

Statement of the Joint Meeting of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable & the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management

***WE**, the representatives of Pacific Island Countries and Territories and partners attending the Joint Meeting of the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable & Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management, in Suva, Fiji, 04-05 October 2017:*

***ACKNOWLEDGING** the regional and global policy and planning frameworks, that complement and support national development policy instruments;*

***WELCOMING** the decision by Pacific Island Forum Leaders in 2016 and 2017 in addressing the challenges of resilient development approved the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific: An Integrated Approach to Address Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (FRDP) for the region and endorsed the establishment of the Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) for the effective implementation of the FRDP;*

***EMPHASISING** that enhanced partnerships at all levels is crucial to enable vertical and horizontal integration and provide resources and capacity for implementation of the FRDP;*

***VALUING** the leadership of Pacific Island Countries and Territories and their communities to adopt integrated approaches, where appropriate, and noted that the FRDP will guide and support these approaches including the commitments made by partners to provide support to the FRDP*

***ACKNOWLEDGING** that the existing regional for a (such as the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable, Pacific Humanitarian Partnership, the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management and the Pacific Meteorological Council) have provided platforms to promote and enable resilient development in the region;*

***RECALLING** the guiding principles of the FRDP to incorporate risk resilient development across all sectors and **UNDERSCORING** the importance of participatory people-centred approaches for enhanced preparedness and response, risk reduction and adaptation initiatives.*

Record the importance of:

1. **ENCOURAGING** respective national finance and planning agencies to incorporate strategic, inclusive approaches in mainstreaming disaster and climate-related risk into planning, budgetary and decision-making processes;
2. **PROMOTING** public-private partnerships at all levels;
3. **INCLUDING** full participation and resourcing of vulnerable and marginalised groups including women, youth, children, persons with disabilities, and the elderly to ensure inclusivity and amplifying efforts to build resilience and respond to disasters
4. **SUPPORTING** meteorological, ocean and geological observations and services, data management, appropriate technologies and the provision of reliable weather, climate, multi-hazard early warning systems services and capacities to underpin disaster risk management and climate change interventions;

5. **INCREASING** investments by countries and partners to strengthen multi-hazard early warning capacity of national entities, response agencies and communities and the particular role of the private sector, taking into consideration traditional knowledge and scientific analysis;
6. Regional organisations and partners **COLLABORATING** and **COORDINATING** on how to maximise and streamline technical support for national actions;
7. **ENCOURAGING** investments in institutional capacity at the regional, national and subnational levels and communities to access, implement and report on climate change and disaster risk financing;
8. **PROMOTING** integrated national climate change and resilience policies that recognise, protect and restore ecosystem services using sound science and holistic approaches to whole-of-island ecosystems;
9. **SUPPORTING** the strengthening of capacity for timely, localised and inclusive disaster preparedness and response;
10. **RECOGNISING** the importance of loss and damage for Pacific Island Countries and Territories and call for support to further efforts to build capacity, enhance understanding, collect and manage data and information on loss and damage in the region, and develop and adapt tools and mechanisms to address needs in the region on loss and damage;
11. **SEEKING** support for developing the framework for the FRDP's monitoring, evaluation and reporting, ensuring that this does not place additional burdens on countries;
12. **WELCOMING** the new Pacific Resilience Partnership Meeting as the platform to consolidate the region's input into global reviews of progress against relevant international agreements, including at the biennial Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;
13. **CONVENING** the Pacific Resilience Meeting, noting the Leaders' decision on a two year trial period of the Pacific Resilience Partnership which builds on and incorporates the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable and Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management as an important technical support to the effective functioning of the PRP, including harmonization of existing regional technical mechanisms and new initiatives; and
14. **REITERATING** the Leaders' decision for the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat to support the implementation of the FRDP, and emphasised the need for coordination with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Pacific Community and other partners to mobilise and support the PRP Task Force and the support unit.

Adopted on: Thursday 5 October, 2017