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Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries

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REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION IN THE PACIFIC*

(Item 6 of the provisional agenda)

Note by the secretariat

SUMMARY

The present document reviews the activities carried out during the biennium 2006-2007 that involved participation by Pacific island developing countries and territories, including a brief review of the programme of work for the biennium 2008-2009 and the status of the Pacific Trust Fund.

The Special Body may wish to consider the status of implementation of activities in 2006-2007 and the programme of work for the biennium 2008-2009 and to provide the secretariat with further guidance.

* The present document was submitted late because of the need to coordinate its content with that of a previous submission on similar subject matter to the Committee on Poverty Reduction at its fourth session (E/ESCAP/CPR(4)/11).

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) provides assistance to Pacific island developing countries and territories through: (a) regional activities under the themes of poverty reduction, managing globalization and emerging social issues organized by divisions based in Bangkok, and (b) subregional activities implemented by the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre (UN-EPOC) in Suva. During the biennium 2006-2007, the Centre provided Pacific island developing countries and territories with technical assistance aimed at strengthening their capacities for the formulation and implementation of national sustainable development strategies, identifying urban management issues and improving labour market operations.
2. In order to implement these activities, ESCAP cooperates closely with subregional organizations such as the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme and with United Nations bodies, funds and programmes with a presence in the Pacific subregion.
3. At the sixty-second session of the Commission it was suggested that, since few Pacific island developing countries and territories maintain representation in Bangkok, a working group comprising representatives of those countries should be established in order to enhance interaction between ESCAP and members and associate members in the Pacific. The working group has met twice annually in Suva to review the implementation of ESCAP activities in the Pacific and to advise the secretariat on work programme priorities.
4. In line with Commission resolutions 61/1 on the mid-term review concerning the functioning of the conference structure of the Commission and 63/3 on the review of the conference structure of the Commission, the Executive Secretary of ESCAP held consultations with members and associate members in the Pacific in Noumea on 12 and 13 March 2008 in order to discuss ways to ensure that: (a) their views are reflected in discussions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies; (b) the outcomes and recommendations of these meetings include specific actions for these countries; and (c) the Commission's technical cooperation activities yield tangible benefits for countries in the Pacific.
5. The Pacific Trust Fund has been a useful mechanism for ensuring the continued participation of selected Pacific island countries in the annual sessions of the Commission. The Special Body may wish to put on record its appreciation to the donors that have contributed to the Fund over the years.
6. Economic and Social Council resolutions 37(IV) and 414(XIII), by which ESCAP was established, mandate the Commission to promote economic and social development in the Asian and Pacific region by fostering cooperation between its members and associate members.

7. One of the objectives of ESCAP is to develop and implement policies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the Pacific, taking into account the special needs of the small island developing States, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, adopted at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Port Louis, from 10 to 14 January 2005. In line with Commission resolution 62/12 on strengthening Pacific island developing countries and territories through regional cooperation, ESCAP also promotes South-South cooperation to assist countries in implementing the Pacific Plan for Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration, adopted at the meeting of the leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum held in Kalibobo, Papua New Guinea, on 26 October 2005.

8. Remoteness from major economic centres, small economic size and geographic dispersion raise transport and development costs and limit the realization of economies of scale in Pacific island developing countries and territories. Rapid population growth exerts pressure on scarce resources and frustrates efforts to raise living standards. The shortage of professional and technical skills, paucity of domestic savings and vulnerability to external shocks pose further constraints. In addition, Pacific island countries form a very diverse group, with the development challenges facing small atoll island countries being very different from those facing larger countries. Such factors present challenges for economic, social and sustainable development in the Pacific.

9. Given the challenges faced by countries and territories in the Pacific and the priority that the Commission accords to addressing the special needs of these members and associate members, the present document summarizes activities organized primarily for their benefit during the biennium 2006-2007 and outlines the programme of work in the Pacific for the biennium 2008-2009.

II. PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2006-2007

10. The activities of ESCAP in the Pacific focus on assisting Governments, in particular those of least developed countries, in developing and implementing sustainable national development strategies. Regional activities involving countries and territories in the Pacific were implemented by divisions based in Bangkok and by the ESCAP regional institutes. Subregional activities, primarily for the benefit of countries in the Pacific, were discharged by UN-EPOC. To strengthen regional cooperation, a number of activities focused on applying lessons learned from experiences in Asia to the Pacific context.

