



Fono 2025

Pacific Public Service Leaders' Conference

*Winds of Change: Reimagining Public Service in the Blue
Pacific Continent*

Suva, Fiji

Monday 17–Thursday 20 November 2025

Visit Programme and
logistics Information

Welcome to Fono 2025



Welcome to Fono 2025

Dear Commissioners and Distinguished Delegates,

Bula vinaka and warm Pacific greetings. It is my great pleasure, on behalf of the Fiji Public Service Commission and the Pacific Public Service Leaders' Group, to welcome you to Fono 2025 here in Suva.

This year's Fono brings together our 16 Pacific Public Service Commissions and their partners to strengthen the shared vision of capable, trusted, and connected public services across our region. It is a privilege for Fiji to host you as we continue our journey of collaboration and mutual support—guided by the spirit of vuvale, kinship, and service to our peoples.

Over the coming days, we will reflect on our collective progress and the lessons learned from the past year. We will also look ahead to the future of public sector leadership, digital transformation, and integrity in governance—critical areas shaping how we deliver better outcomes for our citizens. Each Commissioner's experience brings valuable insight to these discussions, and I encourage open dialogue and mutual learning as we explore pathways for continued reform and resilience.

The Fono is not only a meeting of officials; it is a gathering of friends who share a commitment to the Blue Pacific's wellbeing. Together we celebrate our diversity and our shared purpose: to serve our communities with humility, fairness, and integrity. May the sessions, side meetings, and informal talanoa all help us renew our confidence in one another and in the collective strength of our region's leadership.

I extend my sincere thanks to the Public Service Fale Secretariat and our partners at New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade for their continued support and partnership in enabling this platform to flourish.

Vinaka vakalevu and thank you to each of you for your dedication and leadership. I wish you a productive and inspiring Fono 2025 and an enjoyable stay in Fiji.

Warm regards,

Luke Rokovada
Chairman
Fiji Public Service Commission

Programme



Time	Monday 17 November		Tuesday 18 November	Wednesday 19 November	Thursday 20 November	
7:00	Breakfast		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	
7:30	Information Desk Open 7.30am – 8am			Governance Board Meeting 7.45 – 8.30 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel (Room TBC)		
8:00						
8:30	Transport to PIFS		Transport to PIFS			
9:00						
9:30	Opening Ceremony & Leaders’ Photo 9.30 – 10.30 Location: PIFS Fale		Fono 9.00 – 11.00 Location: PIFS Conference Centre	Integrity at the Core: Building Cultures of Ethical Public Service 9.00 – 10.30 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel, Britannia Ballroom	Fono Outcomes 9.00 – 10.00 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel, Britannia Ballroom	
10:00						
10:30	Morning Tea			Morning Tea		
11:00	Pacific Public Sector and the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent 11.00 – 12.00 Location: PIFS Conference Centre		Morning Tea	Future-Ready Public Service: Optimising Workforces Through Digital Adoption & AI 11.00 – 12.30 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel, Britannia Ballroom	Partner Dialogue 10.30 – 12.15 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel, Britannia Ballroom	
11:30			Sub-regional Caucuses 11.30 – 12.30 Location: PIFS Meeting Rooms			
12:00	Lunch				Lunch	
12:30			Lunch	Lunch		
13:00					Closing Ceremony 13.15 – 14.00 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel, Britannia Ballroom	
13:30	Heads of Delegation Session Location: PIFS Conference Centre 13.30– 15.00	Delegates Visit to FLIPS 13.30– 15.00	Fono Conclusion & Decisions 13.30 – 15.00 Location: PIFS Conference Centre	Strengthening Service Delivery: Workforce Planning & HR for the Future 13.30 – 15.30 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel, Britannia Ballroom		
14:00						
14:30						
15:00	Afternoon Tea (15 mins)		Afternoon Tea			
15:30	Collective Leadership in The Blue Pacific 15.15 – 17.00 Location: PIFS Conference Centre		Heads of Delegation Visit to FLIPS 15.30 – 17.00	Afternoon Tea	Optional Delegate Activity or Executive Time	
16:00				Bilateral Meetings 16.00 – 17.30 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel		
16:30						
17:00						
17:30						
18:00			Dinner by private arrangement			
18:30	Welcome Dinner 18:30 Location: Holiday Inn			Fono Mixer 18.30 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel	Closing Dinner 18.30 Location: Grand Pacific Hotel	
19:00						
19:30						

Delegates



CHAIR

1. Luke Rokovada

Chair of the Fono: Pacific Public Service Leaders' Conference

POLYNESIA

Cook Islands

2. Mr Carl Hunter

Public Service Commissioner, Public Service Commission

3. Ms Myra Patai

Chief Executive Officer, Public Service Commission

4. Ms Mary Ngamata

HR Systems Administrator, Public Service Commission

Samoa

8. Ms Osana Liki-Ward

Assistant Secretary, Public Service Commission

9. Ms Sarona Esera – Filipino

Assistant Secretary, Public Service Commission

10. Tofilau Melanie Mulitalo

Assistant Secretary, Public Service Commission

Niue

5. Mr Fapoi Akesi

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

6. Ms Suefane Touna

Secretariat Director, Public Service Commission

7. Mr Hagen Siosikefu

Public Service Inspector, Public Service Commission

Tokelau

11. Mr Kele Lui

Public Service Commissioner, Public Service Commission

12. Ms Saliloimanatu Margraff

HR Manager, Public Service Commission

13. Ms Margaret Pedro

Manager - Public Service Arrangement and Research, Public Service Commission

Tonga

14. Ms Taiatu Ataata

Chairperson, Public Service Commission

15. Mr Siale Akauola

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

16. Mr Franz Tuuhetoka

Chief Executive Officer, Public Service Commission

17. Ms Tuitamala Vaka

Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Public Service Commission

Tuvalu

18. Ms Aoga Kofe

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

19. Mr Penehuo Hauma

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

20. Ms Mila Tulimanu

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

21. Mr Pasivao Maani

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

22. Ms Sunema Simati

Deputy Secretary, Public Service Commission

23. Mr Kuarawete Aviata

Recruitment Advisor

MELANESIA

Fiji

24. Ms Mereseini Baleilevuka

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

25. Mr Vilitati Mataitini

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

26. Mr Nesbitt Hazelman

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

New Caledonia

27. Mr Gaston Wadrawane

Director, External Relations and Regional Cooperation

28. Ms Wajune Ita

Head of Department, Human Resources & Civil Service Department

29. Mr Rodolphe Ponsard

Head of Recruitment, Human Resources & Civil Service Department

Delegates



Papua New Guinea

30. Ms Taies Sansan

Secretary, Department of Personnel Management

31. Ms Constance Baisi

Deputy Secretary, Department of Personnel Management

32. Mr Franklin Norotouw

Senior Database Administrator, Department of Personnel Management

Solomon Islands

33. Mr Milner Tozaka

Chair, Public Service Commission

34. Mr Luke Cheka

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Service

35. Mr Solomon Manea

Director, Institute of Public Administration and Management (IPAM), Ministry of Public Service

36. Ms Sandra Maezama

Assistant Secretary, Public Service Commission

Vanuatu

37. Mr Martin Mahe

Chairman, Public Service Commission

38. Mr James Melteres

Secretary, Public Service Commission

39. Mr Stephane Bong

Deputy Secretary, Public Service Commission

40. Mr Jimmy Edward

Public Service Commission

41. Mr. Meto K Nganga

Public Service Commission

42. Mr. Fred Varobaravu

Public Service Commission

43. Ms. Nadia Kanegai

Public Service Commission

MICRONESIA

Federated States of Micronesia

44. Mr Samson Pretrick

Director, FSM Personnel Office

45. Mr Kerman Alten

Personnel Specialist, FSM Personnel Office

46. Ms Mersina George

Administrator, Division of Personnel & Employment Services

Kiribati

47. Ms Riiti Uriam

Director, Public Service Office

48. Ms Eliza Tokataake

Director, Public Service Office

49. Ms Mareta Teikarawa

Senior Assistant Secretary, Public Service Office

Nauru

50. Ms Leona Cain Waidabu

Chief Secretary, Department of the Chief Secretary

51. Mr Giedo Garabwan

Secretary for Corporate Service, Department of the Chief Secretary

52. Mr Marcus Aremwa

Director, Human Resources and Labour, Department of the Chief Secretary

53. Ms Charlei Deiye

Senior Personal Assistant, Department of the Chief Secretary

Republic of the Marshall Islands

54. Mr Jendrikdrik Paul

Chairman, Public Service Commission

55. Mr Almo Momotaro

Commissioner, Public Service Commission

56. Mr Lokboj Alberttar

Assistant Commissioner, Public Service Commission

Palau

57. Ms Terra Nabeyama

Director, Bureau of Human Resources

Delegates



Secretariat: Public Service Fale

58. Ms Tania Ott

Deputy Commissioner, Public Service Fale

59. Ms Lise Leaupepe

Principal Advisor

61. Mr Jordan Aquila

Advisor

63. Mr Dermot Lavelle

Advisor

60. Mr Andrew McMillan

Manager

62. Ms Ileini Taloa

Senior Advisor

64. Mr Teanuanua Nicole

Senior Advisor

Fono Observers

Australian Public Service Commission

65. Ms Jo Talbot

First Assistant Commissioner – Workplace Reform and Diversity

66. Ms Christine Shannon

Executive Director – International, Workplace Reform and Diversity

67. Ms Bronwyn Armstrong, Assistant Director –
International

68. Ms Talei Emberson, Senior Programme Officer,
International

Te Kawa Mataaho | New Zealand Public Service Commission

69. Sir Brian Roche KNZM

Public Service Commissioner

Key Contacts and Logistical Information



Liaison Support while in Fiji

The Fiji Public Service Commission and the Fale will provide logistical and liaison support during your stay in Fiji. The following personnel will be your focal contact points for Fono 2025:

Ms Amelia Senileba (Logistics)

Phone: +679 990 4329

Mr Dermot Lavelle (Logistics)

Phone: +64 27 365 7282

Ms Joana Tukana (AV & IT session support)

Phone: +679 992 0232

Ms Ileini Taloa (AV & IT session support)

Phone: +64 210 262 8673

Mr Jordan Aquila (Programme)

Phone: +64 27 276 6225

Fono Communication

Delegates are asked to note that they will be added to a **WhatsApp community** for logistical and programme update communications during the Fono.

The cell phone numbers that were supplied by delegates during registration for the Fono will be used for the WhatsApp community. If you have not been added to the WhatsApp Community, you can scan the below QR code or notify one of the Fale or Fiji PSC team members and you will be added.



For more information on Fono 2025, you can head to the Fono website:

<https://www.publicservicefale.govt.nz/fono-2025>

Accommodation



Grand Pacific Hotel (GPH)

The Public Service Fale meets the costs of your accommodation in Suva for the duration of your visit.

Just a gentle reminder that all additional room charges e.g. room service, mini-bar or laundry charges incurred during your stay are not covered and if purchased, will need to be paid for directly at check-out.

Address

584, 628 Victoria Parade, Suva, Fiji

Phone: +679 322 2000

Key Contacts and Logistical Information



Meals



Delegates are asked to note the following arrangements for meals for Fono.

Breakfast: is included in your room booking. Breakfast is provided in the GPH restaurant on the Ground Floor.

Lunch: is catered throughout the Conference and will be provided at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat on Days 1 & 2 and at GPH on Days 3 & 4

Dinner:

- **Monday 17** - Delegates are invited to join the host of the Fono for an opening dinner at the Holiday Inn (adjacent to GPH) at 6.30pm
- **Tuesday 18** – Dinner by private arrangement
- **Wednesday 19** – Delegates are invited to a mix and mingle function with light finger food co-hosted by the Fale and NZ High Commission to Fiji.
- **Thursday 20** - Delegates are invited to join the host of the Fono for a closing dinner at GPH at 7.00pm

Delegates are again asked to note that any items (meals, drinks or other items) charged to the hotel rooms will need to be covered privately by the delegates themselves and settled at check-out.

Please note: GPH is a cashless venue. All purchases onsite must be made via credit card or charged to your room.

Transport to Conference and Ground Transport Options

Transport to the conference has been pre-arranged by the Fiji Public Service Commission, who have been made aware of delegate flight arrival and departure times and will facilitate transfers from the airport before and following the conference.

Fiji PSC will also arrange any transport necessary to the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and for off-site visits that have been organised as part of the conference programme.

Delegates are asked to please note the following transport times for Monday 17 and Tuesday 18:

- Delegates to gather in the Foyer of the Grand Pacific Hotel from **8:10am**
- Transport for Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat departs no later than **8:30am**

A reminder message will be distributed via the **WhatsApp community**.

Should you wish to use transport outside of the official programme, please contact a member from the Fiji Public Service Commission or the Public Service Fale.

Health and Wellbeing



Delegates may wish to note the following details in case of emergency or for medical support throughout Fono.

Medical Team



A medical team will be available to all delegates throughout the duration of Fono 2025. Speak to a member of the Fiji PSC or Fale, and we can assist you where needed.

City Centre Pharmacy



Phone: +679 331 0844
Store hours
Mon - Sun: 9.00am - 9.00pm

Suva City Pharmacy



Phone: +679 839 2617
Store hours
Mon - Fri: 7.30am – 6.00pm
Sat: 7.30am - 4.30pm
Sun: CLOSED

Weather/dress guidance: Sunday 16 – Saturday 22 November

For all official programme events, the dress code will be island business casual / national dress. For the Opening and Closing dinners, dress code is Island Formal. For the optional delegates activity on Thursday, delegates are advised to please dress appropriately for both the hot weather and cultural sensitivities. You may also like to pack a light jacket if it rains.

Opening Ceremony



Per your Fono programme, **the official opening ceremony will take place at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat from 9.30am – 10.30am, Monday 17 November 2025, in the Fale.**

The Fiji Public Service Commission is delighted and honoured to host Fono 2025, supported by the Public Service Fale.

Welcome Ceremony - Order of Proceedings

- 1. Arrival of Guests**
- 2. Arrival of Chief Guest**

Commencement of Formalities

- 3. Devotion**
- 4. Traditional Welcome**, Qaloqalovi & Sevusevu
- 5. Welcome Address**, Mr Luke Rokovada, Chairman, Public Service Commission, Fiji
- 6. Keynote Address**, The Honourable Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka, Fiji
- 7. Vote of Thanks**, Ms Osana Liki-Ward, Assistant Secretary, Public Service Commissioner, Samoa
- 8. Traditional Meke (Dance) and Sere (Song)**
- 9. Leaders' Photo**
- 10. Refreshments**

Background

Qaloqalovi

The type of welcome ceremony being performed at the Pacific Public Service Leaders' Conference: Fono 2025, is a *qaloqalovi*.

This used to be a nautical ceremony, performed at sea onboard a visiting vessel (*qaloqalovi* means 'swimming out to'). The highlight of the ceremony is the gifting of a *tabua* - a whale tooth - the most sacred of iTaukei gifts. To iTaukei, the whale is a mysterious and enigmatic animal and is highly revered. Their slow movements and quiet, peaceful presence epitomises the refined qualities of a leader.

Sevusevu

A large yaqona plant is presented to the guest by the mata ni vanua, who kneels beside it with their hands on top and recites a chant.

Closing Ceremony



Per your Fono programme, **the official closing ceremony will take place at the Grand Pacific Hotel from 1:15pm – 2:00pm, Thursday 20 November 2025, in the Britannia Ballroom.**

Delegates are requested to be seated by 1:10pm to commence formalities at 1:15pm.

Closing Ceremony - Order of Proceedings

- 1. Arrival of Guests**
- 2. Arrival of Chief Guest**

Commencement of Formalities

- 3. Opening Remarks**
- 4. Keynote speech, Chief Guest**
- 5. Presentation of Gifts, Fiji Public Service Commission**
- 6. Closing Remarks**

As we bring Fono 2025 to a close, the Fiji Public Service Commission reflects with deep pride and gratitude on the privilege of hosting this important gathering in Suva. Over the past days, we have witnessed the strength of our Pacific family - 16 nations united by shared values and a common vision for a resilient, inclusive Blue Pacific. Your commitment to collaboration and innovation in public service delivery has made this Fono a true success. Hosting this event has been an honour for Fiji, and we look forward to continuing the partnerships and conversations that will shape a stronger, more connected region for generations to come.