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Tuvalu continues to support the Republic of China (Taiwan) in its UN membership bid

By Diana Semi



PM's delegation with staff of Tuvalu Embassy in Taiwan and ROC Ambassador to Tuvalu HE Jason Wan and spouse
Photo: Tuvalu Embassy (ROC)

THE Caretaker Prime Minister of the nation is pleased with the outcomes of discussions between his delegation and the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) during his official visit last month.

In Taiwan, Hon Enele Sosene Sopoaga signed an agreement with Taiwan on a new Medical Scheme that will see referrals from Tuvalu going for further treatment in Taiwan.

"The scheme has come into effect, but it depends on Taiwan to decide on the sort of patients to be sent to Taiwan for further treatment," Prime Minister said.

In his visit, Hon Sopoaga reaffirmed to his Taiwanese counterparts Tuvalu's continuous support to be a member of the United Nations.

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During this official visit, women delegates which consisted of PM spouse and the two ministers' spouses also discussed important issues with Taiwan about the development of women in the country.

Minister of Education, Youth and Sports Hon Fauoa Maani and Hon Satini Manuella who were members of the delegation, also raised issues with regard to the development of sports and the private sector in Tuvalu and how Taiwan could assist in these areas.

Hon Sopoaga said all the issues discussed in the meeting with Taiwan were supported by Taiwan's President.

He said Tuvalu continues to promote the principles of democracy and good governance and cooperation gives shape to cordial relationships with Taiwan.

He hoped that the new government to be formed after National Elections, will be committed to fulfilling all the developments supports by Taiwan for the betterment of the nation and its people.

Taiwan has been providing assistance to Tuvalu in many areas including financial assistance, technical, medical, fisheries and agriculture, sports and women's develop-

Hon Pita defends the purpose for the community shares from the nations marine resources

By Yvette D'Unienville



THE World Bank Project to improve fisheries in Tuvalu will complement the purpose of setting up Community accounts from their shares of returns collected by Tuvalu from its marine resources.

Each island of the nation has been given \$80,000 as the first payment of the shares for each community from \$160,000 of funds collected from fishing days licenses.

Caretaker Minister of Natural Resources Elisala Pita explained that as agreed, the shares for these first few years of the fund, is for the purpose of improving fisheries initiatives on each island, despite each com-

munity has its own say about its share.

He referred to the fishery centers on each island that have long required upgrading but be-

‘ the purpose of the fund is to improve fisheries developments ’

cause of limited assistance from government.

Hon Pita said this is a good opportunity to utilize the fund to commercialize their fishery centers and improve other fishery activities that benefit the fishermen and people of the nation.

He said the pur-

pose of the fund will be defeated; if community shares of VDS funds are used for developments other than fisheries.

The caretaker Minister for Natural Resources clarified that one of the component of the World Bank Project for Fisheries development in Tuvalu links to the purpose of the 160 thousand dollars given to each island as each community share of proceeds from its marine resources.

In the year 2013, Tuvalu received \$18m from fishing licenses, and it increased in 2014 and this year.

“The shares are the islands sole share from the resources of their sea, but it doesn't mean that they will do whatever they want with the funds. Fisheries have brought them benefits and they are required to use the funds to improve and expand their fisheries initiatives in ways that will bring more benefits to the people and the nation as a whole,” said Hon Pita■

Tuvalu delegation will present report at CEDAW meeting

By Pua Pedro

A DELEGATION from Government is on its way to Geneva to attend a United Nation reporting meeting about the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women CEDAW.

Puaita Fauvaka Etuati leader of the delegation told *Fenui* that the delegation will present Tuvalu's report on its achievements of what is required under CEDAW.

Ms Etuati said that the meetings will last two weeks and members of the delegation will all be involved in the presentation of the reports in sections relevant to their Departments.

Lupe Tavita from the Gender Affairs Department and a member of the delegation said that Tuvalu as a country signed the convention and ratified the convention must report on the convention.

'Tuvalu must report on the convention'

She said that Tuvalu has done quite well in its effort to accomplish what the Convention requires.

Tuvalu reports to the United Nations every four years together with the Universal Periodic review UPR.

The report was compiled by the Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health.

Tuvalu's delegation includes Ms. Etuati, Ms. Tavita, Ministry of Health Assistant Secretary Lilly Tagisia Faavae, Crown Counsel Laigane Italeli, School's Supervisor Maseiga Ionatana and Sunema Aunese from Tuvalu's Permanent Mission to United Nations■

Five Tuvaluans selected for Morocco Government scholarships

By Pua Pedro



First lot of Tuvaluan students to Morocco with Assistant Secretary of Education Nikolasi Apinelu

THE Government of Morocco has selected five successful Tuvaluans for its scholarship awards for this year.

They are Siusan Etaki, Martin Satupa, Silio Loaloe, Sarah Nakoli and Jenny Naina Sumeo.

Assistant Pre-Service Training Officer Nemaia Paulo said the five were selected from the seven applications as they meet the criteria of the scholarship.

Paulo said his office received twenty-seven applications following the re-advertising of eight scholarship awards from the Moroccan Government early this year.

"From this twenty-seven applications, our office assessed the applications and we selected seven possible candidates and set for final approval by the Government of Morocco," said Paulo.

"Out of this seven, only five were picked up and were notified by the office."

Paulo said the Education Department is now working closely with the Embassy of Morocco in Canberra, Australia on the visas of these five students who are expected to leave Tuvalu either at the end of this month or early next month.

Upon arrival, the students will be met by staff of Cities International University and the two Tuvaluans who went on earlier to study in Morocco.

These students will study French on their first year as the courses will be conducted in French, then continue with their study programmes.

One of the five awardees was interviewed by *Fenui* and he said he is looking forward to start his study program.

He is not worried about Morocco being a new host country for his studies because he had heard a lot of positive stories from the two Tuvaluan students who are already in Morocco■

fenui e-newsletter is trying to revive

letters to the Editor

Have your say in this column by writing about any issue of concern.

Over 100 objections lodged by voters following the registration

By Yvette D'Unienville

THE total number of objections from all electoral districts in the nation reached 176, following the completion of registration for the National Election scheduled for March 19th 2015.

The Notices of Objections have been published in all islands of Tuvalu

The notice listed 80 objections for the Nui electorate, Nukufetau 33, Niutao 28, Nanumea 13, Nukulaelae 11, Vaitupu 10, Nanumaga 1 and none from Funafuti.

The number were taken from the notice of objections published on the Funafuti Kaupule Notice Board, and has been confirmed with the Office of Elections.

14 from the number are omissions claims while the rest are objections trying to axe some of the registrations.

Uluao Lauti the Secretary of Kaupule, also the Registration Officer for the Funafuti electoral district said that most of the registration objected concern voters from the outer islands who are residing on the capital, however the public hearings of the objections will be held on their own islands.

He added that they can assist these people by sending their statements as representation of their voices in the public hearings to be conducted by Revising Officers in their own electoral district.

Senior Officer of Elections Tepaukie Sotaga told *Fenui*, that the notice of the date, place and time for conducting the public hearing on each electoral district had been published in all islands of Tuvalu.

The public hearings were supposed to be completed on Friday February 13th, 2015.

“By next week, the decisions that will be delivered by the Revising Officers in the public hearings on each electoral district will be published,” said the Commissioner of Elections Panapasi Nelesone■

The Pacific Climate Change and Migration project is finally taking off in Tuvalu

By Kuata Taumaheke

TUVALU is a seafaring nation and its people have been moving among the islands in the Pacific for centuries.

Nowadays more and more Tuvaluans are migrating for works in Australia, New Zealand and beyond.

UNESCAP, ILO and UNDP are engaged in a project, titled the Pacific Climate Change and Migration (PCCM) project funded by the European Union (EU).

In a Press Release from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs it stated the project is concerned with helping change is a real and a growing threat to basic human existence, hence this project is working

closely with the Government and other local authorities to positively consider migration as an alternative adaptation strategy for climate change.

In doing so, the project will conduct surveys in a number of outer islands including Funafuti, using various research methodologies to establish community and individual attitudes related to migration and climate change and the results of these surveys will then formulation of future policy and strategies.

Although studies are yet to show how climate change will impact on migration in Tuvalu, it is clear that labour migration is, and

will continue to be, an important economic strategy for many people for decades to come.

For this reason, the development of a National Labour Migration Policy is an important priority for the government and one which it is hoped, can lead to increased opportunities for Tuvaluan workers, and increased remittances to their families.

This project focuses on 3 countries in the Central Pacific; Tuvalu, Kiribati and Nauru. The Right Hon. Bikenibeu Paeniu has recently joined UNESCAP to manage the project in Tuvalu.

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Hon Finikaso wants NZ seasonal employment scheme expanded to include trades

By Semi Malaki



Hon. Taukelina Finikaso

CARETAKER Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Hon. Taukelina Finikaso had requested for an expansion of the New Zealand RSE Scheme to include trades.

In an interview with Radio New Zealand International, he said that he hopes to begin negotiating an expansion of New Zealand's seasonal employer scheme (RSE) to include trades sometime this year.

He said that even though the scheme allows people from some Pacific Countries like Tuvalu to pick fruit in New Zealand, but he wants the scheme expanded

to trades that will provide people with skills to take back to Tuvalu.

Finikaso said the scheme would be good for people to gain skills and qualifications in things such as building or carpentry.

"Right now, we have an existing scheme which provides opportunities for young people to work in New Zealand under the RSE scheme. Now we have requested if that opportunity can be expanded to other trades. In this, I mean trades that these young men and young women can take back to

Tuvalu," said Finikaso.

Finikaso raised the issue with NZ Minister of Foreign Affairs and also NZ Minister for Immigration Michael Woodhouse in his recent visit to New Zealand.

"We requested the minister of immigration for further opportunities on top of the RSE scheme and he mentioned the opportunities first of all of joining the work group in Christchurch, where you need skilled laborers. We have skilled labourers in Tuvalu but we lack the qualifications that they should possess in order to qualify for such jobs and what I gathered is that New Zealand is willing to help to train these workers in order for them to qualify for the standard New Zealand requires for such a scheme."

'We have skilled laborers in Tuvalu but we lack the qualifications that they should possess in order to qualify for such jobs'

He said Tuvalu already have a maritime training institute that we want to expand that in order to cater for other trades like carpentry and bricklaying so that it caters for such requirements and for our people to be able to apply and get some sort of employment either from schemes like in Christchurch.

Director of Public Works Ampelosa Tehulu told *Fenui* that if everything goes well with this expanded scheme, it is a great opportunity for locals to gain skills in trades like carpentry and others so that they can bring back to Tuvalu.

In this case, they could set up small businesses using their trade skills gained from New Zealand■

34 applications approved to fund under the 'Tuition Waver Scheme' By Pua Pedro

THIRTY-FOUR applications had been approved to be funded under the Tuvalu-USP Tuition Waver Scheme for the first semester.

The thirty-four students will be commencing their tertiary studies at the University of the South Pacific on the first semester for this year.

Assistant Pre-Service Training Officer Nemaia Paulo said the selection was done this week and the department had notified the successful applicants.

This number includes new intakes and ongoing students who wish to undergo study at the USP main campus in Laucala, Emalus campus in Vanuatu and the rest will be studying at USP Tuvalu center.

Pre-Service Training Officer Atabi Ewekia said that achievements of these students will be assessed every semester as the continuation of their sponsorships depends on their performances.

"Each student must pass at least 75 percent of the total courses per semester and those who fail will result in the termination of the sponsorship."

"The scheme covers studies for a certificate, diploma, degree and postgraduate programmes," said Ewekia.

The Tuvalu-USP Tuition Waver Scheme applies to students studying at USP campuses but not other regional institutions■

BRIEFS

THE Solid Waste Agency of Tuvalu has confirmed the leasing of lands areas for dump sites on outer islands. Susana Taupo Director of SWAT said officials will travel to outer islands to carry out this task together with officials from the Lands & Survey departments. She said Nanumea had plotted it land areas. Ielemia Maheu the Lands and Survey Officer said they count every plant in that particular area with certain charges for each plant and reimburse the landowners■

EIGHTEEN foreigners from Fiji have been banned from entering the country for a period of one year after they overstayed their visitors permit. Information received stated that the foreigners' fail to pay for their visitors permit of a \$100 per month. Ben Satalaka an Immigration Officer said the Immigration department has safe handed the ban notice to the writer of the MV Nivaga II to deliver it to the Immigration Officers in Fiji■

