



Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development, Disaster Management, and Meteorological Services
Government of the Republic of Fiji

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*** For Immediate Release ***

Fiji Tsunami Response Plan Launched

SUVA – Fiji’s Tsunami Response Plan was today launched at Sukuna Park in Suva by the Minister for Defence and National Security, Hon. Inoke Kubuabola.

The launch of the Tsunami Response Plan coincided with the commencement of the 2017 National Disaster Awareness Week which is themed “Be Tsunami Ready”.

Speaking to senior government officials, students, teachers, and disaster management practitioners in Suva today, Minister Kubuabola said that the Tsunami Response Plan provides guidance for key agencies, and evacuation plans for communities and facilities located within tsunami danger zones in coastal areas and maritime islands.

Minister Kubuabola said, “To operationalize this plan, Cabinet has endorsed the conduct of a national tsunami drill to create awareness and test Government response and evacuation plans within the greater Suva City area”, Minister Kubuabola said.

He added that the drill would be an important national exercise and urged all Fijians to test their tsunami readiness during the drills.

Officiating also at the Disaster Awareness Week, Permanent Secretary responsible for Disaster Management, Mr. Meleti Bainimarama said that a specific date of the drill would be confirmed soon.

“Most of the key stakeholders in government and non-government organization have been planning for the event. The main objective of the exercise is to test

our National Tsunami Response Plan and also assess our state of preparedness in case a Tsunami strikes.

Formulated through widespread consultations including major responders, the Tsunami Response Plan provides guidance on national roles and responsibilities to enable coordinated preparedness, warning and response for tsunami threats to all tsunami danger zones in Fiji.

The Tsunami Response Plan is expected to be reviewed after the National Tsunami Drill later this year.

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The Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management coordinates and implements the Fijian Government's rural and maritime development initiatives with a mission to empower Fiji's rural sector. We are also responsible for the national disaster management strategy focusing on building resilient communities. We have multiple offices in all 14 provinces leading the Fijian Government's rural development and disaster management operations. For more information about the Ministry and its work visit: www.ruraldev.gov.fj.

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For more information please contact:

Penioni Kuinikoro, MRMDNDM, Tel. +679 3313400/+679 9472380, penioni.kuinikoro@govnet.gov.fj