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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NZ FUNDING FOR TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

PROGRESSES VERY WELL

ALOFI, NIUE, SEPTEMBER 20, 2010: Premier Talagi has expressed his satisfaction with the progress made with the NZ funding to Niue in the next 3 years, particularly towards tourism after talks last week with NZ's special envoy Mark Blumsky while in Niue.

Gone is the micromanagement and process based regime which suffocated everyone and a new, more trust based regime has been developed.

The focus is now on firmly ensuring that Niue is given greater responsibility and trust to manage the projects and funds allocated. According to the Premier, "Niue's objectives have always been outcome based and targeted on tourism with emphasis on private sector involvement and use in the implementation of the projects".

Mark Blumsky's pragmatic views and approach is refreshing, and the new SRU regime is taking his lead in

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getting things less process based and more outcome driven.

Premier Talagi continued to state that "it is important that we continue to manage our finances in a disciplined and systematic manner and ensure that we do not get too bogged down with process, but start doing things which will create employment and work and income for people so we can expand our economic base".

It is understood that once this has been achieved and the size of the economy has increased, "public servants may become fully aware of the wealth of opportunities that are available within the private sector".

The 1992 redundancies and the lack of a comprehensive employment plan particularly for the youth and school leavers serve as constant reminders and provide valuable lessons as Government endeavors to create employment opportunities, encourage people to remain in Niue and to contribute to the country's progressive development.

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