



PSC Newsletter: November | December 2021

Office of the Public Service Commission



November - December 2021 Events

- ♦ World Tsunami Awareness Day2pg
- ♦ 16 Days of Activism against Gender - Based Violence3pg
- ♦ International Day of Persons with Disability4pg
- ♦ CEO MAFF Re-appointment & Talatalanoa Program.....5pg
- ♦ Law Week6pg
- ♦ Tonga Census 20217pg
- ♦ Recognition of Retire Civil Servants for 30+ years of service to the Government of Tonga.....8-12pg

World Tsunami Awareness Day

Theme: To promote awareness on Tsunami Science, Warning and Mitigation

The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources with support from the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC) organized several programs to promote awareness on Tsunami Science, Warning and Mitigation. The IOC is the United Nations body responsible for supporting global ocean science and services and supports its Member States achieve their global goals including the UN Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction.

To promote awareness, five (5) competitions were organized by the Natural Resources Division and coordinated with the Tonga Meteorological Services and National Emergency Management Office. The competitions included Poster Competitions for classes 1 – 3, Poetry Competitions for classes 3 – 6, Speech Competitions for Forms 1 – 4, Quiz Competitions for Forms 5 – 7 and a Tsunami Model Design Competition for High School Students taking Design Technology Classes.

In addition to the competitions targeted at students, the three agencies hosted Radio Talk Back shows and TV programs to spread awareness on tsunami science, warning and mitigation across Tonga.

On November 12th 2021, the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources observed World Tsunami Awareness Day at the Queen Salote Memorial Hall together with various Ministries, Diplomatic Missions, Development Partners, NGOs and the general public.

During the keynote address, the Acting Minister for Lands and Natural Resources and focal Minister for UNESCO, Honourable Hu'akavameiliku shared a message from the Head of the United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction, Ms Mami Mizutori

"In a major boost to international cooperation to developing countries and Small Island Developing States, the UNESCO-IOC assembly of UN Member States has approved the establishment of the ocean decade tsunami programme which will contribute to the safe ocean outcome of the ocean decade by making 100% of communities at risk of tsunami, prepared and resilient by 2030."

Tonga has strengthened its preparedness and early action through collaboration of key agencies from Government and Civil Society Associations. Various actions have been taken such as revising the National Tsunami Plan and conduct drills regularly and ensuring national infrastructure and public utilities are also strengthened so that communities can become resilient in the face of adversity. This includes the constructing of multi-purpose community halls and evacuation halls throughout Tonga which contributes to Tsunami Evacuation Planning.



Poster Competition	
1 st Prize – \$300.00	Vakaola Tavo, Class 3 – TSS Ngeleia
2 nd Prize – \$200.00	'Auhia Vaitaki, Class 5 – GPS Nuku'alofa
3 rd Prize – \$100.00	Angela Lolo, Class 6 – GPS Fasi

Poetry Competition	English Category
1 st Prize – \$300.00	Fredrick Kautoke, Class 5 – Falakiko Asisi
2 nd Prize – \$200.00	Katiola Penisoni, Class – Falakiko Asisi
3 rd Prize – \$100.00	Zara Tupou, Class 4 – Maamaloa Akoteu

Poetry Competition	Tongan Category
1 st Prize – \$300.00	Harriet Bourke, Class 5 – Falakiko Asisi
2 nd Prize – \$200.00	Auhia Vaitaki, Class 5 – GPS Nuku'alofa
3 rd Prize – \$100.00	Azenui Uatahausi, Class 5 – GPS Veitongo Tevita Penisoni, Class 5 – Falakiko Asisi

Speech Competition	English Category
1 st Prize – \$500.00	Likamoana Kautoke, 'Apifo'ou,
2 nd Prize – \$300.00	Heinakau Kaufusi, 'Apifo'ou,
3 rd Prize – \$200.00	Fakatoko Fifita, Toloa,

Speech Competition	Tongan Category
1 st Prize – \$500.00	Martin Veia, GMS Fatai,
2 nd Prize – \$300.00	Soakimi Ngaluola, 'Apifo'ou,
3 rd Prize – \$200.00	Filimone Matakaiongo, Toloa,

Tsunami Drill Competition	
1 st Prize – \$1000.00	'Apifo'ou College
2 nd Prize – \$800.00	Tailulu College
3 rd Prize – \$600.00	Tupou College Toloa

Quiz Competition	
1 st Prize – \$1500.00	Queen Salote College
2 nd Prize – \$1200.00	Ocean of Light
3 rd Prize – \$900.00	Tupou College Toloa

16 Days of Activism against Gender–Based Violence

Theme: Get help during lockdown - Stop Violence Against Women & Illicit Drug



The Ministry of Internal Affairs as the guardian of the Tonga Family Protection Act, 2013 has been spearheading changes and adaptation to the current situation of Tonga; curfews between 12:00am – 5:00am such as the launching of the Tonga National Service Delivery Protocol for responding to cases of Gender—Based Violence in March, 2021 that targets government and non—government efforts to determine systematic mechanism which empowers consensus and comprehensive collaborations among stakeholders of gender—based violence, to either provider the survivors with relevant and quality services according to their needs; or to comprehensively refer them to the appropriate service providers.

His Majesty, King Tupou VI declared Tonga’s War on Drugs, the 2021 parliamentary session include illicit drugs as the many challenges that Tongan faces today. His Majesty also opened a 2-day National Symposium on Illicit Drugs in October, War on Drugs has been prioritized starting with the government toughen up of the drug laws by amending the Illicit Drug aimed to control illicit drugs use especially the use of methamphetamine. The Former Minister of Justice stated that “ice is Tonga killing virus, not COVID-19.

Since 2005, the Women’s Affairs & Gender Equality Division, Ministry of Internal Affairs and key stakeholders have always marked the beginning of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence Campaign on November 25th the International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women & White Ribbon Day. This include other important dates within the 16 Days Campaign that will be marked through various advocacy programs and activities:

- November 29th – International Women Human Rights Defenders Day
- December 01st – World AIDS Day
- December 03rd – International Day of People with Disability
- December 05th – International Volunteer Day
- December 06th – Day of Remembrance & Actions on Violence Against Women
- December 10th – International Human Rights Day

The official launch ceremony of the 16 Days of Activism 2021 campaign and to mark the International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women & White Ribbon was held on Thursday 25th of November at the Ministry of Internal Affairs Office, Neiafu Vava’u.



International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Theme: Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post—COVID world.



On Friday, 03 December, 2021, the Ministry of Internal Affairs celebrated the International Day of persons with Disability. The program was conducted by the Deputy Secretary for the Social Protection Division, Mrs Lu'isa Manufoetua and the Guest of Honor was H.E Ms. Rachael Moore. This day's theme, Leadership and participation of person with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post- COVID world to foster awareness on disability issues and mobilise support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disability.



CEO Re-Appointment - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests



The Public Service Commission is pleased to announce the successful re-appointment of Dr. Viliami Toalei Manu of Kolofo'ou, Tongatapu as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests with effect from 01st November, 2021 for a period of two (2) years.

Dr Manu holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Soil Science (2001) from the University of New England, Australia. He holds a Master of Science (second class Honours) in Analytical Chemistry (1989) from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand and has also attained a Bachelor of Science majoring in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry (1982) from Massey University, New Zealand.

Dr Manu's career in the public service began in 1983 when he was appointed as an Agricultural Officer at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests. Since then, he has taken over senior positions within the Ministry including Senior Soil Chemist (1991), Principal Soil Scientist (1994) and later to the Chief Plant Pathologist position. He was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer for Agriculture, Food and Forests on 11th October 2016 where he continued to serve until the end of his contract on the 10th October 2020. Dr Manu is also a dedicated National Pesticide Registrar with extensive experience in managing the import, provision of statistics, advice and trainings on safety of Pesticides into Tonga. He is also Tonga's National Codex Contact Point for the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)/ World Health Organisation (WHO) Codex Alimentarius Commission since 2007 and the National Codex Contact for the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Genetic Modified Platform since 2014.

Dr Manu has sat on various professional committees namely the Chemical Review Committee of the Rotterdam Convention's Conference of the Parties as well as the Designated National Authority for Tonga for the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Pesticides in International Trade since 2012.

The Public Service Commission congratulates Dr Viliami Toalei Manu on his re-appointment as Chief Executive Officer for Agriculture, Food and Forests and looks forward to his continued contribution to the Government and the people of Tonga.

Talatalanoa Program & Sexual Harassment Training for Ha'apai

The PSC Talatalanoa program was successfully conducted to all Line Ministries in Ha'apai on the 22nd– 25th November, 2021. This is an important program which allows the PSC Office to present and discuss with the staff of all Government Ministries, policies and instructions. This is also an opportunity to share and discuss a new policy on Sexual Harassment. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that employees are protected from sexual harassment in the workplace. Our visit provided clear guidance to all employees in any Government Ministry (Schedule 1), to raise awareness amongst all employees about how to identify the behaviors, actions and circumstance of sexual harassment, to provide clear guidance for processing sexual harassment complaints within the Public Service and to promote and maintain a safe and healthy workplace, where all employees, irrespective of gender or position, are treated with fairness, dignity and respect. The PSC staff were able to capture and note the concerns, recommendations and issues of employees in the Ha'apai Islands for our necessary actions.

