



# Agenda Item 4

## Pathways Concept Paper for offering opportunity to Pacific Island Countries for RCA membership

53<sup>rd</sup> RCA General Conference Meeting  
Australia and New Zealand

Science. Ingenuity. Sustainability.

# Introduction

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## 46<sup>th</sup> RCA NRM

Agreed that Australia and New Zealand develop a Pathways Concept Paper for expanding RCA membership to include new members from Pacific Island Countries

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## Underpinned by

Shared GP objective to expand RCA membership

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All Pacific Island Country IAEA Member States (MS) would benefit from the RCA Technical Cooperation programme

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Upcoming opportunity to consider inviting Pacific Island Countries IAEA MSs to the 47<sup>th</sup> RCA NRM in Fiji

# Current situation for non-RCA IAEA Ms in the Asia and Pacific region

## Participation in RCA events

RCA GOR states that non-RCA IAEA MSs from the Asia and Pacific region can join RCA events as observers.

Participation in a specific event (such as workshop or training course) can be considered, provided that this non-RCA MSs has the necessary infrastructure, Government commitment, expertise and the capacity to absorb the technology.

## Funded by Extra-budgetary

Participation should not be at cost to the RCA.

Participants require the agreement of the host country.

PNG will join an upcoming workshop in medical physics in Malaysia for RAS6109, funded by EXB from Australia, and agreed by Malaysia.

# Rationale for offering opportunity



Increase in number of IAEA MS from the Pacific Island Countries in recent years ✓

Established NLOs in Pacific Island Countries offer a good starting point for RCA outreach ✓

Fiji and Palau are RCA GPs ✓

RCA is designed to support cooperation in Asia and the Pacific region to advance UN SDGs ✓

Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Vanuatu are IAEA MSs ✓

Pacific Island Countries meet membership criteria outlined in the RCA GOR as eligible GPs ✓

IAEA roadmap for new MS integration into TCP recommends eventual RCA membership ✓

Pacific Island Countries stand to benefit from RCA project activities ✓

New IAEA MS are often not aware of the diverse benefits of the TC Programme ✓

Opportunity exists to invite these MSs to the 47<sup>th</sup> RCA NRM in Fiji

# Recommendations

## One

Fiji NR and incoming Chair extend an invitation to Pacific Island Countries who are IAEA MSs to 47<sup>th</sup> RCA NRM as observers.

## Two

Invite participation of Pacific Island Countries to RCA events, according to requirements in RCA GOR.

## Three

Following the 47<sup>th</sup> RCA GCM, the RCA Chair (Fiji) and RCA FP conduct outreach to Pacific Island Countries IAEA MSs regarding RCA membership.

## Four

At future RCA GCMs, consider extending an invitation to these Pacific Island Countries, and other eligible states to future NRMs.

## Five

Final step for Pacific Island Countries, and other eligible IAEA MSs in Asia and Pacific region, is to become RCA GPs.

# Thank you