Meeting Report

PACIFIC HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK
REGIONAL MEETING ON STRENGTHENING
HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

28 – 30 March 2023
Suva, Fiji
Pacific Health Information Network Regional Meeting on Strengthening Health Information Systems and Digital Health

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MEETING REPORT

PACIFIC HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK
REGIONAL MEETING ON STRENGTHENING
HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND DIGITAL HEALTH

Convened by:

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28–30 March 2023

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NOTE

The views expressed in this report are those of the participants of the Pacific Health Information Network Regional Meeting on Strengthening Health Information Systems and Digital Health and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the conveners.

This report has been prepared by the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific for Member States in the Region and for those who participated in the Pacific Health Information Network Regional Meeting on Strengthening Health Information Systems and Digital Health in Suva, Fiji from 28 to 30 March 2023.
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SUMMARY

The Pacific Health Information Network (PHIN) Regional Meeting on Strengthening Health Information Systems and Digital Health was jointly convened by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Pacific Community (SPC) on 28–30 March 2023 in Nadi, Fiji. Country representatives from 19 Pacific island countries and areas (PICs) working in health information systems (HIS) and digital health, PHIN board members and key partner agencies in the region attended the meeting in person.

PHIN is a regional network of HIS and digital health professionals across the Pacific established in 2006. WHO and SPC are the joint secretariats. PHIN aims to address shared challenges through regional collaboration, common standards and practices, and information-sharing. Members are expected to meet in-person on a routine basis to discuss emerging HIS and digital health priorities in the region and to facilitate peer-learning – a practice that had been halted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

PICs have made progress in multiple aspects in the past few years: in health development towards the Healthy Islands vision, in HIS strengthening to improve Healthy Islands Framework Monitoring (HIMF) implementation, and in digital health advancement. However, meeting discussions highlighted persisting HIS and digital health challenges in the Pacific, such as inadequate funding and infrastructure, limited number and technical capacity of workforce, and lack of governance. With technical support from the joint secretariats, PICs are recommended to:

- collaborate with the joint secretariats to improve HIMF implementation;
- develop or update national digital health strategies based on the digital health maturity model;
- develop data standards and requirements to guide HIS development and integration;
- establish long-term implementation plans to guide transition to the International Classification of Diseases 11th Revision (ICD-11);
- actively participate in PHIN to share technical knowledge and lesson learnt; and
- map key HIMF indicators to provide health leaders with a visual overview of progress.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Meeting organization

The Pacific Health Information Network (PHIN) is a regional network of health information system (HIS) and digital health professionals across the Pacific that aims to address shared challenges through regional collaboration, common standards and practices, and information-sharing. The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Pacific Community (SPC), as joint secretariats, convened a regional meeting at Tanoa International Hotel in Nadi, Fiji, on 28–30 March 2023 to discuss HIS and digital health strengthening challenges and opportunities, to review the progress of the Healthy Islands vision, and to share related capacity-building needs in countries in order to operationalize the PHIN strategic plan.

1.2 Meeting objectives

The objectives of the meeting were:

(1) to discuss the draft third HIMF progress report before it is finalized and presented at the 14th Pacific Heads of Health meeting, and to discuss the use of HIMF data for policy;
(2) to exchange experiences and identify capacity-building needs in HIS and digital health (including eHealth) across the PICs, and to discuss key implementation
actions to operationalize the PHIN strategic plan; and
(3) to develop coordinated, practical and sustainable technical support in HIS and
digital health that aligns with country needs and promotes data-driven policies.

2. PROCEEDINGS

2.1 Opening session

The Honourable Dr Atonio Lalabalavu, Minister of Health and Medical Services in Fiji, provided the
keynote address, which emphasized the necessity for Pacific island countries and areas (PICs) to
remain current with rapid digital health advances. A key agenda item of the 15th Pacific Health
Ministers Meeting (PHMM) in September 2023 is advancement in health information and digital
health. Health information and digital health are the foundation of resilient health-care systems. This
was highlighted during the pandemic, when high-quality information from HIS guided decision-
making and resource allocation. Dr Lalabalavu encouraged development partners to align their
technical support with the national priorities of PICs.

Dr Mark Jacobs, WHO Representative for the South Pacific and Director of Pacific Technical
Support, and Dr Berlin Kafaoa, Director of the Public Health Division of SPC, thanked the Minister for
his address and welcomed country representatives and participants to the meeting.

2.2 Pacific regional health architecture and the roles of SPC and WHO

The Pacific regional reporting structure for health consists of multiple bodies, leading to development
of outcomes and recommendations at the Pacific Heads of Health annual meeting and of resolutions
and actions at the biennial PHMM. WHO and SPC are the secretariats for health, with technical
support from international partners. The Public Health Division of SPC consists of five programmes,
and the broad range of technical expertise and experience within these programmes supports the
attainment of six key result areas. The WHO Division of Pacific Technical Support provides tailored
support to 21 PICs on key areas such as climate change, noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), health
systems, and outbreaks and emergencies, contributing to the achievement of global Sustainable
Development Goals and WHO’s Triple Billion targets.

2.3 Healthy Islands for the Pacific

Established in 1995, the Healthy Islands vision is the unified aspiration of health development in the
Pacific. Healthy Islands Framework Monitoring (HIMF) was developed in 2015 based on resolutions
from the 11th PHMM to monitor each PIC’s progress towards the vision, and to hold each PIC
accountable. HIMF includes 48 indicators under four pillars. Designed specifically to monitor health
development in the Pacific, HIMF data could inform emerging health priorities and guide policy
actions. PICs are encouraged to make better use of HIMF data for evidence-based decision-making
and to leverage expertise from PHIN to fulfil the biennial reporting requirements.

Discussion was raised that a revision of HIMF indicators may be needed as the HIS landscape and
health priorities in PICs have changed over time, particularly during the pandemic; however, changes
to indicators would disrupt time-trend comparisons. PICs requested technical assistance to improve
HIMF reporting by developing a central data repository, receiving guidance on alignment of HIMF
with national health strategies and having a better reporting time frame.
2.4 Country presentation on challenges and opportunities in data collection for HIMF reporting

Based on their recent experience reporting HIMF data, Cook Islands shared that coordination was crucial to their success. While their national patient information system, MedTech, was a main source of HIMF data, it was necessary to collaborate with other public sector agencies and to search published reports to satisfy all the reporting requirements. This was also a challenge as it required repeated follow-ups. Other challenges were in understanding the HIMF reporting requirements and managing competing work priorities. Opportunities for improvement include strengthening relationships with stakeholders, building capacity of HIS staff, and establishing processes for future reports. To do so, Cook Islands has requested (1) development of HIMF reporting guidelines, (2) support to review the National Health Information Strategy, and (3) training on using HIMF data to inform their work.

2.5 Healthy Islands Monitoring Framework third progress report

Each PIC has made progress towards the Healthy Islands vision but has differed in the pace, magnitude and breadth of improvement. Overall, people across the Pacific are expected to live longer, with reduced premature deaths among mothers and young children. Inequitable access to essential health services, such as immunization and maternal and child health, and to safely managed sanitation services and drinking water were reported. There was sustained high coverage in most PICs, but low access with limited improvement in a few. Challenges in HIMF reporting included inadequate HIS workforce, limited data availability, need for capacity-building, and misalignment between HIMF and national monitoring frameworks. Guidance material and capacity-building activities will be developed to strengthen PICs’ ability to complete the next HIMF report.

PICs welcomed the proposed technical support and raised requests to develop integrated HIS that will facilitate HIMF reporting. Other areas of technical support needed are in improving data quality, indicator interpretation, continuing professional development, and standardization of data collection processes.

2.6 Country presentation on tools available for data collection for HIMF reporting

Over the course of the pandemic, New Caledonia established reference standards to facilitate integration of HIS and patient information. This enabled the development of a digital platform for health workers to access integrated patient information, improved the quality of COVID-19 data collected, and enhanced indicators that monitored health system activities and performance. Direction des Affaires Sanitaires et Sociales (DASS) manages a data warehouse which collates data from more than seven programmes, including social service, environment and laboratory. Dashboards and newsletters were developed to communicate insights from the integrated data to the general public and health-care professionals. To improve monitoring and evaluation, including HIMF, detailed metadata were developed to standardize indicator definition, source, collection and interpretation. The pandemic presented opportunities for novel digital health applications and accelerated data collection and analysis, and successful implementation required careful planning and data training and support to staff.

2.7 Group activity: review of HIMF indicator framework

Country participants discussed the challenges and barriers to HIMF data collection and reporting in three groups. Common themes that emerged were: (1) the need for continuous up-skilling for health-care workers and IT and management staff; (2) national policies are outdated and do not cover key areas such as data governance; (3) lack of standards related to HIS, HIMF indicators and processes;
(4) limited senior management engagement or awareness of HIMF; and (5) inadequate human resources and infrastructure. To resolve the identified challenges, proposed solutions included: (1) conduct gap analyses that will inform technical support and capacity-building activities provided by development partners, (2) develop HIMF guidance material such as a data dictionary and standard procedures for data-sharing and data management, (3) develop national policies to guide data processes and standards, and (4) share country experiences and learning. A mapping of progress made by HIMF indicators was also suggested to provide health leaders with a visual overview and to demonstrate the areas in which the Pacific is leading.

2.8 Demo of DHIS2 HIMF data collection tool

WHO revised the District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) HIMF data collection tool based on feedback from PICs related to data sourcing and indicator calculation. The tool reduces reporting burden by collating the data that PICs routinely submit to WHO and United Nations agencies through established reporting mechanisms. Data validation rules and prompts are embedded in the tool to clarify meta-data and reduce data entry errors. While the tool facilitates HIMF reporting, it still relies on PICs to submit complete and high-quality data in a timely manner. Before the tool is fully implemented for the next HIMF progress review, country participants were requested to pilot test the tool.

2.9 Panel feedback: aligning existing or new developments with group exercise findings

Development partners in attendance shared ongoing HIS and digital health initiatives that could address the HIMF reporting challenges identified. The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is providing support to enhance real-time data collection via digital tools, develop electronic immunization registries, and implement complementary communication tools to improve health service delivery in remote areas. The Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA) is supporting the United States-affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPI) in NCD surveillance, providing training on data for decision-making. PIHOA stated that the USAPI health leadership meeting would be a platform for HIMF advocacy. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) affirmed that advocacy for HIMF and data use to health leaders is urgently needed and emphasized that development partners should collaborate to address the challenges raised by PICs. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) is implementing a series of initiatives to strengthen HIS and data management capacities in the region, including needs assessment, capacity-building and mentoring based on country priorities.

2.10 WHO global and regional strategy on digital health

The WHO Global strategy on digital health 2020–2025 outlines WHO’s vision to improve health for everyone everywhere with digital health and the four strategic objectives at the global level. The WHO Western Pacific Regional Office focuses on translating the global strategy into regional actions, based on the Western Pacific context, to achieve the vision of For the Future: Towards the Healthiest and Safest Region. Key priorities at the regional level include disseminating and developing guidance material, promoting and advocating for national governance and enterprise planning, and strengthening institutional capacity to improve digital health literacy, inclusion and equity. Tailored
country support includes development of national digital health strategy, institutional and health workforce capacity-building, capacity-building to strengthen and scale up health innovation, and implementing innovative digital solutions for better service delivery.

### 2.11 Country experience in developing a digital health strategy

Fiji shared lessons learnt from spending two years developing its Digital Health Strategy 2023–2027. First, it is critical for each PIC to establish their own reasons for developing a national strategy. For Fiji, it was to harness digital technology to facilitate improved health care. Based on comprehensive assessments, the Strategy focuses on foundational activities such as improving human and organizational capacity, providing the proper infrastructure and ensuring standards compliance. The strategy development process was led by a steering committee, with consultations and engagement across sectors throughout. While the Strategy focuses on the long term, it is accompanied by an 18-month costed implementation plan that will guide short-term advances.

### 2.12 Country experience in digital health preparation for digital health maturity assessment

Papua New Guinea (PNG) launched the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Strategic Plan for its National Health Plan 2021–2030 in 2023. The M&E plan details proposed actions to address current HIS challenges in PNG. To govern and coordinate HIS and digital health, the ICT [information and communication technologies] Policy has been endorsed and is awaiting final approval; an updated eHealth Strategy and legal frameworks related to data security and privacy are needed. To address the lack of skilled health information staff, competency profiles were developed with technical support from WHO that will inform capacity-building plans. To address fragmented HIS and data quality, the country is undertaking a digital health maturity assessment to guide creation of a data warehouse and has institutionalized data quality review as part of supervisory visits.

### 2.13 Country experience in implementing national digital health intervention

The development of the National Health Information System (NHIS) in Tonga began in 2020 and focused on four factors: business requirements, technical requirements, process mapping, and change management. All health facilities are connected to the NHIS, and the NHIS integrates a wide range of information systems, including electronic medical records (EMR), health management information system, cancer registry, birth and death registry, logistics management information system, and laboratory information system. The EMR modules were customized to health services provided at the hospitals and will be tailored to health service needs at reproductive health clinics and health centres. To govern HIS and digital health, the digital health strategy is currently under review and the Personal Health Information Privacy Policy and Act are being drafted. Challenges included disruptions from COVID-19 and limitations in workforce capacity, while lessons learnt included establishing back-up connections during disasters and incorporating change management to ensure user uptake.
2.14 Importance of digital health maturity assessment

The Digital Health Maturity Model aims to (1) assess the current national digital maturity level, (2) set practical goals and strategies to achieving the next maturity level, (3) co-develop an implementation plan, and (4) develop a monitoring and improvement plan. Digital health maturity is used to guide the adoption and adaptation of digital public goods and to determine resources for digital health planning. Based on assessment of the five digital health foundations (ICT infrastructure, essential digital tools, readiness for information-sharing, enablers of adoption, and quality improvement monitoring), a country may be categorized as being in one of five stages. A country may align the assessment findings with their country context and national digital health development objectives to determine practical activities to achieve the desired digital health maturity level.

2.15 Group activity on digital health

Building on a pre-meeting activity to update each PIC’s digital health maturity assessment and to identify national digital health objectives, participants discussed opportunities and challenges in digital health advancement. Commonly identified digital health needs include governance, HIS integration and central data warehouse, legislation on data privacy and cybersecurity, and change management. Common challenges include lack of financing, limited number and technical capacity of HIS and IT workforce, and unstable infrastructure. To resolve these identified gaps, it may be necessary for PICs to persuade senior management to allocate adequate resources, and for development partners to support PICs in selecting digital health applications based on country needs.

2.16 Global developments and introduction of ICD-11, resources available, and global and regional implementation plans

The International Classification of Diseases (ICD) 11th Revision (ICD-11) is fully digital, allows for more detailed and accurate coding, and has multiple uses. During the Seventy-second World Health Assembly, WHO committed to support Member States in implementing ICD-11, which includes development of digital coding tools and training platforms, technical support in system integration, and language translation. In the Western Pacific Region, 12 countries began the transition to ICD-11 by conducting national advocacy and orientation, and developing national implementation plans and pilots. To develop a national ICD-11 implementation plan, countries are recommended to form a national taskforce, conduct a situation analysis, implement capacity-building initiatives tailored to their audience and needs, assess technology infrastructure, and ensure data quality control during the transition.

2.17 Pacific regional medical cause of death and ICD mortality coding

The Pacific Regional Programme on Strengthening Availability and Quality of Cause of Death Data aims to improve the availability, quality, reporting and use of vital statistics in policy decisions. This is achieved by building a pool of trained Pacific island professionals and rolling out a regional coding support centre. A medical certification of causes of death and ICD mortality coding training in 2023 led to the conceptualization of national action plans for organizing and institutionalizing training
programmes and a Pacific medical coder network. A regional coding support centre is proposed to provide centralized technical support for ICD mortality coding to PICs.

2.18 Country experience: WHO-FIC Network

Samoa is the first PIC to join the WHO Family of International Classification (WHO-FIC) Network. ICD-11 country focal points are designated individuals to participate in the Classification and Statistics Advisory Committee – International Classification of Diseases, which supports ICD-11 maintenance. This is an opportunity for PICs to participate in global initiatives and gain insight into the development of ICD-11. Through participation in committees and group discussions, the focal points can gain a better understanding of ICD-11 guidelines and the implementation process. Moving forward, recommendations were made to nominate one WHO-FIC focal person to represent the Pacific, secure funding for the Pacific representative, and establish a WHO-FIC Network for the Pacific.

2.19 Group activity: identify priority capacity-building needs for PICs

From a list of proposed regional- and country-level capacity-building activities related to medical coding and ICD, PICs emphasized the need for ICD-10 (the 10th Revision of the ICD) and ICD-11 training in various modalities, coding quality audits, and promoting awareness of medical coding. Support is also needed to address staff turnover and shortage, such as establishing clinical coder positions and ensuring that they receive the appropriate training. PICs that are interested in transitioning to ICD-11 raised concerns related to training and infrastructure needed to integrate ICD-11 tools.

2.20 PHIN strategic plan

PHIN was established in 2006 with 71 members across 16 PICs. The 2019–2021 Strategic Map was developed with the goals to (1) strengthen the leadership, governance and brand, (2) advance capacity-building and inclusive growth, (3) improve peer assistance, and (4) strengthen regional cooperation and multisectoral collaboration. PHIN has accomplished numerous strategic activities, including gaining country recognition as an established HIS body, establishing strategic partnerships, conducting capacity-building via webinars, and supporting regional HIS and digital health analyses. Challenges that impeded advancement included inadequate country leadership, lack of administrative support and insufficient funding. Moving forward, the strategic plan should be concrete, promote country sharing, and strengthen partnerships.

2.21 Group activity: country ownership in implementation of the PHIN strategic plan

PICs agreed with the strategic plan reflections and concluded that PHIN should foster collaboration and information-sharing across PICs. To address the challenge of country leadership, it was recommended that membership be diversified and that the governance structure include professionals from different technical backgrounds, including ICT, health management and health care. It was also
agreed that the next PHIN strategic plan should respond to the needs of PICs, accounting for the varying levels of digital health maturity across the Pacific.

2.22 PHIN country representative closed meeting

A closed meeting with PHIN country representatives was held during which a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) framework was used to consolidate the discussion from the past two days. PHIN country representatives approved the meeting recommendations and elected a new governance board with membership from Samoa (President), Cook Islands, New Caledonia, PNG and Solomon Islands.

2.23 Closing remarks

Dr Kidong Park, Director of Data, Strategy and Innovation at the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, encouraged members to closely communicate with decision-makers responsible for HIS and digital health development, reaffirmed WHO’s support to achieve their priorities, and congratulated the newly elected PHIN President and Board. Sunia Sokai, Deputy Director of the Public Health Division at SPC, thanked all the participants and organizers of the meeting.
3. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Conclusions

Representatives from the 19 PICs appreciated the discussions and endorsed the meeting recommendations on HIS and digital health priorities. This PHIN meeting enabled meaningful discussion on the third HIMF progress report to identify solutions to HIS challenges faced during data collection and reporting, and exchange of experiences and lessons learnt from HIS and digital health advancement. While PICs recognized the importance of HIS and digital health, coordinated technical support is needed to resolve persisting challenges in HIS workforce, infrastructure and governance. The generated insights were consolidated to inform the 2023–2026 PHIN strategic plan that aims to support PICs in sustainable HIS and digital health development and to coordinate technical support based on country needs.

3.2 Recommendations

3.2.1 Recommendations for Member States

Member States are encouraged to consider the following:

1. Work with the joint secretariats, WHO and SPC, to improve implementation of the HIMF by:
   a. Establishing and implementing a HIMF reporting mechanism to coordinate processes related to data collection, analysis, reporting and validation.
   b. Providing inputs to revise the HIMF such that it aligns with PIC health priorities, information needs for decision-making and data availability in-country.
   c. Advocating to health ministers for the use of HIMF in decision-making to generate demand for HIMF data and commitment across all levels to complete HIMF progress reviews.

2. Develop or update national digital health strategic plans such that health information and digital health development is evidence based, covers all digital health foundations and aligns with national health priorities. As part of this, conduct a comprehensive assessment to determine their country’s national digital health maturity.

3. Develop data standards, business requirements and business intelligence tools to guide HIS development and integration in-country.

4. Develop a long-term implementation plan to guide transition to ICD-11 and nominate an ICD-11 focal point to facilitate communication.

5. Actively participate in PHIN to share technical knowledge and lessons learnt across the Pacific related to HIS integration and digital health advancement.

6. Map the key HIMF indicators using a ‘traffic light’ system, to give leaders a visual overview of progress.

3.2.2 Recommendations for WHO

WHO is requested to consider the following:

1. Collaborate with the joint secretariat for HIMF, SPC, to provide technical support to PICs on improving HIMF implementation, which includes:
   a. Developing guidance material (e.g. data dictionary, minimum data standards, indicator calculators) to facilitate data reporting.
   b. Conducting capacity-building activities related to indicator calculation, use of digital data collection tool, and data quality and use.
   c. Synthesizing a list of recommended HIMF revisions based on inputs from PICs and technical health units to ensure HIMF remains fit-for-purpose.
   d. Developing a HIMF reporting mechanism with PICs to support the next HIMF progress review.
(e) Socializing and advocating for HIMF use at high-level meetings to generate demand and commitment.

(2) Support PICs to complete digital health maturity assessment and in using the generated evidence to develop, update and implement digital health strategies.

(3) Conduct capacity-building activities related to medical coding using the ICD and provide technical support to PICs to develop and implement ICD-11 transition plans.

(4) Provide technical support in developing regional and national data standards, business requirements and business intelligence tools to facilitate HIS integration.

(5) Create platforms for PHIN members to share experiences and lessons learnt related to HIS and digital health advancement to support implementation of the PHIN strategic plan.
## Annex 1. List of participants, observers, temporary advisors and secretariats.

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<td>Mr Sioape Kupu</td>
<td>Director of Corporate Services</td>
<td>Corporate Services Division</td>
<td>Nuku’alofa, Tonga</td>
<td>Tel. No.: +676 7724383</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
<td></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:sioapekupu@gmail.com">sioapekupu@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuvalu</td>
<td>Mr Ronny Samuel</td>
<td>HOD, ICT</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
<td>Funafuti, Tuvalu</td>
<td>Tel. No.: +688 7108969</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:rsamuel@gov.tv">rsamuel@gov.tv</a> / <a href="mailto:meretojan@gmail.com">meretojan@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>Ms Rachel Takoar</td>
<td>Manager of Health Information Systems</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
<td>PMB 9042, Port Vila, Vanuatu</td>
<td>Tel. No.: +678 22512 ext 2013</td>
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<td>Email: <a href="mailto:rtkoa@vanuatu.gov">rtkoa@vanuatu.gov</a> / <a href="mailto:rach.tak268@gmail.com">rach.tak268@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallis &amp; Futuna</td>
<td>Mr Clement Couteaux</td>
<td>Technicien d’information médicale - STAT/EPI</td>
<td>Agence de Santé de Wallis et Futuna</td>
<td>B.P. 4G, 98600 UVEA</td>
<td>Tel. No.: +681 024159</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:clement.couteaux@adswf.fr">clement.couteaux@adswf.fr</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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Chinatown
Honiara, Solomon Islands
Tel. No. +677 23406
Email: rruskin@moh.gov.sb
Annex 2. Meeting programme
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Start</th>
<th>Time End</th>
<th>Item number</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Time per session</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Session Facilitator/Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>8.30</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Participant’s registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Opening of meeting The Honourable Minister for Health and Medical Services Dr Atonio Lalabalavu will deliver the opening remarks alongside Dr Mark Jacobs, World Health Organization (WHO) Representative to the South Pacific and Director of Pacific Technical Support (DPS) and Dr Berlin Kafao, Director Public Health Division, Pacific Community (SPC).</td>
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<td>9.00</td>
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<td>Group Photo</td>
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<td>9.30</td>
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<td>Meet and Greet one another &amp; Morning Tea</td>
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<td>9:31</td>
<td>9:42</td>
<td>1.2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Quick outlook of meeting</td>
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<td>9.36</td>
<td>1.2.1</td>
<td>Setting the scene</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Meeting objectives and outcomes</td>
<td>Pacific Health Information Network (PHIN) Secretariat</td>
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<td>9.42</td>
<td>1.2.2</td>
<td>Interactive Feedback 1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>SLIDO Exercise – introductions and expectations</td>
<td>Evlyn Mani Communication Officer, SPC</td>
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<td>9:43</td>
<td>10:45</td>
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<td>Session 1: Overview of regional reporting frameworks and the important contribution by PHIN towards HIMF reporting Chair: Shane Walter Hurrell, PHIN Board Member (Tonga)</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>2.1</td>
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<td>Pacific regional health architecture and the roles of SPC and WHO 15 Understand the regional reporting structure for Health. □ How the PHIN and products like HIMF report situate within it. □ Provide updates on the Pacific Heads of Health outcomes on HIS development and digital health.</td>
<td>Sunia Soakai Deputy Director Public Health Division, SPC Mark Jacobs WHO Representative and Director, WHO DPS</td>
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<td>10:15</td>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>2.2</td>
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<td>Healthy Islands for the Pacific 15 Understand the Healthy Islands vision, essences of developing core indicators, and measuring and reporting through HIMF. □ Why this country-led initiative is important □ PHIN focal points understand their roles in coordinating HIMF reporting</td>
<td>Gao Jun Coordinator, Pacific Health System and Policy, WHO DPS</td>
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<td>10:30</td>
<td>10:45</td>
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<td>Country presentation on challenges and opportunities on data collection for HIMF reporting 15 Cook Islands to share their experience and efforts in completing the HIMF. □ Data collection processes □ Challenges and opportunities □ Learning for improvements</td>
<td>Maina Tairi Supervisor Health Information System, Policy and Planning, Ministry of Health Cook Islands</td>
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<td>10:45</td>
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<td>Session 2. 3rd HIMF progress review and learning from PICTs’ experiences in meeting reporting requirements Chair: Teanibualuka Tabunga, PHIN Board Member (Kiribati)</td>
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<td>Time</td>
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<td>Duration</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Presenter</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Healthy Islands Monitoring Framework 3rd progress report</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>Present key findings on the progress towards the Healthy Islands vision across the Pacific and key challenges.</td>
<td>Tracy Yuen, Consultant, Health Information and Digital Health, WHO DPS</td>
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<td>Coordinated approach for HIMF reporting – introduce standards, timeline, and procedure for next HIMF report.</td>
<td>Rumanusina Maua, Health Information Systems Adviser, SPC</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Country presentation on tools available for data collection for HIMF reporting</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>New Caledonia to share their experience on maximizing existing digital tools.</td>
<td>Sebastien Mabon, Deputy Director, Department of Health and Social Affairs</td>
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<td>(e.g. routine HIS (RHIS), integrated health information) to ease the data reporting process and improve the quality of data reported.</td>
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<td>11:30</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Country experience in implementing national digital health intervention</td>
<td>15 min</td>
<td>Tonga to share their experience on implementation of national electronic medical records (EMR).</td>
<td>Walter Hurrell, Chief Information Officer, Health ICT and Data Management Section, Ministry of Health, Tonga</td>
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<td>11:30</td>
<td>12:30</td>
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<td>Discussions &amp; Resolutions</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
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<td>LUNCH BREAK</td>
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<td>1:30</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Session 3. Country preferred modality for improved reporting of Health Islands Monitoring Framework</td>
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<td>2:45</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>Group Work Activity 1: Review the HIMF indicator framework</td>
<td>75 min</td>
<td>The objectives of this group activity are:</td>
<td>Vicki Bennett, PHIN Board Adviser/ Head of Metadata, Information Management &amp; Classifications Unit (MIMCU), Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)</td>
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<td>1. to elicit input on whether PICTs are able to report on the HIMF indicators using existing HIS or information collection mechanisms currently in-place and on the relevance of the current set of indicators;</td>
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<td>2. identify the support needed related to indicator definition and calculation; and</td>
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<td>3. agree on a proposed procedure for HIMF reporting.</td>
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<td>Participants will be split into groups to review the HIMF core indicators and discuss challenges and potential solutions.</td>
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<td>3:00</td>
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<td>Demo of DHIS2 HIMF data collection tool</td>
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<td>□ PHIN focal points to self-nominate as pilot the tool before it is</td>
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<td>implemented for the next HIMF progress review.</td>
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<td>Carl Massonneau</td>
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<td>Consultant, Health Information Systems Specialist, WHO-DPS</td>
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<td>3:00</td>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>AFTERNOON TEA BREAK</td>
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<td>3:30</td>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>5 Session 4: Addressing PICTs challenges and coordinating solutions for</td>
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<td>improved reporting including HIMF.</td>
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<td>Chair: Etika Temo, Representative Marshall Islands (PHIN Board)</td>
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<td>4:30</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>Group presentations on group activity #1</td>
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<td>60 Group findings and resolutions from group activity on Review the</td>
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<td>HIMF indicator framework.</td>
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<td>Group team leaders</td>
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<td>5:10</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>Panel Feedback:</td>
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<td>Aligning existing or new developments with group exercise findings.</td>
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<td>40 Development Partners to provide feedback on how they could support</td>
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<td>PICTs in strengthening health information and digital health, data</td>
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<td>□ Initial steps in developing development partners support towards</td>
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<td>Pacific HIS Digital Health workplan</td>
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<td>All Development Partners in attendance</td>
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<td>Interactive Feedback 2</td>
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<td>SLIDO Exercise – Learning, Outcome and Lessons from Day 1</td>
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<td>Evlyn Mani</td>
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<td>Communication Officer, SPC</td>
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<td>Closing remarks</td>
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<td>6:30</td>
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<td>Welcome reception</td>
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<td>Prayer</td>
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<td>8:35</td>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Summary Day 1</td>
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<td>Resolutions from Meeting Day 1</td>
<td>Chair: Kidong Park, Director, Data, Strategy and Innovation (DSI), WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO)</td>
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<td>9:00</td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Session 5: Investing in digital health strategy development and implementation planning</td>
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<td>Duan Mengjuan Technical Officer, WPRO DSI Kidong Park, Director, WPRO DSI</td>
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<td>9:15</td>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>WHO global and regional strategy on digital health</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduce WHO strategic objectives and action plans at the global and Western Pacific level such that PICTs’ national development in HIS and digital health are aligned with international and regional recommendations.</td>
<td>Dr. Eric Rafai Head of Research, Innovation, Data Analysis and Management, and Information Technology, Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS), Fiji Georgina Naguilevu Health Programme Facility Project Manager, Digital and Health Information, MHMS, Fiji</td>
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<td>9:30</td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>Country experience in developing a digital health strategy</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Fiji’s experience and lessons learnt in undertaking development of its national digital health strategic plan.</td>
<td>Manah Dindi Manager Performance Monitoring &amp; Research, National Department of Health, PNG</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Discussions &amp; Dialogue</td>
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<td>Coffee Break &amp; Group Photo</td>
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<td>10:30</td>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Session 6: Establishing PICT digital health minimum standards and prioritization of developmental actions</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Chair: Sunia Soakai Deputy Director Public Health Division, SPC</td>
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<td>10:45</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>Importance of digital health maturity assessment</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Present assessment findings and role of digital health roadmaps. Overview of the framework, findings, and usefulness in ensuring PICTs are not left behind.</td>
<td>Myron Godinho Postdoctoral Fellow University of New South Wales (UNSW) Sydney</td>
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<td>11:45</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>Group Work Activity 2: Digital health</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Discuss alignment with global and regional digital health standards and the need for Pacific standards.</td>
<td>Myron Godinho Postdoctoral Fellow UNSW (Sydney)</td>
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<td>*Pre-meeting activity: Country profiles of digital health maturity assessment will be shared with the nominated attendees to complete the following tasks</td>
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<td>1. validate and update the information. 2. align assessment findings with national priorities</td>
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<td>12:20</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>Group presentations</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Group findings and resolutions</td>
<td>Group team leaders</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>Discussions &amp; Resolutions</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
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<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<td>1:30</td>
<td>3:15</td>
<td>Session 7: Overview of the latest development in ICD and CRVS to improve data quality and regional capacity building resources.</td>
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<td>Chair: Dr. Jun Gao Coordinator, Pacific Health System and Policy, WHO DPS</td>
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<td>1:45</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>Global developments and introduction of ICD-11, resources available, and global and regional implementation plans.</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>To provide an overview of ICD-11 in the global and Pacific context, introduce capacity building and technical support activities by WHO and AiHW, and share the implementation plans for ICD-11 at the global and regional level.</td>
<td>Vicki Bennett Head of MIMCU, AiHW Duan Mengjuan Technical Officer, WPRO DSI</td>
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<td>2:00</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>Pacific regional medical cause of death and ICD Mortality Coding</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>To present capacity building initiatives related to medical coding, causes of death, and medical certification.</td>
<td>Jeff Montgomery CRVS Adviser, Statistics Division, SPC Carah Figueroa Pacific CRVS, Cause of Death Data Consultant, SPC and Vital Statistics</td>
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<td>2:15</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>Country experience: WHO-FIC Network</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>As the first PICT to join the WHO Family of International Classifications (FIC) network, Samoa will share their experience on being part of the global discussion and the importance of having PICT representations in global initiatives.</td>
<td>Kirisitina Eueale Principal Medical Records Officer, Ministry of Health, Samoa</td>
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<td>2:45</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>Group Activity 3: Identify priority capacity building needs for PICTs.</td>
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<td><strong>Coffee Break</strong></td>
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<td>3:45</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>PHIN Strategic Plan Presentation of the latest strategic plan and challenges in its implementation.</td>
<td>Lauro Vives</td>
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<td>4:20</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>Group Activity 4: Country ownership in implementation of the PHIN strategic plan</td>
<td>PHIN Board Adviser</td>
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<td>4:50</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>Panel Feedback: Sourcing support from development partners Development Partners to provide feedback on how</td>
<td>All Development Partners in attendance</td>
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<td>they could support implementation of the PHIN strategic plan and items raised during in Day 2.</td>
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<td>5:00</td>
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<td>Summary</td>
<td>Lauro Vives</td>
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<td>Interactive Feedback 3 SLIDO Exercise – Learning, outcome and lessons from Day 2</td>
<td>Evlyn Mani Communication Officer, SPC</td>
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<td>5:30</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td><strong>Closing Remarks &amp; Announcements</strong></td>
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### PHIN COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES CLOSED MEETING – RESOLUTIONS

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<td>8:30</td>
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<td>Welcome Remarks &amp; Prayer</td>
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<td>Sunia Soakai Deputy Director PHD, SPC</td>
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<td>PHIN Goal 1</td>
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<td>Governance and Structure</td>
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<td>Review of governance structure</td>
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<td>Election of new PHIN board</td>
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<td>PHIN Goal 2</td>
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<td>Advance Capacity Building and Inclusive Growth</td>
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<td>PHIN Goal 3</td>
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<td>Improve Peer Assistance</td>
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<td>Discussion related to peer networks and opportunities for assistance from other PICTs</td>
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<td>PHIN Goal 4</td>
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<td>Strengthen Regional Cooperation and Multi-sector Collaboration</td>
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<td>Determine and confirm key priorities and needs for technical and financial support from Development Partners</td>
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<td>Call for final plenary session</td>
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<td>*SLIDO Exercise on Day 3</td>
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<td>Closing remarks and farewells</td>
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