

2023 Pacific Regional Forum on National Human Rights Institutions

21 – 22 February 2023
Nadi, Fiji

OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

To encapsulate the good work of Pacific Delegations over the course of the Forum and to elaborate on the link between the establishment and strengthening of National Human Rights Institutions and the protection and promotion of human rights for Pacific Peoples in all their diversity,

Delegations agree on the importance and value of:

- *Developing accessible country-level pathways to establish and strengthen National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), in line with the Paris Principles, across the Pacific region;*
- *Working in partnership with the Asia Pacific Forum on National Human Rights Institutions (APF), the Pacific Community (SPC), and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to implement accessible country-level pathways in establishing and strengthening NHRIs;*
- *Collaborating with countries within the Pacific that have established NHRIs in the region— Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Samoa and Tuvalu—to exchange knowledge on overcoming challenges and capturing opportunities to share experiences;*
- *Establishing Paris Principle compliant NHRIs to support the implementation of the commitments made by Pacific Islands Forum Countries in the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent on good governance, the full observance of democratic principles and values, rule of law, the defence and promotion of all human rights, gender equality and a commitment to just societies;*
- *Recognizing the crucial need for NHRIs to address the climate crisis, including through engagement with the United Nations Special Rapporteurs on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change and on human rights and the environment, other international human rights mechanisms, and other intergovernmental mechanisms; and*
- *Acknowledging the link between human rights, Pacific culture and faith-based values, and the role of NHRIs in building awareness of these linkages and utilising them for the protection and promotion of human rights, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples, at the national and regional level.*

In line with these agreements, the NHRI Forum congratulates the Honourable Siromi Dokonivalu Turaga, MP, Attorney General and Minister for Justice of Fiji, for affirming the protection and fulfilment of rights for all individuals as paramount and committing the Government of Fiji to increased support and investment in the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission.