



3rd March 2025

His Majesty King Tupou VI,
Royal Palace,
NUKU'ALOFA.

Your Majesty,

Annual Report of the Electoral Commission for the Calendar Year 2024

In accordance with Section 14 of the Electoral Commission Act 2010, the Commission requires to provide to Your Majesty and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Tonga an Annual Report for the Calendar Year 2024 on or before the last day of March 2025. On behalf of the Commission, I now present the said Report for Your Majesty's consideration.

I have the honour to remain
Your Majesty's Loyal and Obedient Servant.

Rt. Hon Lord Dalgety K.C.
Chairman
Electoral Commission



cc. Hon. Lord Fakafanua,
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Tonga

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COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

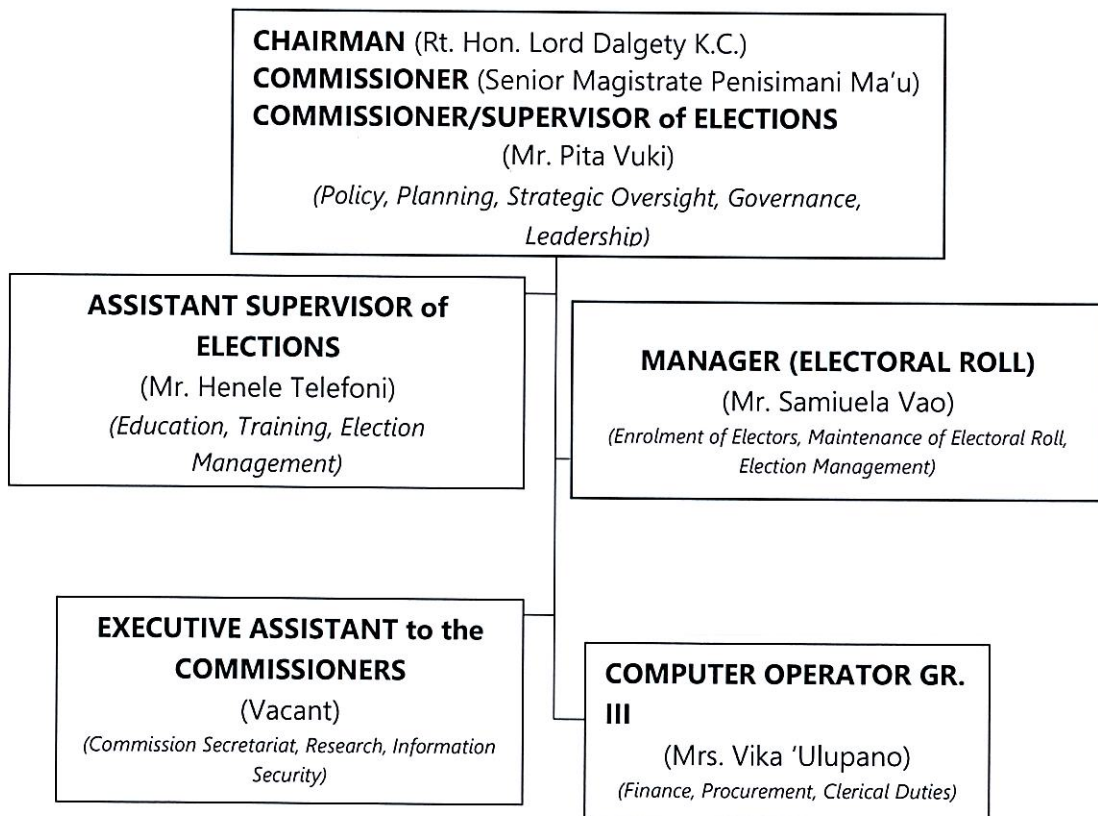
Throughout 2024, there were three Commissioners in post at the Electoral Commission, namely: -

- Rt. Hon. Lord DALGETY K.C. (Chairman)
- Senior Magistrate Penisimani MA'U; and
- Mr. Pita VUKI (ex officio as Supervisor of Elections)

Commission staff who served during the year were: -

- Mr. Pita VUKI (Supervisor of Elections);
- Mr. Henele TELEFONI (Assistant Supervisor of Elections)
- Mr. Samiuela VAO (Electoral Roll Manager); and
- Mrs. Vika 'ULUPANO (a Clerical Officer for Finance and Administration).

There is one vacant post which the Commissioners have been attempting to fill and they have been unable to recruit suitable candidates in 2024. They will continue their recruitment endeavors in 2025.



THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

The **Electoral Commission** is a statutory body constituted by the Electoral Commission Act 2010. It has a reasonable degree of operational independence in the performance of its duties. The following statutes and regulations provide the legal framework for the activities carried out by the Commission, principally the conduct of local and parliamentary elections: -

- Act of Constitution of Tonga
- Electoral Act 1989
- Electoral Commission Act 2010
- Legislative Assembly Act
- District and Town Officers Act
- District and Town Officers (Election) Regulations 2019
- Electoral Regulations 2010
- Electoral Petition Rules 2016 (being Rules of the Supreme Court)
- Electoral (Election of Representatives of the Nobles) Regulations 2017

The Objectives of the Electoral Commission are: -

- The orderly conduct of local (district and town officers) and parliamentary elections (and by-elections);
- To maintain a free, fair and safe electoral process;
- To maintain an updated and accurate electoral roll;
- To have an informed community on electoral matters;
- To encourage and promote public participation in the democratic process; and,
- To provide relevant assistance and support on all electoral matters to electors, polling officials, returning officers, and candidates.

These Objectives are consistent with the **Purposes** of the Electoral Commission, which are: -

- To provide the very best assistance to the citizens of the Kingdom of Tonga to ensure
 - (a) that they understand the democratic process;
 - (b) that they appreciate the benefits of exercising their voting rights;
 - (c) that they know how to register as an Elector; and,
 - (d) that they are encouraged to participate in the democratic process.
- To ensure that all local and parliamentary elections and by-elections are conducted independently, impartially, and in a free, fair, and peaceful environment.

The **Values** which the Commissioners consider essential in the performance of their duties are: -

- **Neutrality** - an Electoral Commission must be scrupulous in Maintaining its independence for only thus can elections be conducted according to best electoral practice and in a free, fair, and peaceful environment.
- **Legality** - all electoral practices and procedures must be carried out in strict compliance with the law.
- **Transparency** - the Tongan public's faith in the Commission's neutrality and legality require it to be open, transparent, and accountable.
- **Service** - there is no more important service to the citizens of Tonga which the Commissioners undertake than to ensure that Democratic electoral processes prevail in the Kingdom.

The Electoral Commission's primary **Functions** remain as in the past the provision of a free and fair electoral process. This requires continuing consultation with and dissemination of information to the Tongan citizenry; and regular review of laws, practices and policies consistent with changes in society and the quest to adhere at all times to best practice. A particular task in this regard is voter registration and community visits to conduct voter registration and public consultation.

