



## LISTENING TO THE PACIFIC

### FRAMEWORK FOR PACIFIC REGIONALISM REGIONAL INITIATIVE SUBMISSION TEMPLATE 2016

#### The Framework for Pacific Regionalism

The Framework for Pacific Regionalism represents a high-level commitment to pursuing deeper regionalism and establishes a process for developing and prioritising regional public policy. It articulates the vision, values and objectives of an enhanced Pacific regionalism. It also sets out an inclusive process by which anyone can propose ideas for regional initiatives to address key challenges facing the Pacific. For more information, [click here](#).

#### Regional Issues and Guidance

When preparing your submission, think carefully about why this is an issue of regional significance and why it should be placed before the Leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum. For further information on the process and types of submissions being sought, please refer to the guideline below.

#### To Submit a Regional Initiative

1. Complete the below regional initiative template below.
2. Submit initiative to the Forum Secretariat by deadline: **5pm, Fiji time, Sunday 10 April 2016.**
3. Initiatives should be submitted to the Forum Secretariat, through one of the following ways:



Email

[FPR@forumsec.org](mailto:FPR@forumsec.org)



Post

C/O Pacific Regionalism Adviser  
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat  
Private Mail Bag  
Suva, Fiji



Hand Delivery

Reception  
Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat  
Ratu Sukuna Road  
Suva, Fiji



Fax

+679 322 0215 Attention: Pacific Regionalism Adviser

**Please note that all submissions must be made using this template.**

For more information contact Pacific Regionalism Adviser Joel Nilon at the Forum Secretariat:  
Email: [FPR@forumsec.org](mailto:FPR@forumsec.org) | Phone: +679 322 0327

#### Feedback

Any feedback on this template or process: Email [FPR@forumsec.org](mailto:FPR@forumsec.org)



## FRAMEWORK FOR PACIFIC REGIONALISM – REGIONAL INITIATIVE TEMPLATE

*Please complete each section below.*

### 1. Contact Details

*Please provide the following contact details:*

**Name of individual or group submitting initiative**

Australia West Papua Association (Sydney)

**Name and position of primary contact**

Joe Collins  
Secretary

**Email address**

**Phone number**

**Fax number**

**Mailing address**

### 2. Name of Initiative

West Papua-Cause for concern



**3. What is the common regional issue or challenge that this regional initiative aims to address?**

*You may also want to address the following: What are the causes of this issue? Are there links to national, regional or international goals/policies?*

*Please limit your response to no more than 750 words.*

**4. Briefly describe this regional initiative**

*You may also want to address the following in this section:*

*How would this initiative contribute to a positive change to the region?*

*Who are the main beneficiaries?*

*How would the initiative contribute to the vision, values and objectives of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism?*

*Has the initiative been carried out previously?*

*What are the key risks in implementing this initiative?*

*Are there any complementary projects and programmes that are currently active?*

*Please limit your response to no more than 750 words.*

10 April 2016

Dear Pacific Islands Forum leaders,

On behalf of the Australia West Papua Association (Sydney), I am writing to you concerning the human rights situation in West Papua. AWPA uses the name “West Papua” to refer to the whole of the western half of the Island of New Guinea. However, “West Papua” at this time is divided into two provinces, Papua and West Papua.

I would first like to thank the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) leaders for discussing the human rights situation in West Papua at the last PIF in Port Moresby in 2015 and for mentioning concerns about the human rights situation in West Papua in the official communiqué. AWPA is also greatly encouraged that the PIF Leaders requested the Forum Chair “to convey the views of the Forum to the Indonesian Government, and to consult on a fact finding mission to discuss the situation in Papua with the parties involved”.

AWPA will not go into great detail about all the human rights abuses that were committed by the Indonesian security forces in West Papua since the last PIF in Port Moresby, as we understand that the PIF Leaders are very aware of all the issues of concerns in West Papuan

However, there has been no improvement in the human rights situation in West Papua and the people continue to



suffer human rights violations from the Indonesian security forces. AWPA believes that the human rights situation in the territory is in fact deteriorating.

The following are just a few examples of the incidents that have occurred recently in West Papua (one incident in Jakarta) and are by no means exhaustive. The incidents show the heavy handed approach taken by the security forces to any civil society groups who hold peaceful rallies or meetings in the territory.

As recently as the 5th April 2016, up to fifteen activists from the West Papuan National Committee (KNPB) were arrested as they held a prayer meeting (“Prayers for the Papuan People’s recovery”) with local people from the area. The meeting was also to show support for the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP). Although the majority of the activists were released, the head of KNPB Mimika branch, Steven Itlay, has been charged with “rebellion” under Article 106 of the Indonesian Criminal Code and could face up to life imprisonment. Another activist has been charged with maltreatment against the Head of Mimika Resort Police Force under Article 351(1) of the Criminal Code. Jus Wenda, who denies committing this violent act, could face up to 32 months’ imprisonment. (Amnesty International 7 April). A report from a local human rights activists said the Mimika police and soldiers from the District Military Command arrived in armored vehicles and removed all KNPB material, flags, banners including the flags of the MSG countries. It was reported that the activists were beaten and kicked during the arrests.

On Thursday the 8 October 2015, 18 peaceful activists (6 who were priests) were arrested for holding a peaceful rally in front of a Catholic Church in Abepura, Jayapura. The Rally was organised by SKP-HAM (Solidarity with Victims of Human Rights Violations Papua). The purpose of the rally was to bring attention to the Indonesian authorities the fact that so far nobody has been held accountable for the killing of four students in Paniai on the 8 December 2014 by the security forces. As the rally progressed a police truck arrived with sirens blaring driving into the demonstrators nearly hitting a number of them. A large number of police jumped of the truck breaking up the rally and arresting 18 demonstrators. A number of journalists who were reporting on the rally were intimidated by police and banned from taking photographs. One journalist had his camera stolen (at gunpoint) and the entire contents of photos and videos were deleted. Although the demonstrators were eventually released, during the arrests the Police acted in a brutal and heavy-handed way. The heavy-handed action by the police was condemned by NGOs and church groups from around the world.

On the 15 February 2016, the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP) opened an office in Wamena in the Papuan Highlands. A number of the human rights defenders and peaceful activists who attended the opening have been threatened by members of the security forces. A Catholic priest, Father John Djonga could face charges simply because he led a prayer service on the 15th to inaugurate the office building of the Papuan Customary Council, where a banner of the ULMWP was unveiled. Father Djonga has maintained that his presence at the ceremony to open a community service building was purely pastoral. In a protest on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March dozens of young Catholics in West Papua protested in the provincial capital Manokwari demanding that police to stop harassing Father John Djonga.

The Coordinating Political, Legal and Security Affairs Minister, Luhut Pandjaitan has also told the ULMWP to leave the country as it could pose a threat to the country’s territorial integrity. The Jayawijaya Resort Police have questioned a



number of activists who attended the opening. The security forces are trying to tarnish the ULMWP representatives as separatists. These threats raise grave concerns for their security as human rights defenders and peaceful activists are regularly arrested because of accusations that they are so-called separatists. A number of NGO organisations have raised concerns at the intimidation of Father Djonga and the other activists by the police. It has been reported at least 7 people have been questioned because of their involvement in the opening ceremony.

#### West Papuan National Flag Day 1 December 2015

In Jakarta at least 306 Papuan students were arrested by the Police. Despite the rally being legitimate and peaceful the police claimed it was illegal and that they had acted to maintain public order. Hundreds of AMP (Papua Students Alliance) members and approximately 400 police were involved in the clashes after the police tried to disperse the crowd using tear gas. The Jakarta Post reported that before the clash the AMP had planned to stage a two-part rally, to deliver four demands to the government. According to AMP spokesman Abby Douw, the rally members called for the government to hold a referendum on independence for Papua.

They also demanded the government shut down all multinational corporations that cause environmental damage to Papuan land. In addition, they wanted the government to recall all military forces from Papua, as well as disbanding all “politicized” government institutions such as the Special Unit for the Acceleration of Development in Papua and West Papua (UP4B). However, the first stage of the rally erupted in violence after the police forced the students to disperse, according to Muhamad Isnur, a lawyer from the Jakarta Legal Aid Institute (LBH Jakarta) who gave legal counsel to the AMP during the rally.

The clash also prompted a strong protest from the Alliance of Independent Journalists (AJI) after the organization received a report that the police had assaulted and intimidated two foreign journalists from Australia’s ABC and Al-Jazeera. According to a press release from the AJI, the police beat the ABC’s Archicco Guiliano and grabbed a mobile phone belonging to Al-Jazeera’s Stephanie Vaessen because they were recording the authorities dispersing the rally. The AJI said the police had ordered the journalists to delete the recording (Jakarta Post 1 Dec. 2015).

