LDCs/SIDS TRUST FUND WORKSHOP FOR THE PACIFIC REGION

"Assessing the value of the activities of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund in fulfilling its training and capacity – building mandate: Identifying achievements and areas of improvement"

Kamorale Convention Center, Palikir, Federated States of Micronesia

17 to 19 November 2025

Agenda

Monday, 17 November

Day one

08:15	Pick-up from Rainbow Cliff Hotel
09:00	**Registration/Coffee**
10:00– 11:00	**Master of ceremony:** Mr. Kenneth Wells, First Secretary, FSM Permanent Mission New York **Opening prayer:** Father Jove Thomsin **Opening ceremony:** Welcoming remarks: • **Mr. Patterson Shaed**, Chief of Staff, Pohnpei State • **Ms. Hui Lu,** Secretary of the Human Rights Council, OHCHR Statements: • **Ms. Heike Alefsen,** Regional Representative of OHCHR for the Pacific • **H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber**, President of the Human Rights Council Keynote address by **His Excellency Wesley W. Simina,** President, Federated States of Micronesia Benediction by **Reverend Midion G. Neth**

	<u>First Photo</u>: ***1. H.E. Wesley W. Simina, President of FSM*** ***2. H.E. Jürg Lauber, President of HR Council*** ***3. Mr. Patterson Shaed, Chief of Staff, Pohnpei State*** ***4. Ms. Hui Lu, Secretary of HR Council*** ***5. Ms. Heike Alefsen Regional Rep. of OHCHR*** **<u>Second Photo</u>:** Group Picture ***Dignitaries with participants of the workshop***
11:00 – 12:30	**<u>Special session</u>** Engaging with the President of the Human Rights Council for the 19th cycle (2025), **H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber** (Switzerland) Notetaker: **Ms. Barbara Fontana**
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:00	**<u>Introductory session</u>** Update on the Trust Fund and modalities of the workshop • **Ms. Meena Ramkaun**, Coordinator of the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund, OHCHR • **Mr. Kenneth Wells** (Micronesia), Rapporteur of the Workshop
14:00 – 15:30	**<u>First plenary session</u>** **The Human Rights Council and the LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund since the last regional workshop in 2019** Moderator: **Ms. Meena Ramkaun** Presentations: • HRC trends, main outcomes and the Trust Fund's main achievements and challenges, **Ms. Hui Lu** • The Nadi Declaration 2019 – **Mr. Ientaake Aretaake** (Kiribati) <u>Interactive discussion</u>
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 17:15	**<u>Second plenary session</u>** **Key priorities for the LDCs/SIDS in the Pacific region at the HRC** Moderator: **Ms. Hui Lu** Notetaker: **Mr. Diego Valadares Vasconcelos Neto** Presentations: • Key human rights priorities for the Pacific region and its engagement with the Human Rights Council, as identified in the pre-workshop questionnaire, **Ms. Meena Ramkaun**

	• The role of OHCHR's Regional Office for the Pacific in advancing regional priorities, **Ms. Heike Alefsen** Interactive discussion on current challenges and ways in which LDCs and SIDS can advance these priorities, so that the HRC can respond to them more effectively

Tuesday, 18 November

Day two

09:00	Pick-up from Rainbow Cliff Hotel
10:00 – 11:00	**Third plenary session** **Exchange of experiences on HRC membership** Moderator: **Ms. Hui Lu** Notetaker: **Ms. Meena Ramkaun** Presentations by: - **H.E. Ms. Doreen Debrum**, Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Marshall Islands in Geneva - **Ms. Suliana Taukei** (Fiji) Interactive discussion
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:45	**Fourth plenary session** **LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund in the Pacific Region:** Our stories - Testimonials from former beneficiaries with a focus on assessing the value of the Trust Fund's activities in fulfilling its training and capacity-building mandate Moderator: **Ms. Meena Ramkaun** Notetaker: **Ms. Hui Lu** Presentations: • Projection of video about testimonials by beneficiary representatives • Testimonial from former beneficiaries: – **Ms. Norleen Oliver** (Micronesia) – **Ms. Katherine J Belong** (Nauru) – **Ms. Jerominah Mugau** (Papua New Guinea) Interactive discussion
12:45 – 14:15	Lunch

14:15 – 16:45	**Breakout sessions** Rapporteurs (and notetakers) of the breakout groups: • Breakout group sessions focusing on the implementation of major recommendations contained in the Nadi Declaration; and setting out actionable recommendations aimed at further improving the Trust Fund's training and capacity–building activities in support of strengthening the engagement of the Pacific region in the work of the Human Rights Council
16:45 – 17:00	Coffee break
17:00 – 18:30	**Fifth plenary session** **Sharing experiences and lessons learned from other regions (Asia and the Caribbean):** with a focus on the priorities identified in the declarations and outcomes adopted at the previous regional workshops Moderator: **Ms. Hui Lu** Notetaker: **Ms. Jacqueline Nzoyihera** Presentations: • **Ms. Cheryl Toh**, Permanent Mission of Singapore to the UN in Geneva - Forum of Small Islands (FOSS) (online participation) • **Mr. Yashasvi Nain**, Human Rights Advisor, Commonwealth Secretariat in Geneva • **Ms. Sasha Dixon**, Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of the Bahamas to the UN in Geneva, Focal Point on human rights matters for the CARICOM in Geneva (online participation tbc) Interactive discussion

Wednesday, 19 November

Day three

08:15	Pick-up from Rainbow Cliff Hotel
9:00 – 10:30	**Sixth plenary session** **The Pacific Region's engagement with the HRC, its mechanisms and human rights mechanisms in general: good practices and challenges** Moderator: **Mr. Yashasvi Nain** Notetaker: **Ms. Jacqueline Nzoyihera** Presentations:

	• **Special procedures – Mr. Augustine Koehler,** Head of the National Archives and Cultural Heritage **/ Mr. Heman Semes Jr.,** Assistant Secretary - Department of Foreign Affairs**,** on the engagement of the **Federated States of Micronesia** with thematic special procedures: country visits, communications • **UPR – Ms. Suliana Taukei** (Fiji)**,** on the participation in a UPR WG session and on implementation and follow – up of recommendations • **Treaty Bodies – Ms. Galivaka T Niko** (Tuvalu), on engagement with human rights treaty bodies. • Engagement with the **HRC** in the framework of its **Agenda item 10 – Ms. Ariana T. Kilma** (Marshall Islands)**,** Chairperson of the National Nuclear Commission <u>Interactive discussion</u>
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee break
10:45 – 11:15	**<u>Breakout sessions</u>** (c*ont'd*) Rapporteurs (and notetakers) of the breakout groups: • Breakout group discussions continue on the implementation of major recommendations contained in the Nadi Declaration; and setting out actionable recommendations aimed at further improving the Trust Fund's training and capacity–building activities in support of strengthening the engagement of the Pacific region in the work of the Human Rights Council
11:15 – 12:30	• **Presentation** by breakout group Rapporteurs, proposing main elements and recommendations to be included in the outcome document of the workshop that will feed into the report by OHCHR as mandated by HRC res. 49/32 Notetakers from each breakout group: <u>Comments from the floor</u>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:45	**Drafting group meeting** (to draft the outcome recommendations) *Drafting group comprises the Rapporteur of the workshop and the Rapporteurs of the breakout groups*
14:45 – 15:45	**<u>Seventh plenary session</u>** • Presentation of the draft recommendations for the Pacific Region, by **Mr. Kenneth Wells**, Rapporteur of the workshop on behalf of the drafting group Notetakers: **Rapporteurs of each breakout group** <u>Comments from the floor</u> on the presented recommendations

15:45 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 17:00	Drafting group meeting to finalize recommendations
17:00 – 17:30	**Eighth plenary session** **Finalization and adoption of the outcome of the workshop** • **Mr. Kenneth Wells**, Rapporteur of the Workshop, with the support of the Drafting Group
17:30	Departure for AA Getaway Restaurant
18:30	**Closing ceremony** Master of Ceremony: **Ms. Sylvia Elias**, Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF **Remarks** 1. **Mr. Roderico Ofrin,** UN Resident Coordinator a.i. Micronesia 2. **Ms. Meena Ramkaun**, Coordinator LDCs/SIDS Trust Fund, OHCHR 3. **H.E. Akillino Susaia,** FSM Permanent Representative/ Ambassador in Geneva **Presentation of Certificates** By **H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber,** President of the Human Rights Council and **Ms. Hui Lu,** Secretary of the Human Rights Council **-- Dinner for participants at AA Getaway Restaurant --**

OHCHR and Commonwealth Secretariat Capacity-Building Session on Reporting to the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies

Kamorale Convention Center, Palikir, Federated States of Micronesia

20 November 2025

Draft Agenda TBC

Thursday, 20 November

Day four

08:15	Pick-up from Rainbow Cliff Hotel
09:00 – 09:30	**Session 1: Overview of the status of ratification and treaty body reporting in the Pacific Region** • Presentation This session will provide an overview of the status of ratification and pending reports in the Pacific Region.
09:30 – 11:00	**Session 2: Challenges in reporting to the treaty bodies** • Brainstorming This session will help to share and understand challenges of States in Pacific Region in reporting to treaty bodies, as well as solutions to address these challenges.
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 11:45	**Session 3: How to draft a report – step by step approach, synergy of reporting processes** • work in groups (1:00 min) • debrief in the plenary (30 min) This session will equip participants with a methodology of drafting reports to treaty bodies, exemplified on one or two selected treaties pertinent for the Pacific Region, as well as tips on utilizing synergies of reporting processes.
11:45 – 13:00	**Session 4: Treaty body reporting process: the reporting cycle** • Interactive presentation

	This session will assist in understanding the reporting process to treaty bodies, procedures and steps.
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	**Session 5: National mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up (NMIRF)** • interactive presentation of key concepts and capacities (20 min) • presentation of NMIRFs from the Pacific region (20 min) • discussion (1 hour) This session will explain the concept and capacities of NMIRF, provide a presentation by two countries of the Pacific Region having established NMIRF and a discussion on usefulness and feasibility of furthering NMIRF establishment in the Pacific Region, as well as support needed in this respect.
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 – 17:30	**Session 6: Information management - where to find information** • presentation of UHRI (30 min) • practical exercise (30 min) • presentation of OHCHR website (country page) and databases (TBs and jurisprudence) (15 min) This session will present information management tools and databases and provide practical exercises to participants on the use of these tools.
17:30 – 17:45	**Session 7: Closing – follow-up and next steps**

Friday, 21 November

Day five

Cultural activity organized by the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia:

Visit to **Nan Madol**, **Kepirohi Waterfall**, and tour around the island.
Departure from Cliff Rainbow Hotel at 8:00 (TBC) – Return around 15:00