A WORLD Habitat Convention workshop on Tuvalu historical heritage will be conducted on March 11, 2015. Culture Officer Martin Vailopa says, the main objective of the workshop is to introduce and promote the World Heritage Convention and the importance and benefits. Director of the UNESCO Pacific office in Apia Mr Etienne Clement will visit Tuvalu to conduct the one day workshop. The workshop will also cover Tuvalu cultural and natural heritage sites, environmental issues, national legislation and policies for heritage protection■

POLICE Officers working at the patrol boat, prison and the land force gathered to discuss ways to improve the way forward for the Tuvalu Police Service. Chairman of the Association Constable Teava Satupa said at the meet, the Police officers look at what has been achieved from previous meetings. They discussed issues such as overtime allowances, increment and other areas that they need further assistance with. Constable Satupa said that the meeting was fruitful because they were able to lay down a plan for the Force's way forward and mainly ways that will encourage officers about their duties. The meeting only included Constables up to Sergeants level excluding Inspectors, Superintendents and the Commissioner■

TWENTY-SIX locals had left for the NZ Recognized Seasonal Employment scheme. Labor Officer Trinny Ulua said this first lot to go this year will be employed by Taylor Corporation for 7 months. Ulua said Taylor Corp usually takes two groups of employees from Tuvalu. The second batch of seasonal workers is expected to depart at the end of the year. She added that four locals have returned from the Australian Seasonal Workers scheme■

Tuvalu Red Cross Society has eight First Aid Instructors

By Semi Malaki



TEACHING First Aid in the communities by Tuvalu Red Cross Society is much easier now with the recruitment of new First Aid Instructors.

Eight new instructors have completed the Pacific First Aid Instructor Course conducted by Peter Winthrop Manager of Pacific First Aid program under the New Zealand Red Cross.

During the certificate presentation, Tuvalu Red Cross Secretary General Olioliga Iosua congratulated the participants and requested the instructors to avail their time to attend to a first aid training need of the communities.

Iosua also thanked Mr Winthrop for coming all the way to teach First Aid to volunteers and staff of Tuvalu Red Cross and also the continuous support of New Zealand Red Cross.

She said with the training, the participants received their valid certificate to teach first aid and are ready to conduct trainings in the community.

Winthrop said the instructors have all the skills and knowledge that need to be passed on to the community.

He said this is a good thing to do, learning basic first aid skills and he is very happy that these instructors will work together with Tuvalu Red Cross in delivering first aid training in the community.

One of the instructors, Freda Katepu responded by thanking Mr Winthrop for empowering volunteers with first aid skills and teaching them to become First Aid instructors for Tuvalu Red Cross.

Katepu reassured the Secretary General that the instructors are willing to volunteer for Tuvalu Red Cross in delivering first aid training at the national level.

These first aid instructors were presented with certificates that certified them to teach Pacific First Aid which valid for two years from the date of issue■

Editors Note:

In our last *Fenui* edition published on Monday February 9th, we featured an article on a grant for school under the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia for school in the country. The article stated that the fund is channeled from the UNESCO. In fact the fund is channeled by the United Nations Children's Fund UNICEF.

Also in the last *Fenui* edition there was a typing error to the name of the Secretary of the Niutao Kaupule. The correct name is Titaake Lopati.

We sincerely apologize for the errors and any inconvenience caused.

USP research program on Sea Transport targets small countries like Tuvalu *By Diana Semi*



A RESEARCHER from the University of the South Pacific USP visited Tuvalu to meet and discuss with authority in Tuvalu on the issue for sea transportation that will reduce fuel costs.

In an interview with Mr Peter Nuttal, he said the principle focus of his research is looking at the potential for sea transport for the Pacific countries, Fiji, Kiribati Marshall islands and Tuvalu.

“Sea transport for the Pacific are absolutely life line for pacific island communities and the work they do at USP is looking along with research partners at the universities around the world what solutions might be available for Pacific island communities giving our unique transport.”

“USP is looking at the Pacific what solution might be; the situation we have in the pacific today rely on imported fuel and the pilot renewable energy ship could be the answer,” said Nuttal

He said Tuvalu energy surveys and reporting

done by the department of energy in 2013 shows that sea transport is using 35 - 40 % of imported fuel to Tuvalu, so that’s a high constraints on governments – that means the options for transport between Tuvalu and trade with other countries is very severely limited by the amount of dependency on the fuel.

