

PROFILE: SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE PACIFIC ISLANDS STATES

Why do we need a Special Envoy for the Pacific Island States?

On the "blue continent", central foreign and security policy issues are evident:

- The climate crisis, which is an existential threat for the Pacific island states.
- The constantly evolving geopolitical environment.
- The importance of resilience and rules-based international order to effectively address these challenges and risks.

We have a foreign policy interest in helping to shape both the management of the climate crisis and the strategic environment in the Pacific island states in partnership and cooperation with our likeminded partners in the Pacific. To properly calibrate our long-term engagement in the Pacific - policies, presence, resources - a Special Ambassador for the Pacific Islands will be appointed.

Tasks

- Find out what the Pacific island states expect of Germany's future involvement in the Pacific: political priorities, diplomatic presence, economic and financial commitment. To this end, visit all 13 Pacific island states with which we maintain diplomatic relations;
- Developing proposals for rebalancing our Pacific policy, including identifying priority areas for our engagement in the region, with particular attention to climate, energy partnership, and economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic;
- Develop concrete proposals for our future presence in the Pacific region and initial steps to prepare for the opening of an embassy in Fiji in mid-2023
- Strengthen German network with Pacific Island governments and relevant regional organizations
- Consultations and networking with regionally engaged partners (AUS, NZL, USA, JPN, FRA, GBR, EU), including at capital city level where indicated;

Cooperation with the Canberra, Manila, and Wellington German embassies:

The activities of the Special Envoy will be carried out in close coordination with the Embassies of Canberra, Manila and Wellington, which are responsible for the region, accredited to the Pacific Island states and will provide the Special Envoy with substantive and organizational support in the performance of her duties.