Voter Registration is an on-going event. The Commission strives to maintain an accurate and updated electoral roll. This is essential to maintain the credibility and integrity of elections in the Kingdom of Tonga. Voter registration is a mammoth task considering the on-going movement of the population from one place to another. Identification of those who remain in Tonga or who have died remains key challenges. To support this task a Manager (Electoral Roll) has now been appointed.

Also to facilitate this process and to encourage people to take part in the electoral process, special voter registration programs and Electoral Outreach Missions were organised so that staff of the Commission, in collaboration with Community Leaders including District and Town Officers, Church Leaders and relevant stakeholders to carry out registrations and voter education throughout the country in order that they might expand their contact with "grass roots" voters and this dialogue will continue in 2025 in the run-up to the Parliamentary General Election due in the fourth quarter of 2025.

The program commenced in the island of Éua during the month of February where the team visited every town to register newly eligible voters, transfer of voters and closely worked together with the town officers in confirming deceased electors that were still

on the roll. At the same time, there was the opportunity to talk to the people, responded to their questions and clarification election issues on the spot. Similar program was held in Haápai in March and in Vavaú during the months of May and June where the team had the opportunity to visit not only to the main islands but reached out to the outlying islands as well. The team also delivered similar program in several electoral constituencies of Tongatapu during the months of November and December with the hope to complete the remaining part of Tongatapu, Niuatoputapu and Niuafóú in early 2025 before the provisional roll is published in accordance with the Electoral Act.

The Commission has also co-operated with the Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages to confirm deceased voters and the 21st birthday of new voters; and with the Registrar of the Supreme Court for details of those convictions which preclude an elector being eligible to vote under the provisions of Clause 23 of the Constitution. Voter registration is a mandatory requirement, and every Tonga subject who is 21 years of age is required under the Electoral Act to register. Failure to register constitutes an offence liable to punishment with a fine not exceeding 50 pa'anga but hitherto the Commission has never exercised this enforcement power preferring instead to secure registration by persuasion and personal contact with electors during outreach programs. The Commission also worked together with the Office responsible for the National Identification Cards in the update process of the Electoral Roll for elections.

Proposals for amendment to electoral law were submitted to Government for consideration during 2023 and 2024 and the Commission are desirous of a decision thereon by the Legislative Assembly early in 2025 so that the law (as amended) can apply to all future elections and by-elections.

In the process, Parliament needed to hold public consultations to ensure members of the public are well informed before they are tabled in the House for consideration. The public consultation was conducted by two teams led by Parliament Law Committee and was joined by the Supervisor of Elections to assist in providing clarification and responding to questions raised by members of the public. The Supervisor of Elections was able to take part in one television program (*Television Tonga*), 13 radio talked-back programmes (*Radios 1017AM, 87.5FM & 91.5FM*) and 16 community visits to various places of the electoral constituencies Tongatapu 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, Éua 11, Haápai 12 & 13, Vavaú 15 & 16. The rest of the electoral constituencies were covered by the second team except for Niuatoputapu and Niuafóú that neither of the team was able to get there. The public consultation was completed in early September and left with the Parliament Law Committee.

TRAINING AND NETWORKING

Staff of the Commission continued to attend workshops and Trainings as part of their capacity building where they were able share knowledge and experience with colleagues around the region on various electoral issues. Regular Zoom meetings were held with other members of the Pacific Islands, Australia and New Zealand Electoral Administrators (PIANZEA) network and also with the Electoral Commissions of Australia and New Zealand.

- The Supervisor of Elections, Pita Vuki attended the Pacific Roll Integrity Workshop in Apia, Samoa from 10th – 13th June 2024. This was aimed to bring together voter registration electoral administrators in the region to share experiences on the topic of maintaining the integrity of the electoral roll. This was funded by the New Zealand Electoral Commission's Pacific Elections Assistance Programme and Co-hosted by the Samoa's Office of the Electoral Commission
- The Assistant Supervisor of Elections, Mr. Henele Telefoni and the Electoral Roll Manager, Mr. Samiuela Vao attended the Polynesia BRIDGE Workshop, Introduction to Election Administration which was held in Apia, Samoa from 5th – 7th November 2024. This was to promote internationally accepted principles of democracy and best electoral practice and to enhance the professional skills and confidence of electoral management bodies and stakeholders in the electoral process. This was also to foster a culture of learning through the promotion of global electoral knowledge products and the sharing of information, resources and experiences. This was funded by UNDP and co-hosted by the Samoa Electoral Commission.
- The Assistant Supervisor of Elections and the Electoral Roll Manager, also attended the Commonwealth Election Professionals Initiatives: Pacific Region Training Event held in Nadi, Fiji from 18th – 22nd November 2024. This was a training programme aimed to build on the successes of previous programmes to explore ways in which electoral democracy can be strengthened in the Commonwealth Pacific region. This was funded by the Commonwealth and co-hosted by the Fiji Elections Office.
- Commissioners and staff of the Commission all attended the PIANZEA Senior Official Meeting held in Nukuálofa from 10th – 12th October 2024. This workshop was funded and organized by PIANZEA and co-hosted by the Electoral Commission for electoral senior officials to discuss topics of mutual interests. It was attended by representatives from Australia, Bougainville, FSM, Fiji, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, RMI, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tokelau, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

- Commissioners and staff also attended the SPC Election Disability Access Working Group (EDAWG) and Strategic Planning Workshop held in Nukuálofa on 27th November 2024. This was part of an attempt to strengthen the collaboration between the Commission and Organizations of Persons with Disabilities to strengthen inclusive election practices.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN TONGA

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

Genuine Parliamentary Elections are an absolute necessity before democratic governance can be said to exist in any Country. It is through such elections that the citizens of the Country freely express their will as to who will govern and legislate for them. Thereby the electorate provides legitimacy to their elected representatives and National Institutions.

INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

There are numerous international instruments, comprising a mix of legally binding obligations and political commitments, which collectively provide a comprehensive framework against which the electoral process and domestic legislation in any Country can be assessed. In the case of the Kingdom of Tonga such instruments would include:

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- (a) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) of 1948;
- (b) The International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) of 1966
- (c) The International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) of 1966;
- (d) U.N. Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) of 2003;
- (e) U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) of 2006;
- (f) The Charter of the Commonwealth of 2013;
- (g) The Harare Declaration of 1991 by the Commonwealth Heads of Government.
- (h) The 2009 Trinidad and Tobago Affirmation of Commonwealth Values and Principles by the Commonwealth Heads of Government.

Read together these instruments provide a template for electoral best practice. To achieve that standard the electoral system must demonstrate that: -

- There is transparency in the electoral process;
- The election administration acts in an effective, impartial, independent and accountable manner;

- There is equal access for candidates, whether independent or representing a political party, to the media, and there is balanced media coverage for all candidates;
- Where provided, there is equal access for candidates and political organisations to state resources;
- The electorate is informed of its rights through civic and voter education programmes; and
- Elections proceed in a peaceful atmosphere, free from violence, intimidation or threat of reprisals for electors, candidates and political parties.

After a comprehensive review of these international obligations and commitments, and the domestic law of the Kingdom, the Electoral Commission are of opinion that the Kingdom of Tonga satisfies in virtually all respects the test for electoral best practice. Such best practice is found embedded in the key legislative requirements of the Kingdom relating to elections, details of which are set forth earlier at this Report at page 4.

