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**Press Releases**

**26 April, 2007**

**1. Tatala le Maota Fou o le Faletupe o Atiina Ae.**

Ua faamaonia e le Kapeneta le umusaga o le maota fou o le Faletupe o Atiina Ae i le Aso Faraile 27 o Aperila, 2007. O le Afioga i le Palemia, Susuga Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, o le a fofogaina le saunoaga autu o le Aso.

E amatalia le faamoemoe i le afa o le sefulu i le taeao ma o le a taitaia le sauniga lotu e le Taitaifono o le Fono Aoao a Ekalesia Soofaatasi, Susuga Oka Fauolo.

**Development Bank of Samoa's new building officially opens.**

Cabinet has approved the official opening of the Development Bank of Samoa's new building on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2007. Honourable Prime Minister, Susuga Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, will deliver the keynote address.

The ceremony begins at 10.30am with a prayer service which will be conducted by the Chairman of the National Council of Churches, Rev. Oka Fauolo.

**2. Malaga mai Sui o le Malo o Saina**

O le a talimalo Samoa i le 'Au malaga mai le Malo o Saina o le a afea le atunuu i le aso 29 – 30 Aperila, 2007.

E to'a 52 le aofai o lenei 'Au Malaga e aofia ai le Susuga Guanzheng Wu, o se tasi o Sui Sinia o le Komiti Autu a le Pati Faakomenisi o lo o taitaia le Malo o Saina faatasi ai ma alii minisita e to'atolu. O le taimi nei o lo o malaga asiasi i latou i nisi o atunuu i Amerika i Saute ae ua na o Samoa le atunuu o le Pasefika o le a o latou afea a o le'i toe taliu atu i Saina.

O le a faia foi se feiloaiga a le 'Au Malaga ma le Afioga i le Palemia, Susuga Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, i le faletalimalo a Aggie Grey i Mulifanua a o le'i tuua e i latou le atunuu i le Aso Gafua 30 o Aperila, 2007.

### **Official Delegation from the People's Republic of China.**

Government will host an official delegation from the People's Republic of China that will be in the country from the 29 – 30 April, 2007.

The 52 member delegation includes Mr Guanzheng Wu, a senior official of the Communist Party of China, and three government ministers. The delegation is currently touring in some South American countries and Samoa will be the only Pacific country they will visit.

Honourable Prime Minister, Susuga Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, will meet with the delegation before they depart the country on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2007.

### **3. Malaga le Sui Palemia i le Fono o Fefaatauaiga i Niu Sila**

Ua faamaonia e le Kapeneta le auai atu o le Afioga i le Sui Palemia, o ia foi o le Minisita o Pisinisi, Alamanuia ma Leipa, Afioga Misa Telefoni, e talivalaau i le valaaulia mai le Ekalesia a Iesu Keriso o le Au Paia o Aso e Gata Ai mo le Fono i Mataupu Tau Fefaatauaiga e usua i Aukilani, Niu Sila, mai le aso 1 – 3 Me, 2007.

O lenei Fono o le a mataituina ai avanoa mo faiga faapaga i le itu tau fefaatauaiga i totonu o atunuu o le Pasefika.

### **Hon. Deputy Prime Minister attends Trade Conference in Auckland**

Cabinet has approved of the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister, who is also the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour, Afioga Misa Telefoni, to attend an invitation from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, to participate in The Pacific Futures Trade Conference, that will take place in Auckland New Zealand, from the 1 – 3 May, 2007.

The conference will explore opportunities to extend existing business networks in the Pacific and to create new trade relationships.

### **4. Lipoti o le Fono ma le ITF Federation**

Ua faamaonia e le Kapeneta le Lipoti o Fono a le Komiti Faatonu a le Faalapotopotoga o Auaunaga o Vaa a Samoa ma le Faalapotopotoga o le International Transport Workers Federation ma le FCM Travel Solution, sa faataunuuna i Niu Sila mai le aso 12 – 16 Aperila, 2007.

#### **Fono ma le ITF**

- Ua talia e le ITF le talosaga a le Auaunaga o Vaa a Samoa e tolopo le aso e faamuta ai konekarate e aofia ai totogi o alii seila a Samoa i le aso 30 Aukuso 2009. Ua fuafua nisi faatalatalanoaga ma feutagaiga a Samoa ma nisi o kamupani ma faalapotopotoga i Niu Sila mo avanoa e atiina ae ai lenei auaunaga.

### **Fono ma le FCM Travel Solution**

- O le a faaauauina pea le faatino o fuafuaga mo le Auaunaga o Vaa a Samoa e totogi atu ai pasese mo alii seila e malaga atu ai mo galuega i isi atunuu e pei ona i ai le maliega muamua. Ua faaalua foi le naunau o le ofisa malaga o le FCM Travel e tuuina mai tau maualalo o pasese mo alii seila.

O le Afioga i le Sui Palemia, Afioga Misa Telefoni, sa faatasi atu i nei faamoemoe taua ma le Sui o le Komiti Faatonu o le Faalapotopotoga o Auaunaga o Vaa a Samoa, Afioga Oloialii K. Tuala, faapea foi ma le Pule Sili o le Faalapotopotoga, Afioga Sala Theodore Taylor.

