

Opening remarks

**Regional Policy Dialogue on the Draft Pacific Regional Framework on
Climate Mobility**

(Member States Session)

Tuvalu Co-Chair Permanent Secretary Dr. Tausi Taupo

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Suva

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[All protocols observed]

Distinguished Delegates,

Talofa and ni sa bula Vinaka. It is my utmost honour to welcome you all to the Member States Session of the Regional Policy Dialogue on the Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility. I extend my warm greetings and deepest appreciation to each member state represented here today.

The significance of our gathering cannot be overstated, as we come together to discuss and validate the latest version of the draft Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility. This framework serves as a vital instrument in addressing the profound challenges posed by climate-induced human mobility in our Pacific region.

I would like to express my gratitude to all member states for your unwavering commitment and tireless efforts throughout this process. Your active engagement in the development of the framework and your invaluable inputs have been crucial in shaping its content and direction.

The Pacific region stands at the forefront of climate change impacts, with our low-lying island nations and coastal communities facing unprecedented challenges. Rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and environmental degradation threaten the very fabric of our societies and the well-being of our people.

The Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility serves as a beacon of hope in our collective efforts to address these challenges. It aims to provide a coordinated and comprehensive approach that considers the unique socio-cultural, economic, and environmental contexts of our member states. By doing so, we can better protect the rights, well-being, and resilience of our communities, while ensuring the preservation of our rich cultural heritage.

Today's session offers an invaluable opportunity for member states to validate and provide feedback on the draft framework. Your insights, perspectives, and recommendations are critical to ensuring the effectiveness and relevance of the final version.

I urge all member states to engage in constructive dialogue, drawing upon your collective wisdom and experiences. Let us seize this moment to engage in open, frank, and respectful discussions. By actively listening to one another and embracing the diversity of viewpoints, we can forge a stronger, more inclusive framework that truly represents the needs and aspirations of our Pacific nations.

As we embark on this important session, let us keep in mind the shared vision we hold: "...a resilient Pacific region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion, prosperity, that ensures all Pacific peoples can lead free, healthy and productive lives". Our commitment to collaboration, cooperation, and collective action will be instrumental in turning this vision into reality.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all member states for your continued dedication and support. Together, let us chart a course towards a resilient and sustainable future for our Pacific nations.

Vinaka vakalevu. Thank you very much.