

# LET US BE RESILIENT IN OUR VOYAGE FOR A PERPETUAL TONGA



## The Ministry of Revenue and Customs

Newsletter | July ,2021

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# INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE PROJECT - TONGA CUSTOMS

The world is turning digital, faster than we could have imagined, and public administrations and international trade platforms are also moving online just as quickly.

For Tonga Customs, ICT platforms have vastly transformed how it operates to serve the country to protect our Tongan borders, facilitate international trade, and collect vital government revenue through duties and taxes. Over the years, its use of ICT has advanced to office automation, the use of the internet to publish and disseminate information, automated cargo clearance systems, and performance of risk management and enforcement.

Building on this success of its use of ICT, Tonga Customs has now embarked on a significant ICT INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE PROJECT. This project enables the modernization of its computer server infrastructure at the head office in Tongatapu, improved data back-up and the development of stable links from the head office located at Fe'ao Moe Ngalu Customs Building to its Offices and inspections areas, including the Queen Salote Wharf, Fua'amotu International airport, and its other principal outer-island Office located at the Halaevalu International wharf located in Neiafu.

Apart from improved connectivity, these modern ICT technologies will set the foundations for improved and more efficient service delivery from Customs at all of Tonga's major ports of entry. It also enables future developments in Customs automation that is currently underway with the PACER Plus ASYCUDA Project.

In addition to upgrading computer servers and improved connectivity, the project will also introduce thin-client systems to improve front office processing. These upgrades will enhance the productivity and efficiency of Customs procedures, improving timeframes for the release of goods and ultimately cutting costs usually incurred by businesses due to delay caused by outdated ICT infrastructure.

Given the significant works currently being undertaken, Tonga Customs also wishes to apologize for any temporary delay in our services that directly result from this ICT upgrade process, including the plugging in and out of wiring, computers, and testing.

The Government of Tonga has contracted Christchurch-based, New Zealand ICT Company Server Works Limited to implement this project. Server Works Limited has vast experience in providing ICT support and solutions in the Asia Pacific region. The good news is, Server Works Limited should complete this project by early August, and our customers and stakeholders can expect a much more efficient ICT infrastructure to serve their needs. The implementation of this project is also being made possible with the assistance of MEIDECC, Tonga Communications Corporation (TCC), Tonga Airport Ltd, and Ports Authority Tonga Ltd.



*Photo Above: Receiving the ICT Infrastructure packages at Fe'aomoengalu .*



*Above & Below Photo: Mr. Craig Winsten an expert from Christchurch-based, New Zealand ICT Company Server Works Limited who constructed these equipment.*



*Photo Above: Updating data backup @ Fua'amotu International airport.*



*Photo Above: Updating databack-up @ Queen Salote Wharf.*



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## OCEANIA CUSTOMS ORGANISATION CRIMINAL BUSINESS DISRUPTION WORKSHOP

Regional organizations play pivotal roles in capacity building in their respective areas of law enforcement and border security. This latest initiative aimed to assist member states, including Tonga, to design organizational action plans, introduce new initiatives and support regional or sub-regional operations with the intent to uplift the member's capability to international standards and best practice of enforcement against criminal business operations.



## OCEANIA CUSTOMS ORGANISATION ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAMME WITH CCES

More than 80 officers from 17 countries in the region begin a 10-month online training this month to equip them with skills to address daily challenges and those brought on by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The training delivered by the Centre for Customs and Excise Studies, Charles Sturt University, Canberra, and the Oceania Customs Organization will end in November. Upon completing the program, they will see Customs officers from the region, including Tonga, receive Certificate III in Regional Customs Administrations.

"This is the largest training of its kind, in terms of numbers to be undertaken by OCO in the region," OCO Chairman Salvador Jacob said.

Mr. Jacobs also added, "It is an important training as we need to have our Customs Officers equipped with skills relevant to the changing environment in which they operate. We are especially pleased that more than 60 percent of our trainees are women."

The virtual training is divided into two cohorts due to the large number of Customs officers selected for the course.

Participants of the course are from American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Marshall Islands, Guam, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu





## OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES (ODS)



**Participants** -The Customs & Trade Division of the Ministry of Revenue and Customs officers together with MEIDECC.

The Customs & Trade Division of the Ministry of Revenue and Customs and MEIDECC conducted a refresher training program for Customs Brokers and Customs Officers about ODS regulations and their enforcement to bolster Tonga's regulation of trade in refrigerants and, in particular, ODS. Ozone-depleting substances (ODS) such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydro chlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) are also greenhouse gases. Therefore, the phase-out of ODS under the Montreal Protocol has contributed to and will continue to mitigate climate change. In addition, HFCs that are ozone friendly and therefore used as alternatives to CFCs and HCFCs are also greenhouse gases. CFCs, HCFCs, and HFCs are still used in our daily life. Consequently, it is vital to control the emissions into the atmosphere for the prevention of climate change.



