



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



ANNUAL REPORT
2015

Agency Vision

A Better Fiji through Excellence in Foreign Service

Agency Vision Statement

To advance Fiji's interests through the effective formulation and implementation of its Foreign Policy

Agency Values

Accountability | Commitment | Courtesy | Integrity | Honesty | Loyalty | Professionalism | Transparency

Our Stakeholders





MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



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The Honourable Minister for Foreign Affairs
Ratu Inoke Kubuabola
Level 1 & 2 Vale ni Bose Vakaturaga
87 Queen Elizabeth Drive
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SUVA

Dear Minister

Pursuant to the Public Service Act and the Financial Management Act 2004, I hereby submit the 2015 Annual Report of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for presentation to Parliament.

Yours Sincerely

Esala Nayasi
Acting Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs

ACRONYMS

AAMEE	America, Africa, Middle East & Europe
BACC	Budget and Aid Coordination Committee
COP	Conference of the Parties
CRGA	Committee of Representatives of Government and Administrations
CSD	Corporate Services Division
CSO	Civil Society Organization
C24	Special Committee on Decolonization
CROP	Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific
DG	Director General
GDNA	Global Designated National Authority
EPG	Eminent Persons Group
EU	European Union
FR-RTP	Fiji –Japan Regional Training Programme
FLNKS	Front de Libération Nationale Kanak et Socialiste
FMM	Foreign Ministers’ Meeting
GPH	Grand Pacific Hotel
G77	The Group of 77 is a coalition of developing member nations, designed to promote its members’ collective sustainable development interests in the United Nations
HOM	Heads of Missions
ICD	International Cooperation Division
ICO	Implementation Coordination Office
IGO	Intergovernmental Organization
MSG	Melanesian Spearhead Group
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
MSGTA	Melanesian Spearhead Group Trade Agreement
PCSD	Protocol & Consular Services Division
PICTA	Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement
PIDF	Pacific Islands Development Forum
PRUN	Permanent Representative to the United Nations
PSIDS	Pacific Small Island Developing States
SBI	Subsidiary Body of Implementation
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPARTECA	South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement
SOM	Senior Officials’ Meeting
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
UN	United Nations
UNFCC	United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change
WTO	World Trade Organization

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PERMANENT SECRETARY'S FOREWORD



The year 2015, post-election era, saw the normalisation of Fiji's diplomatic relations with its traditional partners, the continuation of our pursuit towards the expanded 'Look North Policy' and strengthening of the South-South Cooperation.

As such, it gives me great pleasure to present the Ministry's 2015 Annual Report which reflects our achievements and accomplishments together with the challenges we faced in 2015.

The Ministry reconfigured its structure to provide a solid platform for the successful implementation of its Corporate Plans. The formation of Regional Bureaus' serves our overseas Missions in their respective geographical areas to meet our service needs and address the challenges that evolve from the dynamics of regional politics and international relations.

The Ministry recognised the strategic value and importance of human resources in terms of effective and efficient implementation of Corporate Plans as capacity building continued to be encouraged across all staffing levels in areas of ideological and skills development geared towards building a professional, diplomatic workforce that is highly competent, committed and loyal to the Government's mandate. We continued to ensure that the Ministry's restructuring plans aligned to the Government's reform agenda in its commitment towards service excellence.

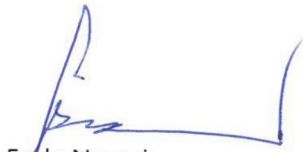
This year saw the first ever Senior Officials Meeting at the level of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs took place in Suva from 4th to 5th February, 2015 where discussions were held between the parties on bilateral relations, projects undertaken by both countries and areas for new cooperation.

The Ministry also continued its support towards building climate resilience through active community and stakeholder partnerships and engagement at regional and international forums in order to address concerns relating to climate change in the pursuit of identifying effective solutions for mitigations and adaptations.

We look forward to the new opportunities provided to us in 2016 such as our new mission in Addis Ababa; headquarters of the African Union (AU); that is of significant geo-political and strategic importance to Fiji. It reflects the solid commitment of the Ministry to ensuring Fijian Government interests are represented at the premier multilateral forums of the world.

The Ministry continues to deliver tangible and enduring benefits for Fijians, in a changing and demanding international environment. This is the task to which we are highly dedicated to at Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

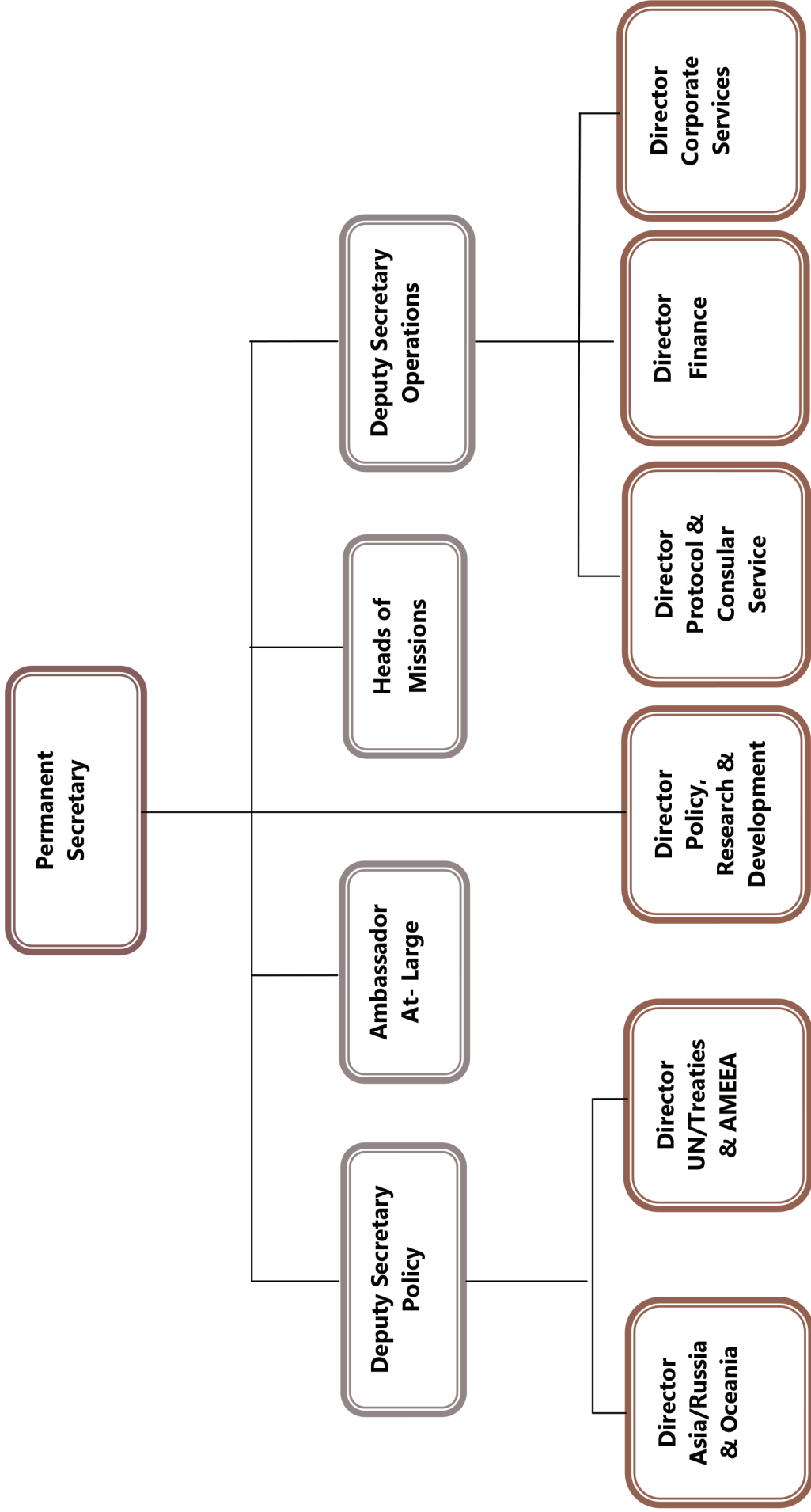
2015 has been a great year given the continuous growth of the Ministry and Fiji's relations with the world. We look forward to continuing with this momentum beyond 2015 to enable the Ministry to move from crest to crest in its performance and achievements to deliver its best on behalf of Fiji in the local, regional and international arena.



Esala Nayasi

Acting Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs

2015 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Roles of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The role of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to lead the formulation and conduct of Fiji's Foreign Policy.

Its core responsibility is to conduct Fiji's foreign relations with other countries in matters pertaining to – Political Relations, Economic Affairs, Social & Cultural Issues, Peace & Security and Climate Change.

Roles of Bureaus and Divisions

The Ministry Head Quarters comprises of two (2) regional bureaus and four (4) functional divisions as follows:

Oceania/Asia/Russia Regional Bureau

The Oceania/Asia/Russia Regional Bureau serves the Fiji missions based in Beijing, Canberra, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, New Delhi, Port Moresby, Seoul, Tokyo and Wellington as well as the Consulate-General's Office in Sydney.

In terms of Oceania, Fiji's key traditional partners; Australia and New Zealand continue to provide support in the critical sectors of education health, and the tourism sector. The Ministry will be looking to further strengthen relations in this post-election period and beyond. Through the Fiji Mission in Port Moresby, the Ministry will continue to actively engage with Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and FLNKS, as members of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG), that Fiji is accredited to, in order to ensure that Fiji's role and contribution in the region remains relevant.

As a region, Asia has the highest population in the world and some of the fastest growing economies as well. Fiji's expanded Look North Policy has been very successful in this region in terms of bilateral relations, trade and development aid and the Ministry will continue to maintain its strategic focus in strengthening relations in this very important region.

UN/Treaties and Africa/Americas /Middle East/Europe [UA] Regional Bureau

Fiji Missions in Abu Dhabi, Brasilia, Brussels, Geneva, London, New York, and Washington DC are served by the UN/T and AAMEE Regional Bureau. In 2016 a new Embassy will be opened in Addis-Abba. These Missions are Fiji's windows to the continents of Africa, Americas, Europe and the Middle-East region. They are significantly important regions in their own right: the UK, USA and the Middle East continue to serve as source countries for remittances while the EU has been a major importer of Fiji's sugar.

Labour migration is something that the Government is seriously considering as a means to address unemployment. The Ministry will identify and focus on specific areas to secure opportunities that will benefit the people of Fiji. It is noted that apart from the Middle Eastern countries of Iraq, Egypt (Sinai) and Israel/Syria (Golan Heights), the African countries of Liberia, Sudan and South Sudan also have placements of Fijian security personnel working under UN mandated missions while there is also a growing number of Fijian civilians finding employment in various countries on the continent. Fiji's contribution to peacekeeping in conflict areas of the world is internationally recognised and the Ministry will continue to seek opportunities at UN-level for continued engagement in this area.

A milestone achievement is the creation of a bureau desk officer for the United Nations/Treaties related Missions in recognition of the strategic role the two UN Missions based in New York and Geneva respectively play in the implementation of Fiji's foreign policy at the multilateral and international forum. Furthermore, the creation of the bureau desk officer recognises the huge volume of work generated from the engagements and commitments Fiji has in the UN forum.

Protocol and Consular Services Division

The Division ensures that diplomatic obligations are accorded to diplomatic missions, the diplomatic community, regional and international organizations. The work is informed and guided by the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961) the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (1963) and Fiji's Diplomatic Privileges and Immunities Act (1971). An important responsibility of

the Division is to enhance Fiji's international standing and strengthen its diplomatic ties. The Division also ensures that diplomats including international public servants based in Fiji adhere to diplomatic conventions and laws under the Diplomatic Privileges and Immunities Act. The Division is also responsible for planning and coordinating regional and international conferences hosted by the Government of Fiji and facilitates protocol arrangements for distinguished guests of the State and for dignitaries travelling overseas.

Corporate Services Division

The Division is responsible to the Permanent Secretary for assisting with facilitating key human resource management activities that involves recruitment, contract renewals, and management of assets, reward and motivation, of the Ministry's human resource.

These key human resource activities involves additional activities that cover job analysis, human resource planning, performance appraisal and human resource development, compensation and benefits, industrial or employee relations and effective health and safety programmes.

Finance Division

The Division is responsible for financial matters. The Division provides financial oversight and management of financial resources and guarantees that all expenditures and revenue collections are in compliance with the budgetary provisions under the Finance Instructions, Finance Manual and the Fiji Overseas Service Regulations (FOSR). The Division also ensures the effective implementation and upgrading of the Financial Management Information System (FMIS).

Policy, Research & Development Division

The Division is responsible to the Permanent Secretary for the provision of policy advice on the performance of the Ministry through the Bureaus, Divisions and Missions as evaluated against the Key Performance Indicators in the Annual Corporate Plan with the use of a performance monitoring matrix on a quarterly

basis. The Division provides monthly updates on key national development issues and HQ achievements for the information of the Missions and compiles assessment reports for the executive management and the Annual Report for the Ministry.

The Division is also responsible for drafting new policies and plans for the Ministry and for the review of existing policies and provides media updates and documentaries on important achievements and milestones for the Ministry.



2015 MILESTONE

Excellence in Foreign Service

OUTCOME 14: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & EXTERNAL TRADE

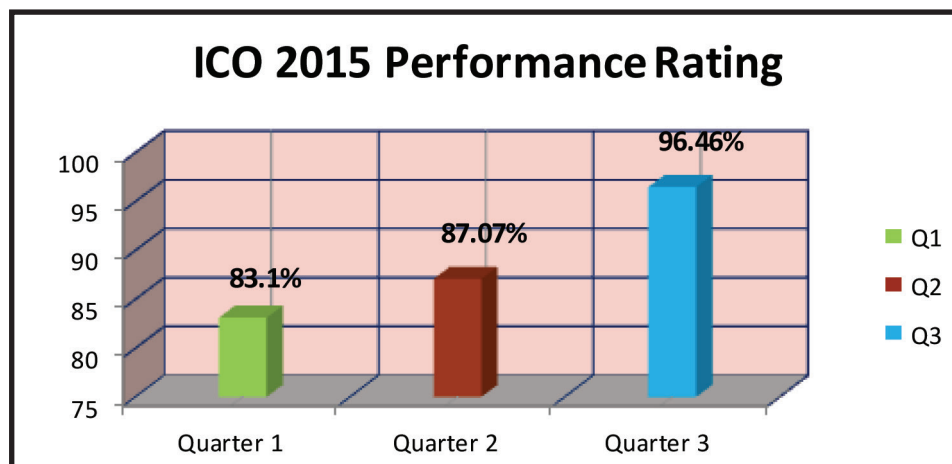
Output 1: Portfolio Leadership, Policy Advice and Secretariat Support

ICO OUTCOME AND PERFORMANCE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has two core outcomes under RSSED i.e. Outcome 14- International Relations and External Trade and Outcome 34 – Environmental Sustainability. The Ministry’s ICO Performance Rating propelled by a significant margin compared to the past three years with the implementation of its 2015 ACP.

