



FAKATUFONO NIUE

Forum Task Force
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FORUM TASK FORCE UPDATE FROM THE DESK OF THE FORUM CO-ORDINATOR

Indian Government

The Niue High Commissioner, HE Mrs Sisilia Talagi has the honor to inform the Government early this week that the Government of India has approved funding of US\$100,000.00 towards Niue's Forum preparations. The Chairman of the Sponsorship Committee, Interim Minister Hon Fisa I Pihigia conveys on behalf of the Forum Task Force, Government and People of Niue our sincere gratitude and thanks to the Government of India on receipt of this much needed funding support.

SPC Sponsorship

Recently Carlos Tukutama (Telecom Niue) and Scan Misiepo (Manager, ISO) returned from Melbourne after attending a Village Connections demonstration co-ordinated by SPC as part of the RIC's project. Capital for the establishment of the much needed service is AUD\$400K of a GSM mobile system. However, NZ is providing a C-Band vsat for the use of the media as well as sat phones for each country delegation. SPC has also kindly donated 8 cable modem routers to assist the VSATs with the provision of internet services for the Forum. A member of the staff will arrive in early July to assist with the setting up of the vsats due to arrive on the next boat.

Post Forum Dialogue Partners

Since 1989, the Forum has held Post Forum Dialogues with key Dialogue Partners at Ministerial level. 14 Countries comprise the PFDP which includes; Canada, People's Republic of China, European Union, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, United Kingdom and the United States. The 20th Post-Forum Dialogue Partners' Plenary will be held on Thursday 21 August. Representatives from these countries arrives Niue on Thursday and departs early Friday morning. Focal point for all Post Forum Dialogue arrangements is Coral Pasisi, regional and International issues Adviser at Forum Secretariat.

Niue has enjoyed excellent relations with most of these countries and wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the People's Republic of China's contribution of equipment for the Forum, and the Government of India's cash contribution.

Media Registrations

Thanks to all media personnel who have sent their registrations and photos, for those of you who have not send photos as yet please do so ASAP so your Media Accreditations could be prepared well in advance. The Media Centre/Makini Hall has also received a new facelift, thanks to the Small Island States Development Fund (Forsec) and Astorwood Investment (tiling). The Niue Power Corporation has completed the wiring of extra power points and added/checked lighting. Telecom Niue and ISO will be doing their wiring soon.

Acknowledgement to NZ-Niue People

Thanks to those Niue volunteers who have confirmed that they will arrive earlier to assist with

the Forum due to the full flight on the 15th August. Most of you have been placed with various teams as per your job assignment.

Update from Sectors

Accommodation -

- Allocations of accommodation have now been finalized and most of the countries have been allocated accommodation.
- Final inspection day for all properties will be the 30th June. If your name is with the Accommodation Group, please make sure you are prepared as final allocations of delegations to homes will be finalized following this final inspection.

Accreditation/Security -

- The Forum Website <http://39pifniue2008.gov.nu> is linked to the Government website, niuegov.com, and www.niuetourism.com where you should be booking your accommodation online. All delegations, CROP and Media are encouraged to book accommodation online so you could be allocated an accommodation booking reference.
- 21 accreditations received so far for Media. The requirement in terms of numbers - three for TV, and one each representative for newspaper and radio. If your number exceeds this allocation, you will go on the waitlist.

Beautification -

- New lookout approaching the Fisheries Division near completion
- Taoga Niue is now regularly mowing and keeping the Ana Vailahi as part of Niue's heritage spots.
- Outcome of Meeting with Working Group on Thursday 29 May, 9.30 am at Fale Fono for reps from Community Affairs, DAFF and PWD. Premier has the Niue Public Service to dedicate each Friday from now until the Forum in August for all Forum related work. All Departments are asked to support this initiative and to help prepare Niue for this very important meeting.

Forum Budget

- First allocation of funds received from the NZ GFA Category A
- Final project proposals being sent to Wellington for items under the GFA Category B
- Acknowledgement is also due to the FFA/PDF funding which will assist with Climate Change Showcase & Trade Fair as well as Cultural activities and Task Force operations
- We extend our sincere acknowledgement also to the Government of Australia for their in-kind contribution of 3 marquees, a generator, computers as well as other office equipment that they are bringing in for their own use and will be left behind for government use after the 39PIF.

Communication -

- Report for Village Connections received from Carlos Tukutama & Scan Misiepo after the Melbourne ISI.Box demonstration organized by SPC endorsed by Cabinet.
- The five VSAT units missed the previous boat but will be on the next one. This will help boost Niue's internet capacity for the Forum. ISI.box has arrived to go with the VSAT already installed at Kaimiti.
- Stratos is leasing a C-Band VSAT for the use of Media during the Forum. Two technicians are coming to install and operate the VSAT in August.

Equipment & Technology -

- The Working Group is finalizing all equipment and furniture required for various venues.

Hospitality/Catering

- Have booked their marquees for the serving of morning and afternoon teas. Caterers will be informed soon on their functions and dates.
- The Working Group wishes to acknowledge contributions of hot water urns, cold water urns, crockery and cutlery from Ane Strickland & Joanna Matagi, Liline Hewett family, Tanita Posimani family, Sene Tavilion family and Mary Aue and supporters

Cultural Activities

- Performing Groups are practicing their performing arts for exhibition during the Forum
- Talented craftsmen are also preparing their handcrafts for gifts

Media

- Makini Hall Media Centre is sporting new public convenience thanks to SIS Development Fund Scheme from Forum Secretariat. Astorwood is funding the new tiles for the Hall and equipping the kitchen with some new assets.
- Media Accreditations are in progress. If you have not send your photograph as yet, please do so to avoid waiting on the queue when you arrive

Protocol

- First training session for potential Liaison Officers was conducted on Thursday 29th May, 2.00 pm at Fale Fono gallery. A booklet is being compiled and Cabinet has also approved the Liaison Officers who will be looking after the Leaders during their short stay on Niue.

Security/Police

- The list of 50 New Zealand Police is now finalized and we look forward to meeting some Niue recruits. As soon as they arrived, they will be sworn in as Niue Police.

Sponsorship Committee

- We wish to acknowledge all our sponsors; Astorwood Investments Ltd, Wellington Niue Community, Auckland-Niue Community, Niue Canoe Investment, Cooltainers, Government of Australia, New Zealand GFA, Government of India, FFA/PDF,

Transport

- Transport programme is now ready and will be adjusted according to the programme.
- Private rentals will be notified soon.

Birtha W Tongahai
COORDINATOR