

**FIFTIETH MEETING OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS**  
(17–19 November 2020, Virtual Meeting)

**Working Paper**

**AGENDA ITEM No. 9: CRGA 51 and 12th Conference – Venue, Chair and Vice-Chair**

(Paper presented by the Secretariat)

**Purpose**

1. This paper presents the venue, Chair and Vice-Chair for the 12th Conference of the Pacific Community and the 51st meeting of the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA 51).

**Recommendations**

2. CRGA is invited to note that:
    - i. the 12th Conference of the Pacific Community will be held in Vanuatu, and the Chair will be provided by Vanuatu, and the Vice-Chair by Niue;
    - ii. the venue for the meeting of CRGA 51 will be Vanuatu, and the Chair will be provided by French Polynesia, and the Vice-Chair by Pitcairn Islands;
    - iii. members will be advised of the meeting dates in due course.
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## CRGA 51 and 12th Conference – Venue, Chair and Vice-Chair

### 12th Conference of the Pacific Community

#### *Venue*

3. The 11th Conference of the Pacific Community agreed that the 12th Conference would be convened in Vanuatu in November 2021.

#### *Chair and Vice-Chair*

4. The Rules of Procedure for the Conference of the Pacific Community state that ‘When the Conference is held elsewhere than the headquarters, the host country/territory nominates the Chairperson’. As host country, Vanuatu will therefore provide the Chair of the 12th Conference.
5. The rules also provide that ‘Each conference shall elect the government or administration that will provide the vice-chairperson for the succeeding conference. Such a government or administration shall normally be one that is chosen in alphabetical order of members from the Pacific Island countries and territories’.
6. For information, the hosting, chairing and vice-chairing arrangements of previous conferences have been as follows:

Year	Conference	Host	Chair	Vice-Chair
1999	1st	French Polynesia	French Polynesia	Tonga
2001	2nd	Nauru (at SPC HQ)	Nauru	Vanuatu
2003	3rd	Fiji	Fiji	American Samoa
2005	4th	Palau	Palau	Tuvalu
2007	5th	Samoa	Samoa	Federated States of Micronesia
2009	6th	Tonga	Tonga	Cook Islands
2011	7th	Marshall Islands (at SPC HQ)	Marshall Islands	France
2013	8th	Fiji	Fiji	Guam
2015	9th	Niue	Niue	Kiribati
2017	10th	New Caledonia	New Caledonia	Marshall Islands
2019	11th	Cook Islands (at SPC HQ)	Cook Islands	Nauru

7. Following the long-standing procedure for appointing the Vice-Chair, Niue will provide the Vice-Chair for the 12th Conference.

### CRGA 51

#### *Venue*

8. The Rules of Procedure for the Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA Rules) provide that ‘CRGA meets once a year at SPC Headquarters in Noumea, except during the years the Conference of the Pacific Community is convened, when CRGA meets immediately prior to the Conference of the Pacific Community at the same venue’.

9. Accordingly, the venue for CRGA 51 will be Vanuatu. Members will be advised of the proposed dates as soon as practicable.

#### *Chair and Vice-Chair*

10. The CRGA Rules of Procedure further provide that ‘Representatives of members provide a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for each meeting, to be chosen in alphabetical order of CRGA members’.
11. The Rules also indicate that in the event that the Chair is unable to attend the meeting, the Vice-Chair assumes the Chair. The Vice-Chair becomes the Chair of the succeeding meeting.
12. Since 2008, CRGA meeting Chairs and Vice-Chairs have been provided by the following members:

Year	CRGA	Chair	Vice-Chair
2008	38	American Samoa	Australia
2009	39	Australia	Cook Islands
2010	40	Cook Islands	Federated States of Micronesia
2011	41	Fiji	France
2012	42	France	Kiribati
2013	43	Kiribati	Marshall Islands
2014	44	Marshall Islands	Nauru
2015	45	Nauru	Nouvelle-Calédonie
2016	46	Nouvelle-Calédonie	New Zealand
2017	47	New Zealand	Niue
2018	48	Niue	Palau
2019	49	Palau	Papua New Guinea
2020	50	Papua New Guinea	French Polynesia (Polynésie Française)

13. Pitcairn was to be Vice-Chair for CRGA 50. However, Pitcairn was concerned that unreliable internet would result in unreasonable delays to other members for the remote meeting, so withdrew with regret, from consideration but asked to be considered for future meetings.
14. As CRGA 51 is intended to be face to face, following the established procedure for appointing the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Chair for CRGA 51 will be provided by French Polynesia (Polynésie Française), and the Vice-Chair by Pitcairn Islands.

#### **Recommendations**

15. CRGA is invited to note that:
- i. the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Pacific Community will be held in Vanuatu, and the Chair will be provided by Vanuatu, and the Vice-Chair by Niue;
  - ii. the venue for the meeting of CRGA 51 will be Vanuatu, and the Chair will be provided by French Polynesia, and the Vice-Chair by Pitcairn Islands;
  - iii. members will be advised of the meeting dates in due course.
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