



PRESS RELEASE



The Play it Clean and Green Campaign for Tree Planting at the Fuluasou Botanical Garden and Reserve near the Tuanaimato Sports Complex received an unexpected visit from the Niuean Deputy Premier, Hon Fisa Igilisi Pihiga. Hon Pihiga was delighted to learn that such an initiative was being launched to complement the South Pacific Games. He admits ' I'm also the Minister responsible for Climate Change in Niue and I heard of this wonderful opportunity for everyone to play a role in mitigating climate change'. The Deputy Premier and his good lady was received by staff of the Ministry of Natural Resources and

Environment and the United Nations staff in the Pacific. The Tree Planting is a joint initiative between the United Nations in the Pacific, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Programme and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and is expected to run right through the games. It aims to promote Clean and Green games as well as MDG 7 on Ensuring Environmental Sustainability.

For his choice of native trees to plant, Hon. Pihiga chose the Tava a native tree of Samoa, for its strength and resilience during cyclones while his good lady opted for the more fragrant Mosooi. For his part in the campaign, the Minister boasts that the Tree Planting is indeed a highlight of his trip which not only signifies his commitment to mitigating climate change but also his tree will serve as a permanent reminder of his visit to Samoa for the XIII South Pacific Games.