“The basic proposition is for these countries to reduce the fuel bill, better options for trade – better options for income generations and better options for better connectivity between our communities,” added Nuttal

This program is supported by Universities from England, Holland and other organisations and the program is looking at all the different ways we can cut down our fuel use for electricity but until now no one has look at how we cut down fuel for transport.

Tuvalu Caretaker Prime Minister Enelee Sosenesopoaga and Transport Minister Monise Lafai are very supportive and the program will also look at new technologies that dramatically reduce the fuel bill if costs expenditure that government save on its transport that can be spent on other expenses.

Nuttal added that USP is looking at a pilot renewable energy ship and that brought him here to discuss with politicians to seek their support as the program moves forward■

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Earlier this month, the Project Manager Mr Malcolm Ponton and the Labor Migration Technical Adviser, Ms Sophia Kagan, were in Tuvalu to consult with stakeholders on the project work plan and activities, including the draft National Labor and Migration Policy, the community attitudes survey and ways in which to help the Central Statistics Division, and other government departments gather good data on labor migration.

The PCCM is funded by the EU and is executed by the UNESCAP through its Pacific Office based in Suva, Fiji in partnership with the ILO and with support from the UNDP■

Civil servants queued for loans at TNPF after distribution

By Diana Semi

THE Tuvalu National Provident Fund has always been packed recently with civil servants lining up to fill a loan form since the distribution of the 5.26 percent dividend late last month.

Dozens of civil servants were queuing to loan from the increase to their Provident fund.

Reports from TNPF confirmed that the number is increasing but they can not confirm the exact figure of those who have loaned

from TNPF loan scheme.

One of the TNPF member said her mind is now settled.

“I have bought the required school items for young girls that she sponsors, and all her contributions to the women’s community.

Fenui witnessed dozens of people entering the TNPF complex on the first week TNPF announced the distribution of its dividend to its customers.

The 5.26 % is a dividend that is distributed to each member of TNPF from the Fund’s investment in the market for the year 2014 after being approved by TNPF Board.

Members have also garnered their benefits in the Educational and Medical (MEDU scheme) run by TNPF■

Auditor General's to decide the way forward for SAS program

Reported by Pua Pedro

AUDITOR Generals of Tuvalu, Kiribati and the Solomon Islands will meet this month in Auckland to decide on the way forward of the Sub-regional Audit Support SAS Program.

SAS is an exchange program for auditors of the three countries to attach in one of the participating countries rotatingly, and learn from each participating country's auditing program.

The SAS program has been running for some years for Nauru, Kiribati and Tuvalu, now with Solomon Islands after Nauru dropped out.

Eli Tagata Auditor General said, towards the end of the last year, the program was in its third round and other Pacific countries have shown their interests and even requested if they could join.

Tagata said it will be more enjoyable if more countries join because then there will be more to learn from each other, however the issue will be decided at the meeting in Auckland in February.

The SAS program has benefitted local auditors and broadened their knowledge on auditing through their learning experiences from Nauru, Kiribati and Solomon islands.

At least two of the Auditors from the other participating countries said, audit work in all the participating countries are similar although there were always new things to learn from each other.

This program is funded by the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions INTOSAI■

3 organizations requested for First Aid training

By Semi Malaki



THREE organizations value the importance of having basic knowledge on applying First Aid in their workplace and thus requested Tuvalu Red Cross Society for such training.

They include the Princess Margaret Hospital, Tuvalu Electricity Corporation and the Tuvalu Pacific Energy Limited in Teone.

Tuvalu Red Cross Secretary General Olioliga Iosua said their office had received proposals from these three organizations to train their staffs on First Aid.

She said that the society is currently working on a plan to fulfill these requests.

"I am happy that the New Zealand Red Cross had just conducted a Pacific First Aid Instructor course for eight volunteers and staffs of the society."

"These instructors had guaranteed their support to Tuvalu Red Cross in carrying out First Aid courses in the community," said Iosua

Tuvalu Red Cross Health Coordinator Sopoaga Saufatu said first aid is essential in the workplace.