#### **5. Why does this initiative require the attention of the Leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum?**



*Please consider whether this initiative requires the attention and consideration of the Leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum in order to be implemented and outline why this is the case. Could it not be overseen or implemented at the level of Ministers, officials or by a regional agency?*

*Please limit your response to no more than 750 words.*

It is now 53 years since Indonesia took over administration of West Papua from UNTEA in 1963 and the West Papuan are still struggling for their right to self-determination and still suffering from human rights abuses committed by the security forces. The international community should realize that West Papua is an issue that is not going and it is in their interest to try and help solve the issues of concern in West Papua. The PIF can help

In light of the ongoing human rights abuses in West Papua

#### **AWPA urges the PIF Leaders**

To again discuss the human rights situation in West Papua at the 47th PIF Leaders Summit in The Federated States of Micronesia and to acknowledge these concerns in the official communiqué.

To continue to request the Indonesian Government to allow a PIF fact-finding mission to West Papua to investigate the human rights situation in the territory.

We note the large number of non-self governing territories and organizations that have various types of status at the PIF. AWPA urges the PIF to grant associate membership to the West Papuan umbrella organization, the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP). The West Papuan people have been calling for dialogue with Jakarta for years and AWPA believes the PIF can play an important role in helping facilitate such a dialogue between representatives of the West Papuan leadership and the Indonesian Government. The PIF should place pressure on Jakarta to resolve West Papuans' issues of concern. Otherwise we will see increasing conflict in West Papua which in turn could affect the region.

Yours sincerely  
Joe Collins  
AWPA (Sydney)



PACIFIC ISLANDS  
FORUM SECRETARIAT

## **6. Attachments**

Please attach additional information in support of this initiative.

*Please attach no more than 3 pages.*

## **7. Uploading initiatives to the Forum Secretariat website**

In line with the process outlined in the [Framework for Pacific Regionalism](#), all submitted initiatives, inclusive of all attachments, will be publicly available via the Forum Secretariat website.

## **8. Guidelines and Contact Details**

For further information on completing this template, consult the submissions guideline below or contact Pacific Regionalism Adviser Joel Nilon at the Forum Secretariat:



## Submission Guidelines

These guidelines are designed to assist those submitting regional initiatives through the Framework for Pacific Regionalism. For more information contact Pacific Regionalism Adviser Joel Nilon at the Forum Secretariat:

Email: [FPR@forumsec.org](mailto:FPR@forumsec.org) | Phone: +679 322 0327

### 1. About the Framework for Pacific Regionalism

The Framework for Pacific Regionalism represents a high-level commitment to pursuing deeper regionalism and establishes a process for developing and prioritising regional public policy. It articulates the vision, values and objectives of an enhanced Pacific regionalism. It also sets out an inclusive process by which anyone can propose ideas for regional initiatives to address key challenges facing the Pacific. For more information, [click here](#).

### 2. How do I submit a regional initiative?

To submit a regional initiative, complete all sections of the submission template and submit to the Forum Secretariat by no later **5pm, Fiji time, Sunday 10 April 2016**.

Submissions must be made on this template. Submissions made directly via email, letter or other format will not be considered.

Delivery of submissions can be made via one of the following



### 3. Who can submit an initiative?

Any interested stakeholder can submit a regional initiative. This may include individuals, or groups of individuals or organisations, including government, civil society (including church or religious organisations), the private sector, community groups, multilateral agencies and CROP agencies.

### 4. What information is required?

In completing the regional initiative template, you should:

- a. Identify and seek to respond to issues and challenges that are common to the Pacific region and that could be best addressed through a regional response.
- b. Demonstrate that a high level political decision needs to be made.

**This is not a process for seeking endorsement of existing projects or activities. No standing fund exists in which to allocate funds to initiatives that are endorsed.** Submissions that consist of projects or initiatives that may be ordinarily carried out under the governance arrangements or work-plan of the submitting organisation are unlikely to be successful.

- c. Demonstrate how the initiative would contribute to one or more of the objectives of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism.

### 5. What assistance will the Forum Secretariat provide through this process

The Forum Secretariat will provide general advice and suggestions to those making submissions. This advice will include clarifying the information set out in this guideline, such as how initiatives can be completed and submitted; the type and level of information sought; the assessment process; and clarification of the overall process.

