

## **FUNERAL OF HIS HIGHNESS MALIETOA TANUMAFILI II:**

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

#### **A) OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA ON THE PASSING AWAY OF HIS HIGHNESS, THE HEAD OF STATE, SUSUGA MALIETOA TANUMAFILI II**

It is with deepest regret that we officially announce the passing away of our Head of State, His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II.

His Highness passed away peacefully at the Tupua Tamasese Meaole Memorial Hospital at 6.45 PM, Friday, 11 May 2007. State preparations for His Highness' State Funeral are as follows: As of 12 noon today until His Highness is laid to rest, all flags in the country shall be flown at halfmast. Thursday 17 May and Friday 18 May have been declared official public holidays.

His Highness will lay in State inside the Parliament building, Tiafau on Thursday, 17 May at 8 am, for 24 Hours. A Police Guard of Honour will hold vigil throughout. The State Funeral Service commences at 10am Friday 18 May. The State Funeral Service will be led by the National Council of Churches. Only two eulogies will be delivered. One by the Government and the other, that of His Highness' family. The tombstone programme that follows will include a cannon salute and a rendition of the Last Post Bugle as His Highness is entombed by the Police Guard of Honour at Tiafau.

His Highness was 95 years and four months old at the time of his passing away, making him the oldest Head of State in the world. For 67 years, His Highness has served his country and people with dedication and distinction in his roles as Fautua to the New Zealand Administration from 1940 until Independence, and as Head of State from 1st January 1962.

We extend our deepest condolences to the grieving families and to our mourning nation in the passing of His Highness. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

**SOIFUA AND GOD BLESS**

**B) TEXT OF ARTICLE FROM "SAMOA OBSERVER":****SAMOA MOURNS 'GREAT LEADER'**

By Alan Ah Mu

13 May 2007

Malietoa Tanumafili II was and will be our only Head of State given sole occupancy of the position for life. Constitutional changes ensure that our next Head of State would be elected by Parliament for a five year term. In an official announcement of His Highness Malietoa's passing to the country yesterday, Chief Executive Officer of Ministry of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Auseugaefa Va'asatia Poloma Komiti, said all flags were ordered flown at half mast out of respect.

In a meeting yesterday, Cabinet approved this Thursday and Friday as public holidays to mark the passing of our Head of State. His Highness Malietoa died peacefully at Tupua Tamasese Meaole Hospital Thursday night at 6.45pm, aged 95.

Malietoa's body will lay in state inside Parliament Building for 24 hours starting Thursday at 8am, said the public notice. A state funeral is scheduled for Friday 18 May at Parliament grounds with the service to be led by the National Council of Churches at 10am. Only two eulogies would be given, one by Government, the other by a member of Malietoa's family.

There will be a 22 cannon salute to honour Malietoa said the announcement. It said His Highness served his people and country with dedication and distinction for 67 years.

"We extend our deepest condolences to the grieving family and the country." By virtue of his length of service as Head of State, he was ranked third in the world behind the King of Thailand Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain, Auseugaefa said after delivering Cabinet's announcement. But the king of Thailand and Queen Elizabeth inherited their titles and did so at a young age he said.

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Because of that he said, "We're anticipating a lot of people from overseas." The state funeral will be held on part of Parliament grounds immediately in front of Parliament Building facing the sea.

Guests would be in tents on the front, the place called the Malae of Ti'afau.

A committee in charge of preparing the state funeral were there yesterday going over the details.

Three members of Cabinet, Fiame Naomi Mata'afa, Toleafoa Apulu Fa'afasi and Tuisugaletaua Sofara Aveau are in it along with several heads of government ministries. The Head of State is to be laid to rest at Mulinu'u, at the cemetery that borders Samoa Broadcasting Corporation radio building - the former 2AP building. The tomb of his father Malietoa Tanumafili I is located there.

Yesterday, tributes for the His Highness came from far and wide. New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark says to be a stable force over the Pacific nation for more than four decades is an extraordinary record. She says the minds of the people of Samoa will be on the state funeral for their elder.

She says after the funeral, thoughts will turn to who his successor will be. Miss Clark says Samoans will no doubt be looking for someone who can live up to the high standards of good counsel, wise advice and calm leadership set by His Highness Malietoa.

New Zealand's Minister of Foreign Affairs also offered his condolences to the people of Samoa. Minister Winston Peters says Malietoa gave distinguished service to the Samoan people, not just in Samoa, but in other parts of the world, especially New Zealand. National Party leader John Key also paid tribute, saying Malietoa's passing will be mourned right throughout the Pacific, but especially in New Zealand. Mr Key says Malietoa had a close relationship with New Zealand and visited many times, including at the invitation of the late Maori Queen.

## **MALIETOA TANUMAFILI II: BRIEF BIOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY SAMOA MINISTRY OF PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET**

His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II was born on 4th January 1912. He was educated in Samoa at the Government-run Leifiifi School, and in New Zealand at St. Stephen's College, Auckland and Wesley College, Pukekohe.

