



GOVERNMENT OF TONGA

MEDIA RELEASE

(22nd July, 2022)

“IMF Board Approves US\$9.03 Millions Disbursement to Tonga”

Nuku’alofa – The Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on 15 July 2022 approved the disbursement of SDR 6.9 million (about US\$9.03 million), an equivalent to an estimate TOP \$21 million, under the Rapid Credit Facility (RCF).

The Finance Minister, Tatafu Moeaki, welcomed the quick response of the IMF to support the Government of Tonga increased expenditure in its Budget 2023 to finance the increasing costs for the reconstruction and social protection following the HTHH volcanic eruption and the COVID-19 outbreak during the first quarter for 2022.

The loan funds are provided on a highly concessional terms including a zero-interest rate, grace period of 5.5 years, repayment period of 4.5 years; and final maturity of 10 years.

The IMF approval and timely disbursement of the funds will help the government timely response to support the reconstruction and returning those families affected to normalcy sooner.

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