



# OUTCOME DOCUMENT

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**Third PIDF Leaders Summit**

**Building Climate Resilient Green Blue Pacific Economies**

**2nd - 4th September, 2015**

**Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva, Fiji**



**Contents**

INTRODUCTION..... 4

PRE-SUMMIT ACTIVITIES..... 7

    Senior Officials Committee, Executive Board and Governing Council Meetings..... 7

        Charter ..... 7

        Appointment of the Secretary General..... 8

        Leader’s Suva Climate Change Declaration ..... 8

        Sustainable Development Goals ..... 9

        Financial Provisions & Creation of a Regional Development Trust Fund ..... 10

        National/Local Sustainable Development Boards ..... 11

        Institutional Issues ..... 11

        Work Programme and Budget ..... 12

        Logo and Flag ..... 12

        Summit/Conference Host and Venue ..... 13

OFFICIAL WELCOME ..... 16

    Overview ..... 16

OPENING CEREMONIES..... 19

    Overview ..... 19

    Welcome Address ..... 20

    Keynote Address ..... 21

PLENARY SESSIONS ..... 23

    Plenary Session No 1: Challenges to Building Climate Resilient Green Blue Pacific Economies ..... 23

    Plenary Session No 2: Leadership for Climate Resilient Green Blue Pacific Economies ..... 25

    Plenary Session No 3: Partnerships for Climate Resilient Green Blue Pacific Economies ..... 27

    Plenary Session No 4: Innovations for Climate Change ..... 29

COP21 STRATEGY SESSIONS..... 32

    Plenary Session: Path to Paris: Status of Negotiations and Pacific Engagement..... 32

    Parallel Sessions ..... 35

        Government Leaders: Strategies for Paris ..... 35

        Private Sector Leaders: The Road to Paris ..... 37

        Civil Society Leaders: Towards an Agreement in Paris. .... 38

TALANOA: CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION ..... 41

PARALLEL SESSIONS .....	44
Track 1: Health, Water & Sanitation .....	44
Track 2: Marine Environment, Oceans & Fisheries.....	45
Track 3: Energy and Transport .....	46
Track 4: Agriculture and Forestry.....	47
Track 5: Gender, Youth, Disabilities and Human Security .....	48
Track 6: Technology, Finance and Capacity Building, Infrastructure and Built Environment.....	49
PLENARY SESSIONS .....	51
Governance and Institutional Issues.....	51
Taking Action on Climate Change: Suva Declaration on Climate Change.....	51
National Statements .....	51
Federated States of Micronesia: .....	51
French Polynesia: .....	51
Kiribati.....	51
Republic of the Marshall Islands .....	52
Nauru .....	52
New Caledonia: .....	52
Solomon Islands .....	52
Tokelau.....	53
Tonga.....	53
Timor Leste.....	53
Tuvalu.....	54
Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organisations:.....	54
Argentina.....	54
Chile .....	54
Indonesia.....	54
Netherlands.....	55
Pakistan.....	55
Turkey .....	55
SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE PIDF CHARTER.....	56
CLOSING CEREMONIES.....	58
Overview .....	58

Final Remarks..... 59  
Closing Remarks..... 61  
Farewell Dinner Speech ..... 63



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## INTRODUCTION

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The Third Summit of the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF 3) was held at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva, Fiji from the 2nd to 4th September, 2015 with the theme of “Building Climate Resilient Green Blue Pacific Economies”. The Chief Guest was General Thanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.



The Summit attracted more than 300 delegates from 48 countries and territories, fifteen of them from the Pacific. It was attended by representatives of governments, private sector and civil society from the following Pacific Island countries and territories (PICT):

- Cook Islands
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Fiji
- French Polynesia
- Guam
- Kiribati
- Marshall Islands
- Nauru
- New Caledonia
- Papua New Guinea
- Solomon Islands
- Timor Leste
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Tuvalu
- Vanuatu

Heads of Delegations of participating Pacific Island countries and territories were as follows:

- Abel Gutterress, Ambassador, Timor Leste
- Anais Rouveyrol, Advisor for Multilateral Cooperation, New Caledonia
- Anote Tong, President, Kiribati
- Baron Divavesi Waqa, President, Nauru
- Ben Micah, Minister for State Enterprise, Papua New Guinea
- Bruno Peaucellier, Deputy Chief of Staff, French Polynesia
- Christophee Emelee, Minister for Agriculture, Vanuatu
- Enele Sopoaga, Prime Minister, Tuvalu
- Jim Armistead, Director Foreign Affairs, Cook Islands
- Josia V Bainimarama, Prime Minister, Fiji
- Manasseh Sogavare, Prime Minister, Solomon Islands
- Samuela 'Akilisi Pohiva, Prime Minister, Tonga
- Siopili Perez, Ulu o Tokelau, Tokelau
- Tony deBrum, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Marshall Island
- Yosiwo P George, Vice President, Federated States of Micronesia

Other countries that were represented at the Summit included:

- Argentina
- Australia
- Belgium
- Chile
- China
- Columbia
- European Union,
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- India
- Indonesia
- Israel
- Japan
- Kazakhstan
- Korea
- Kuwait
- Malaysia
- Morocco
- New Zealand
- Pakistan
- Palestine
- Russian Federation
- Serbia
- Singapore
- Sweden
- Turkey
- Thailand
- United Arab Emirates
- United States of America
- United Kingdom
- Venezuela

Representatives from various national, regional and international organisations were also present.

These include the following:

- 350 Fiji
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Center for Tropical Marine Ecology (ZMT)
- Commonwealth Secretariat
- Diverse Voices and Action (DIVA) for Equality-Fiji
- FemLINKPACIFIC
- Fiji/Project Survival Pacific Organisation

- Fiji/ Dignity Pasifika
- Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)
- Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI)
- German International Corporation Agency (GIZ)
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG)
- National Youth Council
- OXFAM
- Pacific Disability Forum
- Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organizations (PIANGO)
- Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)
- Pacific Islands Private Sector Association (PIPSO)
- Pacific Sexual diversity Network and Rainbow Pride Foundation Limited
- Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
- South Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO)
- The Locally-Managed Marine Area (LMMA) Network
- United National Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- United Nations International Strategy of Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)
- University of the South Pacific (USP)
- Wildlife Conservation Society and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)



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## PRE-SUMMIT ACTIVITIES

*Monday 31st August and Tuesday 1st September 2015*

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### **Senior Officials Committee, Executive Board and Governing Council Meetings**

On Monday 31st August and the morning of Tuesday 1st September 2015, the PIDF Senior Officials Committee, Executive Board and Governing Council met at the Grand Pacific Hotel to deliberate on governance and procedural issues for the PIDF.

The Chair for the Senior Officials Committee is Patterson Oti, High Commissioner for the Solomon Islands to Fiji. The Chair for the Executive Board is Ratu Inoke Kubuabola, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Fiji and the Chair for the Governing Council is Josaia V. Bainimarama, Prime Minister, Fiji.

The agenda included the enactment of the PIDF Charter, the appointment of the Secretary General, the proposed Suva Declaration on Climate Change, PIDF financial arrangements, the creation of a Sustainable Development Trust Fund, the Budget and 2016-17 work-plan, the logo and flag and other subsidiary matters. Decisions taken are described below.



*Governing Council*

### **Charter**

1. The PIDF Charter sets up the PIDF and makes provisions for its purposes and functions; its structure and processes; its funding mechanisms; its review process; its dispute mechanism; and how it is to come into effect. It has 24 articles and three Schedules.
2. A number of Members indicated their need to complete their national processes before acceding to the Charter.

3. The Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee recommended the adoption of

the Charter noting the need to complete national processes.

**4. The Governing Council approved the Charter.**

**Appointment of the Secretary General**

1. The Charter provides for the appointment of the Secretary General and his/her role and functions. From this, the role of the Secretary General was developed with detailed description of the required outcomes for the role and skills and experience for the role.
2. The Fiji based Human Capital Management firm, Maxumise (Fiji) was commissioned to conduct this recruitment on behalf of PIDF.

3. The Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee recommended for approval by the Council the appointment of Mr. François Martel, a Samoan national, with more than 35 years of experience in natural resource management, biodiversity conservation and climate change in the tropics as the new Secretary General of PIDF.

**4. The Governing Council approved that Mr. François Martel be appointed as the new Secretary General for the PIDF.**



*Mr Martel and HC Oti*

**Leader’s Suva Climate Change Declaration**

1. Consistent with PIDF’s mandate on green growth and sustainable development, the overarching theme of the 3rd Summit is appropriately linked to resilience to climate change as it provides a tremendous opportunity to focus on the key issues that are important for the Pacific in the ongoing discussions on a new climate change agreement to be considered in Paris in December later this year. The PIDF

structure provides a unique platform for an inclusive process through engagement with all the stakeholders in the climate debate.

2. The engagement of the PSIDS Ambassadors in New York in developing a draft declaration is a step in the right direction. The direct involvement of PSIDS Ambassadors is to ensure the ownership aspects of the draft declaration is strengthened as well as the synergy with

the Post 2015 SDGs to be launched in September is enhanced. Goal 13 of the SDGs focuses on protecting our planet and combating climate change. This would also enable our Pacific voice loud and clear within AOSIS, which is our negotiating block in the UNFCCC process at the global level.

3. The format of the program for the 3rd Summit allows an enrichment process to the draft declaration through participation of all stakeholders to discuss issues from sectoral perspectives like the civil society and the private sector. Experts and regional organisations have the opportunity to provide solid scientific and technical basis to the understanding of climate change resilience in key economic sectors such as agriculture, forestry, health, water, sanitation, marine, oceans, fisheries, energy, transport and infrastructure.
4. Key messages raised during the consultations at the 3rd Summit were summarised for possible inclusion and strengthening of the Declaration on Climate Change to be called the Suva Declaration.