BY-ELECTIONS

By-Elections are growing in number and the Commission is required to devote a significant amount of time, effort and expense thereto. By way of comparison: -

2016:	1 By-Election
2017:	0 By-Elections (but a “snap” General Election held for the first time)
2018:	0 By-Elections
2019:	4 By-Elections (and a general election for District and Town Officers)
2020:	6 By-Elections
2021:	3 By-Elections (as well as the General Election for the Legislative Assembly)
2022:	13 By-Elections, 7 for Town Officers, 1 for District Officer, and 5 for Members of Parliament.
2023:	2 Parliamentary By-Elections and 4 Town Officers By-Elections

In 2024, By-Election vacancies arose in

1	Parliamentary Constituency
1	District Officer; and for
4	Town Officers
6	

The Parliamentary By-Election in VAVAÚ 14 was held on 28th March 2024 following the resignation of the sitting Member of Parliament, Hon. Dr. Saia Maú Piulala on 26th January 2024. The result was as follows:

Candidates Names	Votes	
1. Viliami Tinitali PIUKALA	316	18.70%
2. Sione Fataua HALATANU	353	20.89%
3. Moále ÓTUNUKU	709	41.95%
4. Matini F. M. V. T. VEIKUNE	312	18.46%

The Turnout was 51%

Town Officer By-Elections were hold during the year at Muá, NIUAFOÓU; Houma, ÉUA; Haveluliku, TONGATAPU; and Falehau, NIUATOPUTAPU. There was also a District Officer By-Election at Éua Foóu, ÉUA.

The MUÁ, NIUAFOÓU By-Election was necessitated by the resignation of the elected Town Officer. There was only one applicant for this vacancy, Ms. Liulolo LEMANI, so at the close of nominations on 3rd April 2024 she was declared to be the new Town Officer in accordance with Regulation 14 of the District and Town Officers Election Regulations 2019.

At the Town Officer of **HOUMA, ÉUA** held on 20th June 2024, the results were as follows:-

Candidates Names	Votes	
1. Paea í M. TAUFÁ	16	17%
2. Fono FOLAU	74	83%

The Turnout was 53%.

At the By-Election for **HAVELULIKU, TONGATAPU** held on 1st August 2024 the results were as follows: -

Candidates Names	Votes	
1. Joseph Paul Brian SILI	19	28%
2. Tangimeimuli MAFI	7	10%
3. Takau LUTUA	43	62%

The Turnout was 49%

At the By-Election for the **ÉUA FOÓU, ÉUA** District Officer held on 3rd August 2024 the results were as follows:

Candidates Names	Votes	
1. Laúnga Tangata MASILA	110	18%
2. Simone Mokoífonua HULITANU	89	14%
3. Kulisitofa Latu VAOHEA	27	4%
4. Viliami Komiti FINAU	284	45%
5. Panisimani HAPIHAU	50	8%
6. Meliame Toa TUIFUA	23	4%
7. Tevita TAULEPA	44	7%

The Turnout was 43.43%

At the Town Officer By-Elections for **FALEHAU, NIUATOPUTAPU** held on 14th November 2024 the results were as follows:-

Candidates Names	Votes	
1. Paula H NUNU	53	48%
2. Panepasa NUNU	58	52%

The Turnout was 43.53%

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Electoral Commission acknowledges the continuing support which they receive from the Electoral Commissions of Australia and New Zealand and the helpful assistance willingly granted to them by the High Commissioners of the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Australia, who are accredited to the Kingdom of Tonga, as also by the Ambassadors of Japan and the People's Republic of China in the Kingdom of Tonga.

The Commission is appreciative of the professionalism of U.N.P.D.; A-WEB; the Commonwealth Secretariat; and London's Public Administration International for the very informative and useful assistance to the Commission during 2024.

As always, the continuing support of many within the Kingdom of Tonga was an essential ingredient in the delivery of the Commission's Objectives. In particular, grateful thanks are due to: -

- Key Ministries of Tonga Government such as Justice, Finance, and Internal Affairs, as also the Prime Minister's Office;
- The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages;
- Tonga Police and Commissioner of Police;
- The Lord Chief Justice of Tonga and the Registrar of the Supreme Court;

- H.M. Armed Forces;
- The Chairman, Director, and Members of the Tonga Boundaries Commission;
- The Governors of Vava'u and Ha'apai and their staff;
- District and Town Officers;
- Civil Society, Community Leaders, Church Leaders and the Media;
- Government Representatives for 'Eua, Niuafo'ou and Niuatoputapu; and
- The National Identity Card Office.

**LIPOOTI FAKA-TA'U
KI HE TA'U
2024**



"Kau he Lau pea Lau he Kau"

Your vote is important

"Oku mahu'inga ho'o fili"



3 Maási 2025

Ki he 'Ene 'Afio ko e Tu'i Tupou VI,
Palasi Faka-Tu'i
NUKU'ALOFA.

'E Ho'ó 'Afio,

Lipōoti Faka-Ta'u 'a e Komisoni Fili ki he Ta'u 2024.

Fakatatau ki he Kupu 14 'o e Lao ki he Komisoni Fili 2010, óku fiemaú ai ke fakahoko atu é he Komisoni Fili ki Hoó Áfio pea mo e Sea 'o e Fale Alea 'o Tonga, 'a e Lipōoti Faka-Ta'u ki he Ta'u 2024 'i he 'aho faka'osi 'o Ma'asi 2025, pē 'i ha 'aho ki mu'a ai. 'Oku ou fakafofonga atu ai 'a e Komisoni 'i hono fakahoko atu 'a e Lipōoti ni ki Ho'ó 'Afio.

'I he loto faka'apa'apa mo'oni mo e kei tukupā ke hoko atu ko Ho'ó Sevāniti Tōnunga mo Talangofua.

Rt. Hon. Lord Dalgety K.C.
Sea
Komisoni Fili



tatau: Hon. Lord Fakafanua,
Sea 'o e Fale Alea 'o Tonga

Tohi ki he 'Ene 'Afio ko e Tuí Tupou VI	1
Fakahokohoko 'o e Kanoloto	2
Kau Komisiona mo e Kau Ngaue	3
Ko e Komisoni Fili	5
Ngaahi Polokalama Ako mo e Fevahevahe'aki	8
Ngaahi Fili Fale Alea 'i Tonga	10
Ngaahi Fili-Si'i	11
Ngaahi Fakamālō	14

