



**GOVERNMENT OF NIUE  
OFFICE OF THE PREMIER**

**17<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

**Press Release**

**Honourable Premier Toke Talagi joins Pacific Islands Forum Foreign Ministers meeting in Suva**

Alofi, Niue, 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016: Honourable Premier Toke Talagi attended the first meeting of Pacific Islands Forum Foreign Ministers that was held at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat in Suva, Fiji on 12 August 2016 which also included New Zealand Foreign Affairs Minister Murray McCully and Australia counterpart Julia Bishop.

The Ministers discussed a broad spectrum of topics relating to foreign affairs with emphasis on Climate Change and the regional political agenda.



*(Honourable Premier Toke Talagi, Cook Islands Prime Minister Henry Puna, Australia Foreign Minister Julia Bishop & New Zealand Foreign Affairs Minister Murray McCully)*

Honourable Premier Toke Talagi joined the voice of the Foreign Ministers to support the Pacific Islands Forum with the Framework of Pacific Regionalism.

Ministers reflected on the successful efforts in Paris during the COP 21 conference in 2015, and the achievements obtain from cohesive Pacific cooperation.

Honourable Premier continued the focus on prioritising climate change issues and climate financing to enable the Pacific to address climate challenges and to ensure the Pacific region receives sufficient and effective global support for economic and social requirements.

Disaster risk management is also Niue's climate change focus with plans to establish a national Emergency Operations centre, and has recently appointed the national disaster coordinating officer.

The Ministers also agreed that ratification of the Paris Agreement, and prioritising the implementation of key obligations under the Agreement, are two objectives that Pacific countries must continue to push for both within the region and internationally and the reiteration to continue the cooperation during the same negotiations to be held in a couple of months in Marrakesh, Morocco.

The Suva meeting agenda will be further discussed by the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders at the 47TH PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM LEADERS' MEETINGS in the Federated States of Micronesia from the 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

During the meeting Honourable Premier Talagi acknowledged the continued support from the two main regional donors New Zealand and Australia.

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