



## GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

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**PREMIER OF NIUE JOINS THE 52ND PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM LEADERS MEETING IN THE COOK ISLANDS, EMBRACING THE THEME: "OUR VOICES, OUR CHOICES, OUR PACIFIC WAY: PROMOTE, PARTNER, PROSPER"**

**Rarotonga, Cook Islands – 7 November 2023** — The Premier of Niue along with the official delegation joins the 52<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting, taking place in the Cook Islands. This year, the forum convenes under the unifying theme, "Our Voices, Our Choices, Our Pacific Way: Promote, Partner, Prosper." This theme embodies the spirit of self-determination and cooperation that defines the Pacific region.

The Pacific Islands Forum is a cornerstone of regional diplomacy, fostering collaboration, and collective decision-making among the 18 member nations and territories of the Pacific. It serves as a platform for candid discussions on shared challenges, opportunities, and the pursuit of a brighter future for the Pacific.

As a dedicated member of the Pacific Islands Forum, Niue is committed to participating actively in discussions that centre around this year's theme. The theme underscores the significance of Pacific voices and choices in shaping their destiny. It encourages cooperation and partnership among Pacific nations to create a prosperous and resilient region, reflective of the shared values and aspirations that unite the Pacific Island nations.

Critical topics on the agenda for this year's meeting include addressing the impacts of climate change mitigation, sustainable development, regional security enhancement, healthcare system, and economic resilience. The Government of Niue recognizes the gravity of addressing these challenges collectively which reflects the interests and voices of its people.

Niue's commitment to mitigating the effects of climate change and fostering a sustainable blue economy, exemplified by its involvement in the Ocean Climate Change Initiative (OCCs), stands as a testament to the country's dedication to preserving the Pacific environment. The Premier of Niue believes that addressing climate change and promoting sustainability are pivotal aspects and will advocate for these initiatives at the forum.

The Pacific Islands Forum also presents a critical opportunity to discuss the "2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent" with a focus on ensuring Niue's unique interests are well represented.

"This event underscores the importance of unity, collaboration, and celebrating our Pacific identity says Premier Tagelagi. The Government of Niue is committed to ensuring that our unique perspectives and priorities are not only heard but also instrumental in shaping a brighter future for our region. Together with fellow Pacific Island nations, we look forward to embracing this theme as a beacon that guides us towards prosperity and unity in our Pacific way" said Premier Tagelagi.

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