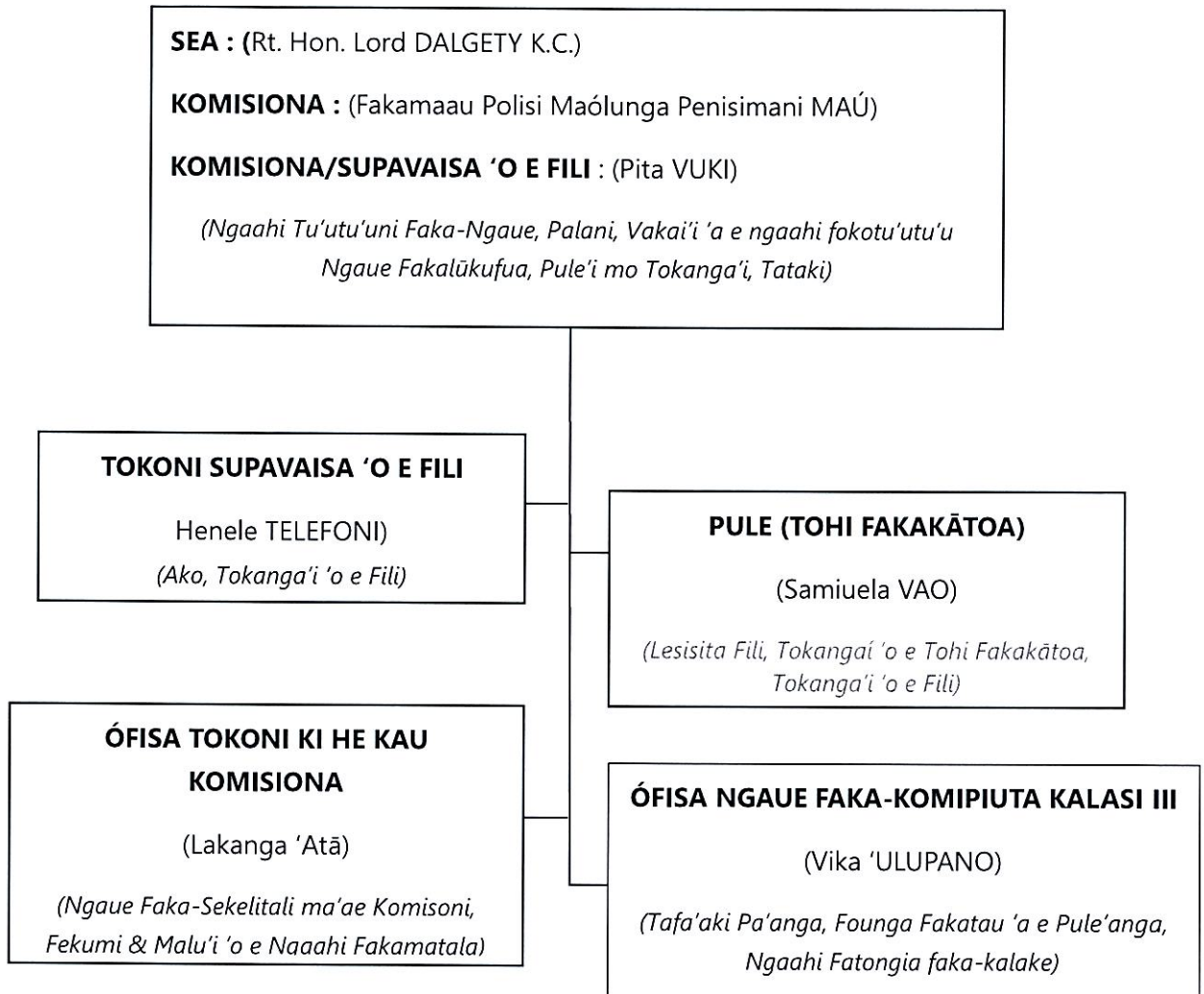
'I he ta'u 2024, na'e fakahoko fatongia ai 'a e kau Komisiona 'e toko tolu 'i he Komisoni 'o kau ki ai 'a kinautolu ni: -

- Rt. Hon. Lord DALGETY K.C. (Sea)
- Fakamaau Polisi Maólunga Penisimani MA'U; pea mo
- Pita VUKI (mēmipa 'i hono fatongia ko e Supavaisa 'o e Fili)

Ko e kau ngaue 'a e Komisoni na'a nau fakahoko fatongia lolotonga 'a e ta'u ngaue ni na'e kau ki ai 'a kinautolu ni: -

- Pita VUKI (Supavaisa 'o e Fili);
- Henele TELEFONI (Tokoni Supavaisa 'o e Fili); pea mo
- Samiuela Vao (Pule ki he Tohi Fakakatoa)
- Vika 'ULUPANO ('Ofisa Kalake ki he Ngaue Faka-Pa'anga mo e Ngaahi Ngaue Faka-'Ofisi)

'Oku 'i ai mo e lakanga 'atā 'e taha 'a ia kuo fakahoko 'a e ngaue ki ai 'a e kau Komisiona ka óku teéki ke maú ha kanititeiti feúnga í he 2024. É hoko atu pe á e ngaue ke maú ha taha feúnga í he taú 2025.



Ko e **Komisoni Fili** ko e sino fakalao ia kuo fakamafai'i 'e he Lao ki he Komisoni Fili 2010. 'Oku tau'atāina 'i hono fakahoko 'a e konga lahi 'o hono ngaahi fatongia. Ko e ngaahi fatongia 'oku fakahoko 'e he Komisoni, tautefito ki hono fakahoko 'o e Fili 'Ofisa Fakavahefonua mo e 'Ofisa Kolo pea pehē ki he Fili Fale Alea, 'oku fakahoko ia 'i he malumalu 'o e ngaahi lao ni:-

- Lao 'o e Konisitutone 'o Tonga
- Lao ki he Fili Fale Alea 1989
- Lao ki he Komisoni Fili 2010
- Lao ki he Fale Alea
- Lao ki he kau 'Ofisa Fakavahefonua mo e kau 'Ofisa Kolo
- Ngaahi Tu'utu'uni (Fili) ki he kau 'Ofisa Fakavahefonua mo e kau 'Ofisa Kolo 2019
- Ngaahi Tu'utu'uni Fili 2010
- Ngaahi Tu'utu'uni ki he Kole Tu'unga 'i he Fili 2016 (á ia ko e Ngaahi Tu'utu'uni 'a e Fakamaau 'anga Lahi)
- Ngaahi Tu'utu'uni (Fili 'o e kau Fakafofonga 'o e kau Nopele) ki he Fale Alea 2017

Ko e ngaahi Taumu'a Ngaue 'a e Komisoni Fili: -

- Ko hono fakahoko lelei 'o e fili 'Ofisa Fakavahefonua mo e 'Ofisa Kolo pea mo e Fili Fale Alea (pea mo ha ngaahi fili-si'i);
- Ke tauhi ha founa fili 'oku tau'atāina, taau mo malu foki;
- Ke tauhi ha tohi fakakātoa 'oku tonu mo maau ange;
- Ke ma'u 'e he komiuniti 'a e ngaahi fakamatala totonu fekau'aki mo e fili;
- Ke teke mo faka'ai'ai 'a e kau 'a e kakai ki he ngaahi founa faka-temokalati; pea
- Ke fakahoko 'a e ngaahi tokoni kotoa pe 'oku ala fakahoko fekau'aki mo e fili ma'ae kakai fili, kau 'ofisa faifili pea mo e kau kanititeiti

'Oku fenāpasi 'eni mo e **Ngaahi 'Uhinga** na'e fokotu'u ai 'a e Komisoni Fili 'a ia 'oku pehe ni: -

- Ke fakahoko 'a e tokoni lelei taha ma'ae kakai 'o Tonga ke fakapapau'i (a) 'oku mahino kiate kinautolu 'a e founa ngaue faka-temokalati; (b) ke mahu'inga mālie ki he kakai 'o e Fonua 'a e ngaahi lelei hono ngaue 'aki ó 'enau ngaahi totonu ki he

fili; (c) ke nau 'ilo ki he founa ki hono lesisita 'o ha taha ko ha tokotaha fili; (d) 'oku faka'ai'ai kinautolu ke kau 'i he founa ngaue faka-temokalati.

