**5th PCREEE STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC) MEETING**

18th NOVEMBER 2020

MODE: VIRTUAL

**AGENDA ITEM 5 – INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE**

**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this paper is to update the PSC on the institutional structure of the PCREEE and to select new members of the PSC.

**Background**

1. The PCREEE was established with the governance structure below. The future of the PEOG and PEAG is currently being considered in the context of the new Framework for Energy Security and Resilience in the Pacific.



1. The PCREEE operates under the HR and Financial rules and policies of the SPC. SPC is an accredited entity of the EU and the GCF and this is proof of the compliance of SPC’s management and governance structure with internationally accepted standards and norms.
2. In terms of the Secretariat, the PCREEE has 4 full time staff – Manager, Programme Delivery Officer, Pacific Island Junior Professional (PIJP) and a Programme Assistant. The PIJP will soon become vacant and will be advertised.
3. The PCREEE Staff are complemented by two support staff from the Tonga Department of Energy, International Volunteers and International Students on attachment.
4. The NFIs and the THs play a key role in the appraisal and monitoring of PCREEE’s performance but also in the coordinating of PCREEE’s activities with their respective activities with other partners and donors.

**Current Status**

1. PCREEE continues to operate effectively under the rules and policies of SPC. As of  30 October, SPC is subject to the competence of the ILO Administrative Tribunal for the settlement of employment disputes lodged by staff members. A staff member may lodge up an appeal with the ILOAT up to 60 days after they have exhausted all internal means of resolution.
2. All Volunteers and Interns have been repatriated out of Tonga due to the Covid19 pandemic by March this year.
3. The PCREEE acknowledges how busy the THs are and always welcome their participation.
4. The PCREEE steering committee members from the PICTs are selected for a term in office of two years. The current members are as in the table below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NO** | **STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP** |  |
| **Existing Members in 2018** | **New Members in 2019** | **Proposed for 2020** |
| 1. | Melanesia – Solomon Is | Vanuatu | Fiji |
| 2. | Micronesia – Palau | Republic of Marshall Is | FSM / Kiribati  |
| 3. | Polynesia – Samoa | Cook Island | Tuvalu  |
| 4. | Francophone – Wallis & Futuna | New Caledonia | French Polynesia |
| 5. | Host Country – Tonga | Tonga | Tonga |
| 6. | Chair | Tonga |  |

**Issues**

1. The PCREEE is operating successfully under the institutional and governance structures of SPC and there is no need to consider any autonomous set up under the current financial and donor climate.
2. It is important to have face-to-face meetings and to have the PSC meetings back to back with other related regional and national events thereby maximizing benefits from the PSC meetings.

Given the uncertainty with the pandemic, it would be safe to prepare for the mixed delivery of the 2021 PCREEE work plan to be done virtually and to be done nationally. There is also no certainty in future engagements of International Volunteers and Interns in light of the COVID19 restrictions.

**Recommendations**

1. The meeting is invited to:
2. Endorse the new NFIs to the PSC.
3. Acknowledge the effective operation of the PCREEE under SPC’s roles and policies.
4. Acknowledge the contribution of the NFIs and THs to the PCREEE.

[12th November 2020]