PSC wishes to acknowledge the Asian Development Bank who partnered with PSC and funded local consultant, Ofa Guttenbeil Likiliki of the Women and Children's Crisis Centre, who is no stranger to this field, to assist PSC with this training. The PSC Office also wishes to extend its gratitude to the Governor of Ha'apai, Hon. Hingano for welcoming us and for the great hospitality. To all Line Ministries in Ha'apai, thank you for participating in this program, we appreciated your time very much. PSC's Talatalanoa Program wouldn't be a success without your support.



Law Week

Theme: Social Media and the Law

The Attorney General's Office commemorated Law Week 2021 from 21 – 26 November 2021 with the theme, "Social Media and the Law." The objective of Law Week was to spread awareness to the public about the legislation and regulations applicable to social media. Of particular relevance was the Electronic Communications Abuse Offences Act (ECAO), was passed in 2020 but came into effect on 1st of July, 2021. This Act addresses the use of any communication platform to abuse, harass or harm a person especially on social media.

Law Week commenced with a Sunday service at the Church of Tonga at Kilikali and was led by Reverend Dr Tu'ipulotu Katoanga. Distinguished guests included the Honorable Prime Minister, Acting Lord Chief Justice, Magistrates, Lord Privy Seal, Excellencies and Senior Government Officials.

Throughout the week, the Office then held various awareness programs and invited the participation of the general public. This included an Open Day Program at Digicel Square, Nuku'alofa on 22 November 2021. The Guest of Honour, Honourable Poasi Tei officially launched the Open Day Program. The highlight of the program was the display of booths from relevant government and non-government stakeholders and the awarding of prizes to winning participants in the Poster, Poetry, Essay and TikTok/ Short Video Competitions.

Another initiative included office tours. The Office had invited secondary and tertiary students to participate in these tours. Overall, there was a huge turnout and students were given a glimpse into the specialties of each Division in the Office through presentations and a walk-through tour of the whole Office. The highlight of the tours was the involvement of students and their eagerness to learn more about the Office's work. On a side note, students were also given the opportunity to try out the lawyer court attire consisting of a wig, gown, bib and bar jacket.

The Office also aimed to expand the reach of Law Week 2021 through television and radio programs. Representatives from Tonga Police and the Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT Tonga) were invited to converse and discuss issues relevant to social media and the law.

Finally, the Office saw it necessary to involve the outer islands by conducting outreach programs to Vava'u, Ha'apai and 'Eua. The outreach tours in Vava'u and Ha'apai have been completed and the 'Eua outreach will be held from 13 – 15 December 2021. Overall, it was well received, with a decent turnout and queries from members of the public.

The Attorney General's Office extends its appreciation to everyone involved in supporting and enabling the success of Law Week 2021.





Tonga Statistics
Department

TOHI KAKAI FAKAFONUA

2021



Tonga
Census
2021

Ki ha kaha'u 'oku pau
Ha'u kau he lau!
'Oua li'e kina ha taha.



Luke 2:3

*Pea na'e 'alu 'a e kakai
kotoa pe, takitaha ki hono
kolo 'o ona ke tofi ai*

- ☒ 'Aho 30 Növema
- ☒ Manatu'í ke ke kau
- ☒ Tali katoa 'a e ngaahi fehu
- ☒ Tali mo'oni mo totonu



United Nations

Telefoni: 23-300 / 23-913 / 21-551

Uepisaili: www.tongastats.gov.to

***Imelli:** helpdesk@stats.gov.to



Pacific
Community
Communitas
du Pasifik

**Shape our future!
Be counted so we leave
No one behind.
Ki ha kaha'u 'oku pau,
Ha'u kau he lau!
'Oua li'ekina ha taha.**

Recognition of Civil Servants for 30+ Years of Service to the Government of Tonga



Guest Speaker: Mr. Taulango Manukeu
(Chief Accounting Officer, MoFinance)



Guest of Honor: Hon Prime Minister Rev.
Dr Pohiva Tu'il'onetoa



Welcoming Remarks: Mr. Simone Sefanaia
(Chairman for Commission)

Certificate Awards



Certificate Awards



Recognition of Retire Civil Servants for 30+ years service to the Government of Tonga

The Office of the Public Service Office held an employee recognition ceremony to honor and appreciate 42 retirees that have served the Public Service for 30+ years on Tuesday 14 December, 2021 at the Fa'onelua Convention Center. The former Prime Minister Rev. Dr. Pohiva Tu'i'onetoa presented the certificates of recognition to these employees. Many congratulation to you all.

