



GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

MEDIA RELEASE

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THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF NEW ZEALAND UNDERTAKES AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

Alofi, Niue – 26 November 2023 – The Auditor General of New Zealand, Mr. John Ryan undertakes an official visit to Niue, where his focus is in understanding the government’s aim to strengthen financial governance in Niue.

During this visit, Mr Ryan acknowledged the Government of Niue for their work in expediting the 5-year financial statements. He noted this as a significant achievement. He also recognized the ongoing work to ensure good practice in the financial management of the Niue Government’s affairs. He looked forward to seeing planned progress in time for the 50th Anniversary of the constitution.

Mr Ryan met with members of Parliament to discuss the audit process, the findings of his work and further ways he can support them in their role. He noted that the officials he had met from the Niue Government shared a strong commitment to good financial management and the efficiency of public services.

The Minister of Finance, Hon. Crossley Tatui, in response to the audit findings, has commended the positive outcomes of the 5-year consolidated audits. Highlighting the ongoing government reform under his portfolio, the Minister underscored the importance of addressing post-COVID challenges. The Minister acknowledged the repetition in audit report recommendations and assured that ongoing reforms are addressing these issues.

“We are committed to a coherent reform process, including a comprehensive review of the National Strategic Plan. Our Collaboration with external partners for tax reforms and reviews is a testament to our commitment to modernizing financial governance,” stated the Minister of Finance, Hon. Crossley Tatui. He emphasized the need for clarity in outdated tax laws and up-to-date regulations, including the Audit Act.

Recognizing the critical nature of reforms, the Minister announced the formation of a Constitution Review Committee CRC, signaling a dedication to modernizing key articles. Addressing capability issues highlighted in the audit report, the Minister expressed the need for additional resources, both human and expert to support and achieve reform goals.

“We welcome the Auditor General of New Zealand, Mr John Ryan, and appreciate the recognition of our government’s commitment to transparency and efficiency in financial governance progress and stated commitment.” said the Premier of Niue, Hon. Dalton Tagelagi. “As we address challenges and implement reforms, our shared commitment to transparency and accountability paves the way for a stronger, more resilient Niue.”

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