



**SOUTH PACIFIC  
TOURISM  
ORGANISATION**

**Board of Directors Meeting  
PARKROYAL Hotel, Sydney, Australia  
22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017**

### **DIRECTORS' RESOLUTIONS**

**The meeting of the Directors was attended by the government representatives of American Samoa, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and the private sector representative from Fiji Airways.**

**The Directors discussed issues related to SPTO's policies, activities, work programme and budget since their last meeting in October; and passed the following resolutions for due consideration by the Council of Ministers:**

#### **1. Pacific Tourism Insights Conference (PTIC) 2017 – SPTO/PATA**

- a. The Ministers are invited to welcome the approval of the government of Vanuatu to host the inaugural Pacific Tourism Insights Conference (PTIC) 2017, a joint collaboration between SPTO, the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) and the Vanuatu Tourism Office.
- b. The Ministers are further invited to note the date of the conference which is October 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### **2. European Development Fund (EDF) 11 - Update**

- c. The Ministers are invited to welcome the recommendation by the consultants engaged by the Regional Authorising Officer (RAO) that Tourism be the driving sector for the Regional Economic Integration programme under EDF 11.
- d. The Ministers are further invited to commend the efforts of the National Tourism Offices in lobbying with their respective National Authorising Offices (NAOs) to support the advocacy role of the Secretariat.

#### **3. SPTO Donors Roundtable Forum - Outcomes**

- e. The Ministers are invited to support the Board's decision that the Secretariat will convene the SPTO Donors Roundtable Forum as an annual event, subject to funding.
- f. The Ministers are invited to note that the Donors Roundtable Forum is an initiative by the SPTO to diversify its funding base and not rely on one major donor.

#### **4. Review of the SPTO Governance Policy**

- g. The Ministers are invited to note the Board's approval of the SPTO Governance Policy which includes the appointment of Tourism Industry Members to the SPTO Board.

#### **5. Tourism Industry Members on the SPTO Board of Directors**

- h. The Ministers are invited to note that the process has been followed and will report back as soon as the process is complete.

#### **6. SPTO/SPCA Collaboration for Cruise Tourism – 2017 and Beyond**

- i. The Ministers are invited to welcome the partnership between SPTO and the South Pacific Cruise Alliance (SPCA) that has been established and formalised by a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- j. The Ministers are also invited to note that SPTO will take the lead role in organizing and facilitating South Pacific Island presence at Seatrade Cruise Global and other cruise marketing events for all member countries, including SPCA members.

#### **7. SPTO's Private Sector Membership Drive**

- k. The Ministers are invited to welcome the decision of the Board for the Secretariat to recruit a specialized Membership and Corporate Sponsorship Officer (MCSO) dedicated to driving membership programme and corporate sponsorship.
- l. The Ministers are further invited to note the Board's decision that National Tourism Offices strengthen collaboration with SPTO and National Tourism Private Sector Associations and utilise donor funded regional programmes (such as activities under EDF 11) to drive SPTO's in-country private sector membership campaign.

#### **South Pacific Tourism Exchange (SPTE)**

- m. The Ministers are invited to welcome the decision of the Board to convene SPTE 2018 in Adelaide, Australia.
- n. The Ministers are further invited to note the Board's decision to explore the possibility of convening SPTE 2019 and beyond in Fiji as an event combined with the Fiji Tourism Expo (FTE).

## **High Level Dialogue on the Belt and Road Initiative**

- o. The Ministers are invited to note the decision of the Board that the Secretariat undertakes the necessary preparatory work towards the China Pacific Tourism Year 2019.
- p. The Ministers are further invited to note that the Secretariat will develop a China Pacific Belt & Road funding proposal to be submitted to the Chinese Government for activities proposed under this initiative from 2018 to 2022.
- q. The ministers are also invited to note that the Secretariat will submit the China Pacific Tourism Year 2019 proposal to the Forum Leaders at the meeting in Apia in September for endorsement.