

1) Remarks of the Ombudsman

'Mrs. 'Alisi Numia Taumoepeau, KC



This quarter has continued with public awareness, community outreach initiatives, and participation in regional and international engagements, in our work to promote fairness, accountability, and good governance throughout Tonga.

The quarter also saw the Office represented at important regional and international forums, reflecting our ongoing commitment to learning, collaboration, and contributing to discussions on issues that affect our communities and the wider Pacific region. Continued investment in people and organisational development has strengthened the Office's ability to serve the people of Tonga effectively.

We thank our stakeholders, partners, and communities for their continued support and engagement.

Mālō 'aupito.



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2) HIGHLIGHTS



April

- April 3rd – Good Friday.
- April 6th – Easter Monday.
- April 25th – ANZAC Day.

May

- May 3rd – White Sunday (Faka-Me)
- May 10th – Mother's Day
- May 17th – Father's Day
- May 10th – 16th: Church of Tonga 97th annual conference.
- May 21st – 26th: Free Constitutional Church of Tonga 38th annual conference.
- May 22nd – 27th: Free Church of Tonga 141st annual conference.
- May 25th -28th- Climate Justice Week 2026 – Suva, Fiji

June

- June 23rd – Talk Back Radio Program with 88.1FM.
- June 8th – Emancipation Day.
- June 22nd – Heilala Festival officially started.
- June 23rd – 2nd July: Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga 102nd annual conference alongside the 200-year Bicentennial celebration of Wesleyan Missionaries in Tonga.
- June 23–26- Climate Infrastructure Integrity – Tokyo, Japan
- June 26th – Bicentennial Anniversary of the establishment of Christianity in Tonga.

3) OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Office remains committed to keeping the people informed and engaged. As part of this effort, we continue to host talk-back radio programs on FM 88.1 – Letio ‘a e Kakai, A3Z and 87.5 FM. These sessions provide an open platform where our officers explain the role of the Ombudsman and respond to public concerns. This initiative reflects our broader mission: to uphold fairness, strengthen trust in public administration, and provide clear communication to the people we serve.



Talk-back in June led by CEO Roman, OIC Vava'u Tepola Fonongaloa, IO 'Etivoni Pifeleti at 88.1 FM.

Why Public Engagement Matters?

Public engagement forms an important part of the Office's mandate. Through radio programmes and awareness activities, the Office helps ensure that members of the public understand the role of the Ombudsman and know where to seek assistance when concerns arise. Increasing public awareness contributes to greater accountability, encourages fair decision-making, and strengthens trust between communities and public institutions.



The Ombudsman Office at Ha'apai



The Ombudsman Office at Vava'u

Public Awareness Corner

Did You Know?

- The Ombudsman service is free of charge
- Complaints can be lodged directly with the Office.
- The Ombudsman investigates administrative actions rather than private disputes.
- The Office promotes good governance, fairness, and accountability in public administration.
- Public awareness programmes help communities better understand their rights when dealing with government agencies.

4) INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

a) CLIMATE JUSTICE WEEK 2026



The Office of the Ombudsman (Madame Ombudsman and Senior Investigator Mosese Uili) participated in Climate Justice Week 2026, held in Suva, Fiji, from 25–28 May 2026

The Office of the Ombudsman, represented by Alisi Taumoepeau KC and Mosese Uili, participated in Climate Justice Week 2026 in Suva, Fiji, from 25 to 28 May 2026. The regional forum brought together representatives from Pacific governments, National Human Rights Institutions, civil society organisations, regional bodies, and international partners to discuss the growing impact of climate change on communities across the Pacific and the legal and human rights responses required to address these challenges.

Discussions focused on climate justice, environmental rights, and the responsibilities of governments to protect present and future generations from the adverse effects of climate change. The forum provided an important opportunity for participants to exchange experiences, strengthen regional cooperation, and explore practical approaches to ensuring that climate policies and decision-making processes are transparent, inclusive, and accountable.

For the Office of the Ombudsman, participation in the forum strengthened awareness of emerging international developments relating to environmental governance and human rights. The knowledge gained will assist the Office in understanding how climate-related issues can affect public administration, community wellbeing, and the protection of individual rights. It also reinforced the importance of strong oversight institutions in promoting accountability and good governance as Pacific countries respond to increasingly complex climate challenges.

b) CLIMATE INFRASTRUCTURE INTEGRITY



Climate Infrastructure Integrity – Tokyo, Japan
Principal Investigation Officer Pilimisolo L. Tamo'ua
serving as Team Leader for a regional group comprising
representatives from Tonga, Samoa, and Fiji.

The Office of the Ombudsman was represented at an international programme on climate infrastructure and integrity held in Tokyo, Japan. The programme brought together participants from across the Pacific region to examine the importance of transparency, accountability, and sound governance in the planning and implementation of climate-related infrastructure projects. Pilimisolo L. Tamo'ua, Principal Investigation Officer, was recognised for his leadership role by serving as Team Leader for a regional group comprising representatives from Tonga, Samoa, and Fiji.

The programme provided valuable opportunities to exchange ideas, share regional experiences, and explore practical measures to strengthen oversight and reduce risks associated with large-scale public projects. Discussions emphasised the importance of ensuring that public resources are managed responsibly and that infrastructure investments deliver meaningful and sustainable benefits to communities.

5) HUMAN RESOURCES

NEW RECRUITMENT:

The Office is pleased to welcome **Manutu'ufanga Faletau** as an Investigation Officer (commenced on the 9th April, 2026) , and **Lesieli Tonga** as our new Receptionist (22nd April, 2026) , who will ensure visitors are received with professionalism and care. We also celebrate the return of **John Paul Loloa**, a returning scholar who has completed his studies and rejoined the Office as an Information & Technology Officer (22nd April, 2026), strengthening our digital systems and modernization efforts. Together, these appointments reflect our continued investment in people and our dedication to building a capable team to serve the people of Tonga



Manutuufanga Faletau
(Investigation Officer)



Lesieli Tonga
(Receptionist)



John Paul Loloa
(IT Officer)

5) REWARDING DILIGENCE

STAFF OF THE MONTH:

During the quarter, staff are recognized with SOTM awards for their dedication and commitment to the office. The Staff of the month is specially honored in April to June for their consistent diligence throughout the year and for upholding the values of good governance and integrity.



April: Manutu'ufanga Faletau
(Investigation Officer)



May: Douglas 'Akau'ola
(Information & Technology Officer)



June: Tevita Kafoa
(VIP Driver)

6) MONTHLY DEVOTION

Each month, the Office gathers for a time of devotion, reflection, and prayer by members of the staff. This practice is an important part of our workplace culture, reminding us of the values of humility, service, and unity that guide our daily responsibilities.

April: Sione H. Topui and Manutuufanga Faletay led the April monthly devotion

May: Sisilia Tokai and Me 'Aholelei led the monthly devotion for May

June: Tevita Kafoa and Mo'onia Taufu led the June monthly devotion

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