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**International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2021**

Theme: “Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world.”

**Grand Pacific Hotel  
Thursday December 2nd, 8.30am – 1.00pm.**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85151124953?pwd=VytnUVR1WkgySzB2VVNsT0ZXT29OUT09>

Meeting ID: 851 5112 4953

Passcode: 102117

8.30 – 9.00am Registration  
Video will be playing – Lived experience of persons with disabilities through COVID

9.00 – 9.15am Welcome **Mistress of Ceremony, Ms. Sainimili Tawake,** Regional Coordinator Climate Change   
Devotion – **Rev James Bhagwan**, Secretary General, Pacific Conference of Churches

Garlanding of Chief Guest

9.15 – 9.20am Introduction of the Chief Guest, **Ms. Angeline Chand**, Human Rights & Gender Advisor, Pacific Disability Forum

9.20 – 9.40am **Official Opening, Chief Guest – H.E. Mr. John Feakes**, Australian High Commissioner, Suva.

**Keynote Address**

9.40 – 9.55am Followed by Short Remarks/Reflections:

* **Mr. Sanaka Kumara Samarasinha**, UN Resident Coordinator, Pacific Office.
* **Mr. Setareki Macanawai**, Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Disability Forum,

**Cutting of the Cake.**

**Vote of thanks – Mr. Joscho Wakaniyasi**, Manager Inclusive Development, Pacific Disability Forum

**End of formalities**

***DPO Sharing – living through the height of preparedness, response and lockdown, and towards an inclusive, accessible and sustainable COVID 19 world.***

**9.55 – 10.30am Session 1 – facilitated by Ms. Sainimili Tawake, this will be an interactive session,**sharing on the experience of persons with disabilities and their reflection.

Experiences from our members through preparedness and response and reflection on the theme: leadership role and participation that needs support from donors and development partners. Representative from 5 OPDs

1. **Ms. Litia Naitanui**, President, Rewa Branch, Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation. Sharing her experience on livelihood activity and economic empowerment to recover post COVID
2. **Ms. Sera Osbourne**, Office Manager, Psychosocial Disability – Psychiatric Survivors Association, Fiji. Sharing her experience on the support to the members during lockdown and forward looking post COVID
3. **Ms. Lovine Pouniu**, Intellectual Disability – Nuanua O Le Alofa, Samoa. Experience of person with intellectual disability
4. **Mr. Iotebwa Toaua**, President, Deaf Association, Kiribati. Experience of the deaf in Kiribati.
5. **Mr. Nafitalai Bai**, former Board Member, Spinal Injuries Association, Fiji. TC Yasa Recovery through COVID restrictions. Responding to a humanitarian emergency during and through a pandemic.
6. OMEKESANG, Palau. Experience of persons with disabilities in Palau.

Followed by Q & A

10.30 – 10.45am **Break for Morning tea**

10.45 – 12.05pm **Session 2**: Facilitated by **Ms. Ruci Senikula**, COVID Coordinator.

Regional Panel discussion from donors and development partners will discuss two key questions:

1. What measures can donors and development partners implement to support the leadership and participation of persons with disabilities and their organisation for an inclusive, accessible, and sustainable post COVID world.

*Give specific examples for their current plans in the next 12 months*

1. What can donors and development partners advocate in spaces exclusive for them to support the leadership and participation of persons with disabilities and their organisation for a more inclusive, accessible, and sustainable post COVID, that will not leave persons with disabilities further behind.
   * 1. **Ms. Christine Conway**, First Secretary for the NZ Aid Programme, NZ High Commission, Suva
     2. **Ms.Heike Alefsen**, UN Human Rights Regional

Representative for the Pacific (OHCHR)

* + 1. **Mr. Yonjae Choi**, Deputy Director, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
    2. **Mr. Esteban Tromel** – ILO Senior Specialist Disability, Gender, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Branch (GEDI).
    3. **Ms. Le Thi Minh Chau**, Education Specialist, UNICEF in the Pacific, Suva

Followed by Q & A

**12.05 – 12.50pm Part 2 – CROP and Regional Organisation**

**Facilitated by Ms. Naomi Navoce, Regional Coordinator-DRR**

Regional Panel discussion from CROPS and regional organisation will discuss two key questions:

1. What measures can regional partners implement to support the leadership and participation of persons with disabilities and their organisation for an inclusive, accessible, and sustainable post COVID world.

*Give specific examples for their current plans in the next 12 months in terms of resourcing.*

1. What can CROP and regional partners advocate in spaces exclusive for them to support the leadership and participation of persons with disabilities and their organisation for a more inclusive, accessible, and sustainable post COVID, that will not leave persons with disabilities further behind.

* **Representative from Social Inclusion Unit**, Disability Focal Point, PIFS
* **Mr. Nilesh Goundar,** Human Rights and Social Development Division, SPC
* **Dr. Ann Cheryl Armstrong**, USP

Followed by Q& A

**12.50 – 1.00pm Closing Remarks and Vote Thanks, Ms. Villaney Remengesau,** Co-Chair Female, OMEKESANG, Palau

END.