In 1940 he succeeded to the Malietoa title when his father passed away. In the same year he was appointed a Fautua (Adviser) to the New Zealand Administration in Samoa.

His Highness married Lili Tunu Molioo in 1940. She passed away in 1986. They have four surviving children: Su'a Vainuupo, Faamausili Moli (sons) and Lola Tosi and Momoe (daughters) One child died in infancy while their eldest son Papaliitele Molioo Laupepa passed away in 1985. He remarried, to Tiresa Hunter of Vaiala.

His Highness was one of the prominent Samoan leaders leading up to Independence in 1962.

In 1958 he attended a Session of the United Nations as one of the Samoan leaders in the New Zealand delegation. In 1959 he was Joint Chairman of the Working Committee on Independence and Constitutional Convention. The same year, he was invested with the C.B.E.

In 1961 he represented Samoa at the opening of the New Guinea Legislative Council.

In 1962, on the achievement of Independence, he was appointed joint Head of State with the late Tupua Tamasese Mea'ole.

In 1963, he became sole Head of State when Tupua Tamasese Mea'ole passed away. He held the post for life. Future Heads of State after him will hold the post for a term of five years.

Since Independence, His Highness has travelled widely overseas on official visits and also to represent Samoa at various prestigious events.

1974: State visit to New Zealand and attended the Commonwealth Games in Christchurch

1975: Attended the Tongan Centenary Celebrations

1976: State visit to China, West Germany, South Korea, Japan and the United Kingdom

1977: Queen Elizabeth II arrived on the Royal Yacht "Britannia" for a one-day visit.

His Highness was invested with the Collar Badge and Star of the G.C.M.G., the Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

1978: State visits to New Zealand, Australia, Nauru and Fiji

1981: Accepted the post as one of the Trustees of the Polynesia Heritage Fund, and attended the first Meeting of that Fund in New Zealand in October

1984: On invitation, attended the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles

1986: Appointed Chancellor of the University of the South Pacific  
 Attended the opening of a new Conference Complex at Maketu Marae in Hamilton, New Zealand on an invitation from the Maori Queen  
 Invited to the dedication of the Kanana Fou Theological College in American Samoa.  
 Travelled to the University of the South Pacific Campus in Suva for its Graduation Ceremony. There, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by USP.

1987: Attended King Taufaahau's Birthday Celebration in Tonga.

1988: Travelled to Kiribati on behalf of the University of the South Pacific to confer an Honorary Doctorate of Law on the Hon. Ieremia Tabai.  
 Invited to Hawaii by the US Government to attend the change of command at the US Pacific Fleet in Honolulu.

1989: Attended Emperor Hirohito's funeral in Japan

1990: January - Celebration of 50 years of continuous service to the Government and people of Samoa  
 November: Attended the enthronement of Emperor Akihito of Japan

1991: July - Attended the Celebration of the Silver Jubilee of the Coronation of the King of Tonga.

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Dec 1996. - Represented Samoa at the funeral of Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau of Fiji

His Highness regularly attends the Birthday Celebration of His Majesty King Taufaahau Tupou IV of Tonga in July, and American Samoa's Flag Day in April.

2000: Bestowal of the Grand Order of Samoa on His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II for long and dedicated service to Samoa. The award is for life.

2002: Samoa celebrated 40 years of Independence, also commemorating outstanding service to his country by His Highness. Attended the 80th Anniversary of King Taufaahau's Birthday in July

His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II is one of the children of Malietoa Tanumafili I. His mother was Momoe Lupeuluiva Meleisea. His Highness and the late Fiame Mataafa Faumuina Mulinuu II, Samoa's first Prime Minister, are first cousins. His brother and sisters have all passed away. His Highness was founding Chancellor of the University of Samoa when it was established in 1984. The University conferred him an Honorary Doctorate.

His Highness' interest in sports is well known. In his youth he played rugby and cricket and was a good boxer. He was an avid golfer, a sport he continued to play up to the prime age of 90. The Government and People of Samoa honoured His Highness with the annual Celebration of his birthday, an event also marked by a national public holiday.

On 4th January this year, Government celebrated His Highness' 95th birthday.

## SAMOA COUNTRY PAPER

### Key Facts

<b>Official Name</b>	The Independent State of Samoa
<b>Land Area</b>	2,934 sq km on two main islands
<b>Population</b>	180,900 (2004 estimate)
<b>Capital City</b>	Apia
<b>Religion</b>	Mostly Christian: 47% of the population affiliate to the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa, while the Roman Catholic and Methodist Churches account for 20% of the population each.
<b>Languages</b>	Samoaan, English
<b>Currency</b>	Samoa Tala SAT\$ (Samoa dollar) = 100 sene (cents)
<b>Exchange Rate</b>	SAT\$1 = NZ\$0.58 (as at 16 Nov 2006)
<b>EEZ</b>	120,000 sq km
<b>Political system</b>	Westminster-style Cabinet government
<b>National government</b>	The Human Rights Protection Party (HRPP) holds 36 of the 49 seats in the Fono.
<b>National legislature</b>	Unicameral, 49-member Fono; 47 members are elected by all Samoans aged 21 or over to represent 41 constituencies, while the remaining two are elected from the electoral rolls made up of voters with no village affiliation; the Fono sits for five-year terms.
<b>Last election</b>	31 March 2006
<b>Next election due</b>	2011
<b>Head of State</b>	His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II: Died 11

May 2007 after 45 years as Head of State.