Name	Date of appointment/ Ministry	Years of service	Ministry
'Atania Faleovalu Palanite	1979 to Student Nurse (MOH)	42	Ministry of Health
Lola Katoa	1985 as Wardsmaid (MOH)	34	Ministry of Health
Monika 'Onesi 'Uvea	1985 to Student Nurse (MOH)	36	Ministry of Health
Louani Wolfgramme	1989 to Assistant Cook (MOH)	31	Ministry of Health
Tupou Lalahi Kainga	1981 to Junior Clerk (PMO)	35	Ministry of Health
Sesilia 'Afeimeimo'unga Lausi'i	1985 to Clerk Typist Grade II (MOH)	36	Ministry of Health
Simione Tei	1982 to Health Officer Trainee (MOH)	39	Ministry of Health
Sonasi Schaumkel	1986 to Mechanical Leading Hand (then) Ministry of Work	35	Ministry of Infrastructure
Taulango Manukeu	1980 to Junior Clerk (Government Civil Service)	41	Ministry of Finance
Kelela Afu Leha'uli	1984 to Junior Clerk (Ministry of Works)	37	Ministry of Finance
Meliame Makavaha Kulitapa	1987 to Junior Clerk (MET)	34	Ministry of Finance
Mana'ia Halafihi	1988 to Agricultural Officer (MAFF)	30	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests
Sione Malani Tohotoa	1987 to Senior Technician (MAFF)	34	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests
Penisimani Koloamatangi	1990 to Agricultural Assistant (MAFF)	31	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests`
Sunia Napa'a	1982 to Agricultural Instructors (MAFF)	39	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests

Recognition of Civil Servants for 30+ Years of Service to the Government of Tonga

Name	Date of appointment/ Ministry	Years of service	Ministry
Tupou Tavake Sina Leki	1991 to Livestock Assistant (MAFF)	30	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests
Polata'ane Katoa	1988 to Agricultural Assistant (MAFF)	33	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests
Waikato River 'Aholelei Veamatahau	1983 to Junior Clerk (MOH)	38	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests
Eti Moala	1988 to Agricultural Assistant (MAFF)	33	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests
'Ilaisaane Faletau	1986 to Temporary Typist (PMO)	35	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests
Lesieli 'Ahome'e	1990 to Agricultural Trainee	31	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests
Sione Fanua Uele	1980 as Cadet Draughtsman (MLNR)	41	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources
Angus Alexander Vaivai Sunia	1984 Daily Paid Heavy Plant Operator (MOI)	34	Ministry of Infrastructure
'Ofa ki La'ie Tonga	1986 to Junior Clerk (PMO)	35	Ministry of Infrastructure
Teeau'imo'unga Taufaeteau	1983 to Junior Clerk (PMO)	38	Ministry of Infrastructure
Tulu Kava Houa Kavaefiafi	1989 as Untrained Teacher (MET)	32	Ministry of Education and Training
'Analupe Kaufusi Voi	1982 as Probation Teacher Class III (MET)	35	Ministry of Education and Training
Matamoana Falemaka	1980 as Untrained Teacher (MET)	41	Ministry of Education and Training
'Ana Hamala Sikaleti	1985 as Untrained Teacher (MET)	37	Ministry of Education and Training
Lesieli 'Atu 'Ulungamanu	1985 as Probationary Assistant (MET)	36	Ministry of Education and Training
Lesieli Matoto Latu	1979 as Untrained Teacher (MET)	42	Ministry of Education and Training
Setaita Vaoleti Polutele Moala	1979 as Untrained Teacher (MET)	42	Ministry of Education and Training

Recognition of Retire Civil Servants for 30+ years service to the Government of Tonga

Name	Date of appointment/ Ministry	Years of service	Ministry
Sione Kaufusi Halaleva	1981 as Untrained Teacher (MET)	40	Ministry of Education and Training
Fifita Moala Kalokalo	1984 as Probationary Assistant Teacher (MET)	37	Ministry of Education and Training
Leotisia 'Aonga	1979 as Untrained Teacher	43	Ministry of Education and Training
'Ana Veikoso 1	1983 as Probationary Assistant Teacher (MET)	38	Ministry of Education and Training
Heneli 'OkonaTokelau	1983 as Untrained Teacher	38	Ministry of Education and Training
Nonga 'I Saione Soakai	1989 as Trained Uncertified Teacher (MET)	32	Ministry of Education and Training
Siaosi Lau'i	1991 as Trained Uncertified Teacher (MET)	30	Ministry of Education and Training
Sione Tufui Funaki	1986 as Probationary Assistant Teacher (MET)	35	Ministry of Education and Training
Valentine Manitisa Anga'aetau	1988 as Untrained Teacher (MET)	33	Ministry of Education and Training
Taia Leha	1988 to Agricultural Assistant (MAFF)	33	Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forests

BEHIND THE SCENE



Siniteke Fotu
Assistant Secretary
Oversight Division

The PSC Office wishes to extend gratitude to every Ministry for sharing events, articles, highlights and achievements for this edition. Ministries are more than welcome to share their events through our newsletter.

Please send newsletter articles to oversight@psc.gov.to for inclusion in the 1st edition for 2022 by **25 February, 2022**.