



DECISIONS

**GENERAL FONO
10 – 11 NOVEMBER 2016
FAKAOFO**

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1. AGENDA

The General Fono:

- i. **endorsed** agenda.

2. TAKING OF OATH

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** that while Petelo Hanele Patelechio had previously taken the oath in 2015 in Nukunonu, this was in relation to the role of the Chairperson of General Fono rather than as a delegate to the General Fono
- ii. **witnessed** the taking of oath by Pulenuku of Nukunonu, Petelo Hanele Patelechio
- iii. **witnessed** the taking of oath by Havelio Tumua replacing, in the interim, Nukunonu elected delegate Salesio Lui.

3. ALLOCATION OF MINISTERIAL PORTFOLIOS

The General Fono:

- i. **endorsed** allocation of the Support Services ministerial portfolio to Pulenuku Petelo Hanele Patelechio.
- ii. **noted** the announcement by the Atafu delegation that due to medical reasons, Keli Kalolo has temporarily taken over Faipule duties from Kuresa Nasau.

4. ANTHEM

Having listened to the national anthem as re-recorded by the original composer and his team, the General Fono:

- i. **endorsed** the amended recording as reflecting amendments directed by the General Fono.

5. CELEBRATING GENERAL FONO ACHIEVEMENTS FOR A SOLID FUTURE

A. TOKELAU NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN (TNSP) 2016-2020

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the amendments to the TSNP arising from General Fono decisions of July 2016;

- ii. **agreed** to refer the TNSP to the Taupulega and villages for their information and any further input to be put forward to the next General Fono.

B. NATIONAL CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** that all developments on the list provided are long outstanding aspirations of Tokelau and there is no objections to the list other than prioritisation
- ii. **agreed** for an opportunity for the Taupulega and villages to have input into prioritisation;
- iii. **agreed** that respective Taupulega prioritisation be provided to the Office of the Council before the end of November [2016]
- iv. **directed** the staff responsible to travel among the villages and consult on prioritisation
- v. **agreed** that Council for Ongoing Government oversee implementation and determine timing for this consultation.

C. REPORT OF ONGOING BUSINESS

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the Report of Ongoing Business of government
- ii. **noted** there are matters that needs addressing ie: which department is responsible for Climate Change and Nukunonu has yet to be consulted on the Climate Change Strategy.

In regards to the Climate Change Strategy yet to be consulted with Nukunonu, the General Fono:

- i. **directed** the Climate Change team to ensure that the Climate Change Strategy consultations with Nukunonu takes place before submitting the Strategy for General Fono consideration.

In regards as to which department is responsible for Climate Change, the General Fono:

- i. **noted** that a decision has previously been made that the Department of EDNRE is responsible for Climate Change;
- ii. **noted** that the department of EDNRE does have other significant responsibilities eg: fisheries, etc
- iii. **agreed** for the departments [EDNRE and OCOG] to continue working closely with current arrangements until such a time the Climate Change

Strategy is in place and the General Fono will then revisit the issue of responsibility.

In noting the Report of Ongoing Business of Government, clarification was sought on the issue previously raised by the Taupulega of Atafu in regards to letters from the former Director of Finance. The General Fono:

- i) **noted** that, in the role as employer, Council for the Ongoing Government has dealt with the matter in closed session and will respond to the Taupulega of Atafu by formal letter from the Ulu o Tokelau.

6. HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (HRCDP)

The General Fono:

- i. **agreed** to refer the HRCDP to the Taupulega to ensure that views expressed during consultations are reflected
- ii. **directed** that the team responsible for developing and consultation of the HRCDP, with the support of the Public Service Commissioner, to travel among villages for final consultations with the Taupulega before further consideration of plan by the General Fono.

7. INCREASE TO TAUPULEGA HONORARIA

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the paper; and
- ii. **tasked** the Public Service Commissioner to establish a Committee, under his leadership to carry out a Review of Taupulega Honoraria.

8. ACCOMMODATION FOR TEACHERS CONTRACTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the paper
- ii. **agreed** to establish a committee consisting of the village GMs and the Department of Support Services to review the rates for rental accommodation on each of the three villages; and
- iii. **agreed** that departments pay rent to the Taupulega for all community houses leased by the departments

9. BUILDING / CONSTRUCTION INSPECTOR

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the paper
- ii. **endorsed** the purpose of the paper
- iii. **agreed** that each Taupulega appoint a building inspector.
- iv. **agreed** to appoint Fata Levi as the Building Inspector at national level; and
- v. **agreed** that funding for each of these inspectors be the responsibility of respective village and likewise, funding for the national building inspector be the responsibility of government.

10. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TRANSTOK RULES

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the paper
- ii. **noted** that proposal is for first reading
- iii. **agreed** that proposed amendments be referred for consultations with the Taupulega;
- iv. **noted** that the normal [agreed] law making process requires that the villages be consulted;
- v. **agreed** [as part of consultations] to provide to the Taupulega the existing Transtok rules with explanation as to why amendments to the rules are required.
- vi. **agreed** that proposed amendments to the rules, including views of the Taupulega, be considered at the next General Fono for endorsement.

11. ROLE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER AND THE TAUPULEGA

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the paper
- ii. **reiterated** that the role of the Public Service Commissioner in relation to the Taupulega is very clear in that is to provide advice as required by the Taupulega including on matters in relation to the Human Resource Manual.

12 REMUNERATION FOR GM APIA AND VILLAGE GM / DIRECTOR / COORDINATOR

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the purpose of the paper

- ii. **accepted** the paper
- iii. **referred** the matter for discussion between the Ulu o Tokelau and the Public Service Commissioner (TPSC).
- iv. **agreed** that regardless as to when the matter is settled by the TPSC, any amendments to pay levels be backdated to the date the General Fono decision was made for the village GMs to be on the same band of the Remuneration Framework as the GM Apia.

13. ANNUAL TOKELAU JUDICIARY REPORT 2013-2014 & 2014-2015

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the paper
- ii. **accepted** the Annual Tokelau Judiciary Reports for 2013/2014 and 2014/2015
- iii. **agreed** that there be workshops in the villages for all serving in judiciary to strengthen their capacity as well as workshop for the general public to increase awareness of rules and their rights within the judiciary process.

14. HEALTH SERVICES: WAY FORWARD

The General Fono:

- i. **endorsed** the purpose of the paper
- ii. **agreed** that the Department of Health work closely together with the respective Taupulega and the Public Service Commissioner on how best to address resourcing [human] of health services particularly in ensuring that the issue of lack of doctors in the hospitals is addressed as a matter of urgency
- iii. **noted** shortage of [qualified] staff in the hospitals;
- iv. **tasked** the Public Service Commissioner to revisit the level of remuneration for doctors under the Remuneration Framework in noting that approved levels are low.

15. POLICY ON REDUCING USE OF TOBACCO IN TOKELAU

The General Fono:

- i. **endorsed** the purpose of the paper
- ii. **endorsed** the Tobacco Control Policy; and

- iii. **directed** the departments to continue to work closely together with the villages in strengthening implementation of the policy.

16. OLD AGE PENSION

The General Fono:

- i. **accepted** the paper
- ii. **agreed** that its decision of July 2016 remains in place for implementation.

17. DISABILITY BENEFIT

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the paper
- ii. **agreed** that the following be implemented:
 - a. The Department of Health to provide a definition of 'special needs'
 - e. The next General Fono to consider and endorse a definition for special needs;
 - i. Taupulega to provide to the Department of Health a list of persons with special needs

18. REPORT ON DOT TK

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the paper
- ii. **agreed** to defer this issue until such a time a report from [the independent assessment] New Zealand is received; and
- iii. **advised** the Administrator to make report available as soon as possible to ensure required developments in telecommunication progresses.

19. HOUSEHOLD INCOME & EXPENDITURE (HIES) REPORT

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the information provided by the Minister in regards to the report arising from the HIES;

- ii. **noted** that translation of the report into the Tokelau language has yet to be finalised;
- iii. **noted** that not enough time has been provided to delegates and villages to note the report and the information therein;
- iv. **agreed** to refer the report to the Taupulega;
- v. **agreed** that an opportunity be provided to the delegates to read and note the report and information therein;
- vi. **directed** that publication and distribution of report be held until translation is finalised.

20. CENSUS 2016

The General Fono:

- i. **noted** the paper
- ii. **agreed** to accept the Report and that the results [of the census] be the basis of general elections in the new year with an opportunity to the staff responsible to travel among villages and explain to the Taupulega the contents of the report.

21. OTHER ISSUES

The General Fono:

- i. **reminded** the villages and the Department of Support Services of the July 2016 General Fono decision that the villages review the work of the Landlease Committee to ensure all leased lands are included and to advise the Department of Support Services for report back to the next General Fono;
- ii. **agreed** to remind the Board of Teletok of the issue referred to it by the July 2016 General Fono, to revisit the cost of internet and report back to the next General Fono;
- iii. **noted** the lack of progress with improvements to the jetties and channels and the challenges specific to each village as raised by the Atafu delegation;
- iv. **accepted** the advice by the Minister of Finance that funding for progressing the Ship-to-Shore programme is included in the national capital development budget;
- v. **agreed** that review of the Immigration Rules 1991 be implemented as soon as possible as directed by the July 2016 General Fono;

- vi. **agreed** that the Department of EDNRE be directed to address the issue of invasive species as a matter of urgency as the problem is worsening;
- vii. **noted** the advice from the representative of the Administrator in regards to a paper from the Administrator to the Council in relation to fisheries management.

Confirmed by:

on

Hamu Pili

Date

Chairperson

LIHI O KI LATOU NA FAKATAKI KI TE FONO FAKAMUA

FAKAOFO

KAUFONO

Ulu o Tokelau, Faipule Afega Gaulofa

Pulenuku Mose Pelasio

Gau Gaulofa

Tinielu Tuúmuli

Pale Sosene

Fofo Tuisano

Mali Pue

HAUATEA

Safiti Vavega

Sio Sio

NUKUNONU

KAUFONO

Faipule Siopili Perez

Pulenuku Petelo Patelesio

Lino Isaia

Zak Patelesio

Have Tumua

Lepeka Amato-Perez

HAUATEA

Atonio Egeliko

Vaha Tavite

ATAFU

KAUFONO

Hui Faipule Kelihiano Kalolo

Matua Minihita Saili Patea-Peau

Pulenuku Faafetai Taumanu

Iosua Aleni

Stanley Lopa

Tanu Filo

Mika Kalolo

HAUATEA

Tana Malaki

Liutu Gaulofa

TOEAINA FAKAOFO

Taupati Peleni

Pahi Niko

Milo Niko

Ilai Esera

OFIHA O TE ULU FAKATONU

Maria Reynen-Clayton

Tim Stewardson

KOMIHI FAKAGALUETINO

Komehina Casimilo Perez

Aleki Silao

HUI TAKITAKI FONO

Sela Saumani

KAUFAIGALUEGA

APIA

Jovilisi Suveinakama

Ake Puka-Mauga

Heto Puka

Himona Mei

Tiso Fiaola

Ioane Puka

Mapu Junior Tapuai

Rumana Khan

Iapi Jaasperse

ATAFU

Olita Hakai

Poasi Tuitolova

Ioane

Naniseni Taupau

NUKUNONU

Aukusitino Vitale

Mika Perez

Dr Silvia Tavite

Dr Hla Thein

Sefo Leo

Viliamu Ioapo

FAKAOFO

Neta Tofiga

Mete Lui

Pafelio Tumua

Safiti Lomi

Tavita Pue

Kovati Gasologa

Heo Peleni

Tavita Gualofa

Hina Kele