Parliament are required to appoint a new Head of State by mid-July

**Council Of Deputies**

Tuiatua Tupua Tamasese Efi

Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa II

**Head of Government**

Prime Minister Hon Tuilaepa Lufesoliai Sailele Mallelegaoi (since Nov 1998)

(Also responsible for Foreign Affairs, Immigration, Office of Attorney General)

**Other Cabinet Members**

Hon Misa Telefoni Retzlaff (Deputy Prime Minister; Commerce, Industry and Labour; Tourism)

Hon Fiame Naomi Mataafa (Women, Community and Social Development)

Hon Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi (Police)

Hon Tuisugaletaua Sofara Aveau (Works, Transport, Infrastructure)

Hon Faumuina Tiatia Liuga (Natural Resources and Environment)

Hon Niko Lee Hang (Finance)

Hon Tuu'u Anasi'i (Revenue)

Hon Gatoloaifaana Amataga Alesana Gidlow (Health)

Hon Hon Safunitu'uga Pa'aga Neri (Communications and Information Technology)

Hon Toomata Alapati Poesé Toomata (Education, Sports and Culture)

Hon Unasa Mesi Galo (Justice and Courts Administration)

Hon Taua Tavaga Kitiona Seuala (Agriculture)

<b>Key Opposition MPs</b>	Asiata Sale'imoa Va'ai (Leader of the Samoa Democratic Unity Party)
<b>Main political parties</b>	Human Rights Protection Party (HRPP), Samoa Democratic United Party (SDUP)

### 3 Economic

<b>GDP</b>	SAT\$1,042.3 million (December 2004, Ministry of Finance, Samoa)
<b>Real GDP growth</b>	5.5% (2005)
<b>Exports</b>	SAT\$236.3 million in 2005 (Ministry of Finance, Samoa)
<b>Imports</b>	SAT\$647.4million for 2005 (Ministry of Finance, Samoa)
<b>Main exports (fob 2004)</b>	fresh fish, garments, beer, coconut oil and cream, automotive parts and taro
<b>Main imports (fob 2004)</b>	Machinery and equipment, industrial supplies and food stuffs.
<b>Merchandise trade deficit</b>	\$411.1 million in 2005
<b>Consumer Price Inflation</b>	1.9% (year on year, December 2005, Ministry of Finance, Samoa)
<b>Gross external debt</b>	SAT\$456m (48% of GDP) (FY 2004/05)

### 4 New Zealand Trade

<b>NZ Exports (FOB)</b>	NZ\$77,104,651 for year ending June 2006
<b>Main Exports</b>	Insulated wire and cable; timber; sheep meat; iron and non-steel alloy; butter and other dairy oils/fats; machinery; plastic tubes/hoses; frozen bovine meat; furniture; and iron/steel structures.

**NZ Imports (CIF)**

NZ\$1,912,528 for year ending June 2006

**Main Imports**

prepared foods (namely, coconut cream); nuts; beer; fish; records and tapes; garments and clothing accessories; copper; aluminium; photographic plates and film; melons.

## Overview

The special relationship between New Zealand and Samoa is underpinned by the Treaty of Friendship concluded when Samoa became independent, after a period of New Zealand trusteeship from 1914 to 1962. The relationship has always been complex and is growing more so as the large Samoan community in New Zealand exercises more influence (an estimated 120,000 Samoans now live in New Zealand, making up around 50% of this country's Pacific Island population).

## History

The first major European settlements occurred in the 1830s for missionary work and trade and in 1899 Samoa became a German colony. New Zealand assumed control of Samoa following the outbreak of the First World War and the islands became a mandated territory of New Zealand under a League of Nations mandate. Between the wars there was considerable agitation for the removal of foreign control over Samoan affairs. After the Second World War, Samoa was administered by New Zealand as a United Nations trust territory and measures were gradually introduced to prepare for self-government. In 1962 Samoa became the first Pacific Island country to gain independence. With effect from 4 July 1997, a constitutional amendment changed the name of the country to Samoa. Previously it had been known as Western Samoa.

