

MINISTRY OF REVENUE & CUSTOMS

NEWSLETTER

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Highlight ✨

Introducing the new Border Management Information System called the Migration Information Data Analysis System (MIDAS) at Fua'amotu International Airport.



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Introducing MIDAS

The Migration Information Data Analysis System (MIDAS), a new Border Management Information System, was launched on October, 26, 2024, with the financial assistance from the Government of Japan and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and technical assistance from the IOM.

The system, which is presently in use at the Fua'amotu airport, allows Tonga to better monitor people entering and leaving the country by gathering, storing, and analyzing traveler data in real time and along the whole border network.

Webcams & documents and finger readers are used to collect travelers' biometric data, enabling quicker and more precise information collection and enhanced border security.



The 21st PITAA Annual Heads Meeting

In September 2024, the 21st PITAA Annual Heads Meeting took place in Port Vila, Vanuatu. Five senior officials and delegations from Tonga, led by CEO Mr. Michael Cokanasiga, took an active part in the discussions.

Their assistance kept reaffirming our dedication to global cooperation and mutual advancement.

Collaborative discussions on enhancing revenue collection methods, bolstering tax compliance, and tackling the digitization of tax administration were also part of the meeting.

With a supper sponsored by PFTAC, the week came to a lovely close and gave delegates a chance to network, consider the week's results, and build deeper relationships going forward.



BF/WCO SCI Project 1st Regional seminar



Twenty-four WCO A/P Members met in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, from September 23-27, 2024, for the BF/WCO SCI Project 1st Regional Seminar. The 11th and newest Regional Training Center in the A/P is proud to host its first event.

It was an honor for Mr. Lisala Lavaka, a customs officer, to attend this crucial seminar.

Disposal of damaged tobacco

A list of damaged tobaccos and supplies for manufacturing tobacco were disposed of at the Tapuhia Landfill in Vaini on Saturday, September 14, 2024. The Ministry of Revenue and Customs, Ministry of Health and the tobacco Manufacturer worked together to ensure the safe disposal of the tobacco that was identified as damaged and deemed no longer fit for public sale and consumption.

The damaged tobacco was transported under supervision of the authorities from the company's Customs warehouse in three truck loads and emptied at Tapuhia Landfill for disposal. The damaged tobacco included 6479 sleeves of Palataise cigarettes and 476.2kg of Loose tobacco were disposed.

The Ministry of Revenue and Customs and its stakeholders will continue to put in place procedures to ensure the products manufactured from Customs licensed warehouses continue to maintain high standards of compliance with the laws of Tonga.

Handover of x-ray machines



Mr. Michael Cokanasiga, the CEO of the Ministry, received several x-ray units from the Australian Border Force (ABF).

These x-ray devices are stationed at Queen Salote Wharf and Fua'amotu International Airport. They will reinforce and support the ABF's, Tonga Customs', and other regional security partners' continued efforts to combat illicit trade in the Kingdom and around the Pacific.

Business Process Re-engineering workshop

The OCO is attempting to expedite the Pacific region's Customs processes in collaboration with UNCTAD. OCO conducted a session on Business Process Re-engineering (BPR) to streamline processes such as obtaining advance rulings, controlling risk, and expediting shipments. As a result, businesses will have more time to expand and less time wasted on paperwork. Customs officer Mr. Veimau Fe'aomoeata represented Tonga Customs in this workshop.



Revenue Evasion Master Class

In Nadi, Fiji, OCO and the Australia Border Force collaborated to conduct a Revenue Evasion Master Class. began on Monday, October 28, 2024, and ended on October 30, 2024. Eleven Pacific countries' Customs officials enhanced their abilities in risk management, data analysis, intelligence collection, and revenue leak prevention.

Strengthening our region's battle against illicit trade, which costs the world economy US\$2.2 trillion a year, was the goal of this strategic project.

Mrs. Ma'imoa Langa'oi represented Tonga Customs in this workshop.



Workshop on combatting money laundering, terrorism financing and the smuggling of bulk cash, gems & precious metals

In collaboration with the World Customs Organization, New Zealand Customs brought financial crime specialists from Asia-Pacific to New Zealand for a three-day course on preventing the smuggling of precious metals, diamonds, and bulk cash, as well as money laundering and terrorism funding. Globally, financial crime is common and frequently connected to more significant criminal acts like the smuggling of tobacco and illegal drugs.

These workshops are a valuable chance to share intelligence and deepen our tight working ties with colleagues in the Asia-Pacific region, which will increase our ability to fight financial crime as a team. Customs officer Mr. Viliami Manumu'a represented Tonga Customs in this important workshop. "Customs agencies are the first line of defence at the border, playing a significant role in national and regional security. Having close relationships with our Asia-Pacific partners is vital in detecting and combatting financial crime. These workshops have given us real opportunities to further strengthen our close working relationships," Mr. Brown says.



Enhancing Customs control over the trade & transit of toxic chemicals regional conference



In order to strengthen Customs control over the trade and transit of dangerous chemicals, the OCO and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) held a regional conference in Port Vila, Vanuatu. The goal of this effort was to improve regional collaboration in preventing the diversion of dual-use chemicals and address the growing concern about their possible misuse.

