



GOVERNMENT OF TONGA

MEDIA RELEASE

(6th February, 2024)

1. That on 2nd of February 2024, the Chief Secretary and Secretary for Cabinet received a letter from Lord Privy Seal conveying a decision from His Majesty in Council revoking his appointment of Hon. Hu'akavameiliku as the Minister for His Majesty's Armed Forces; and Hon. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu as the Minister for Foreign Affairs and as the Minister for Tourism.
2. The Cabinet sought advice from the Attorney General, as to the legal status of the decision. Cabinet was advised that the decision was contrary to clause 51(3)(a) of the Constitution of Tonga. Moreover, the current legal advice was consistent with all past advices on the same issue, sent from the Attorney General's Office to the Palace Office.
3. Yesterday, Cabinet, collectively, agreed to send a letter addressing the letter received and the legal advice to the Private Secretary of His Majesty. Consequentially, the Prime Minister who is currently overseas has reiterated his confidence in the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Hon. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu.
4. I, as the Acting Prime Minister, will continue to work together with Minister of Foreign Affairs to welcome and host bilateral meetings with New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Winston Peters and Hon. Dr. Shane Reti, Minister of Health and Pacific People, New Zealand, who are arriving in the Kingdom tonight.
5. THAT if you have any further questions about the Privy Council decision, contact the Palace Office and if you have any further questions regarding Government work, contact the Chief Secretary and Secretary to Cabinet.

-ENDS-



PULE'ANGA TONGA

ONGOONGO TUKUATU

(‘Aho 6 ’o Fepueli, 2024)

1.‘I he ‘aho 2 ’o Fepueli 2024, na‘e ma‘u mai ai ‘e he Sekelitali Pule mo e Sekelitali ki he Kapineti ha tohi mei he ‘Eiki Tauhi Sila ‘o fakaha mai ha tu‘utu‘uni mei he ‘Ene ‘Afio ‘i he Fakataha Tokoni ki hono fakata‘e‘aonga‘i ‘o ‘Ene fakanofa ‘o Hon. Hu‘akavameiliku ko e Minisita ki he Kau Tau ‘a ‘Ene ‘Afio; mo Hon. Fekitamoeloa Katoa ‘Utoikamanu ko e Minisita ki Muli pea mo e Minisita ki he Takimamata.

2.Na‘e kumi fale‘i ‘a e Kapineti mei he ‘Ateni Seniale, ‘o kau ki he tu‘unga fakalao ‘o e tu‘utu‘uni. Na‘e fakahoko mai ‘a e fale‘i ki he Kapineti ‘o pehe ‘oku fepaki ‘a e tu‘utu‘uni ko ia mo e kupu 51(3)(a) ‘o e Konisitutone ‘o Tonga. ‘Ikai ke ngata ai, ko e fale‘i fakalao lolotonga ko eni na‘e hōhoatatau pē ia pea mo e ngaahi fale‘i kimu‘a ‘i he kaveinga tatau, ‘a ia kuo ‘oatu mei he ‘Ofisi ‘o e ‘Ateni Seniale ki he ‘Ofisi Palasi.

3.Na‘e felotoi fakakatoa ‘a e Kapineti ‘aneafi, ke ‘ave ‘a e tohi ko e tohi tali ‘o e tohi na‘e ma‘u, mo e fale‘i fakalao ko ‘eni ki he Sekelitali ‘Ene ‘Afio. ‘I he‘ene pehe, kuo toe fakapapau‘i mai pē ‘e he Palemia, Hon. Hu‘akavameiliku, ‘a ia ‘oku ne lolotonga ‘i tu‘apule‘anga, ‘a ‘ene falala ki he Minisita ki Muli mo e Takimamata, Hon. Fekitamoeloa Katoa ‘Utoikamanu.

4.‘I hoku lakanga ko e Palemia Le‘ole‘o, ‘e hokohoko atu pē ‘a e ngaue fakataha pea mo e Minisita ki Muli ke talitali mo fakahoko ‘a e ngaahi fakataha ‘i he vaha‘a ‘o e Pule‘anga Tonga mo Nu‘u Sila, ‘a ia ‘oku taki mai ai ‘a e Tokoni Palemia ‘o Nu‘u Sila, Rt Hon. Winston Peters pea mo e Minisita Mo‘ui mo e Kakai Pasifiki, Hon Dr. Shane Reti, Nu‘u Sila, ‘a ia te na tu‘uta mai ki Tonga ni ‘i he efiafi ni.

5.Kapau ‘oku toe ‘i ai ha‘o fehu‘i ‘o fekau‘aki mo e tu‘utu‘uni Fakataha Tokoni ko ‘eni, fetu‘utaki ki he ‘Ofisi Palasi pea kapau ‘oku toe ‘i ai ha‘o fehu‘i ‘o fekau‘aki mo e ngaue ‘a e Pule‘anga, fetu‘utaki ki he Sekelitali Pule mo e Sekelitali ki he Kapineti.

-NGATA‘ANGA-