- Ke fakapapau'i ko e fili kotoa pe 'o tatau 'a e fili 'Ofisa Fakavahefonua mo e 'Ofisa Kolo, Fili Fale Alea pea mo e ngaahi fili-si'i 'oku fakahoko ia 'i ha 'atakai 'oku tau'atāina, 'ikai filifilimanako mo melino foki.

Ko e ngaahi '**Ulungaanga** 'oku mahu'inga'ia ai 'a e Komisoni 'i hono fakahoko 'a honau ngaahi fatongia: -

- **Tau'atāina** - Ko e Komisoni Fili ke mātu'aki tokanga 'aupito ki hono pukepuke 'o e tau'atāina 'oku ne ma'u, he ko e me'a pe ia 'e malava ai ke fakahoko 'a e fili 'o fakatatau mo e ngaahi founa fili lelei taha pea 'i ha 'atakai 'oku tau'atāina, 'ikai filifilimanako mo melino foki.
- **Tu'unga Faka-Lao** - Ko e ngaahi fatongia mo e founa 'o e fili ke fakahoko ia 'o fakatatau mo e lao
- **'Ata ki Tuá** - Ko e falala 'a e kakai 'o Tonga ki he Tau'atāina 'a e Komisoni mo hono tu'unga fakalao, 'oku fiema'u ai 'a e 'ata ki tu'a pea mo e taliui
- **Fatongia** - 'Oku 'ikai mo ha toe fatongia 'oku mahu'inga ange ki he kakai 'o e fonua ka 'i hono fakahoko 'e he Komisoni 'a hono fakapapau'i ko e ngaahi founa fili faka-temokalati 'oku mahulu hake 'i he Pule'anga ni.

Hangē pe ko ia 'i he kuo hili, ko e ngaahi fatongia tefito 'o e Komisoni ko hono fakahoko 'o e fili 'i he founa 'oku tau'atāina mo taau. 'I he'ene pehē, 'oku fiema'u ai ke hokohoko atu 'a e fetalanoa'aki pea mo hono tufaki 'o e ngahi fakamatala ki he Tonga kotoa pe; toutou vakai'i 'o e ngaahi lao fekau'aki, founa ngaue mo e ngaahi tu'utu'uni ke fenāpasi mo e ngaahi liliu 'oku hoko ki he sosaieti pea ke fakatatau ma'u ai pe foki 'a e fakahoko fatongia ki he ngaahi founa ngaue lelei taha. Ko e taha 'o e ngaahi tefito'i fatongia ko ia ko hono fakamāópoópo ó e lesisita fili mo e aú tonu ki he ngaahi komiuniti ó fakahoko ai á e lesisita mo e talanoa mo e kakai ó e fonua.

Ko e **Lesisita Fili** ko e fatongia ia 'oku hokohoko atu 'a hono fakahoko. 'Oku feinga ma'u ai pe 'a e Komisoni ke ma'u ha tohi fakakātoa (lesisita fili) 'oku tonu pea maau ange. 'Oku mātu'aki mahu'inga 'eni ke kei pukepuke 'a e tu'unga falala'anga 'o e fili 'i Tonga. 'I he'ene pehē, ko hono fakahoko ko ia 'o e lesisita ko e taha ia 'i he ngaahi fatongia mafatukituki 'o makatu'unga pe 'i he hokohoko atu 'a e fe'alu'aki pe fehikitaki holo 'a e kakai mei he feitu'u 'e taha ki he feitu'u 'e taha. Ko hono fakapapau'i ko ia 'o kinautolu 'a e tangata mo e fefine'i Fonua Tonga óku nau í he fonua, fakataha mo kinautolu 'a e kau pekia, 'oku kei

hoko pe ia ko e pole lahi ki he fakahoko fatongia. Ke tokoni ki hono solova á e palopolema ni kuo fakangaueí ai á e Pule ki he Tohi Fakakatoa.

Íkai ke ngata ai, ka 'i he feinga ke fakafaingofua ange 'a e fakahoko fatongia ki he kakai 'o e Fonua pea mo faka'ai'ai 'a e kakai ke nau kau ki he lesisita pea ki he ngaahi ngaue fekauáki mo e fili, na'e fokotu'utu'u ai ha polokalama lesisita makehe pea mo e aú tonu ki he ngaahi kolo ke ngaue fakataha ai 'a e kau ngaue mo e kau Taki ó e ngaahi Komuniti ó kau ki ai á e kau 'Ofisa Fakavahefonua mo e kau 'Ofisa Kolo pea pehē ki he kau Taki Lotu ki hano fakahoko 'o e lesisita 'o kinautolu na'e te'eki ke lesisita fili 'i honau ngaahi kolo takitaha pea mo e polokalama talanoa mo e kakai pea ke fakahoko ia ki he kotoa 'o e ngaahi kolo takitaha 'i he 'otu Tonga ni, ko e úhi ke aú ai á e ngaahi fakamatala ki he tokotaha kotoa pea é hokohoko atu ki he toenga ó e ngaahi vahefonua í he taú 2025 ko e kongá ó e teuteu ki he Fili Fale Alea á ia óku ámanaki ke fakahoko í he kongá kimui ó e 2025.

Naé kamata ai á e polokalama ni í Éua lolotonga á e mahina ko Fepueli á ia naé maú faingamalie ai á e timi ngaue ke ááhi ki he ngaahi kolo kotoa ke lesisita á kinautolu kuo nau maú á e tuúnga fakalao ko e kakai fili, á kinautolu kuo nau hiki mei ha feituú ki he kolo kuo nau lolotonga nofo ai pea pehe foki mo e ngaue vaofi mo e kau ófisa kolo ki hono fakapapauí á kinautolu kuo nau pekia ka óku ke ha honau hingoá í he Tohi Fakakatoa (Lesisita Fili). Í he taimi tatau ko e faingamalie lelei éni ke talanoa mo e kakai pea ki hono tali ó énau ngaahi fehuí pea mo hono fakamaálaála á e ngaahi kaveinga naá nau tokanga ki ai ó fekauáki mo e fili. Ko e polokalama tatau naé hoko atu í Haápai í Maási pea pehē ki Vavaú lolotonga á e mahina ko Mē mo Sune 2024 ó kau ai pe mo e aú tonu ki he fanga kií ótu motu iiki ange ke fakaaú ki ai á e polokalama ni. Ko e polokalama tatau naé fakahoko í he ngaahi vahenga fili kehekehe ó Tongatapu í Novema mo Tisema pea mo e ámanaki é fakakakato á e ngaahi vahenga ó Tongatapu óku toe pea pehe ki Niuatoputapu mo Niuafóóu í he kongá kimuá 'oe taú 2025 kimuá í hono pulusi ó e Tohi Fakakatoa Fakataimi ó fakatatau ki he Lao ki he Fili Fale Alea.