"When emergencies occur in the office, the very first people to attend to casualty are the workmates and they need to have a basic knowledge of first aid," Saufatu said.

He said that these First Aid instructors have all the knowledge and skills and are certified by the New Zealand Red Cross to teach Pacific First Aid in Tuvalu.

Iosua said the society had proposed to the government through its line ministry for civil servants to undergo commercial first aid training.

Acting Director of Health could not be reach for a comment, but a reliable source from the hospital said that staff of the hospital needs to train on first aid as well■

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♦ **Office housed** under the Nanumaga Kaupule complex have been shifted to other located houses on temporary basis as the complex is under maintenance. Kaupule Planner of the Nanumaga Kaupule Taimoe Faitalia said that most sections have shifted except the Kaupule Secretary, Telecom and the NBT branch which are about to shift their office stationeries to their allocated temporary office. The construction of the new office will commence when all building materials are brought in to the island on the first available boats. Temitiu Maliga Director of Rural Development said this \$100,000 project is funded by the Government of Turkey. He said that the department has purchases all the building materials which are to be transported to the island on the next trip of the vessels. The project is scheduled to complete within this year■

♦ **Students of** the Nukufetu Community on the capital were treated as guests during the celebration of 'Te Aso Tutas' on Thursday February 12. The day marked the establishment of the school on the island of Nukufetu and was celebrated ever since. Community Leader Tutas Toma said Nukufetu students at Primary and Secondary schools were invited to a luncheon hosted by the community at the Talimalie Falekaupule. He said the day fell on February 11 and commemoration activities continue until Sunday February 15. Toma said members of the community were engaged in feasting, local dancing and traditional games throughout the week■

♦ **'Begin Te Ieka'** is an annual day commemorated by Nui communities on the island and everywhere there is a Nui community. Here on the capital, the community commenced their festivities on Saturday with feasting at the Lotonui Falekaupule. Member of the Community Sofala Tane said the day commemorates the flooding of the island many years ago from big waves. He said no one perished in the flood, but the community celebrated the day as a remembrance of the island survival during this natural disaster on the island. Tane said the day falls on February 16 and the community had outlined the activities which include feasting, local dancing and outdoor games■

♦ **Niutao women** on the island enjoyed a meal of fresh fish presented by a young man as they commemorated their annual day. Soatagata Fakailoga is one of the fishermen that set out on a fishing expedition where the catch will be presented to the women. Tauapo Suitai reported from Niutao that women were very thankful for the fish and other food items presented by men in a traditional *Alofa*. Niutao women on the island as well as on the capital celebrated their annual day with styles over the weekend■

Tuvalu National Council of Women plans to establish a handicraft training center

By Diana Semi

THE National Council of Women is enthusiastic for a handicraft training center to be established in Tuvalu.

The idea was brought up by the spouse of the caretaker Prime Minister Madame Salilo Enelee Sopoaga to the International Cooperation Development Fund of Taiwan ICDF with the support of Ilaisita Manuela the wife of Nanumea Member to Parliament Satini Manuela during their meeting with ICDF in Taiwan recently.

Mrs Sopoaga said the idea on the issue is to revive, maintain and cherish the traditional knowledge and skills of our people in handiwork, hence promoting the identity of Tuvalu through its handicrafts.

"This can only be fulfilled if there is a training center to train the young generations," said Mrs Sopoaga.

"This is in line with the need that was raised in the Women's Annual General Meeting in 2013f for a training center for handicrafts."

"ICDF is supportive of the initiative supportive, and the women are drafting a proposal seeking funding assistance from ICDF," added Sopoaga.

TNCW Coordinator Mrs Pulafaga Toafa said there is a plan to employ local trainers who have the skills in making handicraft from each islands of Tuvalu to become full time facilitators, if the initiative materialized.

"Most importantly is to share the knowledge and skills between the women and to promote Tuvalu identity to the outside world," said Toafa.

The caretaker Prime Minister has also acknowledged his full support for the initiative saying, he has seen the difference in today's knowledge of our people in making handicrafts to that of our people in the past.

"Today we can see a blend of traditional and modern items on our local handicrafts but it is significant for the identity of Tuvalu to use our local items on our handicrafts."