## Political Situation

Under Samoa's 1962 constitution, His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II, has been appointed Head of State for life. He is now 95 years old and in failing health. His successors will be elected by Parliament. The government is a parliamentary democracy with a parliamentary term of five years. The Prime Minister, who is chosen by Parliament and appointed by the Head of State, leads a Cabinet of twelve members. The governing Human Rights Protection Party (HRPP) is dominant in Samoan politics. It came to office in 1988, at that time led by the late Hon Tofilau Eti Alesana. It was re-elected in April 1991, 1996, 2001 and recently on 31 March 2006.

Tofilau's period in office was associated with significant constitutional reform. Universal suffrage was introduced with the 1991 elections. Before that, only *matai* (chiefs) could vote for all but two of the seats. (The two other members were elected on the basis of universal suffrage by the citizens of non-Samoan descent.) Candidates for election to Parliament must still hold *Matai* titles.

Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi was appointed Prime Minister in November 1998 after Tofilau resigned due to failing health. He has continued with the reforms in the public service, which involves the merging of some

ministries and creation of a new body, the Planning for Urban Management Agency (PUMA).

### **Economic Situation**

The Samoan economy is among the fastest growing in the Pacific Island economies, although growth is heavily dependent on a few industries such as tourism and fisheries. Samoa's economy is dominated by subsistence village agriculture, which absorbs two thirds of the country's labour force. The main food crops are coconuts, breadfruit, bananas, cocoa and taro. Some progress has been made with measures to diversify the agricultural base and the fisheries sector has shown major growth in the last 5 years and is now the country's biggest commodity export earner.

Since 1992 Samoa has pursued an active policy of seeking direct foreign investment. It has had some success, attracting the Japanese firm Yazaki, which produces wire harnesses (for motor vehicles) for export to Australia. Yazaki is the largest single employer in Samoa. More recently, a Chinese-owned garment factory has opened and employs 200 workers. The Government has embarked on a campaign to increase the efficiency of the public sector and is fostering private sector development, including through major reductions in tariffs and other costs which impact negatively on business.

Economic development over recent years has concentrated on construction of sound infrastructure, developing the export base through diversification of the agriculture sector, a growing local fisheries sector, and increasingly through tourism. Nevertheless, the economy exhibits a structural imbalance between exports and imports, which have on occasion led to periodic balance of payments problems. Dependence on foreign sources of income, especially aid and remittances, is high.

Tourism has developed in the 1990s into Samoa's top foreign exchange earner. In 2005, total revenues for tourism accounted for 15% of GDP. The major tourist markets for Samoa are New Zealand (25%) and American Samoa (35%). Many of these visitors are expatriate Samoans returning to visit friends and family, but the number of holidaymakers is growing.

Agriculture remains an important, mainly subsistence, activity in Samoa, particularly in the villages. Copra, cocoa, kava, and nonu are exported. Some fruit crops such as mango and breadfruit currently face export difficulties due to the existence of quarantine pests in Samoa, such as fruit fly. New Zealand MAF has recently agreed an import health standard for Samoan papaya, enabling trade in this product to commence.

Samoa is arguably the largest recipient of remittances in the Pacific, a by-product of large overseas Samoan communities in New Zealand, American

Samoa, the United States and Australia. In 2005, remittances accounted for 20 per cent of GDP.

### **Relations with New Zealand**

The relationship between Samoa and New Zealand is a close one with strong personal and family ties as well as close political, economic and sporting links. Projections done by Statistics New Zealand estimate that 120,000 Samoans now live here (making up 50% of the Pacific Island community in New Zealand). Many Samoan leaders have been educated here, including the Prime Minister, who studied at the University of Auckland.

An important element of the bilateral relationship is the unique 1962 Treaty of Friendship, concluded shortly after Samoa achieved independence. In this treaty New Zealand agreed to "consider sympathetically" requests from Samoa for "technical, administrative and other assistance", and both governments agreed to consult as appropriate on "matters of mutual interest and concern". Samoa attaches great importance to this treaty, not only for its practical value but also for its symbolic importance as recognition of the special ties between the two countries.

In 2004, the two Prime Ministers agreed to establish regular whole-of-government consultations at Ministerial level between New Zealand and Samoa in order to strengthen the relationship, and in 2005 a number of initiatives, including the New Zealand Prime Minister's fellow from Samoa, were launched to reinforce the Treaty of Friendship. The first meeting of the Joint Ministerial Council was held in March 2005 in Apia, and the second is to be held in Wellington on 24 November 2006.

In addition to New Zealand, Australia, the People's Republic of China and the United States (headed by a Chargé) maintain resident missions in Apia. Chile, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Spain and Japan are represented by Honorary Consuls.

### **Official Development Assistance (ODA)**

In November 2004, NZAID, the Government of Samoa (GoS) and AusAID began designing a Joint Samoa Programme Strategy (JSPS). In accordance with a set of agreed harmonisation principles, the partners have committed to aligning the JSPS with the partner government's own Strategy for the Development of Samoa 2005-2007. NZAID and AusAID have agreed to aim for greater harmonisation with Government of Samoa systems and processes and between donors.