Na'e hokohoko atu ai pe mo e fengāue'aki ai 'a e Komisoni mo e 'Ofisi 'o e Failesisita ki he Fā'ele, Pekia mo e Mali ke fakapapau'i 'a kinautolu kuo pekia pea pehē kiate kinautolu 'a e kau fili fo'ou kuo a'usia 'a honau ta'u 21; pea pehē foki mo e fengāue'aki mo e Failesisita 'o e Fakamaau'anga Lahi ki he fakaikiiki 'o kinautolu ko ia kuo nau mo'ua 'i he ngaahi hia 'oku malava ke fakata'e'aonga'i ai 'a 'enau hoko ko ha kakai fili 'o hangē ko ia 'oku hā 'i he Kupu 23 'o e Konisitutone. Kuo pau ke lesisita fili 'a e tokotaha Tonga kotoa pe kuo ta'u 21 'o fakatatau ki he Lao ki he Fili Fale Alea. 'Oku malava ke tautea pa'anga 'o 'ikai laka hake 'i he pa'anga 'e 50 ha taha, kapau 'oku 'ikai ke lesisita fili. 'I he'ene a'u mai ki he 'aho ni, 'oku

te'eki ke ngaue'aki 'e he Komisoni 'a e mafai ko 'eni 'aki pe 'enau feinga ke faka'ai'ai 'a e kakai 'o e fonua ke lesisita fili 'aki 'enau a'u tonu ki he tokotaha fili kotoa pe lolotonga 'a e ngaahi polokalama ako 'oku fakahoko ki he ngaahi tukui kolo. Naé hokohoko atu ai pe mo e ngaue vaofi á e Komisoni pea mo e Ófisi óku nau tokangaí á e Kaati Fakaílongaí Fakafonua ki hono fakamāópoópo mo hono teuteu ó e Tohi Fakakatoa ki he fili. Pehe foki 'a e hokohoko atu á e fengaueáki vaofi mo e Ófisi óku ne tokangaekina á e Kaati Fakaílongaí Fakafonua í he hono fakamaópoópo á e Tohi Fakakatoa ki he ngaahi fili.

Naé lava ke fakahū atu ki he Pule'anga 'i he ta'u 2023 mo e 2024 ha ngaahi fokotu'u ki ha fakatonutonu ki he ngaahi lao fili pea mo e faka'amu 'a e Komisoni na'a lava ha femeááki ki ai 'a e Fale Alea 'i he konga kimu'a 'o e ta'u 2025 ka e malava ke ngaue 'aki 'a e ngaahi fakatonutonu ko ia ki he kotoa ó e ngaahi fili mo e ngaahi fili-sií 'oku hanga mai mei he kahaú.

Naé fiemaú ai mei he Fale Alea ó Tonga ke fakahoko ha ngaahi polokalama talanoa mo e kakai ke fakapapauí óku aú á e ngaahi fokotuútuú ni ki he kakai ó e fonua pea toki tepileí í he Fale ki ha femeááki ki ai á e Houéiki Memipa. Naé fakahoko ai á e polokalama ni é ha timi ngaue é ua ó tataki pe 'e he Komiti Lao á e Fale Alea, pea kau atu ki ai mo e Supavaisa ó e Fili ke tokoni ki hono fakamaálaála á e ngaahi fokotuútuú ni pea pehē ki hono tali ó e ngaahi fehuí naé óhake é he kakai ó e fonua. Naé kau atu ai á e Supavaisa fakataha mo e timi naá ne kau ki ai í ha polokalama Televisone é taha, ngaahi polokalama felāfoaki í he letiō é 13 (Letio 1017AM, 87.5FM & Keleá FM) pea mo e polokalama ááhi ki he Komiuniti ó fakahoko á e ngaahi fakataha í he ngaahi feituú kehekehe ó e ngaahi Vahenga Fili Tongatapu 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, Éua 11, Haápai 12 & 13, Vavaú 15 & 16. Ko e toenga ó e ngaahi Vahenga Fili naé fakakakato ia 'e he timi hono ua pea ko Niuatoputapu mo Niuafóóu naé íkai lava ha aú ki ai.

POLOKALAMA AKO & FEVAHEVAHE'AKI

Naé tāímalie á e kau Ngaue á e Komisoni í he ngaahi faingamalie ke hokohoko atu á énau kau ki he ngaahi fakataha mo e ako á ia ko e konga á hono fakalakalakaí 'o énau ilo mo e taukei í he ngaahi fevahevaheáki mo honau kaungā ngaue í he ngaahi fonua ó e feituú ni ó fekauáki mo e ngaahi kaveinga mahuínga ki he fili. Naé hokohoko atu mo e ngaahi fakataha mo e kau mēmipa kehe ó e *PIANZEA Network* á ia ko e netiueka á e kau ngaue ki he fili í he Pasifiki pea kau ki ai á Áositelelia mo Nuúsila (*Pacific Islands, Australia and New Zealand Electoral Administrators*) ó fakafou í he "Zoom" ki hono talanoaí ó e ngaahi

kaveinga kehekehe óku tokanga ki ai á e ngaahi fonua memipa pea pehē foki ki he Komisoni Fili á Áositelelia mo Nuúsila.

