



MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT
GOVERNMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS

Minutes for NIE Working Group Meeting

Date: Tuesday 3 June 2014, 2pm

Attendees: Lavinia Tama (LT), Edward Parker (EP), Ana Tiraa (AT), Vanessa Jenner (VJ), Petero Okotai (PO), Josh Mitchell (JM), Peter Tierney (PT), Edward Herman (EH), Nanise Young (NY)

Apologies: Boyd Ellison (BE)

Absent: Jeanine Daniel (JD), Teu Teulilo (TT), Michelle Aisake (MA)

1. Status Report

- NIE country position being drafted for use in cc forums (JM, PO)
- Kevin Carr has 5 days to devote to NIE project. Working on procedures for fraud and complaints process. Will attend meeting on 16 June or 30 July (VJ)
- MFAI letter sent to AFB endorsing MFEM as NIE
- PEFA is drafted, awaiting sign off from Richard. Formal PEFA to be completed in September (pending government is formed and budget signed off)
- Note Greg Shirley (UNEP Samoa office) visiting 15-18 July
- Sign off from Richard on procurement templates/process/complaints expected soon (EP, Zoe)
- ODA Policy review will broaden to be a Development Finance Policy
- In-house procurement training will be given before end of the FY (EP)

2. Audit Update (EH)

- Audit at full capacity now, all positions full.
- MFEM FY12/13 audit to be signed off end of this week.
- Plan being put in place for managing ongoing audits and resourcing

3. AMC

- Consider ICI engagement plan re AMC (PT, BE)
- AMC follow up meeting (Akairo, PT, VJ)
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4. Follow up action items

- Lavinia to meet with Angela from AFB – Chair of Accreditation panel (LT)
- Draft areas of concern/clarification for team to comment (VJ)
- Consider cabinet note for update once government formed (PT)
- Follow up funding sources/technical assistance for capability building (VJ/Frankfurt/UNEP)
- Review of capital expenditure - old report (VJ)
- Possible training in November for Procurement (OPSC, EP)
- Send Finance Ministers note (VJ)

5. Next Meeting

Monday 16 June, 2pm at DCD offices

6. Issues Register

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Detail</i>	<i>Response</i>	<i>Status</i>
Audit of all Govt Ministries	Audit is being fasttracked for MFEM, but we do not yet have clarity on need for audited accounts across government for NIE <i>and</i> PEFA	Frankfurt to give advise on NIE requirements	Audit committed to plan in place by August
Dates of Board meetings unknown	The board meeting timeline is not published for 2014 so there is no way to confirm the board meeting to ensure we meet the 3 month deadline	Vanessa is following up with accreditation panel	Lavinia will follow up with Chair in Bonn
Caretaker Government	Budget delays and PEFA delays	Delay submission to Q3	Decision taken to delay submission until end November. Revisit once elections have occurred