

## Pacific regional capacity-building workshop on treaty body reporting and strengthening of National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up (NMIRFs)

Organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat in partnership with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Government of Fiji

*Nadi, Fiji, 9-11 May 2024*

### Summary Outcomes

The Commonwealth Secretariat and Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in partnership with the Government of Fiji, convened a Pacific regional capacity-building workshop on treaty body reporting and strengthening of National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up (NMIRFs), in Nadi, Fiji, from 9 to 11 May 2024.

Government delegates from the following nine countries in the Pacific participated in the workshop: Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Participants shared experiences, challenges and good practices and took part in the capacity-building activities relating to treaty body reporting, NMIRFs, and synergies between human rights reporting and Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Participants engaged in specific discussions on reporting under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. They heard from the Commonwealth Secretariat, OHCHR and Pacific Community (SPC) on the type and nature of technical assistance that countries can be offered, taking into account the specific needs and characteristics of Pacific Small Island Developing States. Participants made the following recommendations:

- 1) To consider establishing NMIRFs in countries that do not yet have these mechanisms with a view to achieving more efficient engagement with international human rights mechanisms;
- 2) To continue and improve efforts to increase compliance with monitoring and reporting obligations to international human rights mechanisms, giving priority to long overdue reports;
- 3) To continuously work toward strengthening NMIRFs with a focus on key stakeholder engagement, coordination, consultation and information management capacities at the national level;
- 4) To strongly encourage the representation and active participation of all relevant State actors, including focal points from line ministries, parliament, judiciary, law enforcement, local governments, and sustainable development focal points, in NMIRF activities;



- 5) To strengthen synergies between national, regional and international human rights and sustainable development reporting processes, such as the VNR and others measuring the achievement of SDGs, and 2050 Strategy for Blue Pacific in an effort to streamline various reporting obligations and avoid duplication of efforts;
- 6) To consider developing additional capacity for collection and analysis of human rights data and keep track of human rights reporting timelines with a view to facilitating planning and coordination of inputs;
- 7) To consider rolling out human rights information management tools and databases such as the National Recommendation Tracking Database (NRTD) so that NMIRFs can efficiently collect and share human rights data, including for human rights reporting and tracking the status of implementation;
- 8) To continue engaging in regional and international NMIRF networks and communities of practice with a view to sharing good practices, proactively exchanging experiences and peer-to-peer learning and considering the creation of a Pacific regional network.
- 9) To share the learnings from the workshop with other relevant State officials in their respective countries and contribute to knowledge transfer and awareness-raising, including with civil society and other key stakeholders;
- 10) To continue working with international and regional partners, including the Commonwealth Secretariat, UN Human Rights (OHCHR), and the Pacific Community (SPC), and participate in technical cooperation and capacity-building activities to realize national, regional and international human rights commitments.

*Nadi, 11 May 2024*