- Naé kau atu á e Supavaisa ó e Fili ki ha fakataha fekauáki mo e tuúnga taau ó e Lesisita Fili í he Pasifiki á ia naé fakahoko í Apia, Samoa mei he áho 10 – 13 ó Sune 2024. Naé fakatahataha ai heni á e kinautolu óku nau tokangaí á e lesisita ó e kakai fili mei he Pasifiki ó fakahoko á e fevahevaheáki á énau ngaahi taukei mo e ílo í he kaveinga ko e mahuinga á hono tauhi á e maaui, taau mo e tonu ó e tohi lesisita fili pe tohi faka-katoa. Ko e fakataha ni naé faka-paánga ia é he Komisoni Fili á Nuúsila ó fakafou í heénau polokalama tokoni ki he fili í he Pasifiki pea tokoni ki ai á e Komisoni Fili á Haámoa.
- Naé kau atu mo e Tokoni Supavaisa ó e Fili pea mo e Pule ó e Tohi Fakakatoa ki ha polokalama ako maá kinautolu á e kau ngaue foóu í he fili mei he ngaahi Ófisi Faifili ó e ngaahi fonua Polinisia á ia naé fakahoko í Apia, Haámoa mei he áho 5 – 7 ó Novema 2024. Ko e fakataha ni ki hono fakaáiai hono ngaueáki á e ngaahi founa ngaue óku tali fakavahaápuleánga fekauáki ó e temokalati mo e founa ngaue ke fakalahi á e taukei fakapalofisinale mo e maúmaúluta 'o e ngaahi sino ngaue ki he fili mo e ngaahi kupu fengauéaki í he fili. Óku mahuínga foki éni ke fakafaingofua ha úlungaanga ó e ako ó fakafou í hono fakaáiai ó e ílo fakamamani lahi fekauáki mo e fili pea mo hono vahevahe ó e fakamatala, koloa pea mo e ngaahi taukei. Ko e polokalama ni naé fakapaánga ia é he UNDP pea tokoni ki ai á e Komisoni Fili á Haámoa.
- Naé toe kau atu á e Tokoni Supavaisa ó e Fili pea mo e Pule ki he Tohi Fakakatoa ki he Polokalama Ako á e Kominueli í Nadi, Fisi mei he áho 18 – 22 ó Novema 2024. Naé taumuá á e polokalama ni ki hono langa á e ngaahi fatongia mei he ngaahi ola lelei ó e ngaahi polokalama kuo fakahoko kimuá pea ke fekumi mei ai ha ngaahi founa ke toe fakaivia mo fakalakalaka ai á e ngaahi fili fakatemokalati í he Pasifiki. Naé fokotuútuú éni é he Komoniueli ó tokoni ki ai á e Ófisi Faifili á Fisi.
- Naé kau fakataha atu á e kau Komisiona mo e kau Ngaue ki he fakataha á e kau Ófisa Maólunga ó e ngaahi fonua memipa ó e PIANZEA á ia naé fakahoko í Nukuálofa ni mei he áho 10 – 12 ó Ókatopa 2024. Ko e polokalama ni naé fakapaánga ia é he PIANZEA pea tokoni pe ki ai á e Komisoni Fili ke fakafaingamalieí á e kau mai ki ai á e kau Ófisa Maólunga ó e ngaahi sino óku nau tokangaí á e fili ke fai ha fevahevaheáki í he ngaahi kaveinga mahuínga fekauáki mo e fili. Naé kau mai ki ai ha kau fakafofonga mei Áositelelia, Poukenivila, FSM, Fisi, Naulu, Nuúsila, Papua Niukini, RMI, Solomone, Timor-Leste, Tokelau, mo Vanuatu.

- Naé toe kau fakataha á e kau Komisiona mo e kau Ngaue ki ha fakataha mo e SPC ki hano fatu ó ha kulupu ngaue ke tokoni ki hono fakafaingofuaí ó e kau ki he fili á kinautolu óku faingataáia fakasino pe 'oku í ai énau ngaahi fiemaú makehe á ia naé fakahoko í he áho 27 ó Novema 2024. Ko e konga pe éni ó e feinga ke fakamalohia pea mo e fengaueáki vaofi ange í he vaháa ó e Komisoni pea mo e ngaahi Kautaha á kinautolu á e kau faingataáia ke fakaáiai á e fakakaukau ó e kau katoa ki he fili

NGAAHI FILI FALE ALEA 'I TONGA

PULE FAKA-TEMOKALATI

'Oku **mātu'aki mahu'inga** ke fakahoko lelei mo fakatatau ki he lao 'a e ngaahi Fili Fale Alea ka e lava ke pehē 'oku ma'u 'a e fa'unga faka-temokalati 'i ha Fonua. 'Oku mei he ngaahi fili pehe ni, 'oku malava ai 'e he kakai 'o e fonua 'o fakahā loto tau'atāina ma'a kinautolu te nau pule'i mo fokotu'u lao ma'a kinautolu. 'I he'ene pehē, 'oku foaki ai 'e kinautolu 'a e kakai fili 'a e ngaahi **makatu'unga fakalao** ki honau kau fakafongua kuo fili pea mo e ngaahi Sino Fakafonua.

NGAAHI FATONGIA FAKAVAHA'A-PULE'ANGA

'Oku 'i ai 'a e ngaahi me'angaue fakavaha'apule'anga, 'a ia 'oku fio fakataha ai mo e ngaahi tukupā fakalao mo e fakapolitikale 'oku fiema'u ke fakakakato, pea 'oku ne fatu ai 'a e ngaahi fakava'e fekau'aki mo e ngaahi founa 'o e fili pea 'e malava ke vakai'i 'aki kinautolu 'a e ngaahi lao 'o ha Fonua. 'I Tonga ni, 'oku kau ki heni 'a e ngaahi me'angaue ni:-

- (a) Tala Fakahāhā Fakamamani Lahi ki he Ngaahi Totonu 'a e Tangata 'o e 1948;
- (b) Konivēsio Fakavaha'a-Pule'anga ki he Ngaahi Totonu Faka-Sivile mo e Politikale 'o e 1966;
- (c) Konivēsio Fakavaha'a-Pule'anga ki hono Ta'ofi 'o e Lau Matakali 'o e 1966;
- (d) Konivēsio 'a e Ngaahi Pule'anga Fakatahataha ki hono Fakaepaki'i 'o e Faihala 'o e 2003;
- (e) Konivēsio 'a e Ngaahi Pule'anga Fakatahataha ki he Totonu 'a e Kakai Faingata'a'ia 'o e 2006;
- (f) Ko e Tu'utu'uni (*Charter*) 'a e Kominiueli 'o e 2013;
- (g) Ko e Tala Fakahāhā '*Harare*' 'o e 1991 'a ia na'e fakahoko 'e he kau Taki 'o e Ngaahi Pule'anga Kominiueli 'o e 1991;
- (h) Ko hono to e Fakapapau'i 'a e ngaahi Makatu'unga mo e Ngaahi Tefito'i Tui na'e fokotu'u 'e he kau Taki 'o e ngaahi Pule'anga Komoniueli 'o e ta'u 2009 'i Trinidad mo Tobago.

'E lava ke vakai'i fakataha 'a e ngaahi me'angaue ni pea mo e ngaahi founa Ngaue lelei taha ki hono fakahoko 'o e fili. Ka ma'u 'a e tu'unga ko ia, kuo pau ke fakapapau'i ko e ngaahi founa fili 'oku ho'ata mei ai 'a e ngaahi 'ulungaanga ni: -

- Ko e founa fili 'oku ho'ata ki tu'a;
- Fakahoko 'a e Ngaue ki he fili 'i he founa 'oku taau, 'ikai filifilimānako, tau'atāina pea mo ha founa 'oku ho'ata mei ai á e taliui;
- Malava ke vahevahe tatau 'a e kau kanititeiti 'o tatau pe 'oku tau'atāina pe ko ha fakafofonga 'o ha paati, 'a e ngaahi faingamalie ki he ngaahi kautaha ongoongo, pea mo ha ongoongo 'oku palanisi ki he kotoa 'o e kau kanititeiti;
- Vahevahe tatau ki he kau kanititeti 'o ha fa'ahinga faingamālie 'oku foaki 'e he pule'anga;
- Fakahoko ki he kakai fili 'a 'enau ngaahi totonu 'o fakafofou 'i he ngaahi polokalama ako 'a e Komisoni; pea
- Fakahoko 'a e Ngaahi Fili 'i ha 'ātakai 'oku melino, tau'atāina mei he fakamoveuveu, fakamanamana'i ó e kakai fili, kau kanititeiti mo e ngaahi paati fakapolitikale.