New Zealand is currently the third largest donor in Samoa after Australia and Japan. However, the combined efforts of NZAID and AusAID under the JSPS are around \$20 million per year and this represents the highest level of donor assistance to Samoa.

The current NZAID programme focuses on:

- Basic education – NZAID supports secondary curriculum, teacher planning tools and the development of an overarching national assessment framework.
- Health – NZAID supports the medical treatment and visiting medical specialists scheme (refer separate brief). Scoping into options for increased support to primary health is currently being undertaken.
- Governance - NZAID supports the strengthening of the Ministry of Justice and Courts Administration and the provision of judicial assistance.
- Civil society – NZAID provides core funding for nine indigenous Non Government Organisations supporting local communities through information and service provision and advocacy.
- Sustainable livelihoods – NZAID supports the tourism sector - both small-scale tourism operators, and at a more strategic national level, as well as supporting both rural and urban small business development through the provision of core funding to the Small Business Enterprise Centre.

Focal areas under the new JSPS are expected to remain similar however the means by which the assistance is delivered may evolve as and when the environment is deemed suitable.

### **Air Services**

Transport links are of vital importance to Samoa's continued economic development. New Zealand - Samoa air services are governed by the Multilateral Agreement on the Liberalisation of International Air Transportation (MALIAT), which Samoa became a member of in November 2002. Samoa was the first non-APEC country to join and at that point the earlier Open Skies Arrangement with New Zealand was suspended. In 2005 Polynesian Blue (a joint venture between Pacific Blue and the international arm of the Samoan government owned, Polynesian Airlines) was formed. To date the venture has adjusted well to the new competitive environment, particularly with likes of the Pacific Express product by Air New Zealand which offers low fares to Pacific destinations. Samoa's decision to enter the joint venture arrangement for international air services was a bold decision by the Samoan government to

reform its national carrier in the interests of growing inbound tourism and avoiding future calls on the public purse.

## **Defence**

Defence relations with Samoa, while not substantial, are close. The New Zealand Army and RNZAF have both carried out training exercises in Samoa in the past. Through NZDF's Mutual Assistance Programme (MAP), New Zealand has provided training for the Samoan Police, including in preparation for deployments of Samoan civilian police officers (numbering 25 and 40) to the United Nations in East Timor. Other defence cooperation includes maritime surveillance flights by RNZAF aircraft over Samoa's EEZ (with Samoan officials on board). The defence attaché in Suva is accredited to Apia. The last Mutual Assistance talks were held in October 2005.

## **Education**

Samoa's education system comprises an eight-year primary and five-year secondary programme. Education is not compulsory for children older than 14. Literacy rates are high compared to other developing countries, and figures show a 65% participation rate for 15 to 19 year olds at secondary school. Pre-school education is on an informal basis and is largely organised at a village level. Samoa Polytech and the National University of Samoa offer tertiary studies. The University of the South Pacific's School of Agriculture is located in Apia.

## **Police**

The New Zealand Police and Samoa Police Service have shared a long and close association. There is active cooperation between the two services in both the bilateral and regional contexts. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Police Commissioners in the margins of the inaugural Joint Ministerial Consultations in Apia on 18 March 2005. One of the outcomes of that MOU is to develop a joint plan of action covering collaborative activities between the two services over a one to two year period. This Plan will be updated through annual consultations.

## **Immigration**

Immigration is an important element of the bilateral relationship. Under the 1982 Protocol to the Treaty of Friendship New Zealand has a specific obligation to consult Samoa on immigration (and citizenship) matters affecting Samoa. A special Samoa immigration quota introduced in 1970 by the New Zealand Government allows up to 1,100 Samoans to be granted New Zealand permanent residence annually, in addition to those entering New Zealand under normal immigration arrangements.

## **Trade**

Samoa provides good opportunities for New Zealand's exporters - the market was worth NZ\$77.1 million to New Zealand in the year ending June 2006. This was made up mostly of insulated wire and cable, timber, sheep meat, leather/textile-covered goods, plastic tubes/hoses, dairy products, iron and non-steel alloy, frozen bovine meat, furniture, and medicaments. New Zealand accounts for about six percent of Samoa's exports, valued at about NZ\$1.9 million in the year to June 2006, down from NZ\$2.46 million for the previous year. Samoa's main exports to New Zealand include prepared foods (namely, coconut cream), nuts, beer, fish, melons, scrap metal, prepared meat, fruit juices, insulated wire and cable, and coconut, palm kernel and babassu oil. American Samoa is Samoa's largest export market, with exports focused on fish.

## **Multilateral Linkages**

Samoa is a committed and active participant in regional affairs. It supports the concept of regionalism, and sees the Pacific Islands Forum as the primary body for political consultations among the countries of the region. In 1971 Samoa was a founding member of the Forum. It is host to the South Pacific Regional Environment Programmes (SPREP), and is an active member of the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), USP, and the Pacific Community (SPC). In this context Samoa has participated in dialogue on regional issues. It was host country for the 1999 Forum Economic Ministers' Meeting (FEMM), and in August 2000 hosted the first ever meeting of Forum Foreign Ministers. In June 2001 it hosted the Forum Trade Ministers' Meeting. Samoa hosted the 35<sup>th</sup> Pacific Islands Forum in August 2004.

Beyond our own region Samoa maintains a modest but active profile on the wider international scene. It is a member of the United Nations, and is particularly active on climate change issues through its leadership of AOSIS, the Association of Small Island States. In 2000, Samoa participated in its first peacekeeping mission, when it sent 25 Police Officers to East Timor under UN auspices. Samoa's former Permanent Representative at the UN, Tuiloma Neroni Slade, was an authoritative figure in the debate on climate change and related environmental issues. Slade was appointed to the International Criminal Court for 2002-2006. Samoa is also a member of the Commonwealth, UNESCO, FAO (both of which have regional offices in Apia), WHO, the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank. Samoa initiated action to accede to the World Trade Organisation in 1998.

### Recent Visits from New Zealand to Samoa

2000	<p>Hon Phil Goff, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade (January and August).</p> <p>Hon Mark Gocshe, Minister of Pacific Islands Affairs and Transport (April)</p>
2001	<p>Hon Sandra Lee, Minister of Conservation (April)</p> <p>Hon Paul Swain, Minister of Commerce (June)</p>
2002	<p>Hon Phil Goff, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade (April)</p> <p>Prime Minister Helen Clark visited Samoa in June to participate in the 40<sup>th</sup> Independence Anniversary celebrations.</p>
2003	<p>Hon Jim Sutton, Minister of Trade, led a trade delegation to Samoa.</p>
2004	<p>Prime Minister Helen Clark, Hon Phil Goff and Hon Taito Phillip Field attended the Pacific Island Forum in Apia (August).</p>
2005	<p>Hon Phil Goff, Hon Paul Swain and Hon Taito Phillip Field visited Apia in March to participate in the inaugural New Zealand/Samoa Joint Ministerial Consultations.</p>
2006	<p>Rt Hon Winston Peters, Minister of Foreign Affairs (March).</p>

### Recent visits from Samoa to New Zealand

2000	<p>Hon Fiame Naomi Mata'afa, Minister of Education (September).</p>
2001	<p>Hon Mulitalo Siafausa Vui, Minister of Health, for attendance at the Commonwealth Health Ministers' Meeting in Christchurch (November).</p>
2003	<p>Prime Minister Tuilaepa led the Samoan delegation to the Pacific Islands Forum in Auckland in August</p>

	and made a Guest of Government visit afterwards. He had previously visited New Zealand as a Guest of Government in March 1999.
2004	Hon Misa Telefoni Retzlaff visited in June to attend the Forum Economic Ministers' Meeting.
2005	Hon Misa Telefoni Retzlaff led a trade delegation to Auckland in March.  Hon Tuisugaletaua Aveau Sofara, Minister of Agriculture (February).  Prime Minister Tuilaepa visited New Zealand in March to speak at a Pacific Cooperation Foundation seminar on Pacific regionalism and a Pacific Islands Forum Core Group meeting in Auckland.
2006	Prime Minister Tuilaepa, Police Minister Apulu Faafisi and Finance Minister Hon Niko Lee Hang attended the annual Joint Ministerial Consultations in Wellington (November).

*Pacific Division  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
May 2006*

**Urgent: Please read this as preparation for your travel to Apia**

**Information Sheet**

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From arrival at Whenuapai and during visit to Apia:

Caroline Bilkey – will be travelling on the Hercules and staying with the media contingent in Apia, with Apia contact details to be advised.

**RNZAF C130**

- The RNZAF Hercules C130 will depart from RNZAF Base Auckland (Whenuapai) at 3pm on Friday 18 May and will fly direct to Faleolo airport on Upolu, the main island of Samoa.
- **All passengers must be at Whenuapai at 1pm on 18 May in order to clear customs procedures required for the flight.**
- The flight will return to Whenuapai following the funeral on the afternoon of Friday 18 May(Apia)/ Saturday 19 May (NZT). Flight timing for the returning flight will be confirmed and advised to passengers in Apia when we receive further details of the official programme from the Samoan government.

**State Funeral for His late Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II  
RNZAF C130, 18 May 2007**

- Passengers are advised to position themselves in Auckland early on 18 May in preparation for departure. **Given that the plane will be returning to Whenuapai possibly very late on NZ Saturday night, passengers are also encouraged to make arrangements now for their accommodation in Auckland that night.**
- Passengers should dress appropriately for the flight to Apia. No T-shirts, shorts or open-toed shoes should be worn. Clothing should cover legs and arms (as it can get rather cool in the back of the Hercules) and be appropriate for paying respects to His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II at Parliament grounds before arriving at the hotel (see dress guide for funeral below)
- Baggage limit for the flight is 20 kgs maximum per person.
- Passengers should minimise their carry-on baggage as space is at a premium on board the Hercules.
- RNZAF Base Auckland is located at Airport Road, Whenuapai. Phone (09) 417 7000.
- For those passengers arriving from outside Auckland: the travel time between Auckland Airport and Whenuapai is approximately one hour. Accordingly please allow for appropriate time to get to Whenuapai after arrival in Auckland.

