



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY
FORTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS
(Suva, Fiji, 12–15 November 2013)

AGENDA ITEM 5.1 B: SPC MEMBERSHIP POLICY

(Paper presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

1. The 2012 independent external review of SPC suggested that ‘...*SPC may want to review whether it wants to expand its membership or develop alternatives to full membership for parties that would like to work more closely with SPC for further consideration by CRGA*’.¹
2. At CRGA 42, the secretariat presented a paper considering the expansion of SPC’s current policy on membership. After discussing the paper, CRGA decided to establish a Working Group on Membership to work with the secretariat towards developing a more detailed report for CRGA 43 and the 8th Conference in 2013.
3. This paper updates CRGA on the progress made over the course of 2013 on this issue and, following consultations with the Chair of the Working Group, proposes a way forward in policy terms regarding the criteria and guidelines for full membership and the proposed new categories of associate member and observer.
4. Taking into account the recommendations made under agenda item 5.1 A, and the need for a new, detailed SPC policy to guide members when considering requests for membership of the organisation, the secretariat has prepared a draft Policy on Membership and Observer Status of the Pacific Community (Annex 1).
5. This draft document will require further work, in conjunction with the Working Group on Membership, in order to present a comprehensive and finalised framework to members at CRGA 44 in 2014.

RECOMMENDATIONS

6. CRGA is invited to:
 - i. approve the approach suggested regarding full membership of the Pacific Community and ask Conference to formally endorse this approach;

¹ Independent External Review of SPC, paragraph 85.

- ii. consider and approve the draft resolution presented in Annex 2 to make a provision to accommodate a possible request by Timor Leste for membership and the associated approach to complete the process;
 - iii. consider the draft Policy on Membership and Observer Status of the Pacific Community;
 - iv. agree that the secretariat and the Working Group on Membership should further develop the draft Policy on Membership and Observer Status of the Pacific Community and present a finalised proposal to CRGA 44.
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SPC MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Introduction

1. The independent external review (IER) of SPC in 2012 suggested that ‘...SPC may want to review whether it wants to expand its membership or develop alternatives to full membership for parties that would like to work more closely with SPC for further consideration by CRGA’.²
2. The secretariat presented a paper to CRGA 42 in November 2012 (Annex 1) seeking CRGA’s consideration and approval of expanding the provisions of SPC’s current policy on membership³ to include a new category of ‘associate member’.
3. CRGA 42 considered the paper and ‘agreed to establish a working group, to be chaired by France as the chair of CRGA and to include French Polynesia, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the United States, to work with the secretariat to examine a number of issues raised by members during the discussion and submit a more detailed report to CRGA 43 and the 8th Conference in 2013’.
4. In preparing the report requested by CRGA 42, the secretariat identified a series of issues that require members to update the Canberra Agreement, in order to provide SPC with the legal security and certainty necessary prior to an examination of the matters dealt with in the present paper.⁴
5. This paper therefore updates CRGA on the outcomes of the secretariat’s discussions on membership this year and proposes a draft ‘Policy on Membership and Observer Status’ for consideration by both CRGA and the Conference. The draft policy (Annex 1) draws heavily on the ‘Pacific Islands Forum Leaders’ Policy on Associate Membership and Observer Status’, which has been working well for the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.

Background

6. The question of expanding the membership of SPC to include a new category of ‘associate member’ was first considered by CRGA 30 in November 2000. At that time it was not felt necessary to establish such a membership category.
7. The IER’s suggestion that SPC review its position and consider ‘whether it wants to expand its membership or develop alternatives to full membership for parties that would like to work more closely with SPC’ acknowledges the new realities and dynamics in the region. Some countries and organisations would like to work more closely with SPC through a more formal relationship, with some partners raising the subject of a form of membership. The IER also saw expanded membership as an opportunity to broaden SPC’s development partner and funding base, given the very limited capacity of its current members to increase their financial contributions to the organisation.
8. While supportive of the secretariat’s paper on membership policy issues last year, CRGA wanted the subject to be further explored and established the working group to assess the issue and make recommendations to CRGA 43 and the 8th Conference of the Pacific Community this year.

² Independent External Review of SPC, paragraph 85

³ Tahiti Nui Declaration (2011), paragraphs 11–16

⁴ See the paper tabled under agenda item 5.1 A

Progress to date

9. In preparing for the working group's discussions, the Director-General has held talks with the Government of Timor Leste to further explore its interest in membership of the Pacific Community and also with the Government of Germany and the European Union.
10. The secretariat is pleased to report to CRGA as follows:
 - i. The Director-General met twice with the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Timor Leste, first in Dili in February this year and then in Nadi in early August. Timor Leste has advised the Director-General of its intention to apply for full membership of the Pacific Community. The Director-General has corresponded with the Vice Minister to provide information to assist the government in its decision on the issue.
 - ii. The Director-General met with the Associate Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development of the Government of Germany. Germany is a major contributor to SPC's work programme through GIZ and the minister advised that Germany wants to be a strategic partner of SPC, but at this stage the issue of some form of membership will need further consideration on its part.
 - iii. The European Union advised that it might not be possible to consider membership or a formal strategic partnership as it is a major funder and SPC is a major implementer of EU funding and it is important to keep these two functions independent. However, the EU was forthcoming in stating that in the Pacific, it considers SPC as a major implementing organisation. The secretariat is developing a closer relationship with the EU Office for the Pacific in Suva.
11. Given the points raised above, CRGA and Conference need to consider – in addition to full and associate membership – a further category of 'observer' that could cater for SPC's larger contributors and other key stakeholders and partners. SPC could also consider establishing a 'special dialogue partners' group comprising all the major contributors to the SPC work programme.
12. The secretariat has liaised with the Chair of the Working Group on Membership (France) and, in light of logistical constraints that have prevented the Working Group from meeting in 2013, has taken the initiative of moving forward on these issues.
13. As indicated under agenda item 5.1 A, with the Chair's agreement, the secretariat also consulted SPC's remaining founding members, given that a new membership policy may have implications for the Agreement establishing the South Pacific Commission (the Canberra Agreement), SPC's founding treaty.
14. In developing this paper, and mindful of Timor Leste's interest in applying for consideration for full membership of the organisation, the secretariat noted that article II (3) of the Canberra Agreement, which states... *'The territorial scope of the Community may be altered by agreement of all the participating Governments'*, provides the mechanism to address this.

Based on these discussions and consultations, the secretariat has developed the following approach to membership issues (paragraphs 16–23) for CRGA to consider.

Proposed way forward

A. Full membership of SPC

15. As outlined in Paper 5.1 A, the secretariat considers that the current criteria for full membership are sufficiently clear: the provisions of the Canberra Agreement, particularly articles II and XXI, provide the legal basis and conditions for admission as a full member of SPC.
16. In particular, the secretariat has formed the view that these provisions are sufficiently broad so as to give Conference the possibility of interpreting them in light of each new application for full membership.
17. It is the secretariat's view that article II (3) of the Agreement, as highlighted in paragraph 15, gives the SPC Conference the power to alter, by resolution, the territorial scope of the Pacific Community, so as to accommodate requests for full membership on a case-by-case basis.⁵ It would not, therefore, be necessary to amend the Canberra Agreement itself.
18. In this context, the Secretariat has prepared a draft resolution (Annex 2) for consideration by CRGA and Conference, which endorses this approach and would accommodate an application for full membership by Timor Leste.

B. Associate membership and observer status

19. As mentioned under agenda item 5.1 A, there are no provisions in the Canberra Agreement for **associate membership and observer status**. It would therefore be necessary to formally amend the Canberra Agreement should members wish to establish such categories.
20. The secretariat is convinced that new categories of 'associate member' and 'observer' would provide an excellent means of enhancing engagement and outreach with countries, territories and agencies (multilateral, international, regional, private sector, non-state actors) that do not qualify for full membership of SPC but that share its values and vision and could contribute to furthering its work on behalf of members.
21. The secretariat notes that the policy guidelines for membership of the Pacific Community are currently embodied in the Tahiti Nui Declaration, paragraphs 11–16. What is now needed is a more detailed policy that Conference can use to guide its decision-making on all membership issues. The secretariat has therefore developed a draft Policy on Membership and Observer Status (Annex 2) to complement the Canberra Agreement and the Tahiti Nui Declaration. This policy is attached in its current form for information purposes. It will require further consideration by the Working Group to finalise detailed guidelines for full membership, associate membership and observer status.

⁵ This appears to have been the approach taken at the 1983 Saipan Conference, thus providing a precedent.

Recommendations

22. CRGA is invited to:
- i. approve the approach suggested regarding full membership of the Pacific Community and ask Conference to formally endorse this approach;
 - ii. consider and approve the draft resolution presented in Annex 2 to make a provision to accommodate a possible request by Timor Leste for membership and the associated approach to complete the process;
 - iii. consider the draft Policy on Membership and Observer Status of the Pacific Community;
 - iv. agree that the secretariat and the Working Group on Membership should further develop the draft Policy on Membership and Observer Status of the Pacific Community and present a finalised proposal to CRGA 44.
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ANNEX 1

DRAFT POLICY ON MEMBERSHIP AND OBSERVER STATUS⁶

(For consideration by the CRGA Working Group on Membership Issues)

(To be considered by CRGA 43 and the 8th Conference of the Pacific Community, Suva, Fiji, 12–19 November 2013)

INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with the provisions of the Agreement establishing the Pacific Community (Canberra Agreement), in light of the guidelines contained in the Tahiti Nui Declaration on membership of the Pacific Community, and based on the agreement of the 8th Conference of the Pacific Community to review and develop alternatives to full membership for parties that want to work more closely with SPC,⁷ the Conference has decided to (i) establish a category of associate membership of the Pacific Community, and (ii) recognise the status of various observers of SPC meetings.

A. MEMBERSHIP

2. In 2013, the Pacific Community has 26 members: American Samoa, Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna.

3. The Conference of the Pacific Community is prepared to receive expressions of interest in full or associate membership from returning members and new parties.

i. Full membership

4. In accordance with its decision to welcome new members that share the vision and development aspirations of the Pacific Community, the Conference has agreed on the following processes to guide its decisions on requests for full membership.

Process for admission to, and withdrawal from, full membership

5. Any country or territory within the territorial scope of the Pacific Community may submit a written request to the Conference for full membership. The request should be sent first to the Secretariat (Director-General) and should concisely set out the claims of the applicant against the criteria for full membership (see below). The Director-General will advise the Conference Chairperson and all members of the Pacific Community when an application for full membership is received.

⁶ This draft policy draws on the 'Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' Policy on Associate Membership and Observer Status', which has been shown to work well for the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.

⁷ For the purposes of this document, 'SPC' refers to The Pacific Community and its secretariat.

6. The Director-General may seek further information from the applicant through a written request to representatives of the government of the country or territory, or a visit to the country or territory before advancing the application. The secretariat will prepare a detailed report for the Conference Chairperson and all members of the Pacific Community comprising an assessment of the applicant's claims against the criteria for full membership and recommendations on the application.

7. In the normal course of events, a request for full membership will then be placed on the agenda for consideration at the next annual meeting of the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA). CRGA may make a recommendation to Conference, which will make a decision on the application at its next meeting.

8. The Conference Chairperson and the Director-General may agree to process an application intersessionally. In this case, the Chairperson will write to all Pacific Community members with the assessment of the application seeking their agreement to the admission of the applicant to full membership. If all members agree in writing, the Chairperson will write to the applicant admitting it to full membership. If there is no unanimous written agreement, the issue will be placed on the agenda of the next annual meeting of CRGA and Conference for consideration, as described in the previous paragraph.

9. If the request for full membership is granted, the applicant is considered a provisional full member until such time as it accedes to the Canberra Agreement, pursuant to the provisions of article XXI §66 of the Agreement. Should the applicant's Instrument of Accession not be received by the depository (Government of Australia) within three years of the Conference's acceptance of its application, provisional full membership will lapse and the applicant will no longer be considered a member of the Pacific Community.

