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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 August 2023

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/77/L.94](#))]

77/332. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions [49/1](#) of 17 October 1994, [59/20](#) of 8 November 2004, [61/48](#) of 4 December 2006, [63/200](#) of 19 December 2008, [65/316](#) of 12 September 2011, [67/303](#) of 16 September 2013, [69/318](#) of 10 September 2015, [71/316](#) of 19 July 2017, [73/332](#) of 1 August 2019 and [75/288](#) of 22 June 2021,

Recognizing the key role the Pacific Islands Forum continues to play in supporting the realization of a resilient Pacific region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion and prosperity that ensures that all Pacific peoples can lead free, healthy and productive lives,

Taking note, in this regard, of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism adopted by Pacific Islands Forum leaders in July 2014, the “Blue Pacific” narrative of September 2017, the Pacific Road Map for Sustainable Development of September 2017, the Communiqué of the Forty-ninth Pacific Islands Forum of September 2018, the Kainaki II Declaration for Urgent Climate Change Action Now of August 2019, the Declaration on Preserving Maritime Zones in the face of Climate Change-related Sea-level Rise of August 2021, the Communiqué of the Fifty-first Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting of July 2022, in which Pacific Islands Forum leaders commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of the Pacific Islands Forum, celebrating 50 years of Pacific regionalism and collective action, and endorsed the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, and the Communiqué of the Pacific Islands Forum Special Leaders Retreat of February 2023,



Recalling the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,¹ the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,² the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,³ the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁴ and the Paris Agreement⁵ and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,⁶

Recognizing the important role and contribution of the United Nations system in the region of the Pacific Islands Forum,

Recalling the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States and the global commitment and efforts to take urgent and concrete action to address those vulnerabilities, including through the sustained and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,⁷ the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States⁸ and the Samoa Pathway,

Welcoming the progress and taking note with appreciation of the interim report published by the High-level Panel on the Development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index for Small Island Developing States and looking forward to the finalization of the work of the Panel, and encouraging the international community to consider multidimensional vulnerability, including the potential of a multidimensional vulnerability index, as criteria to access concessional finance,

Welcoming also the establishment of new funding arrangements for assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change in responding to loss and damage, including a fund whose mandate includes a focus on addressing loss and damage, and calling for the full operationalization of the funding arrangements and the fund,

Reaffirming the importance of enhanced high-level dialogue between the members of the Pacific Islands Forum and the United Nations, including regular meetings between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and Pacific Islands Forum leaders, and recalling with appreciation the first-ever participation by a Secretary-General at a Pacific Islands Forum, at the forty-second Pacific Islands Forum, held on 7 and 8 September 2011 in Auckland, New Zealand, the special summit meeting between the Secretary-General and Pacific Islands Forum leaders, held on 15 May 2019 in Suva, as well as the summit meetings between the Secretary-General and Pacific Islands Forum leaders held in New York on 26 September 2012, 26 September 2014, 1 October 2015, 23 September 2016, 22 September 2017, 28 September 2018, 21 September 2019 and 23 September 2022, and the virtual summit meeting held on 23 September 2021,

¹ Resolution 69/15, annex.

² Resolution 70/1.

³ Resolution 69/313, annex.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

⁵ Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

⁶ Resolution 69/283, annex II.

⁷ *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

⁸ *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Mindful of recent developments at the United Nations of particular interest to Pacific Islands Forum members, including the proclamation by the General Assembly of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development,⁹

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,¹⁰

Welcoming the continued mutually beneficial dialogue between the Pacific Islands Forum leaders and the Secretary-General,

1. *Encourages* the scheduling of the next meeting between the Secretary-General and Pacific Islands Forum leaders for September 2023, on the margins of the general debate;

2. *Recalls with appreciation* the visit of the Secretary-General to the region of the Pacific Islands Forum members from 12 to 18 May 2019, and the high-level political dialogue held between the Pacific Islands Forum leaders and the Secretary-General on 15 May 2019 at the headquarters of the Forum, and encourages the Secretary-General to visit the region of the Pacific Islands Forum as soon as possible;

3. *Recalls* the joint statements issued by Pacific Islands Forum leaders and the Secretary-General on 7 September 2011, 26 September 2012 and 29 September 2014, and urges further progress towards their practical implementation in a timely manner;

4. *Takes note* of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent as the collective vision of the Pacific Islands Forum for the region over the next three decades to frame its collective interests, advocacy and engagements in complementarity with the national interests of members;

5. *Welcomes* the complementarity between the Pacific United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023–2027 and the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, to be implemented at the country level through country implementation plans developed in consultation with national Governments and stakeholders;

6. *Urges* the United Nations system to align its work programmes and operations in the region of the Pacific Islands Forum members, taking into account the implementation and monitoring plan for the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent at the regional level and the Pacific United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023–2027 at the country level and in accordance with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system¹¹ and in support of internationally agreed outcomes, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, taking into account the priorities of the Pacific Islands Forum members, including as reflected in relevant regional agreements;

7. *Welcomes* the convening of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway on 27 September 2019 and the adoption on 10 October 2019 of its political declaration,¹² in which Heads of State and

⁹ Resolution 72/73, para. 292.

¹⁰ A/77/277-S/2022/606.

¹¹ See resolution 75/233.

¹² Resolution 74/3.

