



**SPC**  
Secretariat  
of the Pacific  
Community

**PACIFIC REGIONAL INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)**

**MINISTERS' MEETING**

18 June 2010

Nuku'alofa, Tonga

*ICT for development, governance and sustainable livelihoods*

**Tonga Declaration**

We, the representatives of the Countries and Territories meeting in Nuku'alofa, Tonga:

**Noting** the important role of ICT in meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

**Recalling** the *Resolution 64/187 of the UN General Assembly, of 21 December 2009* recognising the importance of partnerships with all relevant stakeholders in enhancing access to ICT and that ICT has the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges;

**Recognising** the unique challenges faced by Pacific Small Island Developing States and Territories in ICT development;

**Noting** that the *Pacific Plan* as endorsed by the Forum Leaders' Meeting in Madang, Papua New Guinea in October 2005 provides a framework for strengthening regional cooperation and integration between Forum countries;

**Recalling** the *Wellington Declaration* of the 2006 Pacific Islands Forum Communications Ministers meeting set priorities and identified challenges to be addressed in implementing the *Digital Strategy*;

**Recalling** the 2009 *Pacific ICT Ministerial Forum Communiqué* that was endorsed by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Pacific member states;

**Acknowledging** the important role of development partners in progressing ICT development in the Pacific region;

**Noting** that Forum Leaders requested in their *Cairns Communiqué* that the *Digital Strategy*, an essential component of the *Pacific Plan*, be reviewed and revised;

**Acknowledging** the review of the *Digital Strategy* by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS);

**Acknowledging** the development of the *Framework for Action on ICT for Development for the Pacific* by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) in partnership with Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) agencies and development partners;

**Declare that we:**

1. Are committed to using ICT as a key tool for the development, governance and sustainable livelihood of the people of our countries;
2. Recognise that while ICTs have enormous potential for socio-economic development, they pose risks to our communities that need to be carefully managed;
3. Will work together to support the advancement of Pacific countries through improved deployment and use of ICTs in our societies; and
4. Endorse the concept of 'many partners, one team' in progressing a more coordinated and coherent approach to ICT development.

**Accordingly, we:**

- (i) Endorse the recommendations in the *Pacific Regional ICT Officials' Meeting Report and Outcomes*;
- (ii) Endorse the *Framework for Action on ICT for Development for the Pacific*;
- (iii) Request SPC to work with USP, PICTs and development partners to develop the three year rolling Strategic Action Plan that will be updated annually, and to report back on targets set in the framework, and outline upcoming ICT activities in the region;
- (iv) Request SPC to coordinate the implementation of the framework in collaboration with USP, and other CROP agencies and development partners;
- (v) Agree that the Framework be reviewed before mid-2013; and
- (vi) Agree to convene a Pacific ICT Ministers' meeting after the review to consider the findings and provide direction to the implementation of the Framework.

**IN WITNESSED WHEREOF** the undersigned have affixed their signatures to this Agreement

**DONE at Nuku'alofa, Tonga, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, the year two thousand and ten.**



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Easter Bruce  
Director Information Technology  
Department of Information and  
Telecommunications Technology  
AMERICAN SAMOA



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Hon. Francis Itimai  
Minister  
Department of Transportation,  
Communications and Infrastructure  
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA



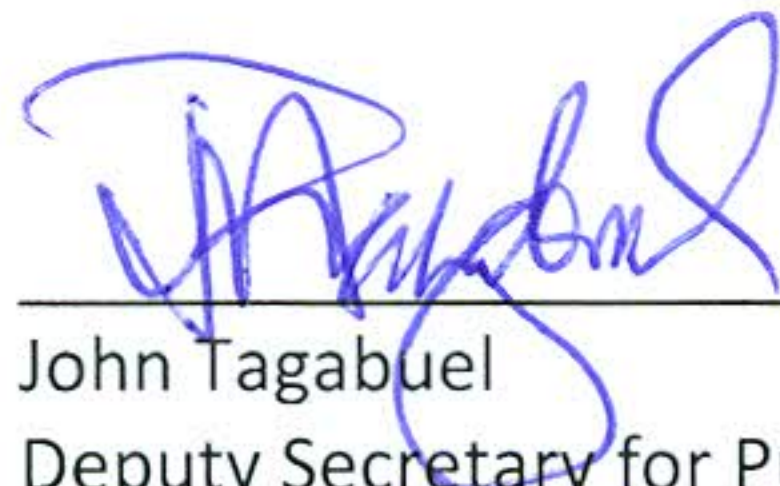
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HE Bruce Hunt  
High Commissioner to Tonga  
AUSTRALIA



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Taina Tagicakibau  
Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Public Enterprises, Tourism  
and Communication  
FIJI




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John Tagabuel  
Deputy Secretary for Public Health  
Department of Public Health  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

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Josiane Couratier  
Deputy Permanent Representative of  
France to SPC  
FRANCE



