

SPC/CONF 12 (2022)

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

TWELFTH CONFERENCE OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY
(24-25 November 2022, Port Vila, Vanuatu)

Guidance Note: Official Opening Ceremony of 12th Conference

**Opening of the 12th Conference of the Pacific Community and Evening function hosted by the
Government of Vanuatu,**

***Members and participants are invited to the Official Opening Ceremony of the 12th Conference of the
Pacific Community commencing 3:00 pm, 24 November, at Saralana Park.***

Dress: Island Formal or Suit and Tie/Evening Wear

2:45 pm Drivers will pick up 12th Conference (C12) Heads of Delegation (HODs) and officials from their hotels. Note that private vehicles will be provided for Ministers and HODs, the European Union [Permanent Observer] and SPC's Director-General. Buses will pick up officials and other participants according to hotel.

Drivers will transport delegations to Saralana Park. Arrival sequence of Members will be coordinated by the Government of Vanuatu Protocol Team.

3:00 pm C12 HODs, the Permanent Observer and Director-General of SPC will be escorted by the Malvatumauri (National Council of Chiefs) CEO and staff to the stage area, Saralana Park; Officials, other participants and guests will be directed to the marquis on side of stage to be seated.

3:30 pm Opening Prayer.
The Prime Minister of Vanuatu delivers his welcome remarks.

3:45 pm CONF 12 HODs will be invited to walk to the Chief's Nakamal to plant trees as a demonstration of the commitment of SPC and members towards their social and environmental responsibility and CONF 12 as a carbon neutral event.

A formal kava ceremony for HODs will be led by the Prime Minister of Vanuatu.

4:30 pm HODs, the Permanent Observer, SPC's Executive, panellists and

delegates are invited into the Chief's Nakamal and seated per set up for the first featured session of C12. Seating arrangements will follow SPC protocol and will be advised in advance. Any flow over of Officials, other participants and guests will be provided and advised at the venue.

- 4:45 pm** Chair of Conference's opening statement: Setting the Scene for CONF 12.
- 5:00 pm** Chair's Introduction of Featured Session 1. **75 Years of Reflection Session: LOOKING BACK.** *This session provides an opportunity for members to reflect on the value add SPC has brought to the region over its 75 Year history.*
Facilitator of session: Ms. Dorosday Kenneth Watson.
[See Guidance Note for Agenda item 3_ Featured Session 1 for details of these session]
- 6:00 pm** Closing of CONF 12 first day of meeting by the Chair.
Chair invites Members, other participants and guests to Cocktail and Kava outside. *Note: Delegates wishing to return to hotel briefly to freshen up can do so at this point.*
- 6:45 pm** Melanesian Feast hosted by the Government of Vanuatu (Venue: Chief's Nakamal).
Guests seated for dinner according to Government of Vanuatu Protocol.
- 7:00 pm** MC opens function.
- 7:05 pm** Performance of *Oceania* song by Vanessa Quai and Stephanie Watt.
- 9:00 pm** Close of evening function.