Among the main areas of attention were: -

1. Improving Customs processes to efficiently identify and intercept dubious cargo.
2. Exchanging best practices, we can reduce the risks that come with non-state actors obtaining these chemicals.
3. Improving Oceania Customs Administrations' information exchange and regional collaboration tactics.

DCEO Mr. Sau Niulala represented Tonga Customs in this conference.

Tax Agents Meeting

All of our tax agents were still invited to monthly sessions hosted by the Ministry. Our goal is to keep up to date and give our tax brothers and sisters the accurate tax information they may share with the public.



Paotoloaki Program

Again, your Ministry is quite proud of the amount of effort being done by the public to broaden our collective understanding, especially with regard to income taxes and small business taxes.

We are grateful to everyone who came; the Paotoloaki Program was a great success. We wish you all the best.



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Media Release



POTUNGAUE TANAKI PAÁNGA HU MAI MO E TUTE

Puleánga ó Tonga

ONGOONGO TUKUATU

HULU Á E TANAKI KI HE TAÚ FAKAPAÁNGA 2023/2024

Óku fiefia hoómou Potungaue Tanaki Paānga Hu Mai mo e Tute ke tuku atu á e fakamatala kakato ó e tanaki paānga hu mai ki he tau fakapaānga 2023/24 á ia naé ngata i he áho 30 ó Sune 2024.

FAKAMATALA KAKATO Ó E TANAKI PAÁNGA Á E POTUNGAUE TANAKI PAÁNGA
HU MAI MO E TUTE KI HE TAÚ FAKAPAÁNGA 2023/24

Patiseti	Patiseti Fakaangaanga	Fakalukufua Paānga Hu Mai Fakaangaanga	Totongi Fakafaki	Fakakatoa ó e Paānga Hu Mai	Patiseti Mole/Tupu	Peseti ó e Tanaki Paānga Hu Mai
PATISETI TUPU/MOLE	\$271,393,800	\$308,485,765.61	\$21,725,628.75	\$286,760,136.86	15,366,337	106%

Óku fakaámu á e Éiki Minisita ó e Potungaue Tanaki Paánga Hu Mai mo e Tute Hon.Tiofilusi Tiueti, ke fakahoko atu á e houngaia moóni á e Puleánga í hoómou tokoni kafakafa ó aúsia ai á e ola ni, neongo á e ngaahi faingataa mo e pole ó e taú fakapaánga kuo maliu atu. Fakamalo makehe ki he ngaahi kupu fengaueáki hono kotoa pehe ki he ngaahi hoa ngaue, ikai ngalo á e kau ngaue ó e Potungaue í heénau mateaki mo e ósíkiavelenga í he fatongia.

I he laumalie tatau moia óku meá kiai á e Éiki Minisita, naé fakaha é he Pule Lahi ó e Potungaue, Michael Cokanasiga, neongo á e ngaahi lavameá ni, óku kei tuúkalikali pe á e Potungaue ke hokohoko atu hono fakalakalakai mo Paotoloaki á e founga ngaue, koeúhi, ke hikií á e tuúnga o e fakahoko fatongia ki he ngaahi kupu fekauáki kotoa pe. Óku fakaivía éni é he palani ngaue fakalakalaka á e Potungaue á ia ne fofoi ái á e visone “Ke hoko koha Potungaue falaláanga, fakaonopooni mo fakahoko fatongia i ha tuúnga maólunga áupito.”

NGATAÁNGA.

Ki ha toe fakaikiiki, fetuútaki mai ki he 26-432 pe imeili mai ki he cst@revenue.gov.to



MINISTRY OF REVENUE & CUSTOMS

Government of Tonga

MEDIA RELEASE

FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024 REVENUE COLLECTION TARGETS SURPASSED

The Ministry of Revenue and Customs is pleased to release the final reconciled figures of its revenue collection for the financial year 2023/24 which ended on the 30th June, 2024.

MORC OVERALL REVENUE COLLECTION (FY 2023/24)						
Description	Budget Estimate	Actual	Refund	Net Collection	Surplus/Deficit	% Collection
BUDGET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	\$271,393,800	\$308,485,765.61	\$21,725,628.75	\$286,760,136.86	\$15,366,337.00	106%

The Minister of Revenue and Customs, Hon. Tiofilusi Tueti, wishes to take this opportunity to extend the government's sincere appreciation to you all, for your immense contribution to these results despite the many challenges faced during this past financial year. Special thanks are also extended to our key stakeholders and partners and not forgetting the staff of the Ministry for their dedication and hard work.

Echoing the sentiments of the Honorable Minister, Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry Mr. Michael Cokanasiga also reassures you, that despite its achievements to date, the Ministry remains committed towards the ongoing improvement and modernization of its processes in order to lift the standards of its services to you all and stakeholders. This has been reinforced by the Ministry's recently approved multi-year Corporate Plan and its Vision "To be recognized as a trusted and modern Tax and Customs administration serving with excellence."

ENDS.

For further media inquiries please contact 26-432 or email us at csf@revenue.gov.to