**6. The Governing Council approved that the Leader's Declaration on Climate Change to be called the Suva Declaration as an outcome of the 3rd Summit to include PSIDS priorities in the negotiations**

### Sustainable Development Goals

1. The "Transforming our World: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" document outlining the 17 SDGs is expected to be launched by world leaders on 25th September during the General Assembly. The main issues for consideration by PIDF are:

- National level commitment by member States to develop as soon as practicable ambitious national responses to the overall implementation of the SDGs and to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national levels

The 3rd Summit programme resulted in a strong declaration outlining PIDF's strong stance on climate change with key messages to Paris:

- A legally binding agreement;
  - Global temperatures to be contained within 1.5°C;
  - Stronger mitigation commitment from large emitters;
  - Balanced treatment for adaptation;
  - Loss and damage to be part of new agreement;
  - Commitment for the enhanced financial resources, technology and capacity building; and
  - Recognition of the special circumstances of the most vulnerable such as SIDS and LDCs.
5. The Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee recommended for approval of Council a Declaration on Climate Change and to be called the Suva Declaration as an outcome of the 3rd Summit to include PSIDS priorities in the negotiations.

drawing on contributions from indigenous peoples, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders, in line with national circumstances, policies and priorities.

- Regional level commitment to follow-up and review at the regional and sub-regional levels, as appropriate; promote cooperation between regional and sub-regional commissions and organizations; and carry out inclusive regional processes which draws on national-level reviews and contribute to

follow-up and review at the global level, including at the High Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF).

- Global commitment to ensure the follow-up and review of the SDGs is effectively linked with the follow-up and review arrangements of all relevant UN Conferences and processes, including on LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs.
2. The Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee recommended for approval of the Governing Council the following key issues; to note and approve a mandate to PIDF to support the Pacific SIDS with the national contextualization and

implementation of the SDGs in cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations and commissions; prioritizes the SAMOA Pathway and to work closely with the Pacific SIDS and those regional commissions, organizations in the region which have done the same to ensure that the SAMOA Pathway is a strong feature of the SDGs contextualization exercise; Work with the Pacific SIDS to draft a statement for the September launching of the SDGs; and ensuring that the PIDF's agreed 10 priorities, which are well aligned with the priorities of the Pacific SIDS and of the SAMOA Pathway are considered in the contextualization of the SDGs.

*3. The Governing Council approved a mandate to PIDF to support the Pacific SIDS with the national contextualization and implementation of the SDGs in cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations and commissions; prioritizes the SAMOA Pathway and to work closely with the Pacific SIDS and those regional commissions, organizations in the region which have done the same to ensure that the SAMOA Pathway is a strong feature of the SDGs contextualization exercise; Work with the Pacific SIDS to draft a statement for the September launching of the SDGs; and ensuring that the PIDF's agreed 10 priorities, which are well aligned with the priorities of the Pacific SIDS and of the SAMOA Pathway are considered in the contextualization of the SDGs.*

### **Financial Provisions & Creation of a Regional Development Trust Fund**

1. The PIDF as a whole is responsible for mobilizing innovative sources and methods of funding with the aim of resourcing the Secretariat appropriately. The Secretary General is responsible for the management of these funds.
  - Accountability: Conforming to international standards of financial management and audit;
  - Sustainability: True costs of projects accounted for in programming.
2. The operations of PIDF are guided by the following set of budgetary principles:
  - Generosity: Members and development partners may voluntarily pledge to contribute to the budget of the PIDF;
  - Inclusivity: All Members to participate in the process through the governance functions afforded to the Council, Summit and Conference;
3. Under the Voluntary Model of Budgeting, PIDF's budget will be funded through voluntary gifts pledges and contributions made by Members and Partners, and such other sources as may be determined by the Summit.
4. The Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee recommended for approval of the Council the PIDF's Voluntary Model of Budgeting and the creation of a Regional Development Trust Fund.

**5. The Governing Council approved the PIDF's Voluntary Model of Budgeting and the creation of a Regional Development Trust Fund.**

**National/Local Sustainable Development Boards**

1. In order to ensure that national and local priorities influence the PIDF agenda, there needs to be a national and local representation to implement the PIDF purposes that provides a bottom-up approach to policy setting and prioritization. This can only happen through strengthening of existing structures or through purpose built National/Local Sustainable Development Boards.
2. This Board will be the implementation link in the decision making cycle of the PIDF. This will address a major weakness in the current regional architecture where there is disconnect in decision making at the

regional level and implementation at the national level. These key bodies will also be expected to be represented in the Members Representative Council (MRC) to provide the operational oversight of the Secretariat.

3. The Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee recommended for the consideration and approval of Council the creation of National/Local Sustainable Development Boards at national/local levels, where lacking, or reinforcing existing mechanisms, as stipulated in the Charter to support the long term sustainability of PSIDS.

**4. The Governing Council approved the creation of National/Local Sustainable Development Boards at national/local levels, where lacking, or reinforcing existing mechanisms, as stipulated in the Charter to support the long term sustainability of PSIDS.**

**Institutional Issues**

1. Critical to the PIDF is a professional and cost effective Secretariat, which can meet the needs of its members, manage the programs efficiently and transparently, engage not only with governments across the region and beyond but also support engagement with public, private and civil society sectors in new and innovative ways.
2. In the design of the PIDF organisational establishment the PIDF Secretariat took into account the organisation's purposes and functions; it's obligations to its stakeholders of leadership, advocacy, management of the programmes and supporting PIDF governance, enabling resource mobilization,

research & development and information sharing amongst all its members.

3. The aim of this part of the process was to: develop a new organisation Capability Framework that clearly reflects the needs and demands, now and into the future; provide the basis for a new organisational structure; and provide the basis for the future management of the PIDF Secretariat.
4. The Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee recommended for the consideration and approval of Council the organisational structure and the administrative and financial documents as the guidance documents for the Secretariat.

**5. The Governing Council approved the organisational structure and the administrative and financial documents as the guidance documents for the Secretariat.**

## Work Programme and Budget

1. The Work Programme and Budget was developed using the Logical Framework Approach as a tool to assist in focusing and prioritizing the work of the Secretariat. As a result of that approach the following components constitute the Work Programme and Budget:
  - a) A Revised Logframe for 2016 to 2017 that presents an intended outcome of the work of the PIDF which support and aligns with the strategic mission of the PIDF. It consists of three outputs which reflect the key priority areas of leadership, innovation and partnership recognized by leaders at the inaugural summit as key components required for achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication.
  - b) A Work Plan based on the outputs and activities in the Logframe for 2016-17 and includes proposed timelines, lead entity and a proposed budget provision.
  - c) A Budget for January to December 2016 covering the operational activities for that period based on a planning figure of FJD\$2,444,367.00.
2. The Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee recommended for the consideration and approval of the Council the proposed Work Programme and Budget for PIDF.

### ***3. The Governing Council approved the proposed Work Programme and Budget for PIDF.***

## Logo and Flag

1. The PIDF logo includes the green globe which speaks of the new global development pathway of the Green Economy. Three human icon holding hands together represent the three constituent elements of the PIDF which is the public sector, private sector and civil society and the balancing the three pillars of development. Sky blue in the icon symbolizes unity or inclusiveness. Sustainability is represented by the green icon which is a color of healthy relationships and contains the powerful energies of growth change and transformation. Distinctiveness is represented by the orange color. Twenty-three orange stars represent the 23 island nations in the PIDF region and the dawn of a new era in development in the Pacific. The aqua blue waves symbolize new waves of changes in development among the represented countries and the blue economy of the Pacific.
2. The flag has the PIDF logo centered on a light teal background.

### ***3. The Governing Council approved the logo and flag of the PIDF.***



PIDF Logo and Flag

### Summit/Conference Host and Venue

1. Consistent with the new governance arrangements provided by the Charter, a decision on the Pacific Island Development Forum (PIDF) Summit and Conference Venue for the PIDF Summit (2016 & 2017) and Conference (2017) is being sought from Council.
2. The Conference as the apex organ of the PIDF shall meet on a biannual basis while

the Summit meets annually. Therefore the next scheduled conference is in 2017.

3. As recommended by the Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee, Council is invited to deliberate and explore on possible hosting in 2016 and 2017 and inform the Secretariat accordingly out of session.

**4. The Governing Council approved the recommendation to deliberate and explore on possible hosting in 2016 and 2017 and inform the Secretariat accordingly out of session.**



PIDF Executive Board and Senior Officials Committee



*Meeting of the Governing Council*



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# OFFICIAL WELCOME

*Tuesday 1st September 2015*

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## Overview

1. The Chief Guest, General Thanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, all Heads of Delegations and Participants were formally welcomed by the Conference host the Government of Fiji at the Grounds of the Vale Ni Bose Complex in Nasese on the afternoon of Tuesday 1st September 2015.
2. The Ceremonies included a Guard of Honor by the Republic of Fiji Military Forces and Traditional Ceremonies of Welcome by the Chiefs and People of the Tikina of Bau.
3. General Patimapragorn thanked the Fijian Government and Fijian people for the warm welcome. Speaking on behalf of all Summit Participants he extended his appreciation for the hospitality and courtesies afforded to all of them.
4. Following the Ceremonies Official Photographs were taken of the Heads of Delegations present.
5. A Welcome Reception followed in the evening at the Grand Pacific Hotel hosted by the Prime Minister of Fiji Josaia V. Bainimarama.







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# OPENING CEREMONIES

*Wednesday 2nd September 2015*

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**Chairs:** Patterson Oti, High Commissioner, Solomon Islands High Commission, Suva;  
Amena Yauvoli, Interim Secretary General, Pacific Islands Development Forum.

**Speakers:** Josaia V. Bainimarama, Prime Minister, Fiji  
Thanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Prime Minister, Thailand



## Overview

Invocation was provided by Archbishop and Primate of Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia, Winston Halapua, Anglican Church in Polynesia.