## Ministry of Tourism Week.

With staff, Mr. Kelemete Vahe (CEO for Revenue & Customs) joined the float parade supporting Tourism week on Monday, the 5th of July, 2021.



## Heilala Week Festival

2021.





# RETREAT PROGRAM FINANCIAL YEAR 2021/22



**Photo Above: Left to Right-Principal of the Sia'atoutai Theological College Rev. Dr. Taliai Niumeitola , The speaker of the Legislative Assembly ,Lord Fakafanua the honorable guest of honor and the Minister of the Ministry of Revenue & Customs Hon. Tevita Lavemaau.**

The Ministry of Revenue and Customs hosted its Annual Retreat Program for the FY 2021/22 on Friday, the 23rd of July, 2021. This retreat aimed to support staff empowerment through strategic and operational planning to achieve its targeted outputs.

After the formalities, the retreat continued with the presentations of the Corporate Plan and the Budget of the Ministry for the new Financial Year. Subsequently, the overall progress of the Ministry was presented through the Monitoring and Evaluation reports followed by briefings on the Annual Management Plan set out to achieve targeted outputs. Also in attendance of the program was the Hon. Minister for Revenue and Customs – Tevita Lavemaau, CEO – Kelemete Vahe, Deputy CEOs, and senior management.



**Photo Above: A speech was then followed by the guest speaker of the Legislative Assembly – Lord Fakafanua. He addressed the participants with the theme "Drugs – our biggest problem." He emphasized the critical roles of Revenue and Customs officers in revenue collection and safeguarding Tonga's borders to address the rising problem of drugs in society.**



The Honorable guest of honor Lord Fakafanua, Minister of the Ministry of Revenue and Customs Hon. Tevita Lavemaau, CEO and the rest of the Senior Revenue officers are participants of this retreat program.



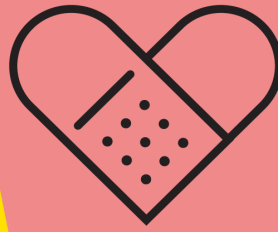
**Photo Above: The principal of Sia'atoutai Theological College, Rev. Dr. Taliai Niumeitola, led the program with a prayer. He encouraged the participants as tax collectors to learn from the famous story of Zacchaeus in the Gospel of Luke, where he gave half of his possessions to the poor.**



## SECOND DOZE OF ASTRAZENECA

On the 13th July 2021, Mr Kelemete Vahe (Chief Executive Officer) and the staff of the Ministry of Revenue and Customs, received their second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine at Fe'aomoengalu Building, Queen Salote Wharf.

**Get your  
second  
vaccine  
dose**





# REMINDER

## Tonga Customs Coast Watch (Hotline)

Have you noticed something unusual on or around the coastline in Tonga? As a member of the community, it's our role using our local knowledge to identify anything unusual or suspicious in our coastline. Please do report any suspicious activity to our 24-hour hotline 0800123 at any time regardless of how minor it is.



## Tax Agent List

**'Oku ke fa'a fiema'u ha taha ke tokoni ki hono fakafonu mo fakama'op'opo ho'o ngaahi fakamatala Tukupau?**

Ko e lisi 'eni 'o e kau Fakafongfa Tukupau kuo 'osi fkmafaif he potungaue ke nau tokoni'i koe....  
Fakaikiiki fetu'utaki mai ki he 26-432 pe email [cst@revenue.gov.to](mailto:cst@revenue.gov.to).

### TAX AGENTS-2021-2022

TIN NUMBER	NAME	TRADE NAME	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
325022	Akapei Latu		8836768	latuakapei@gmail.com
254225	Alani Afu		8435492	alafu@finance.gov.to aloma@johansson.tbu.to aloma.johansson@gmail.com
345167	Albin Johanson	R.ALBIN JOHANSSON & COMPANY	22855	
473798	Antoine Kwok	A.K Financial Services	8822718	antoinekwokakfs@gmail.com
910695	Carly Jones	Tax and Accounting Vava'u Ltd	8413459	caryl.jones@hotmail.com rashida0301@gmail.com htuiono@kalianet.to
337997	Helena Tu'iono	Mets & Associates	22396	
787853	Heting Gan	Heting Gan Co Ltd	8898168	ganheting@hotmail.com
508120	Inoke & Suliana Afu	A&A Consultant Tonga Ltd	8470758/7720244	inoafu@gmail.com kisione@jkca.to saualala@jkca.to
389688	JK Chartered Accountant		25254	
392176	Karl Taufateau		7753457	falakarl@yahoo.co.nz
375986	Lopini Fifita	Rene Tax Agency	23772	mrfifita@gmail.com
342212	Molly Collier	EMCEE Services	25300	mollycollier2004@yahoo.com.au
342487	Paula Fukofuka	Kingdom Accounting Solutions	8421068	pfukofuka@gmail.com otumaamaofonuaamoto@gmail.com
283957	Pongipongi ki he Hau Lomu		22-452/7782218	
368308	Puniani Tu'ipulotu	Moteni Tax Agent	7753174	kmolitika@hotmail.com
536112	Sefita Tangi Jr, Patiola Mapukava	Lau pe Ua koe Taha	8781234	patisu2001@googlemail.com
787169	Suliasi Pouvalu 'Aholelei		7799105	valu.magicsignstonga@gmail.com
326580	Tuna Mailangi Likiliki	Solova Consultants	25970	issolova@gmail.com
495608	Uta'atu and Associate		23815	cmu@utaatu.tbu.to



