



GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NZ'S MINISTER MAHUTA FIRST VISITOR TO ADDRESS NIUE'S LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Foreign Affairs Minister Mahuta And A Senior Ministry Delegation In Series of Meetings

Alofi, Niue – 15 August 2022 – The Government of Niue (GON) today welcomed Foreign Affairs Minister Nanaia Mahuta who is visiting Niue officially with a senior delegation of officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFAT) including the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) Mr Chris Seed to advance work on Aotearoa New Zealand's Pacific Resilience and climate action priorities.

With the disruptions caused by COVID-19 border closures for New Zealand and Niue, this will be Minister Mahuta's first visit to Niue. An important opportunity for her to reaffirm New Zealand's commitment to future cooperation with Niue as part of the joint partnership agreement.

The Minister was met at the airport by the Minister of Social Services, Hon. Sauni Tongatule.

On Tuesday (Niue Time), Minister Mahuta will meet the Premier of Niue, Hon. Dalton Tagelagi and his Cabinet. This will be followed by a special session with the Niue Legislative Assembly at Niue's new Fale Fono II. This will be the first time a representative of the Government of New Zealand will address the Niue Legislative Assembly in the meeting Chamber.

Minister Mahuta will be visiting Niue High School to physically view the results of the recent New Zealand Defence Tropic Twilight exercise.

"I am also looking forward to seeing first-hand the results of the partnership between MFAT and the NZ Defence Force in the Tropic Twilight exercise. This has enhanced the resilience of Niue's public facilities through refurbishment work," says Minister Mahuta.

In addition the Minister will meet with Niue's frontline workers and the COVID committee in the work conducted for COVID-19 preparedness and response. Minister Mahuta will visit the Niue Council of Women and the Taoga Niue museum that leads Niue's efforts to preserve its culture and history.

"Aotearoa New Zealand is in and part of the Pacific. Our bonds with Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa and



its people run deep, through whakapapa, language, shared histories, cultures and interests,” said Minister Mahuta.

The Foreign Minister will depart on Wednesday 17 August (Niue Time) for Tonga and returns to New Zealand on the evening of Friday 19 August 2022.

ENDS

For more information, please contact:

Rhonda Tiakia

GON Communications Officer, niuegovernment.media@mail.gov.nu