



SEVENTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL (PMC-7)

"AT THE FRONTLINE OF WEATHER, CLIMATE, WATER, AND OCEAN ACTION IN THE PACIFIC"

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"At the Frontline of Weather, Climate, Water, and Ocean Action in the Pacific"

17-19 September 2024, Warwick Le Lagon-Vanuatu Resort, Port Vila, Vanuatu

Agenda Item 13.3: Planning and Establishment of the Pacific Regional Training Centre (PRTC)

Purpose:

1. To report on the progress of the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) for Regional Training Centre (RTC).
2. To outline steps taken toward the establishment of a RTC by 2025 through facilitating coordination mechanism and implementation plan.
3. Request the PMC and relevant partners and donors to work collaboratively and mobilize resources towards setting up the Pacific RTC.

Background:

1. The Pacific region faces a growing need for education, training and research, and in the First Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Meteorology in 2015, the establishment of a WMO Regional Training Centre (RTC) for the Pacific and the enhancement of regional research capacity were proposed.
2. In August 2023, during the 6 Pacific Met Council Meeting in Suva, Fiji, it was agreed to develop a Terms of Reference (TOR) to establish RTC task team consisting of FMS, USP, SPREP- PCCC and Relevant Partners and Donors in consultation with NHMSs under the PIETR panel and accelerate the development of the Pacific RTC by 2025.

Objectives:

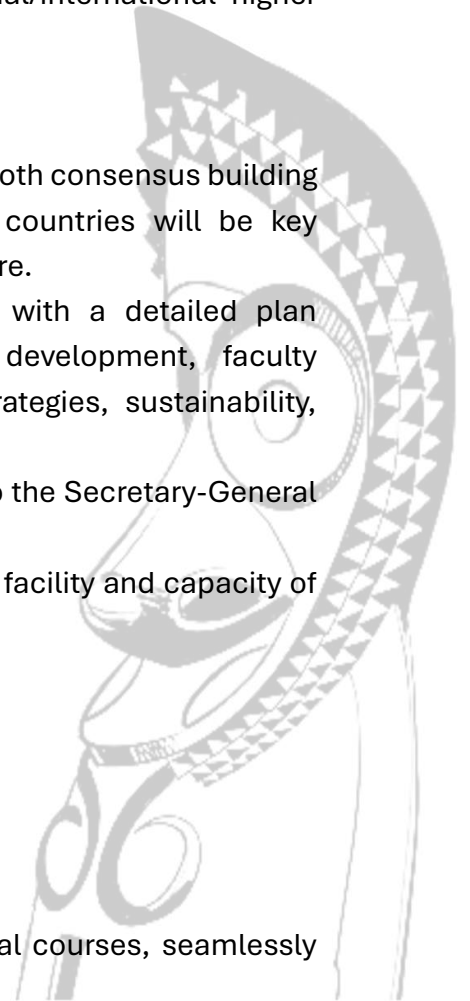
1. Progress of FMS to prepare necessary condition for WMO accreditation.
 - i. In March 2024, RTC task team meeting was held at SPREP Pacific Climate Change Centre to review progress and schedule of establishment the Pacific RTC.



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- ii. In July 2024, FMS has completed an SPC accreditation for a micro training course on operation and maintenance of weather observation equipment.
 - iii. From November 2023 to August 2025, FMS and JICA has conducted a preparatory survey for the construction of a new building and provision of equipment for RTC, RIC and disaster awareness exhibition facility located within the FMS compound in Nadi. Fiji government and JICA will finalize official procedures and agreement of Grant Aid project by January 2025 and start of service of the new building is planned to be in February 2027. JICA technical cooperation project will start from October 2024 for technical support to establish the Pacific RTC.
 - iv. FMS and USP has started preparation of MOU to establish collaboration system as registered training provider for national/international higher education commission.
2. Steps taken by the PMC-8
- For preparation to establish the Pacific RTC by 2025, smooth consensus building of both PMC stakeholders and WMO RA V member countries will be key partnership in the process of WMO accreditation procedure.
- i. To facilitate comprehensive training framework with a detailed plan covering organizational structure, curriculum development, faculty training, infrastructure requirements, funding strategies, sustainability, and a phased implementation approach.
 - ii. To be endorsed by WMO RA V to submit request to the Secretary-General of the WMO.
 - iii. To prepare for assessment by WMO official on the facility and capacity of Pacific RTC.
3. Provisional training programme
- i. Phase approach:
 - Phase 1 - BIP-MT Diploma Course
 - Phase 2 - BIP-M Postgraduate Diploma
 - Phase 2 - BIP-HT Diploma Course
 - ii. These phases can be complemented by additional courses, seamlessly blended into the curriculum:
 - ✓ Aviation-Related Training
 - ✓ Climate-Related Training





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- ✓ Marine and Ocean-Related Training
- ✓ Hydrology Short Course
- ✓ Quality Management System (QMS) Training
- ✓ Weather Forecasting Training
- ✓ Climate Data Analysis and Application Training
- ✓ Maintenance and Calibration of Meteorological Instruments Training
- ✓ Early Warning Systems Training (including Impact Based Forecasting, Alert system for Disaster Risk Reduction)
- ✓ Weather Radar Data Utilization Training
- ✓ Satellite Data Utilization Training

Recommendations:

The Meeting is invited to:

- **Note:** Weather Ready Pacific (2024-2033) and JICA project (2024–2028) has started to accelerate the establishment process and to support financing resources for training implementation. Collaboration to enhance synergy of related cooperations through PITER Panel RTC task team meeting and WRP steering committees.
- **Information:** PITER Panel RTC task team to define timelines with clear milestones for setting up the Pacific RTC by 2025 and to mobilise resources for establishment and implementation of the Pacific RTC.
- **Recommend:** Collaboration across Panels to enhance strategic and effective training and research activities for the Pacific RTC and contribute to promote actions of respective Panels.