Welcome Address was delivered by the Prime Minister of Fiji Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama and the Keynote Address by the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand Thanasak Patimapragorn.

Following the Keynote Address a Vote of Thanks was moved by Keutekarakia Mataroa, Vice Chairperson, Cook Islands Civil Society Organisation.

Participants were then invited to the opening of an Exhibition by the Government of Thailand at the hotel on the theme of, "Sufficiency Economy: A Path to Sustainable Development." The Exhibition was opened by the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand.

## Welcome Address

By Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, Prime Minister, Fiji



Prime Minister Bainimarama welcomed the leaders and delegates to the 3rd annual PIDF Summit and provided an overview of activities by the Secretariat over the last year. He commended the Secretariat for the progress made toward institutionalizing the PIDF as an international organization through a Charter and financial instruments. He highlighted the urgency of addressing climate change at the Paris COP in 13 weeks-time.

The Prime Minister identified the responsibility of industrialized nations to act to make deep binding cuts to greenhouse gas emissions. Fiji is committed to leading a campaign by Pacific Islands to convince industrialized nations to make the significant level of cuts needed to ensure that temperatures do not rise above

1.5°C. He went on to challenge industrialized nations to act for the welfare of Pacific Islanders and to put their survival ahead of national economic growth. The PM singled out Australia's potential to make a positive impact in the Pacific if it was willing to curb its coal export industry.

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*The PIDF is not only here to stay,  
it has never been stronger or  
more relevant.*

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The Prime Minister commended the PIDF leaders for developing the Suva Declaration to create a common position on climate change, repeating

Fiji's standing offer to give a permanent home to the people of Kiribati and Tuvalu if needed. He announced the creation of a separate section in the Attorney General's Department to manage the legal issues surrounding the sovereignty of states threatened by climate change.

## Keynote Address

By Thanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Prime Minister, Thailand



The Deputy Prime Minister highlighted that Thailand and SIDS can work together to mitigate issues while at the same time sustain economic growth and development.

He noted that Thailand is ready to share their experiences in sustainable agriculture, disaster management and fisheries through the annual Training Productivity in Fiji (TPIF) international training courses. TPIF has been extended for 3 years (2015-17) focusing on areas of tourism, food security and community development.

Thailand's International Cooperation Agency formulated a plan of action for the countries in the Pacific region including designing development projects, short term training projects, site visits. Thailand is ready to

continue to work with PICTs and PIDF in three areas: agriculture, sustainable development and human resources. Thailand is committed as a friend of the Pacific Islands.

The Thai Deputy Prime Minister went on to state that on the issue of the Sustainable Development Goals, Thailand fully supports Small Island Developing States in highlighting the importance of goal number 14, which aims "to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development".

He concluded by reaffirming Thailand's firm commitment, as a friend of the Pacific Islands, to assist and advance our mutual interests on a sustainable future.

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*Today, I wish to reaffirm Thailand's firm commitment, as a friend of the Pacific Islands, to assist and advance our mutual interests on a sustainable future.*

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# PLENARY SESSIONS

*Wednesday 2nd September 2015*

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## Plenary Session No 1: Challenges to Building Climate Resilient Green Blue Pacific Economies

**Objective:** To identify the challenges to developing climate resilient green blue Pacific economies.

**Chairs:** Ben Micah, Minister for Public Enterprise, Papua New Guinea;  
Cristelle Pratt, Deputy Secretary General, Pacific Islands Forum.

**Speakers:** Enele Sosene Sopoaga, Prime Minister, Tuvalu;  
Colin Tukuitonga, Director General, Secretariat of the Pacific Community.



### *Summary of Discussions*

1. Climate change accelerated disasters are a mass weaponry attacking the security and survival of mankind.
2. The biggest challenge we face is the fear of insecurity, the lack of confidence, the uncertainty of life, of survival in their own home in our island nations in the face of natural disasters arising from climate change.
3. Tropical Cyclone Pam showed that the costs of climate damage is very high and will continue to rise, and ODA alone will not be sufficient to help us cope. Tuvalu has set up a Survival Trust Fund to respond to

immediate needs after natural disasters and a Resilience Building Plan which focus on immediate relief for the affected communities, short-term rehabilitation, and long-term responses.

4. In the Pacific, there are several important challenges in transitioning from traditional (brown) economies, heavily reliant on fossil fuels, to climate resilient blue green economies. This include high level of fossil fuel dependency; limited access to capital for investment in infrastructure cleaner technology options; a human resources and skills mix mismatch with the requirements of blue green economies; regulatory and policy frameworks that are under-developed, and the lack of infrastructure needed to support blue green economies.
5. We must urgently find alternatives to fossil fuels and significantly increase energy efficiency at all levels. PICs have made good progress on renewable energy, but more needs to be done especially in transport. Pacific's new center of excellence on renewable energy and energy efficiency aims to assist in transforming the region's \$6 billion fossil fuel industry.

6. We require friends and partners to enable us to effectively build climate resilient green blue economies. PIDF to identify partners and friends who can assist and build inclusive regional policies and agreements.
7. To manage the blue economy, establishment of sound maritime policies are important and can be achieved through regional maritime diplomacy. Pacific science graduates, and research are needed to create and maintain blue-green economy.
8. We don't have equivalent of REDD+ for the oceans, we must be clear that we are ocean states, therefore develop the equivalent of REDD+ for marine resources.
9. Our voice at COP21 and SDG Summit must be loud and clear. There is little point talking about sustainable development targets, when lives of people and their survival, are seriously compromised by impacts of climate change. Outcomes in Paris will determine the fate of many Pacific Island countries and territories over the course of this century – affecting the development aspirations of all 23 Pacific Island states, with no exceptions.

#### **Outcomes:**

1. *COP21 Agreement must be legally binding, and must also pave a clear, time-bound, and verifiable roadmap to comprehensively shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy base economies, including strong outcomes of loss and damage, compensation, capacity building, and technology development and transfer. It must include clear frameworks on financing for mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, coordination and implementation.*
2. *Strong support for 1.5°C as a planetary guardrail. Emphasis on the need to shift to renewable energy; stop usage of fossil fuels, deforestation and minimize methane emissions.*
3. *Green Climate Fund is a useful mechanism, but participants expressed disappointment about the move towards loans rather than grants. Finance should be based on the level of vulnerability. Payments proposed for ocean services and a tax on ocean acidification.*
4. *Pacific must work in a coordinated and strategic manner.*
5. *The Leaders and participants expressed caution in focusing too much on resettlement and migration, as we want action and not displacement.*

## Plenary Session No 2: Leadership for Climate Resilient Green Blue Pacific Economies

**Objective:** To consider the leadership to build climate resilient green blue Pacific economies.

**Chairs:** Peter Forau, Director General, Melanesian Spearhead Group;  
Laisa Vereti, Research and Development Officer, Pacific Disability Forum.

**Speakers:** Kamalesh Sharma, Secretary-General, Commonwealth Secretariat;  
Tony de Brum, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Marshall Islands.



### *Summary of Discussions:*

1. The Pacific is a warzone as a result of Climate Change impacts. Scattered across the vast Pacific Ocean, we are all one family sharing one canoe and one voice.
2. Positive change requires collective thought leadership. This is especially the case with oceans, where exploitation of resources has too often been seen as everyone's right yet nobody's responsibility.
3. RMI has sought to be leaders in the sustainable management of fisheries by signing the PNA. RMI is exercising climate leadership by becoming the first Pacific island to present its INDC.

4. The Pacific needs to be leaders in standing up for what is the defining moment of our time when we must tell the world enough is enough and it cannot continue in its unsustainable pathway.
5. Leadership begins at home and through forums such as the PIDF we strengthen our families and steer the world to calmer waters. Innovative and robust leadership at national, regional and global levels are key to ensuring that the Pacific prospers.
6. Many of the challenges Pacific countries face can be partly addressed by adopting a Blue Economy approach, based on key principles of the Green Economy. We need to share our best practices for climate finance to build a better Blue Pacific Economy.
7. Key challenges to achieving a Blue Economy in the Pacific include lack of capacity, the short-term focus on economic gain when a long term strategy needs to be devised, sustainable sources of finance, poor agreements negotiated by Pacific Island

Countries for access to tuna and other key fishery resources, a lack of 'ownership' among communities of the true value of marine ecosystem services, including an understanding of how they already support livelihoods and a lack of opportunity to increase the value addition from many of the marine resources extracted in the Pacific at a local level.

8. Pacific leaders should partner with youth as they will be living with decisions made today and will pick up the torch and carry it forward as our future leaders.
9. Pacific unity and numbers are required to make our voice heard in Paris. To avoid this catastrophe we need to secure a Paris Agreement that is designed for high ambition including: 5 year commitments that will bring countries back to the table so that the ambition gap can be closed; a long term de-carbonization goal committing the world to reach zero emissions; common but differentiated responsibilities and a legally binding agreement.

**Outcomes:**

1. *A unified Pacific voice on climate change must be a center-piece of meetings with world leaders.*
2. *We must not be deterred by our size, but make this a year we secure a safe future for our children and grandchildren in ensuring our Pacific family live on.*



## Plenary Session No 3: Partnerships for Climate Resilient Green Blue Pacific Economies

**Objective:** To consider the partnership needed to build climate resilient Green Blue Pacific economies.

**Chairs:** Colin Tukuitonga, Director General, Secretariat of the Pacific Community;  
Kesaia Tabunakawai, Pacific Representative of the World Wide Fund for Nature.

**Speakers:** Du Qiwen, Special Envoy for China;  
Susi Pudjiastuti, Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia.



