

SPC/CRGA 54 (2024)

Working Paper no. 11  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**FIFTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS**  
(5–6 November 2024, Papeete, French Polynesia)

**Working Paper**

**WORKING PAPER NO. 11: CRGA 55 AND 14TH CONFERENCE – VENUE, DATES,  
CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON**

(Paper presented by the Secretariat)

**Paper summary**

1. This paper presents the venue, date, Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the Fifty-fifth Meeting of the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA 55) and Fourteenth Conference of the Pacific Community (Conference 14).

**Recommendations**

2. CRGA is requested to:
  - i. note that the 14th Conference of the Pacific Community would be held in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, and the Chair would be provided by Tonga, and the Vice-Chair by Palau;
  - ii. agree that the Chairperson for CRGA 55 will be provided by Tuvalu and Vice-Chairperson by Tonga; and
  - iii. approve the proposed dates for CRGA 55 and Conference 14 to be held the week of 13–17 October 2025 in Nuku'alofa, Tonga in accordance with the decision of the 13th Conference and the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Pacific Community and the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations.

## Venue

3. The Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA Rules of Procedure) provide that 'CRGA meets once a year at SPC Headquarters in Noumea, except during the years the Conference of the Pacific Community is convened, when CRGA meets immediately prior to the Conference of the Pacific Community (the Conference) at the same venue.'
4. According to the meeting procedure for the Conference, unless a member requests to host the next meeting of the Conference, the venue be held at SPC's headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia.
5. As per decision of the 13th Conference, Conference 14 will be convened in Nuku'alofa, Tonga in 2025.
6. Accordingly, the venue for CRGA 55 will be Nuku'alofa Tonga, prior to Conference 14.

## Dates

7. In consultation with the Government of Tonga as the incoming Chair of Conference 14 and in anticipation of another busy regional calendar for 2025, the week of 13–17 October 2025 is proposed as the date for CRGA 55 and Conference 14.

## Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

8. The CRGA Rules of Procedure further provide that 'Representatives of members provide a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for each meeting, to be chosen in alphabetical order of CRGA members.'
9. The CRGA Rules of Procedure also indicate that if the Chairperson is unable to attend the meeting, the Vice-Chairperson assumes the Chair and becomes the Chairperson of the meeting.
10. Given Tonga's role as incoming Chair for Conference 14 and following the protocol order for CRGA chairing arrangements, Tonga is also in line to Chair CRGA 55. Based on this context and Tonga's responsibility as Chair for Conference 14, the Secretariat has proposed to Tonga that it defer its role as Chair for CRGA 55 to Tuvalu and take on the role of Vice-Chair instead.
11. Tonga has confirmed its willingness to defer the role of Chair for CRGA 55 to Tuvalu and take on the role of Vice-Chair given its role as incoming Chair for Conference 14.
12. Tuvalu has also accepted to take on the role of Chair of CRGA 55.
13. Since 2008, the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for CRGA meetings have been provided by members as shown in the table below, which includes the recommended arrangements for CRGA 55 Chair and Vice-Chair.

Year	CRGA	Chairperson	Vice-Chairperson
2008	38	American Samoa	Australia
2009	39	Australia	Cook Islands
2010	40	Cook Islands	Federated States of Micronesia
2011	41	Fiji	France
2012	42	France	Kiribati
2013	43	Kiribati	Marshall Islands
2014	44	Marshall Islands	Nauru

Year	CRGA	Chairperson	Vice-Chairperson
2015	45	Nauru	New Caledonia
2016	46	Nouvelle-Calédonie	New Zealand
2017	47	New Zealand	Niue
2018	48	Niue	Palau
2019	49	Palau	Papua New Guinea
2020	50	Papua New Guinea	French Polynesia (Pitcairn deferred)
2021	51	French Polynesia	Samoa (Pitcairn deferred)
2022	52	Samoa	Solomon Islands (Pitcairn passed)
2023	53	Solomon Islands	Tonga (Tokelau deferred)
2024	54	Tokelau	Tuvalu (Tonga deferred)
2025	55	Tuvalu	Tonga
2026	56	Tonga	United Kingdom

14. Following the Secretariat's proposal to Tonga and the established procedure for appointing the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, the Chairperson for CRGA 55 will be provided by Tuvalu and Vice-Chairperson by Tonga.
15. As noted by Conference 13 and following the longstanding procedure for appointing the Vice-Chairperson, Palau will provide the Vice-Chairperson for the 14th Conference.

### Recommendations

16. CRGA is requested to:
  - iv. note that the 14th Conference of the Pacific Community would be held in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, and the Chair would be provided by Tonga, and the Vice-Chair by Palau;
  - v. agree that the Chairperson for CRGA 55 will be provided by Tuvalu and Vice-Chairperson by Tonga; and
  - i. approve the proposed date for CRGA 55 and Conference 14 to be held the week of 13–17 October 2025 in Nuku'alofa, Tonga in accordance with the decision of the 13th Conference and the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Pacific Community and the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations.