

“WORLD BANK’S VOICE SECONDMENT PROGRAM 2023”



The Office of the Executive Director (EDS16) – Voice Secondees from Tonga Mrs Lakalaka (1st right), Thailand Ms Poontanasombat (2nd right) and Nepal Mr Pokhrel (3^d left)

The Voice Secondment Program (VSP) is a capacity building opportunity that was initiated by the World Bank’s Executive Directors for their constituent countries’ civil servants. The VSP targets key individuals in focal agencies that are in dialogue with the World Bank Executive Director’s Office and Bank’s operational teams and it is administered by the Corporate Secretariat Vice Presidency Unit.

This special assignment is for a period of six (6) months and the Voice Secondee’s official duty station is at the World Bank Group, Washington D.C, USA. The Secondees are assigned to work under their allocated host Unit in the World Bank’s Office with a specified Terms of Reference. During the VSP appointment, the Voice secondees will remain subject to all of the rules and polices of the World Bank

30 participants were selected for the 2023 VSP – 18th Cohort and this year Tonga is very fortunate that one of our applicants was selected for this program. Mrs ‘Asopesio Raass Lakalaka, Chief Economist of the Aid Management and Resilient Development Division, Ministry of Finance was awarded this remarkable opportunity and she has commenced her duty in Washington, D.C on the 6th of March 2023.

According to Mrs Lakalaka, she is truly grateful, - for this opportunity is a blessing indeed, not just for herself and her career but for her family as well. She also wishes to acknowledge all the support provided by the Hon. Minister for Finance, Tiofilusi Tiueti, CEO for Finance Kilisitina Tuamei’api as well as the World Bank Tonga country Office. Malo ‘aupito

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