



## OUTCOME

### Meeting of

### CRGA Subcommittee on Strategic Plan Implementation 18–19 May, 2016 Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia

#### AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING

1. The CRGA Subcommittee on the Strategic Plan Implementation (Subcommittee) held its first meeting at the headquarters of the Pacific Community in Noumea, New Caledonia, on 18–19 May, 2016. The meeting was attended by the following member countries and territories – Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, and United States of America – and also by a representative of the European Union and senior executives of the secretariat led by the Director-General. Apologies were received from the Federated States of Micronesia. The main objectives of the meeting were to review and discuss (i) the draft *Pacific Community 2015 Results Report*, and (ii) the *Strategic Results Framework 2016–2020*, and provide recommendations to CRGA 46 for its endorsement.
2. The election of the Chair of the Subcommittee was deferred until the second day of the meeting when members elected Cook Islands as Chair.

#### AGENDA ITEM 2: TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CRGA SUBCOMMITTEE

3. The secretariat provided the subcommittee with the previously agreed Terms of Reference (TOR). The members discussed a number of issues, including: (i) amending the TOR; (ii) how members could withdraw from the Subcommittee; (iii) the role and function of the subcommittee as a reference group for the secretariat in priority setting under the plan; and (iv) what constituted ‘significant issues’ that would have to be referred to CRGA.
4. In discussions, subcommittee members emphasised a number of points, namely: (i) that membership of the subcommittee is voluntary and based on representation of constituencies; (ii) it is a subcommittee of CRGA not of Conference; and (iii) as it is an advisory body, the absence of any member does not materially affect decisions of the subcommittee.

5. Subcommittee members noted that only CRGA has the power to amend the TOR. In the event that any membership issues arise, CRGA would be able to consider these issues at its annual meeting.
6. However, in the event a member wishes to withdraw, it is suggested that the member inform the Chair of the subcommittee in writing. This will enable the Chair to begin the process of finding a replacement member.

### **AGENDA ITEM 3: PACIFIC COMMUNITY 2015 RESULTS REPORT**

7. The draft Pacific Community 2015 Results Report (the Report) provides an overview of the positive changes being achieved across the Pacific region through the technical, scientific, research, policy and training services of SPC. The subcommittee welcomed the draft and acknowledged the enormous task of collating and presenting the many activities and achievements across the organisation.
8. The subcommittee welcomed improvements to results reporting in 2015 including greater leadership and thinking about how the organisation will move forward through the inclusion of a Management Action Plan responding to the lessons learned.
9. In considering the Management Action Plan, the subcommittee appreciated the presentations outlining the process of prioritising lessons and identifying actions to be taken during 2016, led by the Senior Leadership Team. It was the subcommittee's opinion that the Management Action Plan could be further enhanced by simplifying the language and including a description of the prioritisation process, the priority lessons and key actions for 2016.
10. The subcommittee also suggested that it would be useful for CRGA to be presented with a small number of case studies to provide the opportunity for more in-depth description of results in terms of multi-sector approaches and gender mainstreaming.
11. In proposing improvements to future reports, the subcommittee reflected on the audience for the report and its utility in sharing results with ministries and across sectors. The Subcommittee considered it would be valuable to identify achievements against cross-sectoral activities and priorities. Some members suggested that it could also be useful to try to locate results in sectors.
12. The subcommittee proposed improvements for future reports, including:
  - a. Clearer summary of results and adequacy of progress
  - b. A more concise and therefore shorter report
  - c. Use of graphics and photos
  - d. Details about which countries are included in the results stories
  - e. Linking results stories to indicators in the Strategic Results Framework (SRF)
  - f. Linking financial data with results
  - g. Reporting on gender mainstreaming could be further improved

## **Recommendations**

13. The subcommittee recommends that:

a) CRGA endorse the 2015 Pacific Community Results Report with amendments to the Management Action Plan, including:

- i. changes to the language and format for clarity and readability;
- ii. information on the prioritisation of lessons learned and why some actions were chosen over others;

b) CRGA note the subcommittee has tasked the secretariat to present case studies incorporating multi-sector approaches and gender mainstreaming at CRGA 46.

c) CRGA note the subcommittee provided recommendations for improvements to future results reports.

## **AGENDA ITEM 4: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK 2016–2020**

14. The Strategic Results Framework (SRF) 2016–2020 is the performance assessment tool for the Pacific Community Strategic Plan 2016–2020. The secretariat outlined the development process for the SRF and its place in the broader performance assessment system.

15. The subcommittee commended the structure and strategic intent of the SRF and the framing of results in relation to members' achievement of their development goals.

16. The subcommittee was also pleased to learn about the planning, evaluation, accountability, reflection and learning (PEARL) system that provides rigour to SPC's efforts to track, report and learn from progress towards achieving its objectives.

17. In break-out group discussions, the subcommittee acknowledged the complex nature of the SRF in aggregating indicators from across the breadth of SPC's sectoral work and the depth of the indicators from corporate and division to programme and project level. Discussions between the subcommittee and secretariat clarified the in-built programme logic within the SRF to include indicators at the output, outcome and impact level.

18. The subcommittee provided guidance and recommendations to the secretariat regarding future reporting to the subcommittee on testing of the SRF and its application in developing divisional-level results frameworks. In particular, the subcommittee recognises that the SRF is untested and, in future meetings, will expect to see:

- i. how the SRF is underpinned by divisional-level results frameworks and programme /project work plans
- ii. how the SRF will be adequately resourced
- iii. how the SRF can reflect the SDGs, where appropriate
- iv. how SLT / CRGA will be informed so as to allow them to make a judgement on the adequacy of progress.

## **Recommendations**

19. The subcommittee recommends that
  - h. CRGA endorse the Strategic Results Framework (SRF), with the understanding that it is a working document (document de travail) that will be adequately resourced and annually reviewed.

## **AGENDA ITEM 5: SPC PRIORITISATION PROCESS**

20. The secretariat made a number of presentations on the prioritisation process being undertaken across the organisation.
21. Three break-out groups of subcommittee members reflected on their specific role as a reference group for priority setting for SPC. Drawing from the presentations, the subcommittee acknowledged the secretariat's work towards developing a process and methodology for prioritisation.
22. The subcommittee agreed that its functions as a reference group for priority setting under the plan are to: (i) provide advice and guidance to the secretariat on its prioritisation process, including by assisting in fine-tuning proposed priorities, reviewing progress and making recommendations to CRGA; (ii) identify issues that need further guidance from CRGA; and (iii) task the secretariat to provide additional information to inform the execution of the subcommittee's role and functions.