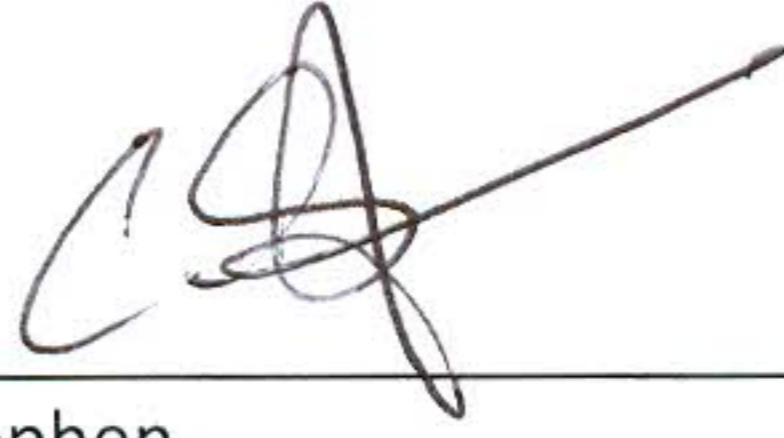
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Hon. Apii Piho  
Minister  
Ministry of Justice, Health, Internal  
Affairs, Youth and Sports, Non  
Government Organisations  
COOK ISLANDS



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Hon. Temate Kateintenang  
Minister  
Ministry of Communications, Transport  
and Tourism Development  
KIRIBATI



Christopher Stephen  
Secretary  
Ministry of Transport and  
Telecommunications  
NAURU



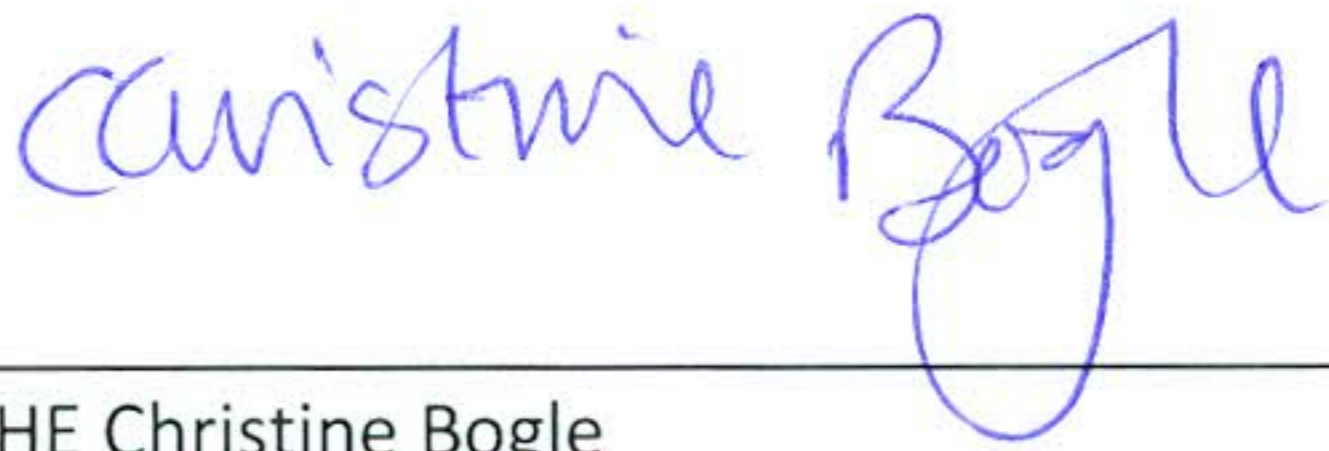
Hon. Patrick Tammur  
Minister  
Ministry of Communication and  
Information  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA



Hon. Pokotoa Sipeli  
Minister  
Ministry of Post and Telecommunications  
NIUE




Hon. Kenneth Kedi  
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Ministry of Transport and  
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HE Christine Bogle  
High Commissioner to Tonga  
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Anthony Sa'aga  
Manager ICT Secretariat  
Ministry of Communications and  
Information Technology  
SAMOA



Hon. Jackson R. Ngiraingas  
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Ministry of Public Infrastructure,  
Industries and Commerce  
PALAU

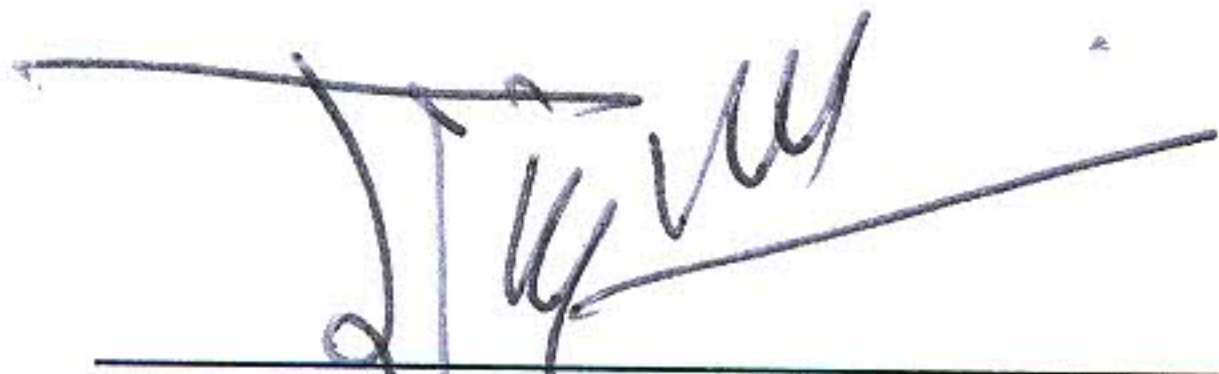


Ashley Wickham  
Advisor  
Prime Minister's Office  
SOLOMON ISLANDS



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Hon. 'Eseta Fusitu'a  
Minister  
Ministry of Information and  
Communications  
TONGA



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Hon. Taukelina Finikaso  
Minister  
Ministry of Communication, Transport  
and Tourism  
TUVALU



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Emiliano Buletare  
First Political Adviser  
Ministry of Infrastructure and Public  
Utilities  
VANUATU