



**PERMANENT MISSION OF
JAMAICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

Tribute to

**His Highness King Malietoa Tanumafili II
Late Head of State of Samoa**

By

**Ambassador Raymond Wolfe
Permanent Representative of Jamaica
To the United Nations**

On behalf of the

**Group of Latin American and
Caribbean States (GRULAC)**

**96th Plenary Meeting
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TRIBUTE
to His Highness King Malietoa Tanumafili II,
late Head of State of Samoa
May 2007

On behalf of the Members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC), I have the honour to join other delegations in conveying profound condolences to the Government and People of the Independent State of Samoa, following the death of one of the founding fathers of their nation, His Highness King Malietoa Tanumafili II, on Friday 11th May 2007.

He will be remembered as an illustrious statesman, who was greatly loved and highly respected by Samoans for his warmth, compassion and humility. People the world over will recall with fondness his passion, commitment, loyalty and dedication to the People of Samoa.

The pivotal role played by King Malietoa as Father of the nation, in preserving the stability of the country during the incipient and undoubtedly painful period following the attainment of his country's independence for which he struggled, will be indelibly inscribed in the annals of Samoa's history.

The death of the world's third-longest reigning monarch who has served in that capacity since 1963, signals the end of an era. The People of Samoa can be assured that King Malietoa has left a lasting

legacy on which the present and future generations can continue to build.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the People of Samoa during this difficult time.