



9 March 2022

Letter No. EG_004/22

Your Excellency,

Subject: **Request for no-cost extension of the UK-funded “Pacific Anti-Corruption Project”**

Reference is made to the Contribution Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom (UK) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) of 23 July 2021 for the implementation of the “Strengthening Anti-corruption, Transparency and Accountability in the Pacific Islands Countries - Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project”, FCDO reference PAP CSSF 000082.

Firstly, we would like to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the UK Government for having partnered with UNDP to contribute to advancement of the anti-corruption and governance agenda in the Pacific. Your partnership with UNDP has been instrumental for stepping up the anti-corruption work and achievement of measurable results in a very short period of time.

With end of March 2022 being the planned end date for this phase of the project, we are pleased to inform you that most of the planned project activities and targets as stipulated in the project proposal will not only have been completed but will have even been exceeded. In terms of the status of financial resources, the estimated savings at the end of March will amount to 150,000 US\$ mostly due to the prevailing COVID-19 travel restrictions, the inability of the activities to be organized in-person and UNDP initially covering for the staff costs in the transition period while the Project Assistant was being recruited and came on board in early 2022.

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H.E. Brian Jones
British High Commissioner (Designate)
British High Commission
47 Gladstone Road
SUVA

Based on our ongoing consultations, this correspondence is to kindly seek your agreement for a no-cost extension of the completion of this phase of the project until 30 June 2022 to allow for utilization of the remaining funds for the following:

1. Organization of additional capacity-building activities and extension of the cooperation with USP and USPSA on right to information
2. Finalization of the knowledge products
3. An event with stakeholders on lessons learnt and inter-active planning to feed into the next phase of the project
4. Wrapping up of the initiation phase and completion of reporting at the end of June 2022

Should the above be agreeable, our project team is ready to discuss in more detail the proposed activities for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2022. The approval of this request will also allow for retaining of the project staff and some of the consultants to support the transitioning of the project into a potential next phase.

Finally, based on the strong foundations built through this project, UNDP remains eager to broaden the cooperation with the UK Government with the aim to continue supporting the Pacific community in the fight against corruption and the promotion of transparency, accountability, and good governance.

Please accept, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Yemesrach Workie
Officer-In-Charge
UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji