

Pacific Biomedical Network Meeting

5th Pacific Biomedical Network (PBN) Meeting, 29th – 31st May 2023

THEME: “SUSTAINING BIOMEDICAL SERVICES IN THE PACIFIC REGION”

The Pacific Biomedical Network held its inaugural meeting in 2012 for biomedical engineers and technicians in the region. This platform was launched to create a forum where regional biomed experts were able to provide support, share experiences, challenges and develop resolutions to the common challenges they faced.

Proposed recommendations from the Pacific Directors of Clinical Services meeting in September 2022, included ongoing support for the PBN, strengthening biomed workforce through capacity building and investment of governments and Health Ministries towards biomedical workforce and equipment.

Meeting Objectives

1. The objectives of the meeting are for member countries to share Biomedical experiences, challenges and to strengthen partnerships towards addressing Biomedical priorities in PICTs. Topics of interest include,
 - **Capacity building:** Strengthen knowledge and skills through training. The 1-day certification workshop will be on Biomedical Electrical Safety Testing training.
 - **Leadership:** Strengthen leadership and management skills for qualified biomedical technicians targeted towards country's needs.
 - **Network:** Support biomedical services and skills through strong collaboration and partnerships

Recommendations from the meeting will be presented to the Pacific Heads of Health meeting.

Day 1 – Monday 29th May 2023: Biomedical Electrical Safety Testing Training

Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation
Start	End				
8.00	8.10	1.0	Opening Prayer	Chair	Pacific Community (SPC)
8.10	8.30	1.1	Course Introductions & Course Health & Safety	Dr Dani Forster	Director, The Medical Room
8.30	9.00	1.2	Review of relevant Documentation & Legislation	Dr Dani Forster	Director, The Medical Room
9.00	10.00	1.3	Patient Safety	Dr Dani Forster	Director, The Medical Room
10.00	10.15	Tea Break			
10.15	12.15	2.0	Group Work: Demonstration of Biomedical Electrical Safety Testing	Dr Dani Forster Richard Bower	The Medical Room
12.30	13.00	Lunch			
13.00	15:00	3.0	Group 1 – Practice & Assessment	Dr Dani Forster	The Medical Room
15.00	15.15	Afternoon Tea Break			
15.00	17.00	4.0	Group 2 – Practice & Assessment	Dr Dani Forster	The Medical Room
17.00	17.15	4.1	Closing of Training	Dr Silina Motofaga	Team Leader, Clinical Services Programme, SPC
End of day 1					

DAY 2: Tuesday 30th May 2023: 5th Pacific Biomedical Network Meeting

Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation	Paper
Start	End					
8.00	8.30		Registration	Secretariat	Pacific Community (SPC)	-
Session		1	Opening and Devotion	Chair	Tonga	
8.30	8.45	1.1	Remarks from the Secretariat Regional Health Architecture	Dr Berlin Kafoa	Director Public Health Division, SPC	-
Session		2	Leadership & Administration			
8.45	9.00	2.1	Biomedical Leadership and Administrative Responsibilities	Ms Helen Sinclair	Procurement Manager, Cook Islands	-
9.00	9.15	2.2	Medical Equipment Management – Procurement of Accessories & Spare Parts	Ms Virisila Livicala	National biomedical coordinator, FPBS Suva Fiji	-
9.15	9.30	2.3	Improvement Initiatives for the Biomedical Engineering team at CWM Hospital	Ms Vasiti Taylor Mr. Mikaele Tikoosuva	Fiji Program Support Facility, Fiji Acting Head of Biomed Depart, CWMH, Suva	IP
9.30	10.00	2.4	Q&A: Group Discussions			
10.00	10.30		Tea Break and Photo session	Official Photo	All delegates	
Session		3	Health Emergencies – COVID-19			
10.30	10.45	3.1	Oxygen scale-up initiative in the Pacific Region	Mr Stefan Adriaenssens	Operational support & Logistics PIC, WHO	IP
10.45	11.00	3.2	The Fiji Oxygen Project	Ms Senimili Vadei	Biomedical Engineer, CureKids, Fiji	IP
11.00	11.15	3.3	Device Technologies	Mr Nicholas Arnold	Product Manager, Device Technologies, Australia	IP
11.15	12.00	3.4	Q&A: Group Discussions			
12.00	13.00		Lunch			
Session		4	Capacity Building and Ongoing Professional Training			
13.00	13.15	4.1	Fiji National University Certificate IV for Biomed	A/Prof. Ronesh Sharma	Assistant Professor Electronics Dept, FNU	IP
13.15	13.30	4.2	Continuity of Local Biomedical Expertise	Ms Catherine Fiu	Principal Biomedical Officer, Samoa	-
13.30	14.00	4.3	Challenges of Human Resources	Ms Kulakimata Vaha	Biomedical Technician Trainee, Niue	-

Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation	Paper
Start	End					
14.00	14.15	4.4	Professional Development	Mr Nelson Vaguna & Mr Semisi Finau	Biomedical Technician, Biomedical Engineer Consultant, Tuvalu	-
14.15	15.00	4.5	Q&A: Group Discussions			
15.00	15.30		Afternoon Tea			
15.30	16.00	4.6	Key Points and Final Recommendations			
End of Day 2						
17.30	19.00		Welcome Reception			

Day 3: Wednesday 31st May 2023: 5th Pacific Biomedical Network Meeting

Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation	Paper
Start	End					
8.00	8.05		Opening Prayer			
Session		5	Situational Analysis			
8.05	8.15	5.1	Recap of Day 2 - Recommendations	Ms Sunema Talapusi	Biomedical Adviser, SPC	-
8.15	8.30	5.2	Regional Biomedical Services – Situational Analysis	Ms Sunema Talapusi	Biomedical Adviser, SPC	-
Session		6	Biomedical Policies			
8.30	8.40	6.1	National Medical Equipment Policy	Mr. Twaine Cecil	BMET Intern, Nauru	-
8.40	8.50	6.2	National Medical Equipment Policy	Ms Veronica Vaouli-Gasio	Chief of Engineering & Facilities, American Samoa	-
8.50	9.00	6.3	Medical Equipment Donation Policy	Mr Jayson Rombaoa	Director / Biomedical Engineer, Marshall Islands	-
9.00	9.10	6.4	Infection Prevention & Control	Margaret Leong	Infection Prevention & Control Adviser, SPC	-
9.10	9.20	6.5	Medical Equipment Asset Management	Mr Oswald Malisa & Mr Andy Lyons	Biomedical Technician, Biomedical Consultant, Vanuatu	-
9.20	9.30	6.6	Medical Equipment Asset Management	Mr Mesrine Kelmal	Biomedical Technician, Palau	-
9.30	10.30	6.7	Q&A: Group Discussions: National Medical Equipment Policy & Donation Policy			

Time		Item	Description	Session Facilitator	Designation & Organisation	Paper
Start	End					
10.30	11.00		<i>Tea Break</i>			
Session		7	Maintenance & On-going Support			
11.00	11.10	7.1	Preventative Maintenance	Ms Ataata Binataake	Biomedical Engineer, Kiribati	-
11.10	11.20	7.2	Preventative Maintenance	Mr Edmond Piasi	Biomedical Technician, Solomon Islands	-
11.20	11.30	7.3	National Equipment Committee	Mr Ambrose Kwaramb	Chief Engineer of PNG Department of Health, Papua New Guinea	-
11.30	11.40	7.4	Support to PICTs (Pacific Island countries and territories)	Mr Tociro Kataki & Mr Tuifonualava Tangatailoa	Biomedical Consultant, Biomedical Technician, Tonga	-
11.40	13.00		Group Discussion: Preventative Maintenance	ALL		
13.00	14.00		<i>Lunch</i>			
Session		8	Discussion Of Recommendations			
14.00	14.30	8.1	Terms of Reference for the Biomedical Meeting	ALL		
14.30	14.45		<i>Tea Break</i>			
14.45	15.30	8.2	Key Decision Points & Recommendations	ALL		
15.30	16.00	8.3	Closing of PBN Meeting			