In Quarter one of 2015, MFA was given a very good performance rating of 88.10%, which is the highest score of assessment awarded to the Ministry in the past three years. This landmark achievement has been the result of close collaboration in monitoring of targets stipulated under the 2015 ACP by Ministry and our Missions abroad. An internal reporting mechanism was developed to monitor and verify our quarterly progress in achieving our outputs, which significantly provides awareness in meeting internal and external timeline of targets.

As a result of the consistent performance from Quarter one, the Ministry was awarded 87.07% in Quarter 2. Continuous efforts to push our boundaries further in the implementation of the 2015 ACP resulted in the Ministry being awarded an EXCELLENCE performance rating of 96.46% in Quarter 3. This was also the last assessment undertaken by the ICO office before they join the Ministry of Strategic Planning in 2016.



INAUGURAL BUREAU MEETING

Heads of Missions from the same region met for the first time during the month of March, 2015. The inaugural Regional Bureau meeting was a decision discussed during the 2014 HOMs consultation for HOMs to discuss on how the region can mobilize its resources to tap into the key areas of trade, investment and tourism through extensive promotion and advocacy.

The consultation was also to cover key areas of diplomatic work in the region, discussions on the Annual Corporate Plan (ACP), Business Plan (BP), Individual Work Plans (IWP) and key issues concerning the Ministry's policies, performance management mechanisms, and training & development.

The UN/AAMEE regional meeting was held from the 3rd to 5th of March, 2015 hosted by the Fiji Embassy in Washington DC, the Oceania regional meeting was held from the 16th – 17th of March, 2015 hosted by the Roving Ambassador Division in Suva and the Asia/Russia regional meeting was held from the 19th to 22nd of March, 2015 hosted by the Fiji Embassy in Seoul.



HOMs from Asia/Russia Regional meeting



HOMs from UN/AAMEE Regional

INTER-AGENCY WORKSHOP ON THE DRAFT FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT



Ambassador Mataitoga with the Workshop

The Ministry held a workshop in Suva on the 14th of April, 2015 at the Holiday Inn Hotel facilitated by Ambassador Mataitoga. The workshop was held to discuss the Draft Foreign Policy Statement, which the Ministry prepared. This was part of the extensive consultation being undertaken by the

Ministry, to ensure that all relevant stakeholders were engaged in finalizing this important document.

The Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ratu Inoke Kubuabola opened the workshop and informed participants that *“This draft Statement sets out the principles, priorities, goals and objectives of Fiji’s foreign policy. It is aligned to the Government’s strategic directions in the post-election period and is duly chosen to safeguard our sovereignty and national interest whilst achieving the goals set, within its international relations.”*

8th DIPLOMATIC INDUCTION COURSE

Facilitator and Fiji Ambassador to Japan, Isikeli Mataitoga conducted the 8th Diplomacy Induction Course in Suva from the 19th – 28th August, 2015 in which he successfully accomplished a key KPI of the Ministry which is stipulated under the 2015 ACP.

The course is designed to enhance understanding of countries foreign policies, rules of engagement and importantly negotiating and diplomatic skills as Fiji embarks in fostering and strengthening international and national relations. The course also intended to enhance skills that participants can apply and use in their own work environment. A total of 46 participants attended the course from the civil service, private sector, youth volunteers and from other Pacific Island countries.



Participants with the Chief Guest, PSC Chairman, Mr. Vishnu Mohan and the Principal facilitator, Ambassador Mataitoga during the opening of the Diplomatic Induction course

5th HEADS OF MISSIONS CONSULTATIONS

The Annual Heads of Missions Consultations convened from 19th to 22nd December at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva. Ambassadors and High Commissioners from Fiji's 19 Missions attended the three days consultations to discuss the new Policy Direction for the Ministry, the Ministry's Strategic Plan 2016 – 2020, Fiji's Foreign Policy Statements and gives the HOMs the opportunity to touch base with the developments happening in Fiji while providing a feedback in the work and accomplishments of the various missions they represent.

The Hon Prime Minister Josaia Bainimarama, while opening the 5th Heads of Mission consultations, said "We may require our Heads of Missions to pursue our interest regarding gender equality; seek assistance for our youth groups; pursue better educational opportunities and advocate for climate change mitigation; and position Fiji to access development funds," Prime Minister Bainimarama also mentioned that while Fiji believes in policy of being 'friends to all', it is equally important to ensure that Fiji maintains its dignity and its sovereignty as an independent nation.



The Hon Prime Minister with the Heads of Missions after the official opening with the theme for this year's consultation "A Better Fiji through Excellence in Foreign Service"

HANDOVER OF PRESIDENCY & CHAIRMANSHIP

Presidency of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board

A ceremony to mark the handover of the Presidency of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board from Fiji's Ambassador Peter Thomson to Ambassador Fernando Carrera of Guatemala was held on 8th January, 2015 at the UN Headquarters in New York. Ambassador Thomson serves as the Board President for a one year term and presides over the three UN entities with a combined annual expenditure of over US\$7 billion.

In his closing remarks, Ambassador Thomson said it had been a great privilege to lead the Board during the critical preparations for the Post 2015 Development Agenda. He said he was confident that UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS were fit for purpose for the great development challenges looming ahead.

Chairman of the Conference of the Pacific

The Hon Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ratu Inoke Kubuabola led Fiji's delegation to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community's 9th Biennial Pacific Community Conference in Niue to hand over the Chairmanship of the Conference of the Pacific to the Premier of Niue, Hon. Toke Tufukia Talagi. The theme of the 9th

conference is “Resilient Pacific People – turning the tide”, aims to realise, celebrate and capitalise on the strengths and opportunities of the Pacific region amidst the common challenges that the region faces.

2015 MFA AWARD

For the second year in a row, the Ministry awarded its employees at the 2015 MFA Award Night, which was held at the GPH. With the vision set by senior management of the Ministry and the adoption of the findings of our priorities under the theme “A Better Fiji through Excellence in Foreign Service”, the Ministry honour and recognize the outstanding contribution and achievements of the Ministry’s division’s and its employees during 2015.



Hon Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ratu Inoke Kubuabola delivering his opening address during the Awards Night.

The following divisions and employees were recognized for their outstanding contribution to the Ministry in 2015.