## POLOKALAMA LETIO MO E TELEVISONE

**'Oku ke fa'a fifili nai ki ha taimi ke ke fakahoko ai ha'o ngaahi fehu'i ki he Potungaue ka 'oku 'ikai ha'o taimi ?**

**Ko e taimi 'eni!**

*'Oku fakaafe'i kimoutolu ki he ngaahi polokalama Felafoaki mo e Televisone 'a e Potungaue Tanaki Pa'anga Hu Mai mo e Tute ki ha'o ngaahi fehu'i fekau'aki mo e ngaahi fokotu'utu'u ngaue fo'ou mei he Potungaue. Ko e taimi totonu 'eni ke 'ohake ai ha'o ngaahi fehu'i.*

*'E 'i ai 'a e kau 'ofisa ma'olunga mei he Potungaue ke tali mo fakanonga ho loto !!!*

Station	Date	Time	Place
Letio Tonga		10:00am	Tonga Broadcasting Commission
87.5FM	Every Tuesday & Friday.	1:00pm	Vikilani House
Kele'a Voice	Every Tuesday & Friday.	2:00pm	Hala'ovave
T.V	Every Thursday Night	8:00pm	Tonga Broadcasting Commission



**Co-host-CEO of the Ministry Mr. Kelemete Vahe and Taniela Sila(Acting DCEO) at 87.5FM.**



**Co-host-Mr.Sau Niulala at 87.5FM**



**Above Photo : Mr. Pita Tu'ivai and Sau Niulala at Tonga broadcasting Commission.**



**Left Photo: Mr. Pita Tu'ivai and Sau Niulala at the Kele'a Voice.**



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web  
camera  
signal  
social  
speak



# FANONGONONGO



## FAKALAHİ NGAHI TU'UTU'UNI KE TAU'I - COVID 19

KUO PAU KE NGATA E NGAUE'AKI 'O E TU'UTU'UNI KOENI KI HE 'AHO 31' O TISEMA 2021



1. Kuo pau ke faka'atā mei he tukuhau ngaue'aki 'a e hū mai 'o e kotoa 'o e ngaahi koloa me'atokoni mo e ngaahi koloa konisiuma fakataautaha, 'oku 'ikai ki he taumu 'a fakakomēsiale.

2. Kuo pau ke faka'atā mei he tukuhau ngaue'aki hono hu mai 'o e kotoa 'o e ngaahi naunau langa ki hono langa 'o e ngaahi nofo'anga fakataautaha, ngaahi fale poloseki fakakolo mo e ngaahi fale poloseki 'a e ako;



### CUSTOMS

Ministry of Revenue And Customs  
KINGDOM OF TONGA

## DUE DATES REMINDER!

### Monthly Due Dates.

28<sup>th</sup> – Consumption Tax Return & Payment.

28<sup>th</sup> PAYE Return & Payment

28<sup>th</sup> WHT Resident/Non-Resident & Payment

28<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Income Tax & Payment

28<sup>th</sup> Ship Income Tax & Payment

### Quarterly Due Date.

28<sup>th</sup> January – Tax Return & Payment.

28<sup>th</sup> April- Tax Return & Payment.

28<sup>th</sup> July - Tax Return & Payment.

28<sup>th</sup> October - Tax Return & Payment.

### Annual Due Dates.

31<sup>st</sup> October- Personal Income Tax Return & Payment.

31<sup>st</sup> October – Company Tax Return & Payment.

31<sup>st</sup> August – PAYE Annual Return

## PUBLIC NOTICE



### eTax System LINK UPGRADE

The public is hereby notified that the Ministry of Revenue and Customs e-Tax SYSTEM's LINK has upgraded from [www.revenue.gov.to/etax](http://www.revenue.gov.to/etax) to [etax.revenue.gov.to](http://etax.revenue.gov.to).

For those of you who need to comply through this Online Lodgment but are not yet registered, You are more than welcome to register now. You can lodge in your PAYE/CT returns via the following link:

[etax.revenue.gov.to](http://etax.revenue.gov.to).

Apologies for any inconvenience we may cause.

Should you need further information, please contact us at 7400550, 26432 or email [cst@revenue.gov.to](mailto:cst@revenue.gov.to) or [it@revenue.gov.to](mailto:it@revenue.gov.to)

Tonga 



### REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Ministry of Revenue And Customs  
KINGDOM OF TONGA

We wish to acknowledge all Government line ministries and to the people of Tonga for their contribution and support towards this edition of

The Ministry of Revenue & Customs newsletter

‘Let us be resilient in our Voyage for a Perpetual Tonga’

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us

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