### *Summary of Discussion:*

1. Developed countries should be urged to honor their commitments. China is ready to work more closely with the Alliance of Small Island States for the success of the Paris Conference. China attaches great importance to South-South cooperation on climate change and has allocated around 400 million RMB in material assistance and human resources training for small island states and other developing countries.
2. Furthermore, at the meeting with Pacific leaders in Fiji last November, President Xi Jinping announced that, China will establish a Fund for South-South Cooperation on Climate Change, and donate 6 million USD to the UN secretary General for strengthening the UN's work in this regard.
3. Building on past successes, China is ready to work more closely and expand cooperation with Pacific island states on

climate change. It will try to raise assistance levels in the energy conservation and environmental protection fields with projects such as mini hydro-power stations, eco-farms and biogas utilization and will increase personnel training for disaster prevention and alleviation in the Pacific.

4. Last year in Fiji, a new package of assistance was announced by China which includes one billion USD preferential loans, one billion USD special loan for infrastructure development, 2.5 billion RMB of grant assistance in the coming four years as well as 2,000 scholarships and 5,000 training opportunities in the coming five years. China is working hard with partners in the region for its implementation.
5. China is building a 21st century maritime silk road to promote balanced growth in the global economy, and to assist sustainable development efforts of partners along its route. This initiative will bring about new opportunities and resources for China-Pacific cooperation and China is ready to work with its partners on this.
6. Specifically, China wishes to strengthen cooperation in the fishery by developing processing facilities and training personnel,

boost cooperation in marine protection and conservation and support the efforts of island countries to curb excessive fishing. China is ready to explore possibilities for future cooperation in marine biodiversity studies, oceanographic observation, earthquake and tsunami early warning and more.

7. One world, one sea and one planet. What happens in Asia will have an impact on Europe's climate and what we do in the Pacific will surely have an impact on the rest of the world. The Pacific Islands need to take responsibility for preserving the marine resources in their respective territories.
8. Indonesia commits to work hand in hand with all Pacific countries to explore possibilities and opportunities to jointly combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. In this context, Indonesia is very pleased to share data and information on suspected IUU Fishing vessels; to conduct joint patrols; to harmonize the legal framework for IUU Fishing eradication; to enhance institutional capacity; and other kind of activities that make our waters free from IUU Fishing and related fisheries' crimes.

**Outcomes:**

1. *Partnership is key to strengthening and adding value to efforts to combat climate change and developing Green Blue economies. Government has a critical role in marine protection, especially fisheries management.*
2. *The Suva Declaration on Climate Change is the most important outcome to take to Paris. The Suva Declaration on Climate Change must emphasize that sustainable development focuses on land use and marine resources.*
3. *Enhanced South - South Cooperation is essential to addressing the challenges posed by Climate Change. Greater Triangular Cooperation will ensure that Pacific Islands gain resources while also controlling the agenda.*

## Plenary Session No 4: Innovations for Climate Change

**Objectives:** To consider the innovations needed to build climate resilient Green Blue Pacific economies.

**Chairs:** Rajesh Chandra, Vice-Chancellor and President, University of the South Pacific, Suva;  
Mason Smith, Regional Programme Coordinator Oceania Region, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Suva.

**Speakers:** Erlan Idrissov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kazakhstan;  
Sudhanshu Sarronwala, Chair of Earth Hour Global, World Wide Fund for Nature, Switzerland.



### *Summary of Discussions:*

1. With climate change being the biggest environmental challenge humankind has ever faced - its impacts are not textbook and the solutions we come up with for climate resilience cannot be textbook either- we need innovations for climate resilience. Innovation often gets aligned with a technology breakthrough but in actuality, innovation is quite simply a bold new way of thinking or approaching a challenge.
2. Three types of innovation are needed for COP21: Innovation in ambition; Innovation in approach; Innovation in collaboration. We need to show bold ambition and set high mitigation targets, broaden our approach and involve people and embrace collaboration by mobilizing countries, companies and individuals to generate a

force strong enough to weaken and withstand the impacts of climate change and create true resilience. Innovative green-blue technology should be shared among all countries to build resilience.

3. Climate change threatens the future of all countries so we call for collective action by all countries. Without determined and coordinated action at a national, regional and, above all, global level to tackle climate change and build sustainable economies, all our futures are under threat.
4. This requires a new, ambitious and universal agreement under the UNFCCC. It must be effective, durable and comprehensive to ensure carbon emissions are reduced. There must be global acceptance of our obligations to Small Island Developing States. Your future is “our collective responsibility.”
5. Kazakhstan has launched the Green Bridge Partnership Programme (a project on the development of biogas) supported already

by 14 European and Asian countries, to remove the barriers hindering sustainable growth. Pacific Island states are welcome to join the initiative.

6. Kazakhstan through the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific will be providing funding for a number of small island nations in the Pacific basin. Kazakhstan is also launching through ESCAP a project to promote the institutional development and implementation of green technologies for state agencies.
7. Kazakhstan is also inviting the Pacific to participate at the EXPO 2017 in Astana – which has the theme of “Future Energy” EXPO 2017 will showcase and share the latest developments and knowledge in energy saving and alternative solutions. In order to help developing states to take part in EXPO, Kazakhstan is putting in place a special programme to provide financial and technical assistance.

#### **Outcomes:**

1. *Actions to address climate change should also be connected to the eradication of poverty. We should involve Pacific people in climate change projects rather than rely on overseas consultants.*
2. *Communication and knowledge sharing is essential for successful climate change dialogue. Culture and traditional knowledge in stewardship for adaptation and mitigation is vital.*
3. *In order to achieve a meaningful agreement in Paris in December, renewed focus must be given to five areas: cutting emissions; mobilizing money and markets; pricing carbon; strengthening resilience; and mobilizing new coalitions.*
4. *To build climate resilience, civil society, women, youth and persons with disabilities, must be included as equal partners in all efforts towards building climate change resilience.*
5. *PICTSs need to make bold decisions and commitments such as those set by RMI. Developed countries should be encouraged to make bold decisions and bold commitments to support PICTS.*
6. *To achieve a meaningful agreement in Paris, renewed focus must be given to five areas: cutting emissions; mobilizing money and markets; pricing carbon; strengthening resilience; and mobilizing new coalitions.*
7. *The new agreement should balance support for mitigation and adaptation, as well as address loss and damage. Mobilizing sufficient public and private funds for low carbon, climate resilient growth is essential for success.*



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# COP21 STRATEGY SESSIONS

*Thursday 3rd September 2015*

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## Plenary Session: Path to Paris: Status of Negotiations and Pacific Engagement

**Objectives:** The key objective of this session was to provide Leaders with an overview of key issues in the climate change negotiations leading up to Paris and to discuss possible strategies to ensure the new agreement addresses core concerns of the region.

**Chair:** Amena Yauvoli, Interim Secretary General Pacific Islands Development Forum.

**Speakers:** Mary Robinson, United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Change, New York;  
Mahendra Kumar, Climate Change Advisor, Pacific Islands Development Forum.



### *Summary of Discussion*

1. In the build up to Paris, PICTs can demonstrate leadership to show the world that we are on the frontlines shaping solutions, and not just victims. PICTs must be clear on what they need from Paris and what they are capable of achieving to reassure their people of their survival and future. Make use of multilateral platforms to lobby and raise the Pacific voice (e.g. Ministerial Meeting in Paris, IMF-World Bank Annual Meeting, Commonwealth Meeting, etc).
2. Importance of climate finance in turning leadership into action. PICTs can turn

climate finance discussions into positive conversation about supporting leadership, and creating new choices for people. Firstly, by articulating how the US\$100 billion can deliver real benefits for people and for the world; secondly, by highlighting the practical elements needed to craft a finance package that is relevant to the concerns of SIDS.

3. Developed countries need to create decarbonised economies as soon as possible. INDCs provide an opportunity for PICTs to develop ambitious climate action plans. In spite of the low emissions, the targets especially in the energy sector will have major economic benefits.
4. Unresolved issues in climate negotiations include: Will the Paris Agreement be a Protocol, a set of COP decisions or a

combination of both? Will NDCs/INDCs be in the Paris Agreement? Will the INDCs presented by Parties lead us on a temperature stabilisation pathway of 1.5°C or 2°C or above? Will new finance be forthcoming? Will there be a review mechanism for assessing financial contributions? Will adaptation be properly treated in the Agreement or left to COP decisions? Will Loss and Damage be included in the Agreement?

5. Important guidance to Pacific Island Countries preparing INDCs: Important that INDCs are based on robust information and data; Should be inclusive –all arms of government, all sectors, involve private sector and civil society; Need buy-in and country ownership.

#### **Outcomes:**

1. *COP21 Paris Agreement needs to include the following: To be legally binding; Long-term mitigation and common but differentiated responsibility; Treat loss and damage as an element of agreement separate from other mechanisms to assist the most vulnerable countries; Need for Parties to increase pre 2020 ambitions; Strong outcomes for finance, pre and post 2020; Equal support for adaptation; Strengthened technology mechanism, include R&D, recognising SIDS special circumstances.*
2. *Importance of getting faith based groups involved and for them to also advocate and lobby. Technology is available, decarbonisation can be achieved, but we need a united Pacific voice. More than just the science, the people want to be assured that their futures are secure.*
3. *Key issues: If we do have a Paris Protocol will key countries ratify it? Will the Paris Agreement be ambitious enough to save Kiribati, the Marshalls, Tokelau & Tuvalu?*





## Parallel Sessions

The aim of the parallel sessions is to allow for the three stakeholder groups to discuss their respective interests and strategies in preparation for COP21 in Paris, France.

### Government Leaders: Strategies for Paris

**Objectives:** Leaders and Government officials will have the opportunity to consider key issues that they want to be included as part of the Paris agreement, and potential strategies to realize these.

**Moderators:** Enele Sosene Sopoaga, Prime Minister, Tuvalu;  
Amena Yauvoli, Interim Secretary General. Pacific Islands Development Forum.