Hili 'a hono vakai'i fakalelei 'o e ngaahi fatongia mo e ngaahi tukupā fakavahaá-pule'anga ni fakataha pea mo e ngahi lao 'o e Fonua ni, ko e vakai 'a e Komisoni Fili 'oku 'i he tu'unga fakafiemalie pē 'a e Pule'anga ni 'i hono fakahoko 'o e ngaahi founa fili lelei taha. Ko e ngaahi founa fili lelei taha kuo fakatoka pe ia ki he ngaahi fiema'u fakalao 'a e pule'anga fekau'aki mo e fili, 'a ia ko hono fakaikiiki 'oku hā atu ia 'i he lipōoti ni 'i he peesi 5.

NGAAHI FILI-SI'I

'Oku 'alu ke lahi ange 'a e ngaahi Fili-Si'i i he ngaahi taú kuo tau fonongaia mai pea 'oku fiema'u ai 'e he Komisoni ha ngaahi taimi fe'unga, ivi lahi ange pea to e lahi ange 'a e ngaahi fakamole ki hono fakakakato 'o e ngaahi fatongia ko ia. Ko hano fakahoa óku pehe ni:-

2016	:	Fili-Si'i 'e 1
2017	:	'Ikai ha Fili-Si'i (<i>Ka na'e fakahoko ai 'a e Fili Lahi hili hono fuofua vekeki 'o e Fale Alea</i>)
2018	:	'Ikai ha Fili-Si'i
2019	:	Fili-Si'i 'e 4 (<i>Pehē ki he fili Lahi ki he kau 'Ofisa Fakavahefonua & 'Ofisa Kolo</i>)
2020	:	Fili-Si'i 'e 6

- 2021 : Fili-Si'i 'e 3 (*pea pehē ki he Fili Lahi ki he Fale Alea*)
- 2022 : Fili-Sií é 13 (*Ófisa Kolo é 7 Ófisa Fakavahefonua é 1 mo e 5 ki he kau mēmipa Fale Alea*)
- 2023 : Fili-Sií é 2 ki he ongo memipa ó e Fale Alea pea mo e 4 ki he kau Ófisa Kolo
- 2024 : Fili-Sií naé fakahoko
- Fili-Sií é 1 ki he Vahenga Fili Vavaú 14
- Fili-Sií é 1 ki he Ófisa Fakavahefonua
- Fili-Sií é 4 ki he kau 'Ofisa Kolo

Ko e Fili-Sií ki he Fale Alea maáe Vahenga Fili Vavaú 14 naé fakahoko ia í he áho 28 ó Ma'asi 2024 hili ia á e fakafisi á e Fakafofonga Fale Alea Hon. Dr. Saia Maú Piukala í he áho 26 ó Sanuali 2024. Ko e ola ó e fili ni náe pehe ni:

Hingoa ó e Kanititeiti	Lahi ó e Fili	
1. Viliami T. Piukala	315	18.70%
2. Sione F. Halatanu	353	20.89%
3. Moále Ótunuku	709	41.95%
4. Matini Veikune	312	18.46%

Tokolahi ó kinautolu naé kau ki he fili naé í he peseti é 51 (51%)

Naé pau ke fakahoko mo ha ngaahi Fili-Sií ki ha kau Ófisa Kolo lolotonga á e taú ki he ngaahi kolo ó Muá, Niuafoóu; Houma, Éua; Haveluliku, Tongatapu pea mo Falehau, Niuatoputapu. Naé í ai pea mo e Fili-Sií ki he Ófisa Fakavahefonua ó e Vahenga Éua Foóu, Éua.

Ko e Fili-Sií ki he Ófisa kolo ó Muá, Niuafoóu naé pau ke fakahoko ia í ha fakafisi á e Ófisa Kolo naé fili. Í he hili ange hono lesisita ó e kau kanititeiti ki he fili-sií ni í he áho 3 ó Épeleli 2024 naé tokotaha pe á e kanititeiti á ia ko Siulolo Lemani pea naé fakapapauí ó fakahā ai pe ia ko e Ófisa Kolo, ó fakatatau ki he Tuútuúni 14 ó e Ngaahi Tuútuúni Fili ki he kau 'Ofisa Fakavahefonua mo e kau Ófisa Kolo 2019.

Ko e Fili-Sií ki he Ófisa Kolo ó Houma, Éua naé fakahoko í he áho 20 ó Sune 2024 pea naé anga pehe ni á hono ola:

'Oku 'i ai 'a e fakamālō loto hounga mo'oni 'a e Komisoni Fili ki he ngaahi fengāueáki kotoa pē pea mo e poupou lelei na'e fakahoko mei he Komisoni Fili 'a 'Aositelelia mo Nu'usila pea pehē ki he ngaahi tokoni kotoa pe mei he kau Talafekau Lahi 'a Pilitania, Nu'usila mo 'Aositelelia 'a ia 'oku nau fakahoko fatongia ki he Pule'anga Tonga, pea pehē foki ki he ongo 'Amipasitoa 'o Siapani mo e Lepapulika 'o e Kakai 'o Siaina 'i Tonga ni.

Pehē foki 'a e hounga'ia 'a e Komisoni 'i he Ngaue Fakapalofesinale 'a e U.N.D.P.; A-WEB, 'Ofisi Faka-Sekelitali 'a e Komoniueli, pea mo e P.A.I 'i Lonitoni ki he ngaahi fakamatala mātu'aki mahu'inga mo e ngaahi tokoni kotoa pe ki he Komisoni lolotonga 'a e ta'u 2024.

Pea pehē ki he ngaahi tokoni anga maheni 'a e tokolahi 'i he fonua ni na'e hoko ia ko e tokoni lahi ki hono fakakakato 'o e ngaahi fatongia 'o e Komisoni. Pea 'oku fai ai 'a e fakamālō kiate kinautolu ni: -

- Ngaahi Potungaue tefito 'a e Pule'anga 'o hangē ko e Fakamaau'anga, Potungaue Pa'anga; Potungaue ki he Ngaahi Ngaue Faka-Lotofonua, pehē ki he Ófisi 'o e Palemia;
- 'Ofisi 'o e Failesisita 'o e Fā'ele, Pekia mo e Mali;
- Polisi Tonga mo e Komisiona Polisi
- 'Eiki Fakamaau Lahi mo e Failesisita 'o e Fakamaau'anga Lahi 'a Tonga
- Tau Malu'i 'o 'Ene 'Afio
- Sea, Talēkita mo e kau Mēmipa 'o e Komisoni ki he Ngaahi Ngatangata'anga 'o e Ngaahi Vāhenga Fili;
- Ongō Kovana 'o Vavaú mo Ha'apai mo 'ena kau Ngaue;
- Kau 'Ofisa Fakavahefonua mo e 'Ofisa Kolo;
- Sosaieti Sivile, Kau Taki Komuniti mo e ngaahi Kautaha Ongoongo; mo e
- Kau Fakafofonga Pule'anga 'o 'Eua, Niuatoputapu mo Niuafou'u.
- 'Ofisi 'o e Kaati Faka'ilonga'i Fakafonua