### 6. Assessment process

- Step 1** The Forum Secretariat will collate all submitted initiatives and check them for completeness.
- Step 2** The Forum Secretariat will, in collaboration with CROP agency officials and other experts as required, conduct a first round of assessment of all submitted initiatives using the tests for regional action (see Table 1 below).
- Step 3** The Forum Secretariat will provide all assessed initiatives to the Specialist Sub-Committee on Regionalism (SSCR), which will assess initiatives against the vision, values and objectives set out in the Framework (see Table 2 below). Reports on current regional initiatives under the Framework for Pacific Regionalism that are in progress will also be considered by the SSCR when they assess initiatives.
- Step 4** Based on its assessment of all submissions, the SSCR may recommend a limited number of initiatives to Forum Leaders. Those initiatives recommended to Leaders will be first sent to the Forum Officials



Committee for commentary and incorporation on the Leaders' annual meeting agenda. Forum Leaders will then receive the final recommendations of the SSCR and make decisions on these at the annual Forum Leaders Meeting. In 2016 this meeting will take place in the Federated States of Micronesia

Proponents whose initiatives have been selected for Leaders' consideration will be informed of this selection within two weeks of the SSCR's decision. All proponents will be informed in due course of the outcome of their submissions.

### **7. Leaders' decisions on initiatives**

Forum Leaders' decisions on initiatives will be publicly announced through the Forum Leaders' Communique that is issued at the conclusion of the Leaders' meeting. As directed by Leaders, the Forum Secretariat will initiate implementation of the decisions in consultation with the proponent, the proposed implementing agencies, funding partners, and other relevant organisations or stakeholders.

### **8. Further help and feedback**

For further information or guidance or to provide feedback on the process, contact Pacific Regionalism Adviser Joel Nilon at the Forum Secretariat: Email: [FPR@forumsec.org](mailto:FPR@forumsec.org) | Phone: +679 322 0327



**Table 1 – Tests for Regionalism**

<b>TEST</b>	<b>CRITERIA FOR REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION</b>
<b>Market test</b>	The initiative should not involve a service that markets can provide well.
<b>Sovereignty test</b>	The initiative should maintain the degree of effective sovereignty held by national governments (countries, not regional bodies, should decide priorities).
<b>Regionalism test</b>	<p>The initiative should meet one of the following criteria at a sub-regional or regional level, in support of national priorities and objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ establish a shared norm or standard</li><li>▪ establish a common position on an issue</li><li>▪ deliver a public or quasi-public good which is regional (or sub-regional) in its scope realise economies of scale</li><li>▪ overcome national capacity constraints</li><li>▪ complement national governments where they lack capacity to provide national public goods like security or the rule of law</li><li>▪ facilitate economic or political integration</li><li>▪ Where benefits accrue sub-regionally, the contribution to broader regionalism should be clear.</li></ul>
<b>Benefit test</b>	<p>The initiative should bring substantial net benefits, as demonstrated by a cost-benefit analysis. The distribution of benefits across countries and across stakeholders within the region should also be considered—particularly with respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The relative costs and benefits for smaller island states (an “SIS test”)</li><li>▪ How inclusive the proposal is of all stakeholders who might benefit from regionalism.</li></ul>
<b>Political oversight test</b>	The initiative should require the Leaders’ attention and input (as opposed to being within the mandate of Ministers or other governing bodies).
<b>Risk and sustainability test</b>	The initiative should demonstrate a robust risk and sustainability evaluation, be based on a sound implementation plan, be supported by some identified funding, and demonstrate available capacity and experience for successful implementation.
<b>Duplication test</b>	The initiative should not be currently under progress by another organisation or process, and there should be no duplication of effort.



## **Table 2 – Vision, Values and Objectives of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism**

### **Vision:**

Our Pacific Vision is for a region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion, and prosperity, so that all Pacific people can lead free, healthy, and productive lives

### **Values:**

- We value and depend upon the integrity of our vast ocean and our island resources.
- We treasure the diversity and heritage of the Pacific and seek an inclusive future in which cultures, traditions and religious beliefs are valued, honoured and developed.
- We embrace good governance, the full observance of democratic values, the rule of law, the defence and promotion of all human rights, gender equality, and commitment to just societies.
- We seek peaceful, safe, and stable communities and countries, ensuring full security and wellbeing for the peoples of the Pacific.
- We support full inclusivity, equity and equality for all people of the Pacific.
- We strive for effective, open and honest relationships and inclusive and enduring partnerships—based on mutual accountability and respect—with each other, within our sub-regions, within our region, and beyond.

These Pacific regional values will guide all our policy-making and implementation.

### **Principal Objectives:**

- Sustainable development that combines economic social, and cultural development in ways that improve livelihoods and well-being and use the environment sustainably;
- Economic growth that is inclusive and equitable;
- Strengthened governance, legal, financial, and administrative systems; and
- Security that ensures stable and safe human, environmental and political conditions for all.