### **Report on Meetings with ITF and FCM Travel Solution**

Cabinet has approved the Report on Samoa Shipping Services' Meetings with International Transport Workers Federation and FCM Travel Solution, that took place on the 12 – 16 April, 2007.

#### **Meeting with ITF**

- ITF had agreed to Samoa Shipping Services' proposal to extend the current contract including pay rates for local seafarers which ends on 30 September 2008 to 30 August 2009. ITF will also support Samoa Shipping Services through negotiations with various organizations and companies to develop opportunities for Samoan seafarers.

#### **Meeting with FCM Solution**

- FCM Travel will continue to provide a 30 day credit facility for all travel arrangements by Samoa Shipping Services. Considerations have also been made for options to reduce travel costs for seafarers.

Samoa's representatives at these Meetings included, Hon. Deputy Prime Minister, Afioga Misa Telefoni, SSS Board Member, Afioga Oloialii K. Tuala, and SSS General Manager, Afioga Sala T. Taylor.

## **5. Faatuina Vaega mo le Faaaogaina o Taifau Sosogi**

Ua faamaonia e le Kapeneta le talosaga a le Matagaluega o Leoleo ma le Matagaluega o Tupe Maua e faatuina se vaega mo le faaaogaina o taifau sosogi mo le puipuga o le saogalemu o le atunuu i lalo o le vaavaaiga tutusa a Matagaluega e lua.

O le a faaigoaina lenei vaega o le Vaega o Taifau mo Fualaau Faasaina ma o a latou galuega autu e aofia ai le fesoasoani i le Matagaluega o Leoleo i le faatinoga o suesuega faapitoa i fualaau faasaina, siakiina o pasese ma au vaa, oloa ma tusi faamomoli i le uafu i Matautu, Malaevaalele i Faleolo ma le Falemeli.

## **Combined Canine Unit**

Cabinet has approved the proposal by the Ministry of Police and the Ministry of Revenue to establish a unit under the auspices of both Ministries to facilitate the use of canine detector dogs for detective works.

The Combined Canine Detector Unit will assist Police and Customs Division with their investigations and to carry out passenger and parcel checks at Matautu International Port, Faleolo International Airport and at the Post Office.

## **6. Pule Sili fou mo le Pulega o Tagata Tafafao Maimoa mai Fafo.**

Ua faamaonia e le Kapeneta le filifiliga o le Afioga Matatamalii Sonja Hunter, i le tofiga o le Pule Sili o le Pulega o Tagata Tafafao Maimoa Mai Fafo.

Sa faasalalauina lenei avanoa e pei o tulaga masani. E to'aluasefululima (25) i latou sa tuuina atu tusi talosaga, ma sa faatalanoaina uma i latou. I le maea ai o suesuega ma saililiga a le Komiti o Faatalanoaga, ua finagalo autasi ai i latou e filifilia le Afioga Matatamalii Sonja Hunter, i lenei tofiga.

O lo o umia e le Afioga Matatamalii ni faailoga tusipasi mai nisi o iunivesite i Iapani i mataupu tau Pulega o Tagata Tafafao Maimoa mai Fafo ma Faletalimalo. O lo o faamoemoe foi o ia e faauu mai le Iunivesite a le Pasefika i Saute i le faailoga o le Master in Business Administration i le masina nei. Ua silia ma le luasefulu tausaga talu ona galue Matatamalii i nisi o faalapotoptoga ma kamupani tumaoti e aofia ai le avea o ia ma Fauaufutua i Vaega Tau Tupe a le Kamupani Inisiua a le Colonial mo tausaga e fitu ma sa avea foi o ia ma Sui o le Vaega o Maketi i le Kamupani a le Federal Pacific Underwriters. O le Afioga a Matatamalii sa avea foi ma Fauluuluga o le Pulega o Tagata Tafafao Maimoa mai Fafo a o faaigoaina o le Samoa Visitors Bureau, a o le i avea ma tamaitai pule o le Falekeke a Maxine i le fitu tausaga talu ai e o'o mai i le taimi nei. O se tamaitai ua 41 ona tausaga mai afioga o Poutasi, Lefagaoalii ma Sapapalii.

## **New CEO for Samoa Tourism Authority.**

Cabinet has approved the appointment of Afioga Matatamalii Sonja Hunter, to the position of Chief Executive Officer, Samoa Tourism Authority.

The position was advertised. Twenty five (25) individuals applied and all of them were interviewed. Following the Interview Panel's thorough investigations and review, the Panel unanimously selected Afioga Matatamalii Sonja Hunter.

Matatamalii holds Tourism and Hotel Management qualifications from a number of universities in Japan. She will be graduating with a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of the South Pacific, this month. She worked in the private sector for more than twenty years including being a financial adviser for Colonial Insurance Company for seven years and Sales Representative for Federal Pacific Underwriters. The 41 year old mother of three

is a former General Manager of the Samoa Visitors Bureau now called Samoa Tourism Authority. She was the Managing Director of Maxine's Quality Cakes for seven years before she moved on to take her new post. Matatamalii hails from the villages of Poutasi, Lefagaoalii and Sapapalii.

### **Government Press Secretariat**