



SOUTH PACIFIC NURSES FORUM

South Pacific Nurses Forum Minutes 2024

This 21st meeting of the South Pacific Nurses Forum was held at the APEC Centre, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on Thursday 6 June 2024. Represented by Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand and Australia National Nursing Organisations.

The National Nursing Organisations resolve/ agree to:

1. Reconfirmed that SPNF will meet every 2 years face to face, and meetings every three months to advance strategic priorities will continue online via zoom.

Moved: Eseta Finau (NZL)

Seconded: Natasha Mamea (Samoa)

CARRIED

2. Host 2026 – it is moved that the traditional practice on circulating through country list will be followed for the hosting format.

It is moved that Fiji host the 2026 SPNF.

Moved: Akisi Ravono (Fiji)

Seconded: Frederick Kebai (PNG)

CARRIED

3. Secretariat role. It was discussed that the SPC be approached to convene as the secretariat role to SPNF in the future. It was agreed the importance of having a collaboration centre.

Action:

Will be further discussed at a zoom meeting in 3 months to allow Fiji enough time to explore with SPC to take on the role of SPNF secretariat. In the meantime, Australia will continue in the secretariat role time until such time as Fiji arrange a meeting with SPC, all members of SPNF, NNA will be reconvened to discuss this further.

Moved: Frederick Kebai (PNG)

Seconded: (Samoa)

CARRIED

4. Strategic priorities

- **Workforce** *-(identified key strategic priority number 1)*
 - Ethical migration
 - Australia and NZ, NNA work to limit the migration
 - recognition of prior learning when working in NZ /Australia
 - attraction & retention
 - untrained workforce
 - patient ratios, safe workloads

- capture relevant workforce data across NNA
- increase remuneration and improved working conditions.
- Indigenous leadership and representation
- Nursing leadership
 - Nurture/Mentor nurses to lead
 - Collaboration between government, regulators and NNA
- Climate change
- Union - Solomon Islands only for government workers, non-government workers must be included
- **Education** – *(Identified key strategic priority number 2)* Support and training opportunities, collaboration across the region to included BN and Masters
- **Strengthen SPNF through ministries and education.** *(Identified as key strategic priority number 3)* Provide more opportunities for NNA member to provide leadership training for new members
- ICN - how are they supporting our region
- Strengthen NNA communication from regional areas
- Celebrate nurses milestones across the SPNF
- Future Pandemic Planning

Statement

With the critical global nursing workforce shortage SPNF celebrate the knowledge and skills that nurses bring to the health workforce.

SPNF strongly encourage all countries including New Zealand and Australia uphold their ethical recruitment responsibilities and all government must support the retention of nurses by ensuring safe and healthy workplaces and pay remuneration.

SPNF support nursing leadership across all levels of the health system and strongly encourage all governments to ensure that Ministries of Health support the recruitment and retention of Chief nurses and strong nursing governance to support the future of a sustainable nursing workforce.

Moved: Solomon Islands

Seconded: PNG