



**THIS FORUM IS DECLARED PAPERLESS AND
PLASTIC FREE**

**50th Pacific Islands Forum & Related Meetings
13 – 16 August, 2019**

General Information for Media

1. PAPERLESS & PLASTIC-FREE FORUM

As a **paperless** Forum, all meeting documents will be distributed on USBs in Tuvalu.

As a **plastic-free** Forum, all delegates are encouraged to bring their own reusable water flasks/thermos for the consumption of both hot and cold beverages.

2. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

(a) Baggage

(i) All delegates will be issued with special baggage identification tags.

(b) Entry Formalities

A 30-day visitor's visa will be granted on arrival for all Forum delegates.

(c) Flights

Commercial flights Suva-Funafuti-Suva on Fiji Airways are on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 0900hrs arrive 1135hrs; Funafuti-Suva at 1220hrs arrive 1450hrs. Information on additional flights to/from Funafuti will be advised when available.

3. ACCOMMODATION

Delegates should note that hotel accounts should be settled directly with the Hotel/Lodges.

4. DRESS

Dress for the official opening of the Forum will be **Island Formal** and for all other occasions.

5. MEDICAL FACILITIES

A medical officer will be on call at all times for the Forum and related meetings.

Precautionary measures for pre-existing medical conditions should also include sufficient supplies of medication, mosquito repellent etc.

6. OFFICIAL OPENING & CLOSING CEREMONIES

Detailed programmes for the official opening ceremony and the official closing ceremony will be issued on arrival in Tuvalu.

7. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ARRANGEMENTS

The Government of Tuvalu is responsible for providing the Forum venue, service facilities and support staff, security arrangements, hospitality including the provision of accommodation for those members of Delegations who are its official guests and the reservation and allocation of accommodation for Delegations based on allocations. Arrangements in Tuvalu for the Forum are under the supervision of the Tuvalu official contacts.

The Forum Secretariat is responsible for the management of the Pacific Islands Forum and Related Meetings, including preparation of agendas, meeting documentation, access, and all secretariat services for the meeting proper.

8. SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS

The Government of Tuvalu accepts responsibility for the protection of Heads of Delegation for the duration of their visit to Tuvalu.

Special security precautions will be taken at all the venues to be used by Heads of Delegation.

9. SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Details of the social programme will be made known prior to the Forum.

10. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Telephone communications are limited mostly to mobile communication. Delegations are responsible for purchasing their own SIM cards for mobile telecommunication devices to be used during their stay in Tuvalu at the Tuvalu Telecom Office located less than two minutes (walk) from the Queen Elizabeth II Park.

The main meeting venues will be equipped with internet access for all accredited delegates. Access details will be made available to delegates during the meetings. There are no fax machine facilities available in Tuvalu. Charges for internet use and telephone calls will be the responsibility of each delegation.

11. ELECTRICITY

The standard voltage of supply in Tuvalu is 240 volts with a standard Australian style plug. Members are advised to provide individual power adaptors.

12. CURRENCY

Tuvalu uses the Australian dollar (AUD) as currency. There is only one operating bank – **National Bank of Tuvalu** located at Vaiaku. There is also a MoneyGram outlet available at the Bank. The bank has made arrangements for EFTPOS facilities, at the same time we recommend delegates to bring sufficient cash for personal use. Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) are not available. **All transactions will need to be done with cash.**