



## GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

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### PREMIER TAGELAGI MARKS NIUE'S 48<sup>TH</sup> CONSTITUTION DAY AS OPEN FOR BUSINESS AND SUSTAINABILITY

*Niue Marks Its 48<sup>th</sup> Constitution With Senior Delegations From the U.S., Australia, Japan, NZ and Pacific Islands And A Theme of Innovation for Sustainable Development.*

**Alofi, Niue, 24 October 2022** – Premier of the Government of Niue (GON), Hon. Dalton Tagelagi opened Niue's 48<sup>th</sup> Constitution Day on 19 October 2022 as a Self-Governing Pacific State by welcoming the many international dignitaries attending the official celebrations as the island returns to usual business following the Pandemic.

Premier of Niue, Hon. Dalton Tagelagi said Niue is open for business again and is building resilience for the island through sustainability which is an exciting occasion to celebrate the island State's 48<sup>th</sup> year of self-governance.

"Niue has an exciting focus on sustainable development, starting with waste management, such as recycling, and renewable energy, such as solar power. We are looking for innovative technologies and new ideas that will help us develop sustainably. It's about us being smart with innovative ideas from overseas and even from our own local ideas. It's about using technology to help us with our work and take advantage of our sovereign assets. It's about building resilience. Climate resilience" says Premier Tagelagi.

"Niue is up and connected again with the rest of the world – we are making progress on many fronts from government activities such as projects and other initiatives to help get our economy going again. Tourism remains our priority, and there have been strong numbers of visitors to the island since we opened our borders in July. Niue's infrastructure is also a priority as it supports all sectors: government, the private sector, and, importantly, our communities," says Premier Tagelagi.

The Premier of Niue, Hon. Dalton Tagelagi also welcomed Aotearoa New Zealand's Minister for Pacific Peoples, Hon Aupito William Sio, Australia's Foreign Affairs Minister, the Senator the Hon. Penny Wong and the U.S. Ambassador Tom Udall, Deputy Head of Mission of the Japanese Embassy (NZ), Mr Tatsushi Nishioka and other guest delegations to Niue as part of the celebrations of the 48<sup>th</sup> Constitution.

"We have strong bonds with New Zealand and Australia and all our friends across the Pacific. Japan supported us during the pandemic and with key projects, and I welcome the United States and look forward to a new chapter. I would like to mention New Zealand's Minister for Pacific Peoples, Hon Aupito William Sio, for his outstanding support of Niue language week in Aotearoa, which is home to 20,000 Niue Diaspora and is important to keep Vahagau Niue living amongst our people," says Premier Tagelagi.

Premier Tagelagi also thanked Niue's other development partners, such as China and India, for their assistance and support, particularly through COVID-19.

“The international support we received has made all the difference in allowing Niue to manage the Pandemic and forge our own way in the Pacific. I also acknowledge other partner organisations such as ADB, the regional CROP agencies and also international agencies such as UNDP including WHO, ESCAP and UNICEF). All Niueans thank our Pacific and global friends.”

Premier Tagelagi added that in its 48<sup>th</sup> year as a self-governing state, Niue continues to build its relationships across the Pacific.

“In 2022, Niue announced diplomatic relations with the Republic of the Philippines and is looking to establish diplomatic relations with South Korea and the United States. We are also looking for ongoing support from key business partners in the Pacific, including Air New Zealand, KiwiBank and the Asian Development Bank.”

Premier Hon. Tagelagi says that 2022 has also been about Niue’s recovery from the Pandemic, with QFT borders opening in July and continuing to progress infrastructural projects to improve the quality of life for everyone in Niue.

Lastly, Premier Tagelagi acknowledged all government departments, agencies, and SOEs to members of the Legislative Assembly and the Speaker of the House for their work for their people.

“Thank you, everyone - I appreciate your hard work, wearing many hats and with limited resources to get the job done. Thank you for your work for Niue so we can all prosper.”

**ENDS**

For further information or any questions, please contact:

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