



## PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SECRETARIAT

### APPLICATION FOR POST FORUM DIALOGUE PARTNERSHIP

#### Current Criteria for Admission of Dialogue partners

Forum Leaders at their meeting in the Federated States of Micronesia in 1998 accepted criteria for admission of Dialogue partners. These were:

1. Long-established historical links with the region which may include significant security links;
2. Significant trade and investment links with the region;
3. Long term commitment to the region through participation in regional organisations and/or the establishment of diplomatic missions;
4. Cultural and social identification with communities in the region; and,
5. Development assistance to the region through key bilateral and/or multilateral programmes and shared interests or common positions on key international issues.

Added by Leaders in 2007:

6. A Dialogue Partner wishing to withdraw from the Dialogue process may do so voluntarily by advising the Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, in writing, of the intention to withdraw six months before the effective date of the withdrawal.

Added by the Forum Officials Committee in 2016:

#### *Entitlements and Expectations*

7. Dialogue Partners will be expected to maintain the same or expanded levels of commitment to the Forum region as at the time of admission.
8. Dialogue Partners will be invited to attend the Post-Forum Dialogue Plenary Session of the annual Forum Leaders Meeting. Dialogue Partners commit to ensuring the highest-level representation (ideally Ministerial-level at least once every three years) and failing to do so accept that lower levels of representation will forgo the opportunity to speak at the annual Plenary Session.
9. Dialogue Partners will be required to fund their own attendance at Forum meetings and activities.
10. In their engagement with the Forum, Dialogue Partners will be expected to respect, and act in accordance with, the vision and purpose of the Forum.
11. A Dialogue Partner commits to fully engaging in the Triennial PFD Reassessment Process facilitated by the Forum Secretariat, including providing transparent reports against the relationship with the region.

To assist with processing the application the applicant should also outline its position on international issues which are of particular interest to the region.

## **Process of Application**

Interested applicants should write a letter to the Secretary General expressing interest in joining the Post Forum Dialogue Mechanism. The letter should outline the general interest the applicant has in the region and a detailed attachment outlining how the applicant meets **ALL** the points of criteria for PFD access (outlined above).

Following receipt of the full application the Secretariat will provide an assessment of the application and prepare the application for consideration by the Forum Officials Committee (FOC). If endorsed by the FOC, the application is then presented to the Forum Leaders for their consideration.

In the case where the FOC does not endorse the application, the applicant will be notified by letter and advised of possible next steps if any.

At any stage in the preparation of the application the applicant can call on the Secretariat to assist with clarifications of the process and/or detail of information required in the application.