### **Immigration**

- You will need a valid passport. No visas are required for those on New Zealand or Samoan passports.
- If you are travelling on a passport other than a New Zealand passport you will also need a valid visa to return to New Zealand. If you are a New Zealand resident, this means a Returning Residents Visa (RRV) that is still current. If you are in New Zealand on some kind of temporary permit (e.g. as a visitor or work permit holder) this means a multiple re-entry visa that is still current, or a new visa for this trip. If you have any questions about visas or any other immigration matters for this visit, please contact Ms Sela Gaulofa, Department of Labour (04 9156284) as soon as possible.

### **Accommodation in Apia**

The New Zealand High Commission in Apia are doing their best to secure hotel accommodation for all passengers who have indicated that they require assistance in this area. Given the very tight constraints on accommodation in Apia, passengers are advised that in some cases it may be necessary to share accommodation. We also remind all

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passengers that they are responsible for meeting the costs of their accommodation in Apia and any related in-country costs.

At this stage, it is envisaged that most of the MPs on the flight will be staying at Aggie Greys Hotel on Beach Rd in Apia (the Governor-General and Prime Ministerial parties will also be staying there). Media will be staying at the Le Alaimaona Hotel, and other passengers will be staying at the Insel Fehrman Hotel, both of which are quite close to Aggie Greys.

On arrival in Apia we will be providing full details of the accommodation arrangements. To avoid confusion at the Apia end, on arrival at the airport can different groups of passengers please note that the following liaison officers will be on hand to assist with arrangements:

For media booked at Le Alaimoana: Christine Saaga

For MPs booked at Aggie Greys: Helen Leslie

For all other passengers booked at the Insel Fehrman: Mary Hughes and Nadine Millar

#### **Ground Transportation in Apia**

- The New Zealand High Commission have organised bus/minibus transport from the Airport to Hotels and to and from the funeral venue.
- Vehicles will be hotel specific – i.e. a vehicle for each hotel.
- Please ensure you take the appropriate vehicle at all times.

#### **Communications**

- Note that New Zealand cell phones will not work in Samoa. Delegates with Vodafone NZ phones can purchase pre-pay simcards for WST\$25 from Digicell

#### **Departure Tax**

- A departure tax of ST\$40 will be levied when departing Samoa (we may be able to negotiate payment of NZ\$20 but this is not yet confirmed). Given that it will be a national holiday in Samoa there will be no banking facilities open in Apia or at the airport. You may be able to change money at the hotel, but we expect the demand to be very high.

#### **Travel Insurance**

- Delegates must arrange and meet the costs of their own travel insurance.

### **Inoculations**

- Please consult with your doctor before departure about whether vaccinations are required. We get advice on requirements from the Travel Doctor, Grand Arcade, Willis Street, Ph (04) 473 0991 or Fax (04) 473 0998.

### **Money**

- The Samoan unit of currency is the Tala. Delegates can use NZ ATM/EFTPOS cards in all money machines at a small transaction cost providing they are a part of the PLUS system. There is a (sometimes unreliable) money machine at the airport in Samoa.

### **Health and Wellbeing in Samoa**

- The climate in Samoa is likely to be humid with temperatures in the mid to high 20's degrees Celsius. There are some simple things you can do to improve your comfort in a warm environment.
- We recommend SPF 15 or above sunscreen protection. When appropriate, wearing a hat will reduce sun exposure.
- Seek shade where possible. Avoid vigorous physical exertion. When standing for long periods move your toes and flex your calf muscles to aid blood return from your legs. If you begin to feel faint then sit down and lower your head.
- Adequate fluid intake is important. Manage your fluid intake by taking small amounts of water frequently. As a general guide 2 litres (approximately 11 standard glasses) over a 24 hour period is adequate with normal activity levels. A practical solution is to ensure adequate fluid intake during the trip to Samoa, then carry a 750 ml sipper-bottle for the afternoon, and take small drinks from this at regular intervals. Do not drink tap water in Samoa and make sure that any hotel water supplied is from a bottled source. We suggest that you use your own bottled water at all times unless you are certain that the bottled water supplied in the hotel is in fact as labelled. Moderate your intake of diuretic drinks such as tea, coffee and alcohol.
- Please note that Dengue is present in Samoa but it is not epidemic. A tropical strength insect repellent with a high DEET content such as Aerogard is recommended for time spent outside. Aerogard is widely available at Chemists and Supermarkets.

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- Background information on State Funeral arrangements for His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II, and biographical information on His Highness are attached.