	Award	2015 Recipient
1.	Minister’s Award (Best Division)	Protocol & Consular Division
2.	Permanent Secretary Award (Leadership)	Mr. Peni Suveinakama
3.	Professional Excellence Award	Mr. Vueti May
4.	Motivating Spirit Award	Ms. Amelia Cobona
5.	Going the Extra Mile Award	Mr. Keni Tabucavu
6.	Rising Star Award	Ms. Vakaoca Kedrayate
7.	Lifetime Achievement Award (Retirees)	Awarded to eight retirees
	Certificate	2015 Recipient
1.	Best Groomed Award	Mr. Luke Daunivalu
2.	Busy Bee Award	Ms. Merewalesi Radiloa
3.	Selfie Award	Ms. Ulamila Wainiu

Output 2: Management & Strengthening of Bilateral & Multilateral Relations

GGGI - HCA and REGIONAL OFFICE IN SUVA

Fiji Embassy Seoul facilitated the signing of the Host Country Agreement (HCA) between the GGGI Secretariat in Seoul and the Ministry of Finance of Fiji. The first regional office of the GGGI was set up in the Ministry of Finance to serve the Pacific region in 2015.

3rd ROK-PICS SENIOR OFFICIAL'S MEETING

The 3rd Korea-Pacific Islands Senior Officials' Meeting on 6 October 2015 in Seoul welcomed the Republic of Korea's increased support for the ROK-Pacific Islands Forum Cooperation Fund for 2015-2017.

Korea has increased support from US\$ 1.0 million to US\$ 1.5 million per year for jointly agreed regional initiatives. Currently the Fund supports the Pacific Islands Climate Prediction Services Project, jointly implemented by SPREP and the APEC Climate Centre for the period 2014 - 2016.

The new funding phase (2015-2017) will address marine and fisheries issues, which were identified as an important priority at the recent 46th Pacific Island Forum Meeting in Port Moresby. In particular, Korea will work with the region to contribute to addressing the issues of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing as well as marine pollution control through monitoring, control and surveillance using remote sensing technologies.

FIJI / RUSSIAN BILATERAL SENIOR OFFICIALS CONSULTATION

The first ever Senior Officials Meeting at the level of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs took place in Suva from 4th to 5th February, 2015 between Mr. Igor Morgulov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Russia and Mr. Esala Nayasi, Acting Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Fiji.



Mr. Igor Morgulov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Russia being greeted by Mr Esala Nayasi, Acting PS Foreign Affairs

The Fijian delegation was led by Mr. Esala Nayasi, Acting Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs and assisted by Mr. Isikeli Mataitoga, Fiji's Non Resident Ambassador to the Russian Federation based in Tokyo, Japan. The issues discussed between the parties covered bilateral relations, projects undertaken by both countries and areas for new cooperation.

PIDF ADMITTED TO GLOBAL RENEWABLE ENERGY BODY



PIDF Officials

At the 5th session of the IRENA's assembly held on 17th to 18th January, 2015 in Abu Dhabi, UAE, the assembly voted to grant Observer status to the Pacific Island Development Forum (PIDF).

IRENA is an intergovernmental organization that supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future and serves as the principal platform for international cooperation, a center of excellence and a repository of policy, technology, resource and financial knowledge on renewable energy.

Welcoming his admittance, as an Observer the former PIDF Secretary General, Mr. Feleti Teo said the "Pacific island are endowed with a rich variety of renewable energy resources, providing a viable and attractive alternative to fossil fuel imports. In January 16 2012 IRENA hosted a Pacific Leaders Forum from 11 Pacific Island Countries and Territories in Abu Dhabi, since then IRENA has worked closely with the Pacific to identify gaps and produce innovative, practical and island-specific solutions.

38th SESSION OF THE ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY & 29th SESSION OF THE JOINT ACP-EU JPA

With the Ministry taking the lead role in organising and coordination, Fiji successfully hosted the 38th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly & 29th Session of the Joint ACP-EU JPA in Suva at a very short notice following the withdrawal of Vanuatu due to the destructions caused by Cyclone Pam. We hosted 350 international guests in Suva from all over the world for the Joint Parliamentary Assembly of the European Union and the 79 member countries of the ACP – the African, Caribbean and Pacific States. This included nearly 40 members of the European Parliament plus the representatives of more than a billion ordinary men and women scattered around the globe.

The JPA was officially opened on Monday 15th of June by the Hon Prime Minister, Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama. This was preceded by a welcome speech by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. Dr. Jiko Luveni, and statements by the ACP and EU Co-Presidents of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly, Hon. Mr. Fitz Jackson and Hon. Mr. Louis Michel respectively.



Hon Prime Minister with the ACP & EU delegation after the opening ceremony

Majority of the participants left greatly impressed by their Fijian experience and the achievements of our new democracy – the One Nation we have forged and the way in which Fiji is now powering ahead. Delegates provided positive feedback on the achievements of the meeting.

SOUTH-SOUTH & TRIANGULAR COOPERATION

In pursuit of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation between Fiji and the other Pacific Small Island Development states and territories to ensure overall resilience in the face rapidly evolving challenges that we continue to face. The Ministry with the assistance of the Public Service Commission facilitated four trainings held at the Government Center for Training and Development (CTD) under the Fiji – Japan Regional Training Programme (FJ-RTP) as follows:

1. Senior Government Officials Training on Public Administration, from 2nd – 13th March, 2015
2. Junior Government Officials Training on Public Administration, from 17th July - 3rd August, 2015
3. Air Conditioning Training
4. Bio-Medical Training from 19th October – 27th November, 2015



Course participants

The courses offered under FJ-RTP were successfully attended by the participants from Kiribati and Tuvalu providing them with great deal of knowledge and skills in various areas of Public Service delivery, strengthening capacity in records management, customer service and communication skills.

New practices such as Business Process Re-engineering, Quality Circles and Service Excellence Awards programmes were also introduced to the participants during respective training.

FORMALIZATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATION

Fiji formally established Diplomatic Relations with ten (10) countries through its PRUN office in New York, which are highlighted in the table below exceeding the target of four (4) stipulated under the 2015 ACP.

	Country	Date of Signing
1.	Republic of El Salvador	30 th January, 2015
2.	Sierra Leone	6 th February, 2015
3.	Antigua and Barbuda	20 th February, 2015
4.	Republic of Burundi	20 th March, 2015
5.	Republic of Bulgaria	27 th March, 2015
6.	Palau	2 nd April, 2015
7.	Grenada	23 rd June, 2015
8.	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	4 th August, 2015
9.	Chad Republic	4 th September, 2015
10.	Honduras	26 th September, 2015

After the completion of the ten FDR signing in 2015, Fiji now have only 17 member States (mostly African States) with which Fiji has yet to formalize its diplomatic relation with.

ESTABLISHMENT OF FIJI'S PERMANENT MISSION TO UN (GENEVA)

In March, as the ILO decision to commence a Commission of Inquiry was looming, PRUNOG was able to get the Workers, Employers and the Fijian Government through Minister for Employment together at the Fiji Mission in Geneva.

It was agreed by all concerned that negotiating with the workers and employers would be in Fiji's best interests. To that end the Fijian delegation, led by Minister Konrote and Minister Sayed-Khaiyum met with Mr. Nesbit Hazleman and Mr Felix Anthony to negotiate a tripartite agreement which would govern their relations henceforth. The meeting was a success, although agreement took almost four hours to reach. The result was as successful as the process itself. The Agreement was signed before the Director-General Mr Guy Ryder, and the decision point at the Governing Body was successfully amended to defer the issue to November.



Fijian Delegation in Geneva

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY CONSUL

In line with Fiji’s Foreign Policy of strengthening international relations and in progressing our bilateral and multilateral cooperation with the international counterparts, Fiji through its Missions abroad have appointed its Honorary Consul as a sign of growing relations as presented in the table below:

Name	City / Country
1. Mr. Cemil Cakar	Fiji Honorary Consul - Ankara, Turkey
2. Mr. Hakan Bulgurlu	Fiji Honorary Consul – Istanbul, Turkey
3. Mr. Mousa Bajali	Fiji Honorary Consul – Jordan
4. Mr. Mohammed Choucair	Fiji Honorary Consul – Lebanon
5. Mr. Sharokh Khazai	Fiji Honorary Consul - Iran
6. Mr. Nurlan Baktybaev	Fiji Honorary Consul - Kyrgyzstan
7. Professor Dorival Correia Bruni	Fiji Honorary Consul – Rio de Janeiro
8. Mr. Elizeu Lima	Fiji Honorary Consul – Sao Paulo

The opening of the Honorary Consul’s underscore Fiji’s long standing policy in establishing and maintaining friendly relations with countries that have demonstrated genuine goodwill towards Fiji and using it to widen and deepen Fiji’s diplomatic footprint abroad. It is also a reflection of the benevolence enjoyed between Fiji and these countries in the promotion of economic, commercial, cultural, scientific and people-to-people relations.

MOUs and MOAs

No	MOUs/MOAs	Date Signed	Area of Cooperation
1.	ROK/Fiji MOU on Natovi Port Development and Other Sea Facilities	19 th May, 2015	Feasibility study of Natovi Jetty prior to expanding into Multi Fishing Port. Exchange of Technical expertise for expansion and upgrading of port facilities.
2.	MOU between Ministry of Health and Welfare ROK and Ministry of Health and Medical Services Fiji in Healthcare and Medical Science	28 th May, 2015	ROK to provide expertise in the manufacture of Traditional medicine for patient consumption in Fiji, provide awareness on Public Health Policy, Drug and Healthcare.
3.	MOU Between Fiji / Australia Seasonal Workers Programme	1 st April, 2015	Establish Fiji's participation in the Australian Seasonal Worker Program (SWP). This focuses on unemployed persons residing in rural areas and registration will be done through the Foreign Employment Centre (FORES) of the National Employment Centre (NEC).
4.	MOU on Transport between LTA and NZ Transport	28 th October, 2015	Exchange of knowledge and expertise in Transport, Infrastructure and related services and systems.
5.	Indonesia / Fiji MOU on Cooperation in Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs	2 nd September, 2015	Information exchange on technicalities to Combating Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs Capacity building.
6.	Thailand / Fiji MOU on Technical Cooperation	1 st September, 2015	3-year Technical Plan on Capacity building and Technical assistance

No	MOUs/MOAs	Date Signed	Area of Cooperation
7.	Fiji / China MOU on Sports Cooperation	16 th July, 2015	Exchange of sports delegation and experts in physical education, sports development and applied science. Enhance level of sports in Sports science, sport medicine/program management; Anti-doping control; Sports management and leadership.
8.	Fiji / China MOU on Joint Feasibility Study on a Fiji-China Free Trade Agreement	16 th July, 2015	Examine topics covered in a China and Fiji Free Trade Agreement such as trade in goods, trade in services, investment, economic and technical cooperation. Both groups to strive to conclude the joint feasibility study within twelve (12) months
9.	Fiji / China Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation	16 th July, 2015	In accordance with Fiji's need the Chinese Government shall provide gratuitous aid of RMB 120 million or equivalent to around F\$41 million for projects to be agreed upon between the two Governments.
10.	Fiji / China MOU on Strengthening Cooperation with SCC and Guangdong City	June, 2015	Municipality cooperation
11.	Fiji / China MOU with Guangdong on Health and Family Planning	June, 2015	Signed with the ministry of Health and Guangdong Province.
12.	Fiji / China Establishment of Sister School relation	June, 2015	Establishment of Sister School relation between Yat Sen Secondary and Zhongkai Secondary School
13.	Fiji / China MOU on Tourism Cooperation	June, 2015	Tourism Promotion and Exchange of Skills in areas of comparative advantage
14.	Fiji / China MOU on Nadi 21 Tourism Project	June, 2015	Foster collaboration

No	MOUs/MOAs	Date Signed	Area of Cooperation
15.	Fiji / China MOU with Fiji Forestry and Wood Industry Development	June, 2015	Foster Cooperation
16.	MOU on Health Cooperation between Fiji MOH and China Health Commission	13 th April, 2015	Foster Cooperation
17.	MOU between State Forestry Administration of China and Fiji Ministry of Forestry on Forestry Cooperation	23 rd March, 2015	Forest Fire prevention; Forest afforestation; Forest industry development and trade of wood products; Forest resource monitoring

OUTPUT 3: PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

FIJI SUGAR IN KOREAN MARKET

Fiji sugar is now in Korean markets and already a special and a hot commodity as it is well suited for South Korean food processing, particularly in fermentation and other general usages. Fiji Embassy in Seoul, South Korea successfully negotiated the initiative of Fiji raw sugar export to ROK with the Fiji Sugar Cooperation (FSC) and Paradise Bio Sugar (PBS) Korea.



Fiji Ambassador to ROK with the sample of Fiji Sugar

2000 tons of sugar exported monthly and the quota was increased to 3000 tons per month effective from October, 2015 and there is also plan to further increase in 2016. Further exports to China and other South Asian countries through ROK are anticipated and the move to bulk purchase by 2017.

There is also growing interest in its use for cosmetics products and the consumer base and sales are growing exponentially every month according to Mr. Lee the Director of PBS.

INAUGURAL FIJI - JAPAN INVESTMENT & TRADE SEMINAR 2015

Fiji Embassy in Japan together with counterparts in Tokyo and Suva organized the inaugural Fiji-Japan Trade & Investment Seminar that was held in Suva on 1st December, 2015. The one day seminar was an opportunity to present the Japanese delegation with what Fiji has to offer in an effort to entice them to consider investing in Fiji. With Fiji's economy on a roll, recording three consecutive years of above 4 percent growth, the Fijian Government was adamant that now is the time for foreign investors to invest.



Participants attended the Inaugural Fiji-Japan Investment & Trade

The seminar was made possible with the collaborative effort put by the Fiji's Embassy in Japan, Office of the Prime Minister, Japanese Embassy in Suva, Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism and Investment Fiji.

KOREA \$45 MILLION WATER BOTTLING INVESTMENT

Proposal by the Korean Resort Company for the **\$45million water bottling plant project** to be constructed at Nadelei in Tavua has now secured a new 99 year lease from the Ministry of Lands and work is due to commence on the site soon. They are awaiting approval of EIA and Engineering Designs before the construction commencement at the site. The company had a successful meeting with potential markets in Korea and other East Asian countries like China, India and Indonesia. The investment is anticipated to create employment opportunities to many locals in Tavua Town and the surrounding communities.

SOLAR MICRO-GRID SYSTEM IN NAMARA, KADAVU

Fiji Embassy Seoul facilitated the initial investment by Korean company –Woojin Industrial Company which was endorsed by the Korean Government to carry-out a pilot project on the construction of a micro-grid solar system in Namara Village, Kadavu Island with a funding of US\$1.5Million.

GIMCO CO. (FIJI) LIMITED US60MILLION BIO-MASS POWER PROJECT

GIMCO (Fiji) Limited has commenced construction of its bio-mass plant at Navutu in Nadroga. The work on the main industrial building will take around a year to complete with an initial employment of 50-80 local during the construction period. It is estimated that the total cost of the whole bio-mass plant project would be around US48million and based on the current work at the site, it is anticipated that the whole work including plant and equipment installations will be completed by 2017.



The signing was done at the Shangri-la Hotel in Nadroga on Monday, 13th April, 2015. The company Chairman, Mr. Lee is proud to announce the successful conclusion of all negotiations of the project and the commencement of work at the plant site.

Proposed model 12MW Biomass Power Plant

WOOD PELLET INDUSTRY

Fiji Embassy Seoul, South Korea successfully organized the first Fiji Biomass Symposium bringing together stakeholders in Fiji to discuss the way forward and the presentation to Government through cabinet of a proposal to set up Fiji's biomass and pellet industry attended by stakeholders in Fiji comprised representatives from Government, private sector, NGO's and civil society including representatives from the Government and private sector of ROK.

GIMCO expressed their interest to establish a **US\$200m** pellet export facility in Fiji in the near future.

OUTPUT 4: FACILITATION OF OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

MILITARY ASSISTANCE BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Russian Government had agreed to provide, as part of its technical military assistance for RFMF use in the UN Peacekeeping Operations in the Golan Heights. Ambassador Isikeli Mataitoga led the Fiji delegation consisting of RFMF officers travelled to Russia in the last week of October to inspect Pre-shipment of the arms, ammunitions, simulators and portable repair platforms for the arms, which are parts of the military assistance provided by the Russian government. Ambassador Mataitoga also made mention of this technical assistance in his meeting with the Russian Foreign Affairs officials (Third Department of Asia) and conveyed his deep appreciation for Russia's support.



Ambassador Mataitoga with RFMF senior officials & their Russian counterparts

NEW ZEALAND RECOGNISED SEASONAL EMPLOYER (RSE) SCHEME

The first group of Fijian workers recruited under the New Zealand Recognised Seasonal Employer Work Scheme in collaboration with the Foreign Employment Service at the Ministry of Employment, Industrial Relations & Productivity arrived in Auckland, New Zealand in February, 2015.

Acting Head of Mission at the Fiji High Commission, MS Mere Tora, welcomed and briefed the group at Auckland Airport before they took the four - hour drive to Hawkes Bay where they were based until September. She explained to them the importance of focusing on why they were in New Zealand. "It is your responsibility individually and as a group to set excellent work and behavioral standards that would give employers the confidence to recruit more workers from Fiji.

GCF APPROVES GRANT FUNDING OF US\$31 MILLION

The GCF Board approved Fiji's project proposal with a grant funding of **US\$31 Million**. This fund will be part of the total funding for the project which has a total project cost of US\$222 Million. Fiji Ambassador to ROK, Mr. Filimone Kau represented Fiji at the GCF Board meeting which was held in Livingstone, Republic of Zambia from 2nd to 5th November, 2015. Ambassador was part of the Fiji ADB team tasked with the responsibility of negotiating the approval of funds for Fiji's first GCF project proposal.

The Board meeting was critical and also special as it is the 1st board meeting to decide on the fate of the first batch of projects submitted by developing countries through the respective GCF accredited entities around the world seeking funding through GCF. Fiji had submitted its project for Water and Sewerage for the greater Suva area -"FIJI URBAN WATER AND WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT" through Asian Development Bank (ADB) for funding assistance through GCF.

The Fiji Project which involved the replacement of the entire water and sewerage system in Suva was one of the 8 projects that were submitted for approval at that meeting. This is the first project that Fiji submitted to GCF and the subsequent

approval is welcome news to Fiji and other Small Island Developing States in terms of the recognition of effects of Climate Change in SIDS.

RELOCATION OF KOICA OFFICE

Fiji Embassy Seoul, South Korea, successfully negotiated the relocation of the KOICA office from Honiara to Suva in 2016 in line with ROK plan for more ODA projects for Fiji and other Pacific Island countries. The relocation of KOICA office to Fiji presents further opportunities between Fiji and ROK and also serves great prospect for the South-South and Triangular Cooperation, which is currently championed by Fiji within the Pacific region.

UAE INAUGURATES SOLAR MICRO GRID PROJECTS FOR FIJI

The inauguration of solar micro grid projects in three of Fiji's outer islands was an exceptional accomplishment that contributed to our SDG goals, energy security, reduction of our 'carbon footprint' and supporting the vision of our Green Growth Framework.

In early 2015, HH Sheikh Abdullah Al Nahyan, UAE's Minister of Foreign Affairs was in Nadi to inaugurate the solar photovoltaic micro grid project that would bring clean energy to three of Fiji's outer islands. Constructed by Masdar, Abu Dhabi's renewable energy company, the clean energy project was financed by a **grant of USD\$5 million** from the UAE-Pacific Partnership Fund (UAE-PPF) a grant provided by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development and managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The solar plants together have a capacity of 555 kilowatts (kW) and will provide more than 40 percent of the daily electricity demand of each of the 3 islands. The energy produced will collectively negate the emission of 722 tons of CO₂ each year and save 259,000 liters of diesel fuel worth US\$497,000 annually. The three new solar micro grid projects include a 249 kW solar plant on Kadavu Island, a 53kW solar plant on Lakeba Island and a 153 kW solar plant on Rotuma Island.



Solar Panels



Solar Panels in Rotuma

OUTPUT 5: MANAGEMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT

The Climate Change division organized Fiji's 3rd National Climate Change Summit held in Levuka, Ovalau from the 8th to 10th September, 2015 with this year's theme of **Building climate resilience through genuine community and stakeholder partnerships**. The three day event brought together more than 350 participants from the community, government, national and regional levels to share their experiences and knowledge in addressing climate change and disaster risks across the country.

The event focused on young people's perspectives in acting on climate change and reducing the risk of future disasters by bringing together a broad array of youth groups engaged in climate change action. Their participation represented the voice of Fiji's youth on effective actions being taken to combat climate change in Fiji.



Participants of the 2015 NCC Summit

The 2015 Summit also brought together key programmes dedicated to the fight against climate change and disaster risks funded by the European Union's ACP-EU '*Building Safety Resilience in the Pacific*' project, SPC/ US Aid '*Enhanced Climate Change Resilience of Food Production Systems in PICTs*', the SPC/GIZ '*Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Region Programme*' and the UNDP '*Pacific Risk Resilience Programme*'.

GREEN CLIMATE FUND READINESS REGIONAL WORKSHOP

The Climate Change division represented the Government at the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Support Workshop for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) organized by the Government of Japan and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in collaboration with the GCF Secretariat. The workshop took place in Tokyo from the 14th to 16th of September 2015 to provide the participants with an opportunity to enhance understanding about necessary procedures to engage with the GCF such as preparing country programmes, accreditation applications and funding proposals.

FIJI'S READINESS PROGRAM FOR GREEN CLIMATE FUND

Fiji Embassy Seoul facilitated initial discussions on the preparation of Fiji's Readiness program with the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The readiness program was made by KPMG and submitted to Fiji's NDA for considerations. Fiji is anticipating US\$1 Million to fund its readiness program so it can prepare specific project proposals to be submitted to GCF through its registered national accredited entities (AE).

GREEN CLIMATE FUND AWARENESS REGIONAL WORKSHOP

Fiji Embassy Seoul in conjunction with the GCF Secretariat facilitated the hosting of the first awareness workshop for the Pacific Island countries in July 2015 in Nadi, Fiji. The Embassy also facilitated a meeting between the National Designated Authority (NDA) and the GCF Secretariat along the margins of the workshop.

RELOCATION TASKFORCE/ ACSE PDD CONSULTATION

The Climate Change Division hosted the National Relocation Taskforce Committee to a one-day workshop in order to consult with the members of the Taskforce Committee on the Outcome, outputs and activities that are to be achieved and carried out when relocating Waciwaci District School in Lakeba, Lau and also completing the relocation work in Narikoso, Kadavu.

The objective of the consultation is to strengthen the Log frame matrix component of the Adapting to Climate Change and Sustainable Energy (ACSE) Project Design Document (PDD) as the Review Assessment Board (RAB) for the development of the PDD for the ACSE project highlighted in their review report that Fiji's PDD is lacking substantive elements under its logframe matrix. The other component of the PDD that was discussed was the Sustainability section. The need to strengthen this section is important so that when the project ends, the two communities can lead and take ownership of their respective projects.

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP 21)

The twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) took place from 30 November to 11 December 2015, in Paris, France.

The 46 member Fiji delegation was led by the Hon. Prime Minister, Voreqe Bainimarama and consisted of five ministers, one assistant minister, permanent secretary, and deputy permanent secretaries, technical officials from line ministries, student representatives from the University of the South Pacific and representatives from the civil society. The Climate Change Division was represented by the Director and three (3) other staff.

OUTPUT 6: PROVISION OF PROTOCOL & CONSULAR SERVICES

GUIDELINE FOR FOREIGN VISITING DIGNITARIES



Participants at the drafting of the guideline for Foreign Visiting Dignitaries

The Protocol and Consular Services division facilitated the workshop to draft the guideline for Foreign Visiting Dignitaries held at CTD from the 16th to 17th March, 2015. The workshop was aimed at compiling a set a guideline to identify and assist the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the coordination and planning of Foreign Dignitaries visit to Fiji.

PROTOCOL TRAINING

The Protocol and Consular division achieved a milestone after the successful completion of the one week Protocol Training held on the 18th through 22nd of May, in partnership with the Singapore Cooperation Program facilitated by the Singapore Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Foreign Affairs Fiji.

The training was attended by senior government officials within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from other ministries held at the PSC Training Center in Nasese. The training was attended by nine (9) staff of the Ministry and this was a great opportunity and an avenue to learn the fundamental principal and basics of Protocol. The week long training was conducted by MS Belinda Tay from the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Participants at the Protocol training facilitated by the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs

OBITUARY

THE LATE RATU MELI BAINIMARAMA HIGH COMMISSIONER TO MALAYSIA & THAILAND



On 30th November, 2015 Fiji lost a faithful and an honored Diplomat. The Fijian Government has extended its condolences to the family of Ratu Meli Bainimarama who passed away after a short illness.

Ratu Meli was Fiji's High Commissioner to Malaysia and Thailand and has served in various capacities in Fiji's public service.

Ratu Meli served faithfully in Fiji's public service, and rose rapidly

through the ranks after starting work as a cadet civil servant in 1967. He was one of the longest serving officers up to 2010, a total of 48 years.

Some of the highlights of his long public service include;

1. Longest serving Permanent Secretary up to 2010 – 21 years
2. Longest serving Permanent Secretary for iTaukei Affairs – 12 years
3. Held three major portfolio at one time – Ministry of Provisional Development, Ministry of iTaukei Affairs and iTaukei Affairs Board in 2005
4. Engineered and contributed to the civil service reforms while serving as Permanent Secretary Public Service Commission from 1995 – 1999
5. Initiated a number of work improvement in the whole civil service during his tenure as Permanent Secretary PSC
6. Involved in a number of reviews of iTaukei administration – the last was in 2003
7. Assisted in the implementation of community capacity building projects that were adopted by the Government in 2005
8. Initiated reviews and implemented initiatives for the improvement of provincial administration
9. Initiated and implemented the cultural mapping exercise carried out in village around Fiji

10. Initiated the compilation of Traditional Knowledge and Expression of Culture (TK&EC) legislation.
11. Headed a number of Government committee
12. As Fiji's High Commissioner to Malaysia, he was responsible for initiating important memorandums of understanding with accredited countries like Thailand (2013 MOU on Technical Co-operation for 3 year Technical Plan on Capacity Building and Assistance) and also the Fiji Malaysia Back to Batu Pahat Agreement, that provided the basis for the development and production of a feature documentary and commemorative book on the role of Fijian troops in the Malayan Campaign. He also spearheaded educational opportunities for Fijian students to study in Malaysia.

2015

**AUDITED FINANCIAL
STATEMENT**

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Excellence in Public Sector Auditing



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File: 347

16 August 2016

Hon. Ratu Inoke Kubuabola
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
GCC Complex
Nasese
Suva

Dear Hon. Kubuabola

**Audited Special Purpose Financial Statements
Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Year Ended 31 December 2015**

The audited Special Purpose Financial Statements for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the year ended 31 December 2015 together with my audit report on them are enclosed.

Particulars of errors and omissions arising from the audit have been forwarded to the management of the Ministry for its action.

Yours sincerely

Atunaisa Nadakuitavuki
for Auditor General

Cc: Mr. Ravindran Robin Nair, Permanent Secretary

Encl.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

**SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015 INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

Scope

I have audited the special purpose financial statements which have been prepared under the cash basis of accounting and notes 1 to 3 thereon of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the year ended 31 December 2015. The special purpose financial statements comprise the following:

- (i) Statement of Receipts and Expenditure;
- (ii) Appropriation Statement; and
- (iii) Statement of Losses.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the special purpose financial statements and the information contained therein.

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these special purpose financial statements based on my audit.

My audit was conducted in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the special purpose financial statements are free of material misstatements. My audit procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the special purpose financial statements and evaluation of accounting policies. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the special purpose financial statements are fairly stated and in accordance with government policies in Note 2, the Audit Act and the Financial Management Act 2004, so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the financial performance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the year ended 31 December 2015.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualifications

1. The Ministry's Remittance between Chests account had a credit balance of \$1,394,547 as at 31 December 2015 which was cleared to equity account instead into respective revenue or expenditure allocations. I was not able to ascertain the accuracy and completeness of the expenditure and revenue recorded in the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure.
2. The correctness of the Statement of Losses submitted by the Ministry could not be verified as the Board of Survey was not carried out for 11 of the 18 Fiji Missions overseas and the Ministry's headquarters.

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015**

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT Cont'd

Qualified Audit Opinion

In my opinion

- a) except for the matter referred to in the qualification paragraph, the special purpose financial statements present fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies stated in Note 2, the financial performance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the year ended 31 December 2015.
- b) the special purpose financial statements give the information required by the Financial Management Act 2004 in the manner so required.



Atunaisa Nadakuitavuki
for **AUDITOR GENERAL**

Suva, Fiji
16 August 2016



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

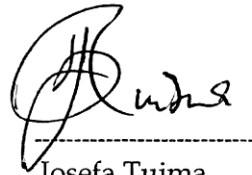
We certify that these financial statements:

- (a) fairly reflect the financial operations and performance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its financial position for the year ended 31 December 2015; and
- (b) have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Management Act 2004 and the Finance Instructions 2010.



Ravindran Robin Nair
Permanent Secretary

Date: 6/1/2016



Josefa Tuima
Acting Director Finance

Date: 6/6/2016

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Notes	2015 \$	2014 \$
RECEIPTS			
State Revenue			
Operating Revenue		49,506	182,967
Total State Revenue		<u>49,506</u>	<u>182,967</u>
Agency Revenue			
Miscellaneous Revenue		10,836	333,355
Total Agency Revenue		<u>10,836</u>	<u>333,355</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	3 (a)	<u>60,342</u>	<u>516,322</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Operating Expenditure			
Established Staff	3 (b)	12,714,226	11,347,421
Government Wage Earners	3 (c)	3,623,754	3,428,192
Travel & Communication	3 (d)	3,753,378	3,327,378
Maintenance & Operations	3 (e)	11,576,284	9,753,047
Purchase of Goods & Services	3 (f)	858,013	591,447
Operating Grants & Transfers	3 (g)	3,472,083	3,195,835
Special Expenditure	3 (h)	2,325,599	4,778,708
Total Operating Expenditure		<u>38,323,337</u>	<u>36,422,028</u>
Capital Expenditure			
Capital Construction	3 (i)	60,621	224,215
Capital Purchases	3 (j)	562,340	222,851
Total Capital Expenditure		<u>622,961</u>	<u>447,066</u>
Value Added Tax		2,309,032	2,501,434
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>41,255,330</u>	<u>39,370,528</u>

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

APPROPRIATION STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

SEG	Item	Budget Estimate (\$)	Changes (\$)	Revised Estimate (\$) a	Actual Expenditure (\$) b	Carry Over (\$)	Lapsed Appropriation (\$) (a-b)
	Operating Expenditure						
1	Established Staff	14,160,077	(1,357,941)	12,802,136	12,714,226	---	87,910
2	Government Wage Earners	3,966,625	(333,729)	3,632,896	3,623,754	---	9,142
3	Travel & Communication	2,415,014	1,389,743	3,804,757	3,753,378	---	51,379
4	Maintenance & Operations	11,270,027	320,555	11,590,582	11,576,284	---	14,298
5	Purchase of Goods & Services	912,510	(53,807)	858,703	858,013	---	690
6	Operating Grants & Transfers	3,344,523	262,997	3,607,520	3,472,083	---	135,437
7	Special Expenditure	2,385,900	70,960	2,456,860	2,325,599	---	131,261
	Total Operating Expenditure	38,454,676	298,778	38,753,454	38,323,337	---	430,117
	Capital Expenditure						
8	Capital Construction	300,000	(163,552)	136,448	60,621	---	75,827
9	Capital Purchase	375,953	152,490	528,443	562,340	---	(33,897)
	Total Capital Expenditure	675,953	(11,062)	664,891	622,961	---	41,930
13	Value Added Tax	2,648,907	(287,716)	2,361,191	2,309,032	---	52,159
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	41,779,536	---	41,779,536	41,255,330	---	524,206

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

STATEMENT OF LOSSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

Loss of Money

There was no loss of Money recorded for the year ended 31 December 2015.

Loss of Revenue

There was no loss of Revenue recorded for the year ended 31 December 2015.

Loss of Fixed Assets

There was no loss of fixed asset recorded for the year ended 31 December 2015. However, the following items worth \$375,896.29 were written off, following the Overseas Mission's Board of Survey for the year ended 31 December 2015.

Mission	Amount \$
Brazil	1,451.82
Beijing	26,955
Jakarta	13,826.40
Canberra	4,914
Sydney	26,899.77
Brussels	140,288.69
Pretoria	161,560.61
Total	375,896.29

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

NOTE 1: REPORTING ENTITY

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs promotes Fijian interests in other nations and on the world stage. This includes a broad range of activities from providing consular services to Fijians living overseas to from organising high level visits to Fiji.

The Ministry develops and carries out Fiji's foreign policy and manages Fiji's relationships with other nations and with multi-national and sub-regional organisations like the United Nations and the Melanesian Spearhead Group. The Ministry is focused on securing the maximum benefits for Fiji from these relationships.

NOTE 2: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting/Presentation

In accordance with Government accounting policies, the financial statements of the Ministry is prepared under the cash basis of accounting. All payments related to purchases of fixed assets have been expensed.

The financial statements are presented in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2004 and the requirements of Section 71(1) of the Finance Instruction 2010. The preparation and presentation of a Statement of Assets and Liabilities is not required under the current Government policies.

(b) Accounting for Value Added Tax (VAT)

All expenses and revenue are VAT exclusive. The Ministry on a monthly basis takes out VAT output on total money received for expenditure from Ministry of Finance. VAT input on the other hand is claimed on payments made to the suppliers and the sub-contractors for expenses incurred.

The VAT payment as per the Statement of Receipts and Expenditures relates to VAT input claimed on payments made to the suppliers and sub-contractors for expenses incurred and VAT payments to FRCA. Actual amount paid to FRCA during the year represent the difference between VAT Output and VAT Input.

(c) Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised when cash is actually received by the Ministry.

(d) Comparative Figures

Where necessary, amounts relating to prior years have been reclassified to facilitate comparison and achieve consistency in disclosure with current year amounts.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued...) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

NOTE 3: SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS

- (a) The total revenue decreased by \$455,980 or by 88% in 2015 compared to 2014 due less overpayment and rent arrears recoveries necessitated.
- (b) The Established Staff costs increased by \$1,366,805 or 12% compared to 2014. This was mainly attributed to increase in the employer's FNPF contribution from 8% to 10%, filling vacant positions and creation of new position.
- (c) The Government Wage Earners costs increased by \$195,562 or 6% in 2015 compared to 2014. This was mainly attributed to increase in the employer's FNPF contribution from 8% to 10% and recruitment of locally engaged staff at the overseas mission.
- (d) The Travel & Communications expenditure increased by \$426,000 or 13% in 2015 compared to 2014 due to increase in travel and communication cost for the Ministry officials domestically and international to fully execute the expected or required results for the Ministry such as expending and strengthening Fiji' diplomatic relations.
- (e) The Maintenance & Operations expenditure increased by \$1,823,237 or 19% in 2015 compared to year 2014. The increase in expenditure was attributed to the increase in rental expenditure and running expenses of the overseas mission.
- (f) The Purchase of Goods & Service increased by \$266,566 or 45% in 2015 compared to 2014. This was mainly attributed to increase in office up-keep cost and medical and insurance cover for the overseas mission staffs.
- (g) The Operating Grants & Transfers increased by \$276,248 or 9% in 2015 compared to 2014 due to increase in operating grants for Forum Secretariat and Melanesian Spearhead Group.
- (h) The Special Expenditure decreased by \$2,453,109 or 51% in year 2015 compared to 2014. This was attributed to the less high level state visits, less planned operation cost for the Pacific Island Development Forum and one-off establishment cost of Geneva Mission in 2014.
- (i) The Capital Construction expenditure decreased by \$163,594 or 73% in 2015 compared to 2014 due to less refurbishment work carried out at overseas missions.
- (j) The Capital Purchase expenditure increased by \$339,489 or 152% in 2015 compared to 2014 as a result of purchase of replacement furniture, electrical items and new diplomatic vehicles for overseas mission and newly posted diplomats.

