



South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance

Brief: Hybrid Conference - SPCNMOA General Meeting Monday 3 June 2024 – Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

The South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance (SPCNMOA) with WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Midwifery and Health Development at University of Technology Sydney (WHOCCN MUTS) as Secretariat, convened a hybrid meeting on 3 June 2024, at the Holiday Inn, Port Moresby. The meeting date was aligned with the 21st South Pacific Nurses Forum, held in Port Moresby from 4th-7th June by the Papua New Guinea Nurses Association. Representatives present from SPCNMOA attended the Forum.

This meeting was requested by the Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers (CNMOs) of SPCNMOA. The objectives of this meeting were to review the Regional Quality Improvement Program (RQIP) draft final report recommendations, facilitate country discussions on how to begin actioning these recommendations, and to review and discuss the upcoming World Health Organization State of the Worlds Nursing Report (WHO SOWN) 2025 requirements. The outcomes of this meeting will inform the baseline of WHOCCN MUTS' new 'Partnerships for a Healthy Region' (PHR) program, funded by the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

CNO Cook Islands, CNO Palau, CNO Tonga, CNO Micronesia, representatives from Solomon Islands, Australia, Vanuatu, and Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC).

WHO State of the Worlds Nursing Report 2025

Prof. Michele Rumsey gave a short presentation to participants about the upcoming data collection for the next WHO SOWN. This will be conducted through the WHO portal in collaboration with CNOs and their WHO Country Focal Point.

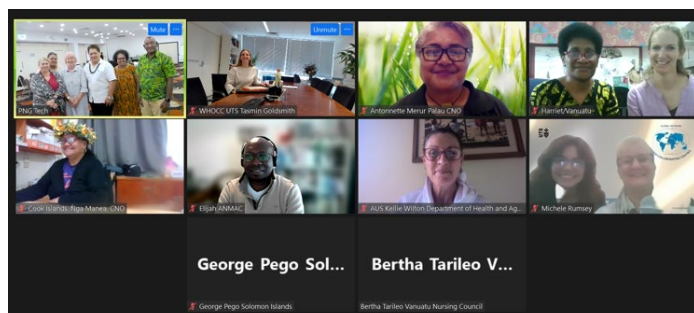


Prof. Michele Rumsey (WHOCCUTS) and Ms Mary Kililo (Chair) presenting on SOWN2025

The WHO SOWN 2025 data will be used by WHO to inform all future reports, recommendations, and policies. Therefore, it is important that data collected reflects the actual nursing and midwifery situations within countries. Participants raised issues with classification of nursing in the last



SPCNMOA Chair Mary Kililo (PNG)



Attendees SPCNMOA Hybrid Meeting 3 June 2024

In person attendees were SPCNMOA Chair (PNG), CNMO Samoa, CNO Nauru, CNO Solomon Islands, SPC Nursing Advisor, and WHOCCUTS Secretariat Team. Online attendees included PNO Vanuatu,

WHO SOWN 2020, which led to misleading country profiles. WHO will review each country's data profile in July-August 2024.

RQIP draft report recommendations

The meeting focussed on reviewing the RQIP draft final report recommendations and priority actions, and what the program aims to achieve over the next 5 years. A general presentation on the history of RQIP, and draft report findings was given by WHOCCUTS. The draft report includes an overview of each country's current nursing legislation, registration systems, accreditation system, and competencies. The data highlighted key differences, challenges, and opportunities for improvement across the region. This information will inform the work of the PHR program.



Margaret Gatling (WHOCCUTS), Trixie Fritz (CNO, Nauru) and Ulisese Tapuvae (CNMO, Samoa) discussing RQIP recommendations

Following these discussions, Prof. Michele Rumsey and Dr Margaret Gatling facilitated a review of the RQIP recommendations. The aim of this was to condense them into key areas for action, to better inform activities moving forward.



In-person participants discussing RQIP recommendations

A key issue raised by participants is the lack of a regional framework to standardise nursing registration, education program accreditation, and nurse migration across PICs. Deliberations on short- and long-term solutions to this, and other key challenges, will inform how the PHR program,

in partnership with countries, will prioritise actions moving forward.

A/Prof. Karen Hammad (SPC) & Michael Larui (CNO, SI)



'Traffic lights' Actions

Discussions early in the meeting identified that the SOWN 2020 country profiles which had been converted into traffic lights, do not accurately reflect country situations. Therefore, after lunch each participating country was requested to review their own traffic lights profile and modify it to reflect the true situation. The traffic lights document outlines capacities in areas of education regulation, practice regulation, and governance and leadership. An additional column next to these left room for CNOs to add suggested actions and requests for support over the next 5 years. Participants worked collaboratively, sharing ideas between countries and with WHOCCUTS Team to identify and fill gaps in their country profiles. It was clear after this exercise that more support was needed than first identified by SOWN 2020.



Trixie Fritz (CNO, Nauru) & Ulisese Tapuvae (CNO, Samoa)

Future actions

The identified gaps in data within the draft RQIP Report will be reviewed and addressed. It was also agreed that recommendations will be re-ordered in line with discussions. The amended traffic lights will be sent back to each country for review with other stakeholders. These will then be shared with WHO colleagues to inform the upcoming WHO SOWN 2025 Report.