



'FATU'LEI
(Fafine Tuvalu mo se Lei)
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STATEMENT UPR PRE-SESSION ON TUVALU

(Geneva: Thursday 31st August, 2024)

Delivered by: **TUVALU WOMEN FOR CHANGE (SECRETARY-FILIGA TAUKIEI NELU)**

1. ORGANISATION

DISTINGUISH REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER STATES, I, FILIGA TAUKIEI NELU, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE TUVALU WOMEN FOR CHANGE IS PRIVILEGE TO BE GIVEN THIS OPPORTUNITY.

I ACKNOWLEDGE STATE MEMBERS WHO HAVE TAKEN THEIR TIME TO COME TO THIS SESSION.

TUVALU WOMEN FOR CHANGE IS A HUMAN RIGHT AND FEMINIST ORGANISATION BASED IN TUVALU FOCUSING MAINLY ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND BUILDING RESILIENT FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS IN TUVALU.

2. FOCUS THEMES

WHILE THERE ARE MANY THEMES THAT ARE RELEVANT TO OUR CAUSE IN OUR COUNTRY, FOR LIMITED TIME, WE WILL FOCUS ON:

- I) NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION/OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN
- II) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

3. STATEMENT

IN THE 3RD UPR, TUVALU RECEIVED 134 RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION/OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN;

1.1 3RD CYCLE

- 10 FOCUS ON THIS ISSUE: ALL WERE SUPPORTED BY TUVALU)
- MEMBER STATES RECOMMENDED:
 - ❖ **ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION IN COMPLIANCE WITH PARIS PRINCIPLES** (UKRAINE, INDONESIA, PORTUGAL, GHANA, NEPAL, SPAIN, TURKEY);

- ❖ ESTABLISH OMBUDSMAN TO LOOK AT COMPLAINTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS BY STATE AGENTS;
- ❖ IMPLEMENT NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION ACT 2017 & NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN.

➤ **PRESENT STATUS**

- 2022-PRESENT
- OFFICE NOT IN OPERATION;
 - INVESTIGATORS MOVED TO THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (NO INDEPENDENCE FROM THE GOVT);
 - NO EXISTING BODY TO DEAL WITH;
 - * LEADERS/STATE AGENTS CORRUPTIONS;
 - * HUMAN RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT;
 - NO OR LESS PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENT NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION ACT 2017 AND THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN ON HOLD

➤ **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. APPOINT IMMEDIATELY THE CHIEF OMBUDSMAN OR NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHT COMMISSIONER AND ALL STATUTORY POSITIONS IN THE RELEVANT LEGISLATIONS.
2. INTENSIFY EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ALSO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTION AND OMBUDSMAN OFFICE

(b) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

3RD CYCLE - 16 RECOMMENDATIONS- ALL SUPPORTED BY TUVALU

- MEMBER STATES RECOMMENDED:
- ❖ TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT COMPREHENSIVE MEASURES TO ADDRESS AND COMBACT ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMRN AND GIRLS (AUSTRALIA, SPAIN);
 - ❖ PRIORITIZE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAMILY PROTECTION AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT OF 2014 (SINGAPORE, NETHERLAND).

PRESENT STATUS

- 2021 STATS 1 IN EVERY 2 WOMEN FACED OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.
- SURVEY IN 2022 SHOWED WOMEN HESITATE TO USE GOVERNMENT SERVVICES, NO PRIVACY, DON'T WANT THEIR PARTNER TO GO TO JAIL.

- COMMENDING:
 - MOVEMENT IN PRIVATE SECTOR TO ADDRESS-
 - * FAKA-LAAFIGA NETWORK (13 NGOS);
 - * INCREASE NUMBER OF COUNSELLORS (GENERAL & DV) INCREASES
 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH, SOCIAL WELFARE AND GENDER AFFAIRS
 - * REFERRAL PATHWAY FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & CHILD PROTECTON;
- HOWEVER, THERE IS STILL NO PROGRESS IN PUTTING IN PLACE A PROPER REFERRAL SYSTEM FOR DV SURVIVORS, LESS ADVOCACY IN GENERAL TO COMMUNITIES.
 - ONLY ONE SAFE HOUSE- ALWAYS UNAVAILABLE;
 - DV FUND: NOT EASILY ACCESS TO; LESS AWARENESS AS WELL.
- MORE EFFORTS REQUIRED FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO WORK AND COMPLEMENT THE WORKS OF THE CSOS IN THIS AREA

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. STRENGTHEN COOPERATION, EFFORTS, FINANCING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATION TO COMPLEMENT AND STRENGTHEN THEIR MOVEMENTS AND EFFORTS ON THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.
2. PRIORITIZE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAMILY PROTECTION AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT 2014 AND ELIMINATE PROVISIONS WHICH RENDER IT DIFFICULT FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNSELLORS TO WORK WITH THE SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION