sectors
- and contributes to the economic and social development in the region.

CPAC has appended in the strategy:

- Fiji's implementation table 2010–2012 for reference,
- The overall implementation table 2010–2012,
- National key activities for 2012–2014,
- Regional activities for 2012 to 2014.

These documents are tabled for reference and will be discussed at the 25<sup>th</sup> CPAC meeting for the information of CPAC (p. 23–34).

9. CPAC is invited to:

- i. give final endorsement and comments on the regional culture strategy for submission to the ministers for culture at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Ministers for Culture in Honiara, Solomon Islands at the 11th Festival of Pacific Arts.
  
- ii. Following endorsement by the ministers of culture for the strategy, a period for national consultations by council members within a suggested timeline of three months to complete the activities undertaken in the monitoring and evaluation indicators framework. For the period 2010 to 2012. (To be confirmed by CPAC). This will guide the culture programme of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community to confirm regional priorities and work plan periods for implementation of the strategy.

10. Submitted for the Council's consideration and endorsement.

## **Annex 5 - Full outcomes of the 25<sup>th</sup> CPAC meeting**

The following were agreed to:

In relation to the future of the culture programme at SPC as a result of the recommendations of the Independent External Review, the Council was encouraged by the commitment of the Director-General to further analyse the recommendations of the review team in relation to SPC's future role in culture and to involve members of the Council in this process.

- The Council welcomed the expression of interest by Hawai'i to host the 13<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts in 2020 and looked forward to receiving government endorsement and the full bid at its meeting in 2014.
- The Council commended the advanced preparation, including legislating of the hosting of the 12<sup>th</sup> FOPA by the Government of the Republic of Guam and the commitment of the National Organising Committee to ensuring a transfer of knowledge and experience from previous hosts and their financial commitment to the preparations.
- The Council commended the working group on the Regional Culture Strategy 2010–2020 for their hard work and commitment in producing this important enabling policy document, which will guide future developments in the culture sector at both national and regional level.
- They endorsed the Regional Culture Strategy 2010–2020 for submission to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Ministers for Culture to be held in Honiara on 3 July 2012 in conjunction with the 11<sup>th</sup> Festival of Pacific Arts and agreed that the strategy will assist with forward planning and budgetary commitments to the culture sector at national level.
- In addition, the Council endorsed the proposed timeline of a period of three months for national consultations by Council members to complete the activities to be undertaken in the monitoring and evaluation indicators framework over the period 2010–2012. This will guide the Human Development Programme of SPC in identifying regional priorities and work planning for the implementation of the strategy.

In relation to the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy 2010–2015, the Council agreed:

- that the Council working group on culture and education be renewed;
- that partnerships be sought with other tertiary education institutions in the Pacific in addition to the University of the South Pacific under the guidance of the working group;
- that Council members provide information, as per the templates distributed by 15 October 2012 with a view to providing members with an overall template by mid-2013; and that members plan for the period 2014–2015 and that this information be provided to the chair of the working group by mid-2013;
- That SPC, PIFS and UNESCO meet to agree on a formal mechanism for regular consultations between directors of culture and education.

CPAC agreed to present the outcomes of this 25<sup>th</sup> Council of Pacific Arts and Culture Meeting to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Ministers for Culture to be held in Honiara on 3 July 2012 in conjunction with FOPA.

## Annex 6 - Closing Remarks

### SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

#### SECOND MINISTERS OF CULTURE MEETING

(Honiara, Solomon Islands, July 4 2012)

*(Presented by Linda Petersen, Manager, Human Development Programme, SPC)*

Your Excellencies, the President of Nauru, Vice-President of Kiribati, member of the Senate in American Samoa. The Chair, Honourable Minister for Culture and Tourism in Solomon Islands, Mr Samuel Manetoali. Honourable Ministers and distinguished representatives of Pacific Island countries and territories, senior government officials, development partner representatives, observers and distinguished guests.

On behalf of Dr Jimmie Rodgers, the Director-General of SPC, I would like to apologise for his absence, which was caused by circumstances beyond his control; a Solomon Airline flight delay has meant that he will be arriving late this afternoon or early tomorrow morning.

