Subregional Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) can improve the Internet’s affordability, latency, and traffic capacity. However, in the Pacific, few countries have, to date, established IXPs.

To address this gap, since 2018, ESCAP and its partners have been supporting the creation of a connected inter-country network — a Pacific Islands Internet Exchange — to improve affordable Internet services and speed across 3 target countries, namely Fiji, Samoa, and New Zealand, with the potential to benefit any additional South Pacific island country that has a direct submarine fiber optic cable connection to either of the target countries, and chooses to connect to the IXP once established.

With the continued support from ESCAP, partners, and the target countries, on 17 June 2024, the Pacific Islands Exchange Incorporated (PIEI) was registered as incorporated society in New Zealand which will pave the way for operationalizing a not-for-profit entity to promote efficient Internet traffic management in the Pacific.

This virtual meeting is the first meeting of the new Society’s Committee to formally appoint office-bearers, to consider the appointment of additional committee members, initial administrative matters and also discuss the next steps.

Objectives

- To formally elect PIEI Committee bearers;
- Consider the appointment of further Committee members;
- Approve initial administrative steps (application for an Inland Revenue Department number and opening of a bank account);
- Initial communication with members;
- To discuss and agree on an action plan for the next 12 months for the Pacific Islands IXP.

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1 Internet Society, APNIC Foundation, University of the South Pacific as Chair of the CROP ICT Working Group, Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association, and USAID.
Format of the meeting

Virtual meeting

Participants (By Invitation Only) (TBC)

Invited participants will include:

- Members of the Pacific IXP Committee
- ESCAP secretariat