



## **POLICY STATEMENT ON THE PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM TROIKA**

### **Background and Membership**

1. The Pacific Islands Forum Troika (“Forum Troika”) comprises:
  - (a) the Forum Chair;
  - (b) the outgoing Forum Chair<sup>1</sup>; and
  - (c) the incoming Forum Chair<sup>2</sup>.
2. The Forum Troika is a high-level regional political consultative mechanism, represented by Forum Leaders, critical for driving regional action. It does not make decisions on behalf of the Forum Chair or the Pacific Islands Forum as a whole.

### **Objectives**

3. The Forum Troika is primarily intended to support the Forum Chair in the period between the Forum Leaders’ Meeting of the current year and the next year.
4. Under the leadership of the Forum Chair, and support of the outgoing and incoming Forum Chairs, the Forum Troika ensures the effective delivery of Forum Leaders’ decisions as set out in the annual Forum Leaders’ Meeting Communiqué.

### **Functions**

5. To achieve the above objectives, the functions of the Forum Troika are to:
  - (a) support the Forum Chair in the discharge of his or her responsibilities, as and when required, including representing the Forum Chair at regional and international meetings, as and when required;
  - (b) provide guidance to the incoming Chair, as and when required;
  - (c) be advocacy champions of regional initiatives, in solidarity, within the wider Forum, and be mediators, if required, to ensure cohesive policy decisions across the Forum membership;
  - (d) provide the Secretary General and Forum Secretariat access to high-level political advice and counsel on regional issues, priorities and decisions that require urgent and timely attention, including the implementation of Forum Leaders’ decisions;

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<sup>1</sup> For the avoidance of doubt, the “outgoing Chair” is the Chair of the Forum Leaders’ Meeting of the *immediate* preceding year.

<sup>2</sup> For the avoidance of doubt, the “incoming Chair” is the Chair of the Forum Leaders’ Meeting for the *immediate* next/following year.

- (e) provide high-level insight to the Secretary General and Forum Secretariat on the implementation of current and future Forum Leaders' initiatives, and be an initial feedback mechanism to the Secretary General and Forum Secretariat on emerging and potential regional initiatives prior to presentation to the wider Forum membership;
- (f) work together to take forward agreed Forum Leaders' priorities at the regional and international stage by upholding the *Blue Pacific Principles*<sup>3</sup> for collective Pacific Islands Forum Dialogue and Engagement, endorsed by Forum Leaders at their 50<sup>th</sup> Meeting, held in Tuvalu in 2019;
- (g) undertake an Annual Performance Dialogue with the Secretary General on key progress made on Forum Leaders' priorities;
- (h) share the role of chairperson for relevant meetings;
- (i) provide continuity in chairing the Forum, including seamless transition, from one year to the next; and
- (j) undertake any other functions directed by Forum Leaders.

### **Meeting Arrangements**

6. The Forum Troika will meet to advance regional issues in accordance with the above objectives and functions.
7. The Secretary General, in consultation with the Forum Chair, will convene face-to-face or virtual meetings of the Forum Troika, as and when required.
8. The Secretary General, in consultation with the Forum Chair, may:
  - (a) convene a meeting of Troika Senior Officials to discuss and consider relevant issues for the Forum Troika's consideration; and
  - (b) require Troika Senior Officials to consult with the Forum Officials Committee Chair, and to chair relevant Officials level meetings, including sub-committees, and working groups.
9. All meetings of the Forum Troika will be chaired by the Forum Chair.
10. The Forum Troika may set its own procedures for the conduct of its meetings, in accordance with Forum meeting practices.
11. The Secretariat will provide the secretarial support to the Forum Troika.

### **Review and Amendment**

12. This Policy Statement may be reviewed every three years or at the discretion of Forum Leaders, and may be amended as and when deemed necessary by Forum Leaders.

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<sup>3</sup> (i) *One Blue Pacific* – recognising and engaging with the full Forum Membership; (ii) *Regional priorities* – embedding and progressing the Forum's regional priorities; (iii) *Partnership approach* – joint planning, programming and delivery by both the Pacific Islands Forum and the Forum Dialogue Partner(s); (iv) *Utilising existing mechanisms* – aligning with, and seeking to build-off existing regional and international mechanisms, processes and meetings; and (v) *Collective outcomes and impact* – developing joint outcomes statements and outlining a clear process for follow-up and implementation.