11. The majority of the activities undertaken by the secretariat involved meetings, seminars or workshops, including a number implemented in the Pacific subregion. A number of publications also highlighted specific sectoral issues in the Pacific. Many of these activities were funded through section 22 of the budget, Regular programme of technical cooperation of the United Nations. Regional advisers on development policy and social development and planning based at UN-EPOC,

together with regional advisers based in Bangkok, continued to provide countries and territories in the Pacific with technical assistance.

A. Poverty reduction

Subprogramme 1: Poverty and development

12. Both the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2007* (ST/ESCAP/2429) and the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2008* (ST/ESCAP/2476) covered developments in countries and territories of the Pacific. As noted in the surveys, despite robust economic growth in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu in recent years, an improved investment climate and a diversification of exports are essential for long-term economic growth in the Pacific. In 2007, the survey examined the challenge of urbanization in the Pacific and highlighted the need for participatory urban planning and improved access to utilities, including water and electricity. In 2008, the survey examined the labour market in the Pacific and noted the need for coherent macroeconomic policies that encourage growth in employment, especially in the private sector.

Subprogramme 2: Statistics

13. In order to strengthen the capacities of national statistical organizations to generate the data necessary for charting progress towards the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific conducted subregional courses in statistics for Pacific island developing countries in Agana, from 6 February to 1 March 2006, and in Nadi, Fiji, from 20 November to 1 December 2006. Participants in the courses reviewed sampling, estimation, population and labour statistics and economic data, including price indices. In collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, a subregional training course on statistics for Millennium Development Goal indicators was also conducted in Nadi from 24 April to 5 May 2006.

14. In preparation for the implementation of the project entitled “Supporting the development of national statistical systems in the ESCAP region”, funded by the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (Paris21), the secretariat participated in a workshop on the future of statistics in the Pacific region, held by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community in Noumea from 19 to 21 March 2007. The secretariat also participated in the Regional Meeting of Heads of Planning and Heads of Statistics: Future directions for evidence-based decision-making in the Pacific, held in Noumea from 17 to 21 September 2007, in order to identify strategies for extending the project to the Pacific.

Subprogramme 3: Development of Pacific island countries and territories¹

15. A regional action framework for the implementation of the Pacific Urban Agenda was adopted at the Pacific Urban Management Support Programme Workshop, held in Brisbane,

¹ See E/ESCAP/CPR(4)/11.

Australia, from 2 to 4 October 2007. At the workshop, planners from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu reviewed a proposal for a joint programme developed by ESCAP in collaboration with the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the New Zealand International Aid and Development Agency. The programme is aimed at strengthening institutional frameworks and improving the urban environment, access to shelter and the quality of life in these countries. At the meeting, the Australian Agency for International Development also proposed the establishment of a Pacific urban management support facility. The regional action framework was designed in line with the recommendations of the Second Pacific Regional Workshop on Urban Management, organized by ESCAP in collaboration with the Commonwealth Local Government Forum and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat in Nadi from 23 to 25 April 2007. The workshop was held in response to Commission resolution 60/7 on the Pacific Urban Agenda, adopted by the Commission at its sixtieth session in Shanghai, China, in April 2004, and the Pacific Plan for Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Integration, which endorsed the agenda as an integrated framework for addressing urban management issues in the subregion.

16. Key labour issues in Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Vanuatu, including the policies in place and the operations resulting from these policies, were identified at the Expert Group Meeting on Labour Markets in Pacific Small Island Developing Countries, organized by ESCAP in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Suva on 4 and 5 June 2007. Implementation of the recommended policies at national, subregional and regional levels could lead to increased employment opportunities, strengthened labour force skills and greater compliance with internationally agreed labour standards in those countries. The Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) made substantive contributions to the meeting.² The outcome of the meeting served as input to the ILO Tripartite Technical Meeting on Decent Work in Pacific Island Countries, held in Nadi on 28 and 29 November 2007, and will also be included as input to the tenth session of the Special Body on Pacific Island Developing Countries.

