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OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF WORKS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

(Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, Electric Power Corporation, Samoa Airport Authority, Samoa Ports Authority, Samoa Shipping Corporation, Samoa Water Authority, South Pacific Games Authority, Planning and Urban Management Agency, Transport Control Board)

19 Mati 2006

PEPA MO LE KAPENETA (PAPER TO CABINET)

MATAUPU (Revised CIM Strategy, 2006)

FAAMATALAGA (DESCRIPTION)

The first "Coastal Infrastructure Management Strategy" (CIM Strategy) was adopted by the Cabinet of Samoa in 2001 as part of the first Infrastructure Asset Management Program (IAMPI).

The 2001 CIM Strategy revolutionized the way Samoa managed coastal hazards, protected the environment and promoted sustainable coastal development. However, after 5 years it was felt it is time to review the Strategy and bring it up to date to reflect the progress being made at the village level to implement it; to reflect a wider range of sustainable resource management issues and to reflect new legislation, including the PUM Act 2004.

The 2001 CIM Strategy had as its central vision "Resilience - Coastal Infrastructure and Communities Resilient to Natural Hazards". The word "resilience" has been retained in the 2006 revision of the CIM Strategy because it remains very relevant today, encouraging everyone to be adaptive, responsive and quick to recover from natural hazards and hazard events.

However, the first revision of the CIM Strategy has expanded the range of hazard issues that are considered and takes a more holistic approach to land and resource management, looking at the management of catchments in total - from the mountains to the sea.

Land use change and development in upper catchment areas (for example de-forestation) can have a major impact on the severity of natural hazards down stream and hence the resilience of communities to recover from natural events such as cyclones, storms and flooding.

The 2006 revision of the CIM Strategy provides policy direction for all major natural hazards impacting Samoa and extends coverage to areas beyond the coast where

infrastructure is vulnerable - for example along stream and river margins and on steep erosion prone land.

Another major improvement in the 2006 revision is the integration of sustainable resource management and emergency management principles. In the past, emergency management has been focused on response during a disaster and recovery after the event. However, community resilience to disasters can be improved by much earlier intervention before the event.

Sensible land use planning and environmental management can go a long way toward reducing hazards and avoiding development in hazard prone areas. These principles are central to the 2006 revision and there is a clear emphasis on the full spectrum of emergency management principles - hazard reduction, improved readiness, efficient response and a quick recovery.

The CIM Strategy, Revision 1 (2006), like the original CIM Strategy, is targeted at a wide audience of organisations, government departments, communities and villages and is easy to read. Under the original Strategy, CIM Plans were prepared during 2001 and 2002 for 15 of Samoa's 43 Districts. Cabinet's endorsement of this revision will ensure that PUMA and others have the most up to date broad guidance document for assessing developments in the coastal zone, within the context of the existing CIM Plan agreements reached between Government and the villages.

Adoption of this revision will also ensure that everyone involved in preparing the remaining 28 CIM Plans for the Country (currently being undertaken as part of the SIAM-2, C-4 program), continues to consider the CIM Strategy as a concise, relevant guide for improving Samoa's resilience to natural hazards.

TALOSAGA (REQUEST)

That Cabinet adopt the CIM Strategy Revision 1 (2006) as a Government Policy document.

FAUTUAGA (RECOMMENDATION)

That Cabinet adopt the CIM Strategy Revision 1 (2006) as a Government Policy document.

Ma lou faaalofalo lava

Faumuinā Tiatia Liuga

Minisitā o Galuega, Felauaiga ma Atinae Tetele