Honourable ministers and distinguished guests, on behalf of SPC I would like to thank you for your presence here today and for placing priority on this ministerial meeting. We have not had many opportunities to meet over the years and I thank you for raising this issue. I do hope that during the course of this second meeting you have been brought up to speed with recent developments in the sector, at both regional and national level, noting acknowledgement during the course of the meeting and in discussions in the wings of the meeting, that this has been useful in guiding the work and role of ministers in this area.

We will continue to discuss the matter of more regular meetings with your representatives on the Council for Pacific Arts and Culture and culture focal points in your countries. For SPC, the challenge of more frequent and regular meetings is two-fold. The first is fitting into an already busy regional ministerial meeting schedule that is further complicated by your individual ministerial meeting commitments nationally and internationally; and, second, the cost of these gatherings.

SPC has grown over the years but its core budget, which provides a contribution to the cost of these meetings, has decreased with the expansion of the organisation. The corporate review referred to in this meeting is also looking at this issue. In the meantime, we have addressed these challenges pragmatically by convening ministerial meetings for the purpose of endorsement of key developments or milestones in the sector and making use of those opportunities to update you on regional and national progress, as was done today. Increasingly we are looking at countries to fund their own participation and so I thank you again for your financial commitment to being here.

So in 2002 ministers for culture endorsed the Regional Model Law on the Protection of Tradition, Knowledge and Expressions of Culture in the Pacific and today we are very pleased to have your endorsement of the Regional Culture Strategy 2010–2020 and the Pacific Culture and Education Strategy 2010–2015. Thank you for this endorsement and your high level of commitment to ongoing and future implementation of these strategies.

In the meantime, our main mode of communication on developments and progress is through culture focal points in countries and the Council of Pacific Arts and Culture network and meetings.

On that note, I would like to congratulate countries on developments in the culture sector since you last met. It is very encouraging to see, and clearly there is a wealth of commitment and experience in our countries and in our region to drive this work forward. It also provides a strong basis for the growth of the sector, but additional institutional capacity and resources are required urgently.

Your Excellencies and honourable ministers, the ball is really in our court to continue to lead and support this growth, so that culture can play the critical role it has in the sustainable development of our countries and our region. All of SPC's work in culture is aimed at supporting countries achieve this goal. The two regional strategies approved today are part of that process and have the added dimension of raising the profile of culture at regional level through discussions of ministers and leaders. The Regional Culture Strategy is a component of the Pacific Plan. Now that you have given it your endorsement, it will be taken up to the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders as per the Pacific Plan processes. We urge you to champion the strategy and take this message forward at future high level forums in the region so that we can garner the support needed in terms of resources to drive this work forward.

In closing, I would like to thank you, Chair and the Government of the Solomon Islands, for hosting this meeting and for your support for the CPAC meetings held in March and yesterday, both in terms of hosting and financing. I would also like to thank our partners in these initiatives — PIFS, UNESCO, PIMA, the MSG Secretariat and WIPO in particular — and other international and regional entities and cultural experts and practitioners for their support along the way. I know that we still have a long way to go but it is clear that the partnerships have broadened and strengthened over the years so that makes our work less challenging and even more enriching and enjoyable.

Your Excellencies and ministers, thank you again for your commitment and support to this cause and to the people of the Pacific.

Finally, if you will allow me, I would like to thank the SPC staff. The teams in health, biosecurity/quarantine, trade, water and sanitation, the media, translation and interpretation and last not but not least in the Human Development Programme for their untiring efforts in supporting preparations for this ministerial meeting and the 11<sup>th</sup> FOPA. The week has just begun: congratulations on the business completed so far.

Enjoy the Festival and .....Guam, we look forward to the same in 2016.



## Annex 7 - List of Participants /*Liste des Participants*

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

SECOND MEETING FOR THE MINISTERS OF CULTURE

(Honiara, Solomon Islands, 04 July 2012)

### GOVERNMENTS/GOUVERNEMENTS

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Not Represented

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