17. At the Expert Group Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy in Pacific small island developing countries, held in Suva on 6 and 7 June 2007, the Mauritius Strategy was discussed and it was recommended that a subregional review of its implementation be carried out through a network of national focal points during the biennium 2008-2009. The experts also suggested ways to develop the Mauritius Strategy information kit issued by the secretariat in 2007.

² Recommendations for creating greater opportunities for employment at both national and subregional levels are contained in the publication *Small Island Developing States Series, No. 1: Improving Employment Opportunities in Pacific Island Developing Countries* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.II.F.12).

18. In collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Pacific Centre and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), ESCAP organized a subregional workshop on Millennium Development Goal-based planning, costing and budgeting for countries in Melanesia in Honiara, from 12 to 15 November 2007. The workshop, which introduced Millennium Development Goal-based costing tools to smaller countries where full implementation of the Millennium Development Goals initiative is not be feasible, was the second in a series of three workshops held in the Pacific. The first workshop, for countries in Micronesia, was held in Pohnpei, from 26 to 29 June 2007. A third workshop for countries in Polynesia will be held in collaboration with regional partners in 2008.

19. In order to enhance the profile of ESCAP in the Pacific subregion, a brochure, website and communications strategy were developed and a survey on how ESCAP was perceived by key stakeholders in the Pacific was conducted. To strengthen collaboration with key stakeholders, the Head of UN-EPOC conducted missions to Australia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. Collaboration with subregional organizations and United Nations bodies, funds and programmes with a presence in the Pacific was strengthened.

B. Managing globalization

Subprogramme 4: Trade and investment

20. Ways to improve market access of food, food processing industries and the environmental sustainability of processed food production were discussed at the subregional workshop on the trade and environment dimensions of food processing industries in the Pacific, organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade of Fiji in Suva on 7 and 8 June 2006. In order to be able to comply with standards and regulations in their export markets, countries needed to establish testing laboratories, standardization bodies and certification processes. These considerations also needed to be taken into account in negotiations under the World Trade Organization as well as with multilateral and bilateral donors. Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu participated in the workshop.

21. Other trade-related initiatives during the reporting period included the National Seminar on the Prospective Benefits of Joining the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement for Papua New Guinea, held in Port Moresby on 8 May 2007, and advisory services on adjusting to a Pacific Economic Partnership Agreement provided to Fiji (June 2006), Vanuatu (June-July 2006), Papua New Guinea (July 2006), Samoa (July 2006), Kiribati (July 2006), Fiji (July-August 2006) and Vanuatu (November 2006).

Subprogramme 5: Transport and tourism

22. The Workshop on Expanding the Role of Tourism in Poverty Reduction, held in Nuku'alofa on 24 October 2007, in collaboration with the South Pacific Tourism Organization, Pro-Invest and the Government of Tonga, considered how tourism could reduce hardship and poverty in countries of the

Pacific and identified measures to achieve this objective. The workshop, which was held in line with Commission resolutions 62/3, on the implementation of the Plan of Action for Sustainable Tourism Development in Asia and the Pacific, phase II (2006-2012) and the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Tourism Development, and 62/12, on strengthening Pacific island developing countries and territories through regional cooperation, noted that further development of the tourism sector could lead to expansion of the economic base in both rural and urban areas and an increase in foreign exchange earnings and could create greater opportunities for employment in countries in the Pacific subregion.

23. As requested in the outcome of the Ministerial Conference on Transport held in Busan, Republic of Korea, on 10 and 11 November 2005, the ESCAP secretariat is also exploring the possibility of establishing a cooperative mechanism for the exchange of experiences among transport ministers in the Pacific in collaboration with subregional organizations.

Subprogramme 6: Environment and sustainable development

24. At its eighth session, held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 15 and 16 May 2007, the Special Body on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries requested the Executive Secretary to facilitate the establishment of a cooperation framework on energy security and access to energy services for countries with special needs. It also requested that ESCAP explore the possibility of establishing a special programme on energy-related infrastructure and identify the best usage of available energy. In order to implement its resolution 63/6 on the same subject, the Commission requested Governments to identify focal points to participate in a task force for the development of an action plan. Projects to establish a cooperative framework and to explore the options for a special programme on energy-related infrastructure are being developed. These programmes could enable better cooperation among these countries, including the sharing of best practices.