### *Summary of Discussions:*

1. Need protocol under the Convention with clear messages on vulnerability, mitigation and adaptation.
2. Important to continue to fight for a strong legally binding agreement. Strong provisions particularly on funding for adaptation. Commitments should be for a five-year period after which ambitions should be reviewed. Commitments must be balanced for both developed and developing countries. Ambitions should be high and realistic.
3. Mechanisms on emissions targets, for example the INDCs, are voluntary and need to be more effective.
4. Loss and damage compensation needs to be included in the Climate Change agreement. Particularly the long-term damage to our

lands and oceans. Financing should be an integral part of the agreement.

- 5. Emissions from maritime industry should be included in the agreement. Even if it

currently looks unrealistic, we should be looking at it in the longer term as it also contributes to total emissions.

**Outcomes**

- 1. Seeking a legally binding protocol.
- 2. Loss and damage to be included in the Climate Agreement.
- 3. A coordinated united voice by Pacific Islands is paramount.



## Private Sector Leaders: The Road to Paris

*Creating a Policy Environment for Business Leadership on Climate*

**Objectives:** This session allowed private sector to discuss its role in dealing with climate change issues through investment, technology and pursuing low-carbon development pathways. The outcomes demonstrated suggestions on how new agreement can foster private-public partnership and catalyse support for actions.

**Moderators:** Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, Attorney-General and Minister for Finance, Public Enterprises, Public Service & Communications, Fiji;

Mahendra Kumar, Climate Change Advisor, Pacific Islands Development Forum.



### **Summary of Discussions:**

1. Public and private sector are highly inter-related. Government plays a pivotal role in supporting the Private Sector to engage in environmentally friendly strategies and developing low carbon economies. Legislative and policy framework reforms are required to limit barriers and create incentives in order to be conducive to effective business engagement. Partnership ensures wide reach into rural and outlying areas.
2. Engagement with the Private Sector is imperative. There are already leaders in the Private Sector demonstrating the viability of Green-Blue business that must be further encouraged.
3. Compliance with international standards provides Pacific businesses with a competitive edge in a global society with climate conscious consumers.

### **Outcomes:**

1. *Create a supportive business environment through partnerships and reduced structural barriers, to incentivize Private Sector investment and engagement.*
2. *Need a strong long-term roadmap at the national and regional levels for engaging Private Sector, where businesses realize the benefits of participating, for the overall benefit of both public and private sectors.*

## Civil Society Leaders: Towards an Agreement in Paris.

*Where Do We Stand and Way Forward For Civil Society*

**Objectives:** This session covered the role of civil society in empowering groups such as disabled, youth and women as well as addressing issues such as security, human rights and migration. It also covered the continued role of civil society in advocacy, awareness and the conscience of the community in the climate change discussions.

**Moderators:** Rosy Sofia Akbar, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Fiji; Krishneil Narayan, Project Survival Pacific.



### *Summary of Discussions:*

1. Pacific civil society groups insist that PICTs need a binding agreement in Paris which: Limits global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The latest science suggests that the 2°C degrees 'guardrail' concept is no longer safe for the SURVIVAL of Pacific SIDS; Includes new and additional financing for adaptation and fast track mobilization of the Green Climate Fund. Also to review GCF process for SIDS. Loans to PSIDS are not an option; includes a stand-alone mechanism stream separate from Adaptation in order to compensate for loss and damage already caused by climate change; includes the 5 year cycle review of INDCs to ensure that ambitions are sufficient to meet targets.
2. Pacific civil society groups are also calling for island leaders to support calls for a global moratorium on new coal mines as raised by President Anote Tong and Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama on Day 1 of PIDF3. Seabed Mining/Mineral/Oil/Gas exploration must be stopped in Pacific.
3. All Pacific stakeholders must be included in efforts towards climate change mitigation and adaptation, including civil society,

youth and persons with disabilities. Furthermore gender equality and the effective participation of women and

indigenous peoples is important for effective action on all aspects of climate change.

*Outcomes*

- 1. Survival Message: Our Survival is not negotiable.*
- 2. Intergenerational Equity - perspective of youth, women & indigenous communities as Human Rights. For COP21 and all climate meetings, Pacific Governments are urged to include youth delegates in official Government delegations (Tuvalu & Fiji are doing so).*





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# TALANOA: CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION

*Thursday 3rd September 2015*

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A Talanoa was convened around the upcoming COP21 negotiations in Paris and the plight of Pacific nations affected by climate change, especially the atoll nations of Tuvalu and Kiribati are in the frontline of climate change and in danger of disappearing entirely. Topical issues include: the UN's view on environmental refugee status; sovereignty issues; Kiribati and Tuvalu resettlement in Fiji; possible 'friendship agreements' or Compact of Free Association between Fiji, Tuvalu and Kiribati.

**Moderator:** Iosefa Maiava, Head, Pacific Operations Centre, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia-Pacific (UNESCAP).

**Panellists:** Anote Tong, President, Kiribati;  
Enele Sosene Sopoaga, Prime Minister, Tuvalu;  
Samuela'Akilisi Pohiva, Prime Minister, Tonga;  
Tony de Brum, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marshall Islands;  
Mary Robinson, United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Change, New York.



***Anote Tong, President, Kiribati:***

1. Regardless of what is reached in Paris, Kiribati has to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Adaptation for Kiribati is beyond their borders. Relocation is not the only adaptation option.
2. Plans for migration should be underway already to prepare people to settle into their new community. This is to ensure migration with dignity.
3. Kiribati hopes that whatever happens in Paris, commitments for existence as a sovereign state are very essential for the country. Paris should be clear that there must be a guarantee for our survival.

***Enele Sosene Sopoanga, Prime Minister Tuvalu:***

1. What future do our children have? It's not about saving economies, it's not about proving science, it is about facing the uncertainty, the fear and the worry about our future in the midst of the ongoing disasters.
2. The messages MUST be clear to the leaders in Paris. Inclusion of loss and damage and adaptation funds MUST be considered for COP 21.
3. Capacity building, information and data gathering are important to determine future migration plans. Sea walls need to be constructed, food security addressed, and capacity developed, our country is lacking these.

***Akilisi Pohiva, Prime Minister, Tonga:***

1. Need for redirecting the course of action and start talking on migration. Relocation is not an issue, the time and resources and where to move to are the major issues.
2. Cultures and traditions are deeply rooted in the people and have become a source of identity and integrity. We are a family so there is a need to involve everyone. We have got to be realistic with a long term goal to save our people. We need to develop the mechanisms needed to set a time frame to move, where to move and how to move.

***Tony De Brum, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marshall Islands:***

1. It is important for us to put a human face to this issue; the difficult part is within ourselves and our countries to figure out what to do next.
2. Mitigation is very important but adaptation is the more urgent issue as people's lives are already adversely affected.
3. Traditional Knowledge is not adequate anymore. Our special relationship to the United States has provided opportunities but it does not take away the responsibility of leaders to protect their land, culture and people.

***Mary Robinson, United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Change, New York:***

1. Climate change is undermining human rights. There is a double injustice in that the impacts of climate change are felt more by those who are already suffering from other social development issues, particularly developing countries.

2. There is no official regime for migration, even though much good work is being done, this issue needs to be prioritized more.
3. Ours is a call for human solidarity, humans can solve this issue that humans created.

**Outcomes:**

1. *Relocation is not the only adaptation option. Migration with dignity is required. Plans for migration should already be underway to prepare people to settle well into their new community. Kiribati hopes that whatever happens, commitments for existence as a sovereign state are very essential for the country.*
2. *Capacity building, information and data gathering are important to determine important future migration plans. Inclusion of loss and damage and adaptation funds should be heavily considered for COP 21.*
3. *Tonga offers to stand in solidarity with its brother nations on the issue of migration and climate change.*



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# PARALLEL SESSIONS

*Thursday 3rd September 2015*

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The aim of these parallel sessions is to provide key messages from the various sectors arising from the track discussions that will be captured in the Suva Climate Declaration as well as provide important information for our Leaders and negotiators in COP21 in Paris, France.

## **Track 1: Health, Water & Sanitation**

The Pacific faces a set of unique hurdles in protecting the health of its people, including enormous challenges in securing safe drinking water and sanitation. The scale of these challenges is illustrated by the region's poor performance against key health indicators, and made increasingly difficult by population growth and the impacts of climate change. This session explored the nature of these challenges, and the collaborative water, sanitation and health solutions essential to the climate resilience of Pacific communities.

### *Summary of Discussions:*

1. The region's very low level of access to safe drinking water and sanitation poses a particularly serious public health risk, with profound implications for economic growth, the environment and human rights.
2. The Pacific already faces a set of unique and difficult barriers to securing universal access to safe water and sanitation, and these are greatly exacerbated by population growth, urbanization, and the region's acute vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.
3. Changing rainfall patterns, with increased droughts and floods both occurring in a changing climate are likely to impact public and environmental health through access to water, disease and food security.

### *Outcomes:*

1. *The health of Pacific communities is extremely vulnerable to the immediate and most severe health impacts of climate variability and climate change, including those that affect access to safe drinking water and sanitation.*
2. *Addressing health, water and sanitation vulnerabilities requires massive investment to support sustainable development and adaptation efforts across the region, delivered through the collaborative efforts of governments, civil society and the private sector, and enabled by the sustained and harmonized support of development partners.*
3. *Gaining access to freshwater is a high priority for communities throughout the Pacific Islands.*

## Track 2: Marine Environment, Oceans & Fisheries

Pacific marine systems, especially coral reefs, are on a trajectory of decline. Climate change, ocean acidification and other anthropogenic risks are amongst the key drivers for coral reefs degradation. For example, a temperature rise of 2.0°C will have significantly more adverse impacts on marine systems, especially coral reefs, than a temperature rise of 1.5°C. This is especially significant for PICTs because of their reliance on marine resources, in particular fish as a source of both protein and revenue. Enhanced support for governance arrangements, such as the Pacific Oceanscape framework, is needed to respond to the climate change threats and build regional resilience. This session highlighted the impacts of climate change.

