

DRAFT Concept Note, version dated 20/02/204

Pacific One-Maritime Framework (POMF): Kick off meeting and First Steering Committee Meeting

Proposed dates: 22nd – 26th April 2024

Venue: xx Hotel, Nadi, Fiji Islands

Background

The maritime transport is of immense importance in the Blue Pacific as it underpins social and economic development. Maritime connectivity allows Pacific Islanders to export and import products with international markets and to transport people and goods between islands. As articulated in the **2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent**, improved regional transport services underpin the Pacific Leaders' vision for a well-connected region with “inclusive, affordable and accessible sea transport that ensures all Pacific peoples can lead free, healthy and productive lives”.

During the [Fifth Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers' Meeting](#) (5th PRETMM), held in Port Vila, Vanuatu, from 8-12 May 2023, Ministers responsible for Energy and Maritime Transport issued the [Efate Outcome Statement](#) which, *inter alia*, called for the development of a “one-maritime framework with appropriate plans and solutions aligned to the *2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent* that is adaptable to varying circumstances across the region, and incorporating monitoring, evaluation and learning.”

Ministers “requested SPC and IMO to take the lead to coordinate the process for Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) to develop the new framework in collaboration with SPREP, other CROP agencies and Pacific stakeholders, and regional and international development partners, using Futures Thinking tools” and further requested the establishment of “a Steering Committee to provide oversight of the process to develop and encourage Transport Officials in PICTs to actively take part in the process of developing the new framework for a sustainable maritime sector in the Blue Pacific focussed on members needs and to adopt it before the 6th Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers' Meeting (PRETMM).”

In response to this Ministerial mandate, the SPC and its partners are planning the process and activities geared towards the preparation and ultimate adoption of the POMF. The generous contribution by the European Union, International Maritime Organisation and Pacific Resilient Infrastructure Facility will be used to cater for some costs for convening and facilitating attendance of preparatory meetings related to the preparation of the POMF.

Rationale

The development of a [Pacific One-Maritime Framework](#) (POMF) intends to create a single framework that articulates strategies to cater for sustainable maritime sector needs, priorities, and ambitions of PICTs in the context of the Blue Pacific and aligned with the technical support of regional and international maritime sector entities and development partners. At the regional level, these consist of members of the CROP agencies, especially SPC, SPREP, other regional or sub-regional maritime sector entities or ad hoc initiatives, and development partners, such as the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the Aotearoa Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). The key international partners include the IMO, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank (WB),

the European Union (EU) and other partners who contribute to developing one or more aspects of the maritime sector in PICTs.

Having the One-Maritime Framework by and for PICTs makes sense for various reasons. Firstly, it provides a platform for PICTs to reflect on their current challenges and articulate their aspirations for safe, secure and sustainable maritime transport services comprehensively, informed by their circumstances, yet framed in the context of region-wide responses. Also, the national and regional plans will be aligned to the mandates and plans of regional and international development partners ensuring that required technical and financial resources will be targeted to assist PICTs in implementing their maritime development objectives. Second, the One-Maritime Framework ensures coherence of planning and implementation from national to regional and international levels, prevents siloed or fragmented developmental efforts, prevents duplication, minimises resource expenditure and allows all stakeholders to pull in the same direction guided by a common vision and purpose.

Objectives

There will be a series of meetings and workshops to enable the achievement of the Pacific One- maritime Framework to be launched.

The kick off meeting will be a virtual introductory meeting to introduce the work to be undertaken and mapping the way forward for the Framework.

The first Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) will be to provide Maritime Transport Officials and Maritime Administrations a platform to actively engage in the process of developing the new framework for a sustainable maritime sector in the Blue Pacific, focused on members' needs and to adopt it before the 6th Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers' Meeting (PRETMM). The SCM will consist of PICTs, representatives from SPC, IMO, SPREP and other relevant stakeholders.

It is anticipated that during this first SCM, members will provide guidance and expert advice in the following areas for the POMF:

- Governance Structure
- Chair of the SC
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Timelines for the SCM
- Drafting Committee
- Working groups

The coordinating agencies will pool resources and expertise to facilitate the development of the framework.

Targeted Audience

Maritime Transport Officials and Maritime Administrations of Pacific Island Country and Territories Representatives

Invited Experts

Partners

Provisional Programme

Our aim is to have a participatory approach and will engage with partners and countries on the thematic areas through virtual preparatory meetings leading up to the kick off meeting. For each

thematic area we will identify country leads to further develop the thematic areas and panel discussions.

Provisional Programme

Regional Heads of Maritime (HoM) Meeting

Day 1 and 2

Detailed agenda TBC

First Steering committee Meeting for the Pacific One-Maritime Framework (POMF)

Day 3, 4, and 5

Detailed agenda TBC

Funding Support

Country Teams

SPC will co-ordinate funding support for up to 2 representatives from member country teams to attend the sessions.

Partners

Partners are requested to seek funding from within their organisations to attend the During the, partners will be provided with the opportunity to present and/or provide technical support to countries as required.

Funding for invited Experts

SPC will work with partners to co-ordinate expert attendance to the sessions. There is limited funding available from SPC to engage with experts for the training sessions. Where possible partners are requested to provide funding support for experts in the following areas: