

EU Concluding remarks (on behalf of EU, France, UK, Sweden and Spain)

- We thank the Fijian Presidency of COP23 for hosting this event and are encouraged by the high-level and broad participation by Pacific partner countries.
- The meeting has allowed for a very fruitful exchange on possibilities and challenges facing the Pacific Region as well as shared success stories.
- The EU and the Pacific have a shared vision for a low-carbon climate-resilient future. We commend the strong commitment by all Pacific islands to lead the global climate discussion. Helping the Pacific island countries and territories to cope with the adverse impacts of climate change is a priority for the EU.
- The European Union and its Member States are firmly committed to the implementation of the Paris Agreement and are committed to holding the global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees and to pursue efforts to limit this increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius. To achieve this, strong global alliances will continue to be required.
- Europe stands by the landmark Paris agreement and leads the way on its implementation through effective climate policies and strengthened cooperation to build strong partnerships with all stakeholders.
- The EU is supporting an ambitious outcome at COP23 and considers a clear proposal on the preparations for the 2018 Facilitative Dialogue as a key deliverable. The Facilitative Dialogue at COP24 will be a milestone for all stakeholders. An opportunity to take stock of what has already been achieved and a means to increase ambition going forward.
- This meeting in the aftermath of the cyclones Winston and Pam has reinforced the message that Pacific Small Island States are "just a storm away from disaster". In this regard we commend the work of the Pacific Leaders for agreeing to the "Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP): an integrated approach to Climate Change and Disaster".
- The EU understands the great value of the FRDP and is firmly committed to its implementation. We are supportive of the development of innovative approaches

to working closely with the private sector and linking the interests between private and public sectors and civil society on climate action.

- Indeed, mainstreaming of climate risk considerations and resilience across all policies, public and private investment and financing strategies as well as civil society, emerged as a core recommendation of the meeting.
- The EU sees the Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action playing an important role in catalysing enhanced voluntary action by all stakeholders and helping to accelerate the implementation of current NDCs
- Under the Partnership the EU supports initiatives on disaster risk insurance in several Pacific countries, in order to unleash the potential of insurance in dealing with extreme weather events, with the aim to upscale efficient disaster risk insurance solutions for the poor and most vulnerable populations.
- We are encouraged by the strong commitment of initiatives and coalitions to the action agenda in the Pacific region. In that, it is part of a global moment, which is gathering speed, where states and thousands of local authorities, business and investors are moving ahead with implementing the Paris agreement.
- Through collaborative action and through the action agenda knowledge can be shared and opportunities for accelerating climate action can be unlocked.
- We are encouraged by the open discussion on climate action to happen at the level of cities and towns and through integrated island approaches. We invite towns in the Pacific islands to join international coalitions, such as the Covenant of Mayors.
- We thank the Fijian COP presidency for pushing the action agenda further and wish them all the best for the important meeting at COP23 in Bonn.