### Summary of Discussions:

1. Peoples' livelihoods are at stake, and environmental health is critical to their well-being and survival.
2. The environment and natural resources impact human security through food security and cultural heritage.
3. Protection of biodiversity and ecosystem health in the marine environment, including coastal areas is essential for sustainable development.
4. Coral reef health depends on taking a holistic ridge to reef/integrated watershed coastal zone management approach.
5. Climate change impacts the environment and thus determines the socio-economic impacts on people's lives i.e. declining fish stock and adverse impacts on tourism and other economic generating activities.
6. The health of the environment and people are intertwined.

### Outcomes:

1. *The Pacific Islands are calling for temperature increase to remain below 1.5°C while we still have the option to adapt.*
2. *The issues are about survival and livelihoods, not about a 0.5° C.*
3. *Payment for ocean and ecosystem services must be considered.*



### Track 3: Energy and Transport

Electricity and transport sectors are the main consumers of imported fossil fuel in the region. The continued reliance has a negative impact on countries' import bills, accounting for a significant share of the GDP. Moreover, the combustion of these fossil fuels is the major source of GHG emissions. Whilst the Pacific's contributions to the total global emissions are insignificant, the steps towards a low carbon pathway is good for the economy as well as the climate, and demonstrates leadership with integrity and leadership by example.

#### *Summary of Discussions:*

1. Fossil fuels generate the majority of electricity, however a large proportion of the populations do not have access to electricity. Using affordable and sustainable sources of electricity may reduce costs and increase access.
2. Introducing cleaner, efficient fuels impacts health, education, income generation, time saved and contribute to women's equality.
3. Renewable energy systems are already being implemented into national energy grids. The success can be further innovated to reach wider communities and displace inefficient and high carbon energy sources.
4. Energy efficiency and the unique transport challenges experienced in the Pacific must be emphasized to reduce over-all energy requirements.

#### *Outcomes:*

1. *Develop policy to support renewable energy. Focus on reducing transport fossil fuel use.*
2. *Develop an integrated approach to transitioning Pacific countries to low carbon transport futures, in particular sea transport given its central role in providing connectivity for PSIDS, including a regional strategy to advocate for and monitor implementation of sector targets through relevant UN agencies, commensurate with the call for 1.5°C threshold.*
3. *In order to transition to low carbon systems, suitable and accessible finance must be negotiated.*



## Track 4: Agriculture and Forestry

The forestry sector is challenged by the need to balance forest conservation and forest utilisation in small island nations. Issues addressed include forest degradation and deforestation, and the role of agro-forestry and ecotourism in alleviating poverty, food security R&D and crop insurance. Opportunities in agri-business include the lack of agro-processing and manufacturing of high-value products, inefficient linkage to major markets, and limited capacity to deal with bio-security and technical barriers to trade.

### *Summary of Discussions:*

1. Agriculture and forestry should be key priorities for PICTs.
2. Sustainable land development should be included in sustainable agriculture and sustainable forestry dialogue.
3. Farming land is made into residential areas, resulting in farmers having to move to highlands.
4. Ensure predictable and long term funding through fund based mechanisms.
5. Strengthen carbon and ocean services accounting for reforestation and afforestation, and an ocean acidification tax.

### *Outcomes:*

1. *Emphasize capacity building and retention of knowledge and skills within the agriculture and forestry sector.*
2. *Adaptation must include food security.*
3. *Strengthen role of regional organizations: PIDF, SPC, MSG in coordinating negotiation positions and facilitation of knowledge and technology sharing.*
4. *Women, youth, the disabled need to be included in agriculture and food security discussions.*



## Track 5: Gender, Youth, Disabilities and Human Security

The inter-linkages of human security and development pillars with the issue of climate change – an all-encompassing issue that has disproportionate impacts on women, youth and persons with disabilities in all their diversities. The approach is grounded in Pacific community experiences focusing on a solution based approaches to the issues and the realities faced rather than community vulnerabilities.

### *Summary of Discussions:*

1. Women are disproportionately affected during disasters created by climate change. Existing high levels of inequality and discrimination against women and sexual minorities are exacerbated during disasters.
2. Women hold valuable knowledge and experiences, they must be actively engaged at all levels of decision-making, including within multiple organisations, including psycho/social, and infrastructural adaptation.
3. Youth are partners in sustainable development and can be leveraged to implement and spread strategies assisting with innovative adaptation supported by targeted funding.
4. Persons with disabilities are framed as requiring support rather than being rights holders contributing to development and often face physical, informational and attitudinal barriers.
5. Recognize the structural basis for both inequality and the existence of climate change, and structural change is required.
6. A change of attitude and mind-set is needed to ensure the active inclusion of women, youth and persons with disabilities, in the planning, implementation and monitoring of climate change adaptation. People-centered, non-discriminatory and rights-based framework and policy must build on the lived experience of those at risk, and be relevant, following a Human Rights based approach.

### *Outcomes:*

1. *Support to enable the greater involvement of community, civil society (including women, youth and persons with disabilities) and the private sector, in our climate change responses and initiatives.*
2. *Build resilience by building the inclusive capacity of individuals through access to education, resources and information.*
3. *Use gender-informed policies to curb the negative impacts women would otherwise face in the wake of climate change.*
4. *The role of targeted organizations for women, youth and the disabled must be recognized and supported.*

## Track 6: Technology, Finance and Capacity Building, Infrastructure and Built Environment

The focus is on climate change resilience for infrastructure and the built environment, and the inter-related issues of finance, insurance, technology and capacity building. Factors contributing to a lack of adequate attention to climate proofing in infrastructure such as out-dated building codes, lack of enforcement of design and engineering standards, lack of awareness on the part of practitioners etc. in the region were highlighted.

Capacity building, finance and technology are essential to ensure the means for implementation of relevant action and policies. Financing needs to recognise the particular requirements and challenges faced by Pacific SIDS such as access and insurance. Technology transfer through strengthened public-private partnerships was stressed.

### Summary of Discussions:

1. Developed countries must honor 2010 Copenhagen agreement to mobilize US \$100 billion in adaptation funding. New and additional adaptation funds for LDCs and SIDS should be 100% grants to avoid resource diversion. Still a financing gap of over \$70 billion per year (about equal to global aid flows); meeting \$10 billion GCF pledges is a good start...but only a start. SIDS are at the forefront of adaptation, but insignificant contributors to climate change; loans, even if concessional, will require SIDS to increase debt or divert resources from other priorities; Pacific Leaders expect support from GCF Board members making funding decisions in November.
2. Human resources capacity building is recognised as one of the most significant aspects in sustainable development of the region.
3. There is a need to build capacity both in science and social sciences to effectively deal with climate change in the region. This will require funding from our development partners. A holistic approach is needed to address capacity building for the Pacific Islands.

### Outcomes:

1. *Call for developed countries to honor 2010 Copenhagen agreement to mobilize US\$100 billion in adaptation funding. New and additional adaptation funds for LDCs and SIDS should be 100% grants.*
2. *Recognise that built infrastructure assets in the Pacific islands are valued at US\$40 billion. US\$650 million per year needed just to maintain current assets (3% GDP). Millions of people still without access to mobile phones, electricity grid, transport network. Private sector (over US\$1 billion already invested in telecoms, scope for US\$2 billion in renewable energy). But public investment is critical.*
3. *Stronger regulations regarding climate proofing of infrastructure as well as revision or formulation of building and zoning codes.*
4. *Call for the development of Pacific based research and technology capacity as an essential foundation for innovation in our response to climate change.*

5. Capacity building at all levels, and across sectors, including formal and non-formal education including capacity building for knowledge management, with a particular emphasis on national languages and communication of climate change is needed with commensurate commitments of funding.



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# PLENARY SESSIONS

*Friday 4th September 2015*

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## **Governance and Institutional Issues**

1. The Interim Secretary General presented the outcomes of the Governing Council to the Plenary. This presentation included the following:
  - a. The decisions of the Governing Council
  - b. The proposed new structure of the PIDF
  - c. The programme outline for PIDF for 2015-2016
2. The Interim Secretary General made the presentation of the process leading into the selection of the candidate for the position of new Secretary General.
3. The Conference welcomed the outcomes of the Governing Council as presented.

## **Taking Action on Climate Change: Suva Declaration on Climate Change**

1. The draft Suva Declaration was circulated for comment and changes. The draft was discussed during plenary and further input/suggestions were received from the floor. These were incorporated and the Suva Declaration will now be the common position of the PIDF Pacific Island Leaders to the 21st Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC in Paris, France.
2. The Suva Declaration was adopted by consensus and applause.

## **National Statements**

### **Federated States of Micronesia:**

1. The FSM expressed its appreciation to the host country Fiji for a successful Summit.
2. FSM fully support all the issues that have been discussed in this summit.
3. The FSM endorse the charter and will follow internal national processes.
4. UNFCCC COP21, we need to do our part and work collaboratively, speak with one voice. Strength comes with numbers.

### **French Polynesia:**

1. French Polynesia expressed sincere gratitude and appreciations to the Fiji Government for successfully hosting the 3rd PIDF Summit.
2. French Polynesia fully supported the Suva Declaration on Climate Change.
3. It appreciated the quality and diversity of debate.
4. Unfortunately French Polynesia will not be able to sign the charter today due to national processes requirements.

### **Kiribati**

1. Kiribati expressed deep appreciation for the stewardship of PIDF with this 3rd summit.

2. Kiribati emphasized the need to speak as one, need to speak one message, no longer need to remain silent, or the others to dictate ourselves. Silence is not required in the Pacific any longer.
3. Kiribati endorses the Suva Declaration in this summit with full support by his Government and its people. Key question: Where do we go from here? In response to that, yes we will have a chance.
4. Kiribati submits that as nations we shouldn't allow the GCF to be as loan but as grant in providing assistance to our small island countries.
5. It acknowledges the balance of our land ecosystems and emphasizes that change has to be an example set by us for our people as a whole.
6. It notes with appreciation the offer of some of the Leaders in the Summit to accommodate Kiribati people in the event of climate-induced migration.
7. Kiribati conveys its congratulations to the host Prime Minister of Fiji for a successful Summit and also to the new Secretary General of PIDF.

