



ENGAGING WITH THE PACIFIC LEADERS MEETING

NADI COMMUNIQUÉ

TANOA INTERNATIONAL HOTEL

NADI, FIJI

1-2 SEPTEMBER 2011

1. The Prime Minister of Fiji, Commodore Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama; the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea (PNG), Hon. Peter O' Neil; the Prime Minister of Tuvalu, Hon. Willy Telavi; the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands, Hon. Danny Philip; the Minister for Foreign Affairs & Trade, Finance & Minister Assisting the President of Nauru, Hon. Kieren Keke; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Timor Leste, Hon. Zacarias Albano Da Costa; the Minister for Lands, Survey, Natural Resources, Environment & Climate Change of the Kingdom of Tonga, Lord Ma'afu; Special Envoy of the President of Kiribati, Ms. Makurita Baaro; Senator Richard Tuheiava, Special Envoy of the President of French Polynesia; H.E. Samson Pretrick, Federated States of Micronesia's Ambassador to Fiji; H.E. Amatlain Kabua, Republic of Marshall Islands' Ambassador to Fiji; and Mr. Simeon Athy, Director General of Prime Minister's Office of Vanuatu; met in Nadi, from 1-2 September 2011, at the second meeting of the 'Engaging with the Pacific'.
2. In his welcoming address, the Prime Minister of Fiji, Commodore Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama stated that our development aspirations and challenges are similar and intricately linked. He recognised the need for PSIDS to take a stronger and more united position on issues of importance such as the deleterious impact of climate change and the consequent rising sea levels. He mentioned that there was enormous potential for PSIDS to assert its influence globally and gain recognition for its concerns if it maintained focus and a united front. He reiterated the Leaders decision at the 1st Engaging with the Pacific Meeting to remain fully engaged with Fiji and its democratisation process under the People's Charter.

3. The Pacific leaders (hereafter referred as “the Leaders”) discussed issues of common interest to the region encompassing trade, security, sustainable development, good governance, commerce, environmental pollution, climate change, labour mobility and Fiji’s Strategic Framework for Change.

Session I: Fiji’s Roadmap to Democracy

The Leaders:

4. **Reaffirming** that Fiji’s Strategic Framework for Change (SFC) as a credible home-grown process for positioning Fiji as a modern nation state and to hold parliamentary elections;
5. **Recalling** the importance of Fiji’s continuous engagement with the region and its full participation in regional development initiatives and programmes;
6. **Recognised** the progress in the implementation of the Roadmap to Democracy and Sustainable Socio-Economic Development in accordance with the timelines outlined in the Strategic Framework for Change;
7. **Supported** the need to publicise and disseminate more and accurate information on the Fiji government’s progress in ensuring sustainable economic development, modernising and the democratisation process.

Session 2: Self-Determination of French Polynesia

The Leaders:

8. **Recognising** the aspirations of French Polynesia/Tahiti Nui to achieve self-determination in a manner that will provide for sustainable economic development and recognition of their unique culture and identity;
9. **Welcomed** increasing social and cultural linkages between French Polynesia/Tahiti Nui and PSIDS and supported greater participation in regional and sub-regional forums;
10. **Supported** the re-inscription of French Polynesia/Tahiti Nui on the UN decolonisation committee’s list as the first step in the process of self-determination, at international level.

Session 3: Regional Police Academy

The Leaders:

11. **Reaffirming** their support for the setting up of the Regional Police Academy given the pressing security issues and threats that continue to be faced by the region;
12. **Noted** the progress made thus far on the allocation of land, location, layout and structure of the Regional Police Academy;
13. **Commended** the initiative of RPA as a home-grown solution to the security and law and order challenges of the PSIDS;
14. **Acknowledged** the developments regarding the setting up of the RPA and the offer by the Government of Fiji to undertake interim arrangements and training in order to enable the commencement of the operations of the RPA in the fourth quarter of 2011;
15. **Supported** the formation of a technical working group to explore the possibility of funding by development partners.

Session 4: Securing a Healthy Blue Economy

The Leaders:

16. **Noting** that current global conservation efforts does not fully account for sustainable environmental concerns, particularly those pertaining to the oceans on which PSIDS are dependent on;
17. **Recognising** the need for the PSIDS to take the lead in shaping the agenda of the blue/green economy as they are the most vulnerable to the consequences of global failures of not mitigating climate change, preserving biodiversity and maintaining food security;
18. **Affirmed** the need for holistic, participatory and inclusive approach on sustainable harvesting of marine resources while maintaining the integrity and the health of the marine environment and avoiding ecological scarcity;

19. **Agreed** that local community based solutions and conservation measures could assist in addressing challenges related to climate change and preservation of marine resources;
20. **Emphasised** the need for reassessing strategies for garnering greater support from the international community to the plight of PSIDS.

