



SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

NINTH CONFERENCE OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

(Alofi, Niue, 3–5 November 2015)

**THE YEAR 2017 CONFERENCE: VENUE AND ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON
AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

(Presented by the secretariat)

Introduction

1. The 7th Conference of the Pacific Community agreed that all future meetings of the Conference of the Pacific Community will be convened at SPC headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia as a cost-saving measure.
2. Notwithstanding this, member countries wishing to host the meetings of the Conference and the associated pre-conference meeting of CRGA may do so on the basis that they meet the full additional cost of convening the meetings of Conference and CRGA outside of SPC headquarters.
3. In this regard unless a member expressly wishes to host the next meeting of the Conference of the Pacific Community, the 10^h Conference of the Pacific Community in 2017 will be held at SPC **headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia.**

Elections of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

4. The current 'Rules of Procedure for the Conference' state:
 - i. *"When the conference is to be held at the headquarters of the Pacific Community, the conference shall elect the government or administration to provide the Chairperson for the succeeding conference. Such a government or administration shall normally be one that will not be in a position to act as host to the conference in the foreseeable future.*
 - ii. *When the conference is to be held elsewhere than the headquarters, the host country/territory shall nominate the chairperson.*
 - iii. *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 among the Pacific Island countries and territories."*
5. For the information of Conference the hosting, chairing and vice-chairing arrangements for conference meetings since 1997 have been as follows:

YEAR	CONFERENCE	HOST COUNTRY	CHAIRPERSON	VICE-CHAIRPERSON
1997	37 th South Pacific Conference	Australia	Australia	Wallis & Futuna
1999	1 st Conference of the Pacific Community	French Polynesia	French Polynesia	Tonga
2001	2 nd Conference	Nauru hosted at SPC Headquarters	Nauru	Vanuatu
2003	3 rd Conference	Fiji	Fiji	American Samoa
2005	4 th Conference	Palau	Palau	Tuvalu
2007	5 th Conference	Samoa	Samoa	FSM
2009	6 th Conference	Tonga	Tonga	Cook Islands
2011	7 th Conference	RMI hosted at SPC Headquarters	Marshall Islands	France
2013	8 th Conference	Suva, Fiji	Fiji	Guam
2015	9 th Conference	Alofi, Niue	Niue	Kiribati
2017	10 th Conference	Noumea, New Caledonia	Palau	Marshall Islands

Recommendation

6. Conference is invited to:

- i. note that the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Pacific Community will be convened at SPC headquarters in Noumea in 2017;
- ii. note that the decision on the Chairperson and Vice-chairperson for the 10th Conference will be made at CRGA 46; and
- iii. further note that, should any member wish to host the 10th Conference, it may do so, noting that it will need to meet the full additional cost of hosting the Conference and the associated pre-conference meeting of CRGA 46.