10. A full member may withdraw from membership by giving one year's notice of intent to withdraw; the withdrawal will become effective on the third annual anniversary of the date of receipt by the Director-General of the written notice. All entitlements and obligations of the member concerned will cease as of that date, and all financial obligations incurred up to that date must be paid in full. In the event that an applicant wishes to withdraw with immediate effect, it may do so following payment of its full obligations to SPC for the mandatory three-year period. The Director-General will advise the Chairperson and all SPC members when a notice of withdrawal from full membership is received.

11. At any time, the Conference may decide to cancel the membership status of a full member if Conference forms the view that the member has failed to fulfil its obligations in good faith, or if the member is deemed to have acted in a manner inconsistent with the vision, values and purpose of the Pacific Community. Such a cancellation will become effective on 31 December in the year of notification in writing to the member concerned from the Chairperson of Conference and will carry no penalty for SPC.

Criteria

12. The acceptance of new full members is a measure to provide opportunities for countries or territories that share the vision and development aspirations of Pacific Community members. As such, it is intended to apply to countries and territories that have the will and capacity for substantive engagement with their Pacific neighbours in pursuit of sustainable development for the region.

13. In making decisions on admission to full membership, the Conference will be guided by the following criteria:

- a. Whether the applicant generally considers itself, and is considered by Pacific Community members, to be located within the Pacific Islands region or surrounding region, or can demonstrate

evidence of a substantive association that has direct links to the work of SPC and its regional development agenda.

- b. The applicant's commitment to the vision, values and purpose of SPC and the development aspirations of its members.
- c. The applicant's willingness and ability to participate in the work of SPC, noting that a lack of state resources, or weak capacity, should not of themselves be a barrier to full membership.
- d. Whether the applicant has control of its own budget such that it is empowered to make the financial contribution assessed for full members.
- e. Whether the admission of the applicant as a full member will contribute positively to the regional and international relations of SPC and its members.

Entitlements

14. Upon admission, a full member will enjoy all the rights and privileges accorded to full members of the Pacific Community, i.e. the right to attend and speak at all SPC meetings including ministerial meetings and meetings of the SPC governing body; the right to vote; and for island or developing countries and territories, the right to access SPC's regionally provided services, including technical and scientific expertise and training.

Obligations

15. New members are required to make an annual contribution to the budget of SPC in recognition that their full membership allows them to benefit from, participate in or support the work of the secretariat. Members' contributions are assessed according to a predetermined formula and are grouped in separate categories depending on the assessment for each member. The actual amount to be paid by a new member will be determined according to this formula and the category it falls into.

16. New members will be expected to respect the vision and purpose of the Pacific Community and to act in good faith accordingly.

17. New members should nominate an appropriate contact point for the purpose of official communication with the secretariat.

ii. Associate membership

18. To provide opportunities for countries and territories that do not wish to hold or do not qualify for full membership status of the Pacific Community, the Conference has established the category of associate membership of the Pacific Community and has agreed on the following processes to guide its decisions on requests for such membership.

Process for admission to, and withdrawal from, associate membership

19. Any country or territory within or outside the Pacific Islands region may submit a written request to the Conference for associate membership. The request should be sent first to the Secretariat (Director-General) and should concisely set out the claims of the applicant against the criteria for associate membership (see below). The Director-General will advise the Conference Chairperson and all SPC members when an application for associate membership is received.

20. The Director-General may seek further information from the applicant through a written request to representatives of the Government of the country or territory or a visit to the country or territory before advancing the application. The secretariat will prepare a detailed report for the Conference Chairperson and all Pacific Community members comprising an assessment of the applicant's claims against the criteria for associate membership and recommendations on the application.

21. In the normal course of events, a request for associate membership will then be placed on the agenda for consideration at the next annual meeting of CRGA. CRGA will make a recommendation to Conference, which will make a decision on the application at its next meeting.

22. The Chairperson and Director-General may agree to process an application intersessionally. In this case, the Chairperson will write to all SPC members with the assessment of the application against the criteria seeking their agreement to the admission of the applicant as an associate member. If all members agree in writing, the Chairperson may write to the applicant admitting it to associate membership. If there is no unanimous written agreement, the issue will be placed on the agenda of the next annual meeting of CRGA and Conference for consideration as described in the previous paragraph.