**Dress Code for State Funeral**

- Men** Dress for the funeral as you would dress for a funeral in New Zealand, with the expectation being that black/dark clothing is likely to predominate. Jackets and ties are expected to be worn during the funeral ceremony. We have been told that media (who are likely to be more exposed to the sun and carrying around equipment) will not be expected to wear jackets but should wear ties.
- Women** It is acceptable for women to wear light shirts with dark coloured below the knee skirts or trousers. Shoulders should be covered.
- General** Where possible wear loosely fitting clothing for comfort. Unbuttoning your suit jacket where possible will provide better cooling. Cotton and linen fabrics provide better sun protection and thermal comfort than synthetic fabrics.

**Note:** As it also appears possible that there will be an opportunity following arrival and prior to hotel check in for passengers to pay their respects to the Malietoa who will be laying in State at Parliament grounds, we would strongly recommend that passengers arrive in Apia in suitable attire to pay their respects (taking account of the dress code guidelines above for the funeral).

There should be no taking of photographs when paying respects.

**Further details**

- Will be provided on the ground in Apia.
- Copies of this note will also be circulated to all passengers at Whenuapai.

Yours sincerely

Sanchia Kumalija

**M23**

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for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

M24

Category	Full Name	NZ-Samoa flight?	Samoa-NZ flight?
<b>MPs (4)</b>	Hon. Vui Mark Goshe	YES	YES
	Hon. Nanaia Cybele Mahuta	YES	YES
	Hon. Dr Pita Sharples	YES	YES
	Hon Brian John Donnelly	YES	YES
<b>Other (8)</b>	HE Asi Tuiataga James Faafili Blakelock	YES	YES
	Mrs Helen Blakelock	YES	YES
	David John Moore	YES	NO
	Andre Moehau Teritahi (French Polynesia)	YES	YES
	Jennifer Sylvia Brash (Mayor Porirua)	YES	YES
	George Duncan Fergusson (British HC)	YES	YES
	Bill Vakaafi Motufoou (Govt of Niue)	YES	YES
	Robert Anster Harvey (Mayor Waitakere)	YES	YES
<b>NZ Official (8)</b>	Caroline Peta Bilkey (MFAT)	YES	YES
	Lui Alofa (NZ Police)	YES	YES
	Jonathan Daiziel White (NZ Police)	YES	YES
	Lafaele Togialuga Lupo (MPIA)	YES	YES
	Moana Dunn (MFAT)	YES	YES
	Tofilau Kerupi Tavita (Immigration)	YES	NO
	Leatuavao Viko Aufuga (Viko Meamaile) (Correction)	YES	YES
	Karen Chambers (DPS)	YES	YES
<b>NZ Maori (3)</b>	Hon Koro Tainui Wetere	YES	YES
	Morehu Timoti Tokomauri (Timi Te Heuheu)	YES	YES
	Gerard Te Heuheu	YES	YES
<b>Media (12)</b>	Peter William Lewis (ABC)	YES	YES
	Fineata Litoheone Hida Wilson (Niu FM)	YES	YES
	Tony Haas (Asia Pacific Eco News)	yes	YES
	Michael Otto (Manukau Courier)	YES	YES
	Richard Martin Davies Pamatatau (RNZ)	YES	YES
	Belinda Emily Louise McCammon (NZPA reporter)	YES	YES
	Benjamin Baldwin Campbell (NZPA photographer)	YES	YES
	Peter Leota (Samoa Times)	YES	YES
	Mere Mulu (Sunday Star Times/News)	YES	YES
	Fa'aso'otauloa Toetu Peilua (Samoa Capital Radio)	YES	YES
	Lawrence David Smith (Sunday news photographer)	YES	YES
	Vienna Senima Richards (Pacific Magazine)	YES	NO
<b>NZ Samoan (25)</b>	Sefuluai Koka	YES	YES
	Taimalelagi Sani	YES	YES
	Ronnie Matafeo	YES	YES
	Fatuatia Tufuga	YES	YES
	Tauinaola Tofilau	YES	YES
	Leite Setefano	YES	YES
	Judge Aeau Semi Epati	YES	YES
	Valentino Pereira	YES	NO
	Sinatata Umaga	YES	YES
	Pele Catherine Walker	YES	YES
	Tealu Moresi	YES	YES
	Leilua Kose Leilua	YES	YES
	Senara Tiatia	YES	YES
	Nuusavili Siaosi	YES	YES
	Annette Lole Karepa	YES	YES
	Mene Sua Mene	YES	YES
	Seiuli Juliet Maria Walker	YES	YES
	Simativa Perese	YES	YES
	Marlena Tifaimoana Devoe	YES	YES
	Bruce McCarthy	YES	YES
	Malu Aukuso	YES	YES
Katenari Auelua	YES	YES	
Koroseta Iona To'o	YES	YES	
Tupuola Sione Malifa	YES	YES	
Savea Maieko Api	YES	YES	