



Fiji Islands Revenue and Customs Authority

PRESS RELEASE

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Fiji Accedes to the Revised Kyoto Convention

The Republic of Fiji's Ambassador to Brussels and former FIRCA Board Chairman, Mr. Peceli Vocea has deposited Fiji's Instrument for Ratification for accession to the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (revised Kyoto Convention) with the World