Session 5: Climate Change

The Leaders:

21. **Recognising** that climate change is the greatest challenge facing the Pacific Small Island Developing States and its negative effects particularly on our ecology and marine resources;
22. **Called** for stronger collaboration from developed countries to provide Climate Finance to support the implementation of adaptation strategies and develop other cleaner energy sources;
23. **Encourage** PSIDS to provide support to Nauru as the next chair of the AOSIS in 2012 and to strengthen PSIDS continuous representation and commitment at international climate change symposiums for the region to collectively address imminent issues.

Session 6: Rio+20 Conference

The Leaders:

24. **Agreed** that the Rio+20 Conference to be held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 offered the Pacific SIDS the opportunity to get recognition of the region's "special case" based on their "unique and particular vulnerabilities" in a blue world that was host to one of the greatest global ocean resource.
25. **Endorsed** the decisions of the Rio+20 Pacific Preparatory Meeting held in Apia 20-22 July and reaffirmed the key messages of that meeting for the International Community.

26. **Agreed** that ways should be considered for the Pacific SIDS to help one another and be creative in their approaches to climate change and sustainable development including funding arrangements. These could be considered through national assessments and the development of a Pacific regional green roadmap that were being undertaken and considered as the Pacific's input into the Rio+20 Conference.

Session 7: Labour Mobility in the Pacific

The Leaders:

27. **Recognising** the importance of adequate supply of relevant labour for emerging economic needs in PSIDS and **desiring** these needs to be met by other PSIDS that are in a position to assist and also benefit from such ventures;
28. **Acknowledged** the opportunities for the rest of the PSIDS arising from the consecutive high economic growth of PNG, driven by natural resource based projects in sectors such as gold, oil and gas;
29. **Thanked** the Government of PNG in welcoming PSIDS to provide manpower, skills and expertise to the natural resource based projects in PNG through normal channels.
30. **Investigate** the possibilities for pursuing and enhancing trade and economic interests within and outside the PSIDS, through an appropriate vehicle such as a concept of an Economic Bloc.

Session 8: Volunteer Exchange Scheme

The Leaders:

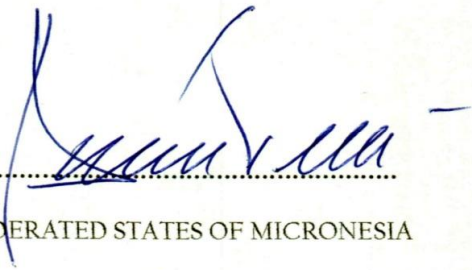
31. **Acknowledging** that individual PSIDS have expertise in specific areas that can be shared with and transferred to other PSIDS through volunteer programmes;
32. **Thanked** the Government of Fiji for taking concrete steps in setting up Fiji's Volunteer Exchange Scheme which will benefit the PSIDS in various areas where capacity and technical assistance is required.
33. **Agreed** that the Scheme also include programmes to enhance capacity and expertise through training and attachments.

Next Meeting

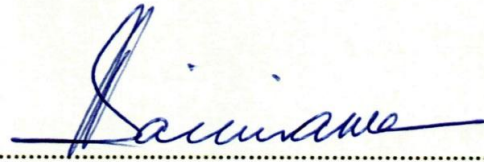
34. The Leaders thanked Fiji for offering to host the next meeting of the Engaging with the Pacific in 2012. The Leaders expressed their gratitude to the Government and people of Fiji for their warm hospitality during this meeting.

Nadi, Fiji

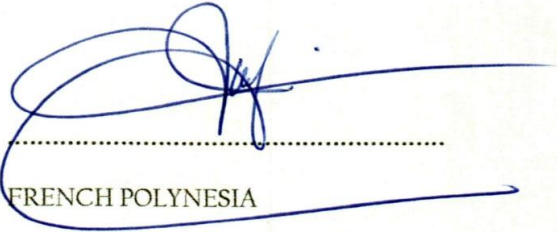
2 September, 2011



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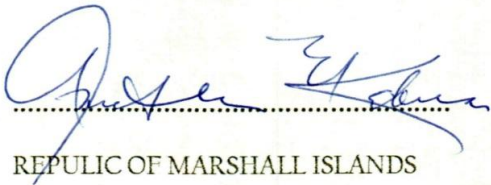
REPUBLIC OF FIJI



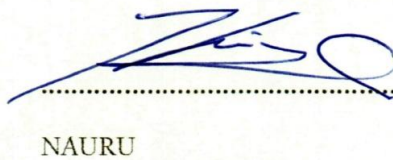
FRENCH POLYNESIA



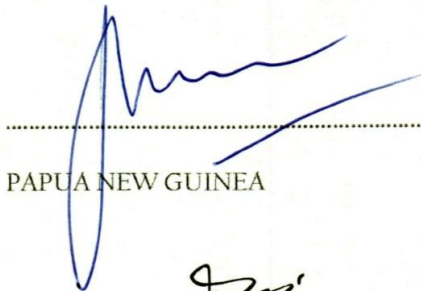
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