25. To provide policy guidelines on how to sustain rural electrification projects in remote areas of the Pacific, ESCAP also surveyed rural electrification schemes in Fiji in 2006, identifying possible difficulties in the maintenance and operation of such infrastructure.

Subprogramme 7: Information, communication and space technology

26. To ensure greater connectivity in the Pacific, a study to examine the technical and commercial viability of information and communications technology (ICT) was undertaken in response to a request at the Pacific Leaders' special session held during the sixty-second session of the Commission. Technical, economic and commercial viabilities and financing options were considered at the Technical Consultation on Enhancing Pacific Connectivity, held in Bangkok on 13 and 14 November 2006, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation. The outcome of the consultation was presented to the

eleventh annual General Meeting and Tradeshow of the Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association, held in Pape'ete, from 23 to 27 April 2007. Participants in the stakeholders' round-table consultation on Pacific connectivity, held in Noumea on 13 March 2008, focused on ways to improve connectivity by building upon existing organizations and expertise in the subregion. Further discussions could lead to a consensus among the Pacific island countries on ICT-related issues, and to strengthened partnerships with countries in Asia.

C. Emerging social issues

Subprogramme 8: Emerging social issues

27. In order to review the implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework for Action towards an Inclusive, Barrier-free and Rights-based Society for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific and to consolidate recommendations on ways to strengthen its implementation, in line with Commission resolution 58/4, the Expert Group Meeting on Disability in the Pacific: Strengthening Implementation of the Biwako Millennium Framework was held in Nadi from 28 to 30 March 2007, in collaboration with the Pacific Disability Forum. As a result of this initiative, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia (Federated States of), Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu have developed or are currently adopting national disability policies. The meeting also provided a subregional input to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Midpoint Review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 2003-2012, held in Bangkok from 19 to 21 September 2007.

28. To raise awareness of the complex relationships between population, development and poverty awareness among national planners and policymakers, a training workshop on population, development and poverty in the Pacific was held in Suva, from 24 to 28 September 2007. At the workshop, officials from national planning and statistical offices in Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu prepared population and sectoral projections on the economy, health and education in order to ensure that demographic issues are integrated into development planning.³

29. The regional stakeholders' consultation and planning workshop on the commercial sexual exploitation of children and child sexual abuse in the Pacific and the Fiji national stakeholders' consultation on the commercial sexual exploitation of children were held in Suva, from 19 to 21 November 2007, in collaboration with End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes (ECPAT) International and Save the Children, Fiji. At the workshop stakeholders from Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu shared key findings from situational analysis studies on the commercial sexual exploitation

³ See the *Asia-Pacific Population Journal*, vol. 22, No. 3 (ST/ESCAP/2492), issued in December 2007 in collaboration with the UNFPA country technical services team in Suva. The journal covers a spectrum of issues, including the demographic impact of HIV/AIDS in Papua New Guinea, the current status of sexual and reproductive health as a backdrop for assessing the chances of achieving the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Millennium Development Goals and differential mortality among countries and areas in the Pacific.

of children and child sexual abuse and developed responses, taking into consideration existing commitments and strategies on children's rights and protection. The national stakeholders' consultation, which followed the regional consultations, aimed at planning a strategy to respond to findings of the situational analysis on commercial sexual exploitation of children in Fiji. The publication *Child Sexual Abuse and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in the Pacific: A Regional Report*, prepared by ESCAP in collaboration with ECPAT and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), analysed the factors driving this issue in Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu and suggested responses.

D. Regional advisory services

30. ESCAP provided advisory services on economic and social policy development, upon request, to countries in the Pacific. Over the course of the biennium, in addition to the services of the regional advisers on social development and planning and development policy, who are based in Suva, countries also requested the services of regional advisers on environment and sustainable development, economic statistics and trade and investment policy, who are based in Bangkok.

31. The regional advisers on social development and planning and on development policy undertook advisory missions on a wide range of activities, including the development of disability policies in Fiji and Micronesia (Federated States of), a national development strategy in Vanuatu, a development plan for the island of 'Eau in Tonga and a project planning guide for Solomon Islands. In line with a request from the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, a study on the costs of adjusting to the requirements of the Pacific Economic Partnership Agreement was prepared as background material for negotiations between Pacific island developing countries and the European Union. Advisory services to prepare a draft action plan against the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Micronesia (Federated States of) complemented the report entitled "Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse of Children in Fiji: A Situational Analysis", which was launched in Suva on 1 March 2006.

III. PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008-2009

32. The subprogramme on the development of Pacific island countries and territories, which is under the substantive responsibility of UN-EPOC, will be implemented during the biennium 2008-2009, as proposed at the sixty-third session of the Commission. The objective of the subprogramme is to develop and implement policies for the achievement of relevant development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the Pacific, taking into account the special needs of the small island developing States, as highlighted in the Mauritius Strategy. The expected accomplishments are improved national capacities to develop policies and strategies to improve the lives of vulnerable groups and improved subregional cooperation to strengthen sustainable economic and social development in small island developing States.

33. As recommended by the Working Group of the Advisory Council of UN-EPOC, the subprogramme on the development of Pacific island countries and territories will continue to focus on the development of national sustainable development strategies and labour issues in the Pacific.

34. The project proposal on capacity-building in Pacific small island developing States to incorporate the Mauritius Strategy into national sustainable development strategies has been submitted for funding under the United Nations Development Account.⁴ The proposal has been shortlisted and the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs is expected to endorse the list at its meeting in April 2008. Under this project, a policy guide to develop sound sustainable development policies, with focus on the Mauritius Strategy and the Millennium Development Goals, will be prepared and advisory services will be provided to the least developed countries in the Pacific in order to build their capacity to implement sound sustainable development policies. In preparation for the midterm review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy in 2010, a subregional workshop will be held to review its implementation in Asia and the Pacific and to provide a regional input to the global review. The project will be implemented in partnership with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

35. A project on developing effective employment policies is being developed with ILO. Training material on income and employment generation for vulnerable groups will be prepared and a subregional workshop on sharing experiences between Asian and Pacific countries to improve income and employment opportunities for vulnerable groups will be conducted. Advisory services to build capacity among countries, particularly the least developed countries, to implement good practices in income and employment generation for vulnerable groups will also be provided. The recommendations emanating from the tenth session of the Special Body will be integrated into these activities during the biennium.

36. A proposed “Economic Survey of the Pacific 2008”, which is to be prepared in collaboration with United Nations programmes, funds and bodies and subregional organizations in the Pacific, will review recent economic developments and highlight issues from a variety of perspectives. This and other studies will form part of an electronic library on economic and social policy development in the Pacific.

37. Projects on improving disability measurement and statistics in support of the Biwako Millennium Framework and the regional census programme, funded under the United Nations Development Account during the period from 2007 to 2009, and on improving access to survey microdata in Asia and the Pacific, funded by the World Bank, managed globally by Paris21 and implemented by ESCAP in Asia and the Pacific, will include the participation of Fiji. A three-week

⁴ See General Assembly resolution 62/238, sect. VIII.

subregional course on statistics for Pacific island developing countries is also scheduled to be held in 2008 in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

38. As part of a regional programme on improving the sustainable development capacity of developing countries in the Asian and Pacific region, including the strengthening of relevant institutions, a pilot project on the development of a green business growth model and climate change adaptation measures will be conducted during the second half of 2008. The initial phase of the project will focus on a “training of the trainers” workshop on the development and application of green-growth policy tools. Through this pilot project, policymakers will be able to acquire the knowledge, skills and tools needed to develop and implement policies that support business development in local communities.

IV. STATUS OF THE PACIFIC TRUST FUND

39. Since its establishment in 1989, the Pacific Trust Fund has enabled the increased participation of Pacific island countries at the annual sessions of the Commission. The following Pacific island countries and territories have benefited from the Trust Fund from 1991 to 2007:⁵

1991	Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
1992	Cook Islands, Kiribati, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
1993	Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
1994	Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
1995	Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
1996	Kiribati, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
1997	Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
1998	Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
1999	Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
2000	Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
2001	Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
2002	Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

⁵ Priority funding continues to be allocated to the five Pacific island least developed countries.

- 2003 Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu
- 2004 Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia (Federated States of), Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
- 2005 Kiribati, Palau, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
- 2006 Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.
- 2007 Fiji and Papua New Guinea

40. In 2008, support will be extended to the following 12 Pacific island countries and territories: Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

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