



Pacific Islands Tax Administrators Association

18th Annual PITAA Heads Meeting

MEETING COMMUNIQUE

*Wednesday 20th October 2021
11.00am – 2.00pm*

VIRTUAL

1. The 18th PITAA Annual Heads Meeting was conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams platform on Wednesday 20th October 2021.
2. The Meeting was attended by delegates from eleven (11) of the sixteen (16) PITAA member countries. The members present were Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Kingdom of Tonga, and Vanuatu. Apologies was received from Chair- Ms. Ann Marie Muller of Republic of the Marshall Islands. Niue, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Timor-Leste, Tokelau, and Tuvalu did not attend the meeting.
3. Also in attendance was Mr. Georg Eysselein and Ms. Katrina Williams of Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Center (PFTAC) as Observers.
4. The Meeting was Chaired by the Vice-Chair, Fiji, through Mr. George Mow- the Proxy to the Acting Chief Executive Officer of Fiji Revenue & Customs Service, Ms. Fay Yee. In his opening remarks, Mr. Mow acknowledged the challenging period tax administrations are currently facing in ensuring relevant taxes are collected to meet government expenditure. He further stressed the importance of continuous exchange of information and collaboration between members.
5. The meeting endorsed Fiji to Chair the 2021 PITAA Annual Heads Meeting and the PITAA Executive Committee of 2021-2022. Republic of the Marshall Islands as Chair of the 2019 – 2021 meeting, becomes the Vice-Chair of the meeting and PITAA Executive Committee 2021 – 2022.

6. The meeting endorsed the PITAA Executive Committee TIER representation for 2021 – 2023 as follows:
 - TIER 1 representative – Papua New Guinea
 - TIER 2 representative – Solomon Islands
 - TIER 3 representative – Federated States of Micronesia
7. Through the presentation of the PITAA Secretariat Update, PITAA members:
 - a. endorsed the PITAA Strategic Plan 2022 – 2024.
 - b. noted Fiji’s request for 2022 membership subscription reduction, waiver or maintained with no decision made to address Fiji’s request.
 - c. approved the request to recruit an additional officer for the position of Communication and Information Technology Officer.
 - d. approved the PITAA Secretariat’s Global Forum Observership status.
 - e. noted the capacity building initiatives coordinated by the PITAA Secretariat to date.
 - f. approved the term deposit renewal for ANZ and HFC.
 - g. approved the 2022 PITAA Secretariat budget.
 - h. approved the FRCS Board of Survey proxy by December 2021.
 - i. agreed to defer to implementation of the new PITAA funding model to 2023 without any changes to the current subscription levied.
8. The PITAA Secretariat shall communicate with PITAA members to discuss potential hosting of 2022 PITAA Annual Heads Meeting and other virtual options.
9. Members noted the unprecedented times and encouraged the PITAA Secretariat to continue its effective engagement with stakeholders and ensure relevant initiatives are coordinated for the benefit of PITAA members.

Mr. George Mow

Chair - 2021 PITAA Annual Heads Meeting

Fiji Representative

20th October 2021