### **Republic of the Marshall Islands**

1. RMI is looking forward in signing the PIDF charter.
2. It reminds that we cannot become another layered bureaucracy. We can still prevent this and be faithful to traditional cultures, and welcoming of new solutions to old problems.
3. We have the power to control our resources and sustainable investments, move and change things, control our air space, maintain our resources and together we can protect and promote our interests.
4. RMI appreciates Fiji's PM for his vision in setting up PIDF and thanks the Fiji Government for a successful Summit.

### **Nauru**

1. Nauru expresses its gratitude and appreciation for the great work done by PIDF and to the host country Fiji. PIDF is a Voice to be heard, we have to work hard and as one team.
2. Nauru will sign the charter. Fiji's offer of land for people from Tuvalu and Kiribati is very courageous and admirable.
3. Nauru will donate AUD\$50,000.00 for PIDF work.

### **New Caledonia:**

1. New Caledonia announces full support to the Suva Declaration and it will translate the charter into the French language.
2. It will co-host the Pacific side event in Paris with other Pacific Island countries who are welcomed to participate in the side event.
3. New Caledonia expresses appreciations to all the countries present in the summit especially the host country Fiji for a successful summit.

### **Solomon Islands**

1. Solomon Islands thanks the people of Fiji for the warm welcome, and PIDF for the great work done by the Secretariat.
2. Solomon Islands will sign the PIDF charter that will strengthen Pacific voices in addressing the issues of Climate Change.

3. PIDF complements other regional organizations and will strengthen regional cohesion.
4. Climate Change implies sovereignty and existence.
5. Key message: we don't want COP21 to fail us, go forward and carry the message forward, like a legally binding agreement.
6. Suva Declaration on Climate Change represents the collaboration of PICs to stand firm in the fight on Climate Change issues.
7. Suva Declaration will be tabled in the meeting in Solomon Islands next month.

### **Tokelau**

1. Tokelau proud to be a founding member of PIDF despite our size, as we do not have a voice at larger multinational organizations.
2. Unique organisation in raising the voices of PICs. Strongly support the voice of our atoll islands by supporting Tuvalu, Kiribati, RMI and Maldives to voice out our concern on Climate Change issues.
3. Must take into account specific needs and vulnerabilities of SIDS.
4. Climate Change is a question of human rights. We do not want to be part of indigenous people who will be left out in a strange new place.
5. Fully endorse the establishment of PIDF and PIDF charter, and endorses the Suva Declaration following the national approval processes.
6. Tokelau congratulates the Fiji Government for a successful Summit and the PIDF for the great work that has been done in hosting this summit.

### **Tonga**

1. Tonga submits that Climate Change is the most serious threat to our survival in the Pacific and the world as a whole with increase of adverse effects of Climate Change as predicted by science.
2. Call for mitigating of our livelihood in building our capacity.
3. Tonga fully supports the Suva Declaration and PIDF charter.
4. Standing together as one will make us stronger to fight the issues of Climate Change.
5. Tonga expresses sincere thanks to the PM of Fiji, and the Government of Fiji for the great support and warm welcome to all participants during this summit and for a successful summit.

### **Timor Leste**

1. Timor Leste expresses sincere gratitude to Fiji PM and his government for a warm welcome and hospitality.
2. 13 years old and still young, Timor Leste need a lot to learn from its neighboring PICs.
3. Needs to establish land and maritime border.
4. Australia is the biggest donor to Timor Leste even though they have a dispute with Australia.
5. Timor Leste enjoyed its participation with this PIDF summit and will continue to support and participate in future.
6. Will sign the PIDF charter as soon as possible.
7. Acknowledge all the team at PIDF for their hard work and fully support the Suva Declaration.

## **Tuvalu**

1. Tuvalu thanks all leaders of countries, communities, Civil Society Organizations, Private Sector Organisations, Youths, women and all present here at the summit and the host country Fiji for a successful Summit.
2. Strongly advocate for the inclusion of youth, women, communities, Civil Society Organizations, Private Sector Organisations in dialogue of Climate Change.
3. PIDF leadership to continue its collaboration support as to be one voice and one team singing one song and one message from now until Paris.
4. We need to take our discussions to other levels of engagements with the wider world to strengthen our stand to be firm and united.
5. We are already converted, continue to work towards consistency of message. We must share our message with the Australia, NZ, NY and the world as a whole.
6. Urge Pacific Leaders in this context of PIDF to go forward to Port Moresby and deliver what has been delivered here at summit and we all go to Port Moresby and give our message.
7. Strongly support the Suva Declaration and urge the other leaders to do the same as well.
8. PIDF charter to take more time to sign as it's taken back to the government, CSO and parliament but definitely support the charter and will sign it later.

## **Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organisations:**

1. PIANGO appreciate the nature of the summit. Appreciate the gift, the passion they have, and the solidarity from the leaders and the opportunity to networking with the leaders.
2. We would like to ensure that where PIDF goes CSOs, PSOs, and Government should all go together, let us all go together as one team so we can sing in the same song that PICs are singing.
3. Political decisions that you make, it's your responsibility to take action as well, focus on equity. Leaders to make bold decision, our lives depend on your bold decision that you make.
4. PIANGO thanks Fiji for successful Summit.

## **Argentina**

1. Argentina submits that PIDF has been an excellent agency in preparing the summit this year which has been a fruitful summit.
2. It expresses its thanks to the Fiji Government for hosting the summit.

## **Chile**

1. Chile joins other speakers' in expressing its appreciation for the hospitality shown by the host Government.
2. It notes the extensive thoughtful discussion from all the stakeholders, and shares many aspirations.
3. Chile expresses its appreciation to the host country Fiji for successfully hosting the Summit.

## **Indonesia**

1. Indonesia expressed appreciation for the invitation to attend the Summit and to the Host Country Fiji for a successful Summit.
2. During negotiations at the COP 21, Indonesia will support the stance of the Pacific Islands because of their similar characteristic of consisting of small islands.

## Netherlands

1. Netherlands thanks the Fiji government in inviting the Netherlands government to this PIDF summit and for successfully organizing the summit.
2. Fully support collective decision made by EU on issues of Climate Change impacts. We are facing same problems as other SIDs in terms of climate change impacts.
3. Dutch Government will host fully funded a conference in November leading to Paris. Scholarships for invited states that will be fully funded by Dutch Government.

## Pakistan

1. Pakistan appreciates the objectives of the summit and thanks the Fiji Government for a successful Summit.
2. It shares the same sufferings with PICs due to climate change impacts even though Pakistan size is larger compared to the PICs.
3. It stands in solidarity, it's not only a threat on itself but a multiplier of existing inequalities which inhibit developments.

## Turkey

1. Turkey extends sincere congratulation and gratitude to the Fiji government for hosting the 3rd PIDF Summit.
2. Expect the outcomes in the Suva Declaration to be taken into action. The document reflects the views of the Pacific.
3. Turkey will cooperate bilaterally. "We are ready to be your voice"
4. Express sincere thanks in giving the opportunity for Turkey to participate in this summit.



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# SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE PIDF CHARTER

*Friday 4th September 2015*

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At noon on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September the PIDF Charter was signed in the presence of delegates to the Summit at the Grand Pacific Hotel. Special arrangements were made to accommodate delegations that wished to sign but could not be present at the Ceremony due to travel arrangements.

Following signature the PIDF flag was unfurled for the first time by the Interim Secretary General Mr Amena Yauvoli. As part of the proceedings Shirley Tagi sang a ballad composed for COP21.<sup>1</sup>

During the Ceremony the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO) Acting Chairman, Mr. Keutekarakia Mataroa, also handed over FJD\$10,000.00 to the PIDF Interim Secretary General Mr Amena Yauvoli as a contribution to the PIDF Regional Development Trust Fund. The donation is part of a voluntary pledge of \$30,000 which PIANGO made in July 2015 when it signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the PIDF.

The following island countries and organisation have signed the PIDF Charter:

- Fiji
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Kiribati
- Marshall Islands
- Nauru
- Solomon Islands
- Tonga
- Vanuatu
- The Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organisations (PIANGO)



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<sup>1</sup> The video can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAXRfCbdbHo>



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## CLOSING CEREMONIES

*Friday 4th September 2015*

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### Overview

As part of the Closing Ceremonies valedictory remarks were delivered by Mary Robinson, United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Change and Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, Prime Minister, Fiji.

A Vote of Thanks was then moved by Mr Krishneil Narayan, Project Survival Pacific followed by the Benediction by Archbishop and Primate of Aoteroa New Zealand and Polynesia, the Most Revd. Dr Winston Halapua, Anglican Church in Polynesia before the Third Summit formally ended.

A Beating of the Retreat Ceremony was conducted in the evening by the Republic of Fiji Military Forces at the GPH with a formal lowering of national flags of all participating countries and territories to mark the formal closure of the Summit.

The President of Fiji Ratu Epeli Nailatikau later hosted a Farewell Dinner for all Delegates at the Grand Pacific Hotel.



## Final Remarks

By Mary Robinson, United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Change



**M**ary Robinson, UN Special Envoy for Climate Change in her final remarks noted that over the past few days here in Suva, she has heard about how climate change is threatening human rights, reversing hard-won development gains, and making sustainable livelihoods more difficult in societies that are already vulnerable; the pressing challenges of migration and the existential threats faced by entire countries, and of our determination to defend our national sovereignty.

She noted that the people of this region know that climate change is not some abstract

phenomenon understandable only to scientists. We are witnesses to the fact that the most vulnerable countries are already suffering.

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*The climate leadership of SIDS is well-known and you have many supporters, which is why your continued leadership and engagement are all the more imperative.*

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During the Summit she has also heard of our determination to be part of the international process to forge an enduring solution to climate change and to reach a meaningful climate agreement in Paris at COP21.

The crucial task facing us all is to connect the concerns and opportunities of the Small Island Developing States, other developing countries and the entire world with the process towards a meaningful climate agreement in Paris at

COP21. It is only by gathering everybody's concerns, and paying attention to everybody's opportunities, that we will be able to summon the collective global effort that is needed to deal with the climate challenge we face.

The climate leadership of SIDS is well-known and we have many supporters, which is why our continued leadership and engagement are all the more imperative. We speak as the most vulnerable, bearing the brunt of the adverse impacts of climate change. But we also carry the torch of being some of the most ambitious and innovative when it comes to climate action, particularly on renewable energy.

As well as speaking with a coherent, united voice, Ms Robinson suggests we need to be

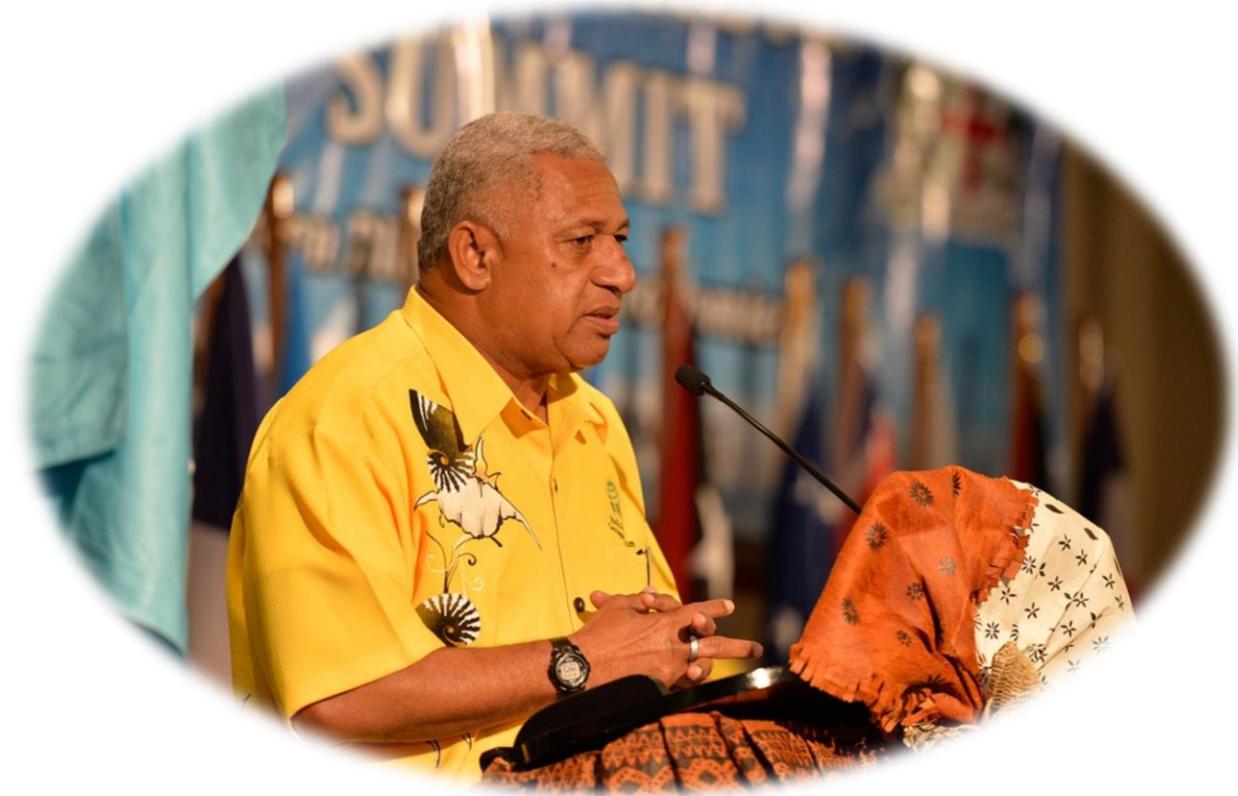
clear on what we want on our return from Paris. What will it take to restore hope among our peoples that the world can turn back from this destructive path? We have set out our objectives in the Suva Declaration. She urge us to reflect together on which of these objectives must be achieved in their entirety in Paris, and which require that the door is kept open so that they can be achieved in the years ahead?

She concluded by sketching out an action plan for the path to Paris: encourage parties to UNFCCC to support ambitious climate action; sustain global momentum created by CSOs, Communities, cities, villages etc; demanding meaningful climate action; harness the power of political leadership – to resolve the critical outstanding issues.



## Closing Remarks

By Josaia V. Bainimarama, Prime Minister, Fiji



In his closing remarks Prime Minister Bainimarama first announced the new Secretary General for the PIDF, Mr François Martel of Samoa and thanks outgoing Interim Secretary General Amena Yauvoli for his contribution.

The Prime Minister reviews the Summit and reminds Delegates of the important tasks ahead as the Pacific heads to COP21. The Prime Minister pointed out that the Suva Declaration is destined to be an historic document of an historic moment in which the Pacific came together as one. And we can now go to the world with one voice – the voice of those who have made the least contribution to

the crisis we now face, but for whom it is having the biggest impact.

This has been an extraordinary gathering in which we found a collective voice to demand, in the strongest terms, that the world finally face up to the challenge of climate change. And give us all a fighting chance to save our coastal communities and indeed, entire nations.

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*The Suva Declaration is destined to be an historic document of an historic moment in which the Pacific came together as one.*

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Acknowledging United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Change Mary Robinson for putting climate change as a human rights issue because it is definitely the right of every Pacific Islander

not to have their way of life ruined by the selfish actions of the industrial nations in putting their own economies before our survival. He went on to say that it is extremely worrying that much of the world already seems to regard our demise as inevitable – the notion that many of us will simply have to find homes elsewhere. He asserted that we cannot tolerate a defeatist attitude that says being swamped by the rising seas is inevitable and we just have to get used to it. As the Prime Minister Tuvalu said: “It should not be about where we go, it should be about taking measures to allow us to stay.”

Speaking about the PIDF the Prime Minister thanked everyone for being part of this grand coalition, this noble struggle. Not only are we sending a strong message to the world, but we have also laid a strong foundation for the future of our organization with the charter and

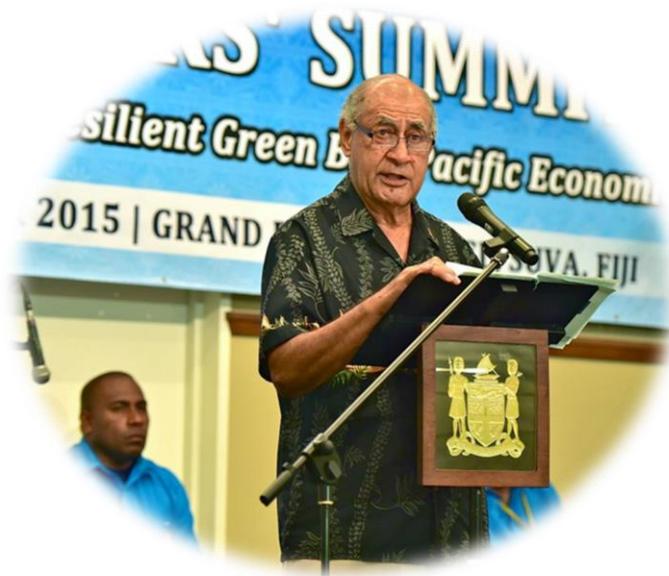
governing principles that are being endorsed. We now have a new Secretary-General. And we are laying the foundation for our unique organization to grow in strength as the only generally independent voice of the Pacific Small Island Developing States free from the dominance of larger countries.

Highlighting the uniqueness of the PIDF, the Prime Minister observed where else can you listen to several of our island Leaders on the same podium, swapping ideas and dispensing food for thought? Where else can there be such a free-flowing exchange between Leaders, civil society groups and business? Where else – informally and in the relative absence of security - can we still engage with each other in the Pacific way? In closing he reminded that the fight is not over. It will continue all the way to Paris and beyond. We have never been more united on any issue or shown more resolve.



## Farewell Dinner Speech

By Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, President of Fiji



President Nailatikau congratulated delegates for a successful meeting which acknowledged the challenges we face in climate change and the leadership to transform them into opportunities. It explored avenues for partnership that expands beyond existing realms, including south-south cooperation between and amongst ourselves as Pacific people, as well as those with our development partners. The meeting also welcomed the call for innovation in championing “outside the box” thinking in the crafting and implementation of strategies to strengthen the resilience of Pacific people.

He noted that for the first time for many participants the subject of “climate-change-provoked-migration” was discussed in the Pacific dialogue style of “Talanoa”. It is now no longer a question of “whether or not to”, but of “when, where and how best to”.

Apart from the normal outcomes statement of this 3rd Summit, the Suva Declaration is the first assertive call by the people of the Pacific on the responsible global citizenship of COP 21. It is a call by the Pacific family for human solidarity in the survival of our Pacific species. It is a joint call by the Pacific Governments, Pacific Private Sector and Pacific Civil Society of the Independent Pacific Island Countries and Pacific Island Territories and is thus a significant and exemplary hallmark of genuine inclusivity.

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*The Suva Declaration is a call by the Pacific family for human solidarity in the survival of our Pacific species.*

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The President congratulated delegates for having collectively endorsed at this Summit the Pacific Islands Development Forum Charter. Let us be assured of the importance and necessity of walking together with common purpose – the Governments, Civil Society Organizations and the Private Sector.







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