23. Associate members may withdraw from membership by giving one year's notice of intent to withdraw; the withdrawal will become effective on the second annual anniversary of the date of receipt by the secretariat (Director-General) of the written notice. All entitlements and obligations of the associate member concerned will cease as of that date, and all financial obligations incurred up to that date must be paid in full. In the event the applicant wishes to withdraw with immediate effect, it may do so following the payment of its full obligations to SPC for the mandatory two-year period. The Director-General will advise the Chairperson and all Pacific Community members when a notice of withdrawal from associate membership is received.

24. At any time, the Conference may decide to cancel the membership status of any associate member if Conference forms the view that the associate member has failed to fulfil its obligations as a member in good faith, or is deemed to have acted in a manner inconsistent with the vision and purpose of the Pacific Community. Such a cancellation will be effective on 31 December in the year of notification in writing to the member from the Director-General and will carry no penalty for SPC.

Criteria

25. The category of associate membership is a measure to provide an opportunity for countries or territories that share the vision and development aspirations of the Pacific Community and wish to work more closely with its members. As such, it is intended to apply to countries and territories within or outside the region that have the will and capacity for substantive engagement with their Pacific neighbours, but who do not want, or do not qualify for, full membership status.

26. In making decisions on applications for associate membership, Conference will be guided by the following criteria:

- a. Whether the applicant generally considers itself, and is considered by SPC members, to be located in the Pacific Islands region or surrounding region or can demonstrate evidence of an association that has direct links to the work of SPC.
- b. The applicant's commitment to the vision and purpose of SPC and the development aspirations of its members.

- c. The applicant's willingness and ability to participate in the work of SPC, noting that a lack of state resources, or weak capacity, should not of themselves be a barrier to associate membership.
- d. Whether the applicant has control of its own budget such that it is empowered to make the appropriate financial contribution assessed for associate membership.
- e. Whether the admission of the applicant as an associate member will contribute positively to the regional and international relations of SPC and its members.

Entitlements

27. Upon admission, an associate member will enjoy the following entitlements in respect of attendance at SPC meetings:

- a. The right to attend and to speak at governing body meetings including CRGA and Conference.
- b. The right to attend and to speak at other SPC ministerial and technical meetings.
- c. The right to participate in working groups established by the governing body and other ministerial meetings, subject to the normal decision-making processes among members when deciding on the composition of working groups.

28. In most SPC meetings, decisions are made by consensus. Associate members will participate in discussions at meetings and all decisions reached through consensus will include them. However, the dissenting views of associate members will not prevent decisions being made where there is consensus among full members. When decisions are taken by vote in any SPC meeting, associate members will not have the right to vote.

29. Associate members will be notified of workshops, seminars and other ad hoc meetings of members convened by SPC and will be invited to attend all such events.

30. Associate members will be required to fund their own participation in SPC meetings and activities.

31. Associate members will be provided with relevant documentation for meetings in which they participate. Other SPC documentation may be provided to associate members at the discretion of the Director-General.

32. Associate members may apply for technical assistance under programmes administered by SPC. Such applications will be considered on a case-by-case and user-pays basis.

Obligations

33. Associate members will be required to make an annual contribution to the budget of SPC in recognition that their associate membership allows them to benefit from, participate in or support the work of the secretariat. Members' contributions are assessed and are grouped in separate categories depending on the assessment for each member. Associate members will be assessed according to the same parameters used for full members and will also be aligned to the appropriate category. Given that associate members are required to fund their own participation in SPC meetings, the contribution will be calculated at approximately 75% of the assessed annual contribution of a full member in the same category. The actual amount will be determined

following the assessment of the appropriate alignment of the associate member in relation to a full member with similar characteristics.

34. Associate members will be expected to respect the vision, values and purpose of the Pacific Community and to act in good faith accordingly.

35. Associate members should nominate an appropriate contact point for the purpose of official communication with the secretariat.

B. OBSERVER STATUS

36. The Conference accords the status of observer to countries or territories that do not want or do not qualify for full or associate membership, and to organisations or agencies (multilateral, international, regional, private sector, non-state actors) that work in partnership with SPC and participate in its activities, including attending SPC meetings.

37. The Conference recognises three categories of observer as follows:

- a. *Special observer* – this category is reserved for countries and territories and development/multilateral organisations which provide substantial support for SPC’s work in the region.
- b. *Special technical observer* – this category is reserved for specialised technical and scientific organisations that have strategic working relationships with SPC.
- f. *General observer* – this category covers other organisations and partners that SPC works with.

38. The granting of observer status allows formal recognition by Conference of the important work done by partners and stakeholders acting jointly with SPC in a ‘many partners, one team approach’ to achieve development outcomes for the region.

Process

39. Under this policy, all organisations and partners invited to attend SPC meetings will automatically be given the status of general observer. General observers are automatically invited to attend SPC meetings.

40. The status of special observer or special technical observer will be accorded through an invitation from the Chairperson of CRGA. Once the status is accorded, the secretariat will facilitate the invitation of special observers and special technical observers to SPC meetings and activities.

41. The Conference or CRGA may agree to cancel the observer status of any entity at any time. When such a decision is made, the secretariat will notify the observer in writing.

Criteria

42. The rationale for according observer status by Conference is three-fold. It provides a mechanism to:

- a. engage countries, territories, organisations and agencies that wish to work more closely with SPC but do not want to hold, or do not qualify for, full or associate membership;

- b. give appropriate recognition to the various categories of observers working with SPC to help the region achieve the development aspirations of its people;
 - c. enable other intergovernmental, private sector or civil society organisations, of which at least one third of SPC members are active members, and whose work is relevant to SPC's priorities, to engage with SPC.
43. Invitations to countries, territories or organisations to become observers may be guided by the following criteria:
- a. The country's, territory's or organisation's affinity with the vision, values and purpose of the Pacific Community.
 - b. The nature and extent of Pacific Community members' actual or potential engagement with the country, territory or organisation.
 - c. *With respect to countries or territories* – their demonstrated willingness and ability to engage with SPC, noting that a lack of state resources, or weak capacity, should not of themselves be a barrier to observer status.
 - d. *With respect to organisations* – the relevance of the organisation's work to Pacific Community members, and the level of commitment on the part of the organisation to engage with Pacific Island countries and territories.

Entitlements and expectations

44. All three categories of observers will be invited to all SPC meetings at their own cost. All observers may speak in the meetings they attend when they ask and are recognised by the Chairperson. Observers may be invited to provide written papers or submissions for the information of participants in such meetings. Observers may also be invited, on a case-by-case basis, to attend other SPC related activities. Observers may not participate in decision-making by consensus or have the right to vote in meetings.

45. In their engagement with SPC, observers will be expected to respect, and to act in accordance with, the vision, values and purpose of the Pacific Community.

46. This policy does not restrict Pacific Community members from agreeing by consensus to invite other individuals, organisations or entities to attend relevant meetings and/or activities as guests, on an *ad hoc* basis.

**RESOLUTION ON EXTENDING THE TERRITORIAL SCOPE OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY
TO INCLUDE TIMOR LESTE**

The Conference of the Pacific Community,

Recognising Timor Leste's interest in applying for membership of the Pacific Community,

Wishing to provide legal certainty to both members of the Pacific Community and to the Secretariat itself on the matter of application for full membership of the organisation,

Noting that the provision under article II (3) of the Canberra Agreement, which states ... *'The territorial scope of the Community may be altered by agreement of all the participating Governments'*, provides the mechanism to address this, and

Further noting this provision was previously applied to include the North Pacific members of the organisation,

Resolves as follows:

On extending the territorial scope of the Pacific Community to include Timor Leste

1. Timor Leste has long-standing cultural and historical ties with the Pacific.
 2. Timor Leste has, through its contact with both the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and some members of the organisation, demonstrated that it shares the same vision and development aspirations and has the will and the capacity for substantive engagement with its Pacific neighbours in pursuit of sustainable development for the region.
 3. In light of the above, the territorial scope of the Pacific Community is extended to include Timor Leste and Timor Leste is hereby invited to become a member of the Pacific Community.
 4. Should Timor Leste wish to take up this invitation, it shall formally and legally be considered a full member of the Pacific Community upon completion of the procedure outlined in article XXI-66 of the Canberra Agreement.
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