Once it is established the training center is not only for women but it can also use for training of men■

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OPM is given another chance to defeat PUI

By Yvette D'Unienville



Ano ball made out of pandanus dried leaves

STAFFS in both Ministries of the Office of the Prime Minister OPM and the Ministry of Public Utilities and Infrastructures

(PUI) greatly enjoyed last Friday's friendly match in the game of *Te Ano*.

The match was held at the part of the airfield in front of the Vaiaku Falekaupule after three o'clock in the afternoon.

It resulted in PUI defeating OPM in an overall of 10 to 4.

In the first match, PUI got 5 and OPM 1.

They changed sides and in the beginning OPM was confident it was going to win, however there were too many misses in receiving the balls and OPM only got 3 while PUI won with another 5.

Leader of the PUI who is none other than its caretaker Minister Hon Vete Sakaio thanked the OPM for accepting the request from PUI for a friendly match in 'Te ano' and coaxed OPM to another match next Friday.

OPM decided to give another try to beat PUI next Friday.

At least, three of the OPM team Saaga Talu, Talafou Esekia, and Poli, who had many bad receives of the balls, were penalized by OPM to provide the drinks for the ministry in the next match■

Friendly game between Niutao and Nanumea touch rugby teams held on Saturday

By Diana Semi

AS the Touch Rugby tournament between island clubs coincided with commemoration days of some of the communities on the capital, the tournament has to be postponed according to reports.

The reports stated that the site for the tournament was occupied by the Nukufetau community having their cricket on Friday last week and the federation could not fulfill its tournament that day.

The Touch Rugby tournament is re-scheduled for this week.

Due to the change, the federation then organized a friendly game between the two clubs - Niutao and Nanumea on Saturday at the southern side of the air field.

One of the players Pulusila Sagapolutele says the tournament will start this week.

President of the Tuvalu Touch Rugby Manatu Siosee confirms that the tournament will commenced this week.

The tournament will be an opportunity for the federation to select the players to make up the Touch Rugby squad for the upcoming Pacific Games■



On lookers watching the game.

Write to us your sports news

Tuvalu Weightlifting Federation names athletes for the youth games

By Kuata Taumaheke

THE Tuvalu Weightlifting Federation had named the three athletes who will be competing at the Commonwealth Youth Games in Samoa this coming September.

Coach Bryce Moses said the trio includes 15 year old Isaia Elisaia who will compete in the Men's 69 kg category.

Manuila Rooby also 15, will be competing in the men's 56kg category and Togafiti Eliko, a 16 year old girl will be competing in the women's 75 kg category.

The trio will make up a four-member team from Tuvalu that will travel to Samoa for the game later this year.

"We have three lifters who are currently undergoing extensive trainings every day," Coach Moses said.

President of the Weightlifting Federation Talavai Iona said the selection was made last year after they witnessed the determination and promptness of these lifters training sessions.

The participation of the three weightlifters are co-sponsors by the Tuvalu Association of Sports and the Commonwealth Games Council.

Tuvalu Taekwondo Association thanks the Korea Taekwondo Peace Corps' support

By Pua Pedro



Members of the Korea Taekwondo Peace Corps

THE Tuvalu Taekwondo Association appreciates the support rendered by the Korean Taekwondo Peace Corps especially in building the understanding of Tuvaluans about taekwondo.

Talafou Esekia of the Association said "the five member team from Korea had played a major role these past few months in training young children about taekwondo."

It has shown in the number of children who attended the trainings every afternoon at the Matagi Gali Bar.

Ine Park, a member of the team said that in the beginning only

twenty turned up but as of last week more than eighty children have attended trainings every afternoon.

Ms. Park said that they have seen the interest of children in taekwondo.

"We are glad that Epu Falega and Viliamu Sekifu are taking up the role of conducting trainings for the young

ones every Tuesdays and Thursdays afternoons."

Esekia said there is a plan to apply to Peace Corps for an Instructor to work in the country for a longer period.

A seven year old girl who is attending taekwondo trainings said that she has enjoyed the trainings these past weeks and hopes that the team from Korea will be back soon.

Esekia is thankful to Ms. Park and the team for welcoming the children every afternoon and especially in coping with the noisy and mischievous children.

Contributors for this Issue

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**Our next Fenui edition will be out on
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So advertise and write to Fenui**