Government reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening cooperation with and support to small island developing States in the context of sustainable development, in line with their national development strategies and priorities, and looks forward to the implementation of the calls made in the political declaration;

8. *Recalls* its resolution [75/215](#) of 21 December 2020 on the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, in which it noted with great concern the threat to human health, safety and well-being caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic for the sustainable development of small island developing States envisioned in the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;

9. *Welcomes* the convening of the high-level 2022 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July 2022, and the adoption on 1 July 2022 of its declaration,¹³ in which Heads of State and Government reaffirmed their commitment to act decisively and urgently to improve the health, productivity, sustainable use and resilience of the ocean and its ecosystems, looks forward to the implementation of the calls made in the declaration, and recognizes the important contributions of the interactive dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of the Conference;

10. *Encourages* all parties, in particular small island developing States, to support the preparations for the next high-level United Nations Ocean Conference, which will be co-hosted by Costa Rica and France in June 2025;

11. *Welcomes* the convening of the high-level meeting on the midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the adoption of its political declaration,¹⁴ and encourages Member States and all relevant stakeholders to implement the calls to action and follow-up contained therein;

12. *Encourages* support for sustainable modalities of financing resilient development in the Pacific, in particular the Pacific Resilience Facility, endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum leaders in 2019, as a Pacific island-led and -owned facility that will help to sustainably finance climate and disaster resilience in the Pacific;

13. *Also encourages* continued support from the United Nations system for the efforts of members of the Pacific Islands Forum and relevant regional organizations to achieve sustainable development, and calls for greater accountability and regular reporting with regard to the support provided by the United Nations system, including through its regional and country programmes, to Pacific island States;

14. *Acknowledges* the severe consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for the sustainable development of small island developing States envisioned in the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda, including the far-reaching and enduring consequences for poverty eradication, employment, economic growth and social welfare as a result of the unprecedented contraction of their economies, and the average increase in ratios of debt to gross domestic product to over 40 per cent during the period 2020–2021, while the ability of those States to self-insure against exogenous shocks continues to deteriorate further, highlighting that achieving the Goals and targets set out in the 2030 Agenda will be more difficult and that integrating the concept of resilience is critical to enable a sustainable future and avoid creating new risks, and notes the

¹³ Resolution [76/296](#), annex.

¹⁴ Resolution [77/289](#), annex.

United Nations support for the Pacific Islands Forum Pacific Humanitarian Pathway on COVID-19 as a coordinated unified response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

15. *Also acknowledges* the need for urgent action to address the adverse impacts of climate change, including those related to sea level rise and extreme weather events, which continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and to their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for many, represent the gravest of threats to their survival and viability, including, for some, through loss of territory, as well as through threats to water availability, food security and nutrition;

16. *Recalls* its resolution [77/276](#) of 29 March 2023, entitled “Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the obligations of States in respect of climate change”;

17. *Also recalls* the adoption of the declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations;¹⁵

18. *Recognizes* the work of the Peacebuilding Commission with members of the Pacific Islands Forum on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and looks forward to further dialogue in this regard;

19. *Welcomes* the progress towards enhancing cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum and its associated institutions, and urges them to continue to strengthen their partnership and regional collaboration for the implementation of internationally agreed outcomes in the region of the Pacific Islands Forum members, taking into account the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, its implementation and monitoring plan and the Pacific United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023–2027;

20. *Looks forward* to the convening of the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States and its preparatory meetings;

21. *Welcomes* the substantive progress achieved by the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency since its establishment in Tonga in 2017, with a view to forming an emerging global network of regional centres, thereby expanding dialogue and cooperation on sustainable energy;

22. *Recalls* the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled “Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States: final findings”, prepared pursuant to resolution [69/288](#) of 8 June 2015;¹⁶

23. *Stresses*, in that regard, the value of enhanced close cooperation and coordination between the programmes and activities of the United Nations system and Pacific Islands Forum members, the Pacific Islands Forum secretariat and associated institutions, including the Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific and the Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner, and welcomes recent efforts by United Nations and regional agencies in the Pacific to enhance cooperation through joint activities, working groups and other means, including United Nations engagement on the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and implementation and monitoring thereof, and encourages further practical steps to enhance such cooperation and coordination;

24. *Also stresses* the importance of coherent and integrated approaches to building resilience to extreme weather events, including both slow- and rapid-onset events, and to stressors related to increased climate variability across the Pacific;

¹⁵ Resolution [75/1](#).

¹⁶ [A/72/119](#).

25. *Reiterates* the importance of strengthening resilience and mitigating risks in the region of the Pacific Islands Forum members, and encourages the United Nations system to work collaboratively with the Pacific Islands Forum and associated institutions in this regard;

26. *Stresses* the importance of resident coordinators and United Nations country teams in the region of the Pacific Islands Forum members strengthening consultations with national Governments and relevant stakeholders, including the Pacific Islands Forum, in accordance with its resolution [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016, and ensuring that the development and implementation of all United Nations programme and plan documents increase coherence and coordination in support of national development needs and priorities, and welcomes the establishment of a multi-country office in the North Pacific in this regard;

27. *Reiterates* the importance of continuing to enhance and strengthen the United Nations field presence in the region of the Pacific Islands Forum members, in accordance with its resolution [71/243](#), in particular with regard to operational activities of the multi-country offices, using flexible, cost-effective and collaborative models, as appropriate, and in a manner that complements existing programmes and mechanisms;

28. *Notes* the ongoing implementation of the multi-country office reviews, and reiterates the request to the Secretary-General to conduct regular monitoring, reporting and follow-up, including to the annual operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council session, with a view to considering the adjustments necessary to ensure the delivery of sustainable and effective development resources and services to enable countries served by multi-country offices to implement the 2030 Agenda;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

30. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum”.

*96th plenary meeting
25 August 2023*