Office of the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CIRCULAR SAVINGRAM

From: Chief Executive Officer of the Commission

To: All Chief Executive Officers

Ref: STF 1/11

Date: 16 March, 2020

Re: Instructions on Official Travels in light of COVID - 19

All Chief Executive Officers and Line Ministries are informed herein of the interim measures put into place in light of the safety and health of the Public Service and the people of Tonga given COVID-19.

In light of the current lockdown, and medical and safety concerns regarding the above, <u>all planned</u> <u>official travels for public servants are hereby CANCELLED effective as from today until further notice.</u>

Transit countries are now enforcing quarantine requirements of 14 days for all entries to their airports and this would have implications on all outgoing and returning travels. New Zealand, Fiji and Australia which are entry points for Tonga have enforced these quarantine measures and for New Zealand, they have issued directions that people who have travelled outside of New Zealand in the past 14 days are not permitted to travel to the Pacific islands.

We will be issuing further advice regarding the issue.

You are kindly requested to ensure dissemination of this notice to all your employees effective immediately.

Respectfully,

Dr. Lia Maka

Chief Executive Officer of the Commission