







Regional News Updates

19 July 2022

COUNTRY	TITLE	DATE	SUMMARY	SOURCE
Fiji 	268 new COVID cases and one new death	19/7	Fiji has recorded 268 new cases of COVID 19 and one new death.	268 new COVID cases and one new death (fijivillage.com)
Fiji 	2022 - 2023 National Budget Announcement	15/7	The 2022/2023 National Budget was delivered on the 15th of July this year by the Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.	2022 - 2023 National Budget Announcement (fijivillage.com)
FLNKS (New Caledonia) 	France schedules Paris talks on New Caledonia's future	18/7	Talks on New Caledonia's future statute are planned to be held in Paris in September, after last December's rejection of independence from France.	France schedules Paris talks on New Caledonia's future RNZ News
FLNKS (New Caledonia) 	New Caledonia says it won't be 'trojan horse' for big powers in the Pacific	16/7	The pro-independence president of New Caledonia, a French overseas territory, said he didn't want New Caledonia to be used as a "trojan horse" in the Pacific islands, amid global power jostling for influence in the region.	New Caledonia says it won't be 'trojan horse' for big powers in the Pacific (msn.com)
Papua New Guinea 	PM Marape meets Fijian PM Bainimarama	18/7	Prime Minister Hon. James Marape had a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji. Hon. Voreqe Josaia Bainimarama on the margins of the 51st Pacific Islands Forum in Suva, Fiji.	"PM Marape meets Fijian PM Bainimarama" — News — PNG Business News

<p>Papua New Guinea</p> 	<p>More chaos, mayhem</p>	<p>18/7</p>	<p>WOMEN were raped, government and private properties torched, ballot boxes either hijacked or burnt, as the General Election 2022 (GE22) descended into more chaos and mayhem over the weekend.</p>	<p>More chaos, mayhem – The National</p>
<p>Papua New Guinea</p> 	<p>PNG hands over Chairmanship of Melanesian Spearhead Group to Vanuatu</p>	<p>14/7</p>	<p>The Special Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) Leaders Summit successfully concluded Wednesday with the handing over of the MSG Chairmanship from Papua New Guinea to Vanuatu in a moving ceremony in Fiji.</p>	<p>PNG hands over Chairmanship of Melanesian Spearhead Group to Vanuatu PINA</p>
<p>Solomon Islands</p> 	<p>Solomon Islands Prime Minister seeking to defer general election until after Pacific Games</p>	<p>18/7</p>	<p>Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare is planning to defer the country's general election until after it hosts the Pacific Games in 2023 - a move critics have slammed as undemocratic.</p>	<p>Solomon Islands Prime Minister plans to move elections until after Pacific Games (insidethegames.biz)</p>
<p>Solomon Islands</p> 	<p>People of Solomon Islands don't want to be in a 'vulnerable situation'</p>	<p>17/7</p>	<p>Sky News host Chris Smith says the people of the Solomons Islands do not want to be in a "vulnerable situation". Mr Smith said the meeting between the Solomons Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese was a "very interesting greeting", as Mr Sogavare ruled out a base for Beijing.</p>	<p>People of Solomon Islands don't want to be in a 'vulnerable situation' news.com.au — Australia's leading news site</p>

<p>Vanuatu</p> 	Two new COVID cases in Vanuatu	18/7	The Ministry of Health confirmed that one was recorded in Malampa and the other in Penama bringing to 76 the number of active cases in the country.	Vanuatu Loop Vanuatu
<p>Vanuatu</p> 	Vanuatu confident of meeting kava target	17/7	Vanuatu's Director of Agriculture says he is confident the country's kava planters will plant more than the national target of a million kava plants by 2025.	Vanuatu confident of meeting kava target Loop Vanuatu
<p>Vanuatu</p> 	PM Bainimarama meets with Vanuatu counterpart	14/7	Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama met with his Vanuatu counterpart Honourable Bob Loughman Weibur where they discussed specific areas of mutual importance.	(3) Facebook
<p>Cook Islands</p> 	Cook Islands to Host Forum Leaders next year	14/7	The Cook Islands will hold the next Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting in 2023. Leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum had agreed that Cook Islands would host the 52nd Pacific Islands Forum Leaders and related Meetings in 2023, the Kingdom of Tonga in 2024 and Solomon Islands in 2025.	Cook Islands to Host Forum Meeting Next Year (fijisun.com.fj)
<p>Kiribati</p> 	Kiribati will return to the Forum: NZ PM	18/7	In any family reunion, it is not uncommon for one family member to not be present. New Zealand PM used the analogy to describe Kiribati's decision not to attend the 51st PIFS in Suva last week.	The Fiji Times » NZ PM: Kiribati will return to the Forum
<p>Nauru</p>	NZ Minister confident of progress	12/7	The New Zealand government has reiterated its commitment to help refugees and asylum	New Zealand minister confident of progress

	towards helping Nauru refugees		seekers detained in Nauru and PNG by Australia.	towards helping Nauru refugees RNZ News
Niue 	Niue suffers COVID outbreak	6/7	A coronavirus outbreak erupted in Niue a day after the tiny Pacific Island nation reopened its borders after two years.	Tiny Pacific Island Niue suffers Covid outbreak after opening borders to tourists Financial Times
Samoa 	Samoa wins PNC title after beating Fiji	16/7	Samoa have won the Pacific Nations Cup after edging the Vodafone Flying Fijians 23-20 in an epic encounter at Churchill Park.	Samoa wins PNC title after beating Fiji (fijivillage.com)