



**Regional Writeshop for Submissions by Pacific Island Countries and Territories for the International Court of Justice Climate Change Advisory Opinion Proceeding**



**OUTCOMES & ACTIONS DOCUMENT**

Summarising the good work of Pacific Delegations over the course of the three-day Writeshop, marking the beginning of work towards strong, coordinated, and ambitious submissions to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), and helping the Court to deliver an Advisory Opinion that ensures the protection of the Blue Pacific Continent and its peoples, culture, environment, and communities so that the Pacific way thrives;

***Delegations will endeavour to:***

- ***Secure policy approval from government to engage with the ICJ Advisory Opinion process before the end of August 2023; which will include:***
  - ***National sovereign submissions***
  - ***Collaboration in joint and/or regional and/or subregional submissions***
  - ***Preparation for oral hearings***
- ***Determine national legal, scientific and financial needs, and make requests to partners who can action the support required;***
- ***Produce a core list of priority climate issues/impacts, relevant obligations from treaty and customary international law, and possible consequences to help guide the development of submissions responsive to the question asked to the Court in General Assembly resolution [77/276](#);***
- ***Create and maintain pathways for civil society input and expertise to be incorporated within joint, regional and individual Pacific Island Countries and Territories' (PICTs) submissions;***
- ***Engage with subject matter experts for the purposes of law, facts, and science; and***
- ***Establish an Informal Pacific ICJ Working Group, with at least two government focal points from countries and territories participating, to perform at least the following tasks:***
  - ***Establish itself within two weeks of the end of the Writeshop;***
  - ***Prepare a document that tracks the status and needs of PICTs in the drafting process (e.g., status of drafting, status of international legal representation, expertise and resource needs, etc.);***
  - ***Maintain a 'checklist' of concrete actions needed and a corresponding timeframe so that joint, regional and individual PICT submissions are completed by the deadlines set out by the Court (dependant on the outcomes of the request for an extension);***
  - ***Determine what role CROP agencies will play in the process for coordinating submissions, including [The Pacific Community (SPC) or other designated CROP Agency] to act as Secretariat for the Informal Working Group;***
  - ***Plan a follow-up Writeshop in mid-September to ensure strength and complementarity of submissions prior to the deadlines; and***
  - ***Continue strategic discussions and meetings throughout the ICJ AO process, including during the period for comments on submissions up to the deadline as set out by the Court.***



In line with these agreements, delegations recognize and celebrate this unprecedented and Pacific-led opportunity for a progressive and climate justice-focused advisory opinion. The region congratulates Vanuatu and Pacific youth for their passion, courage, and wisdom to fight for this initiative that could change the world.

**NOTE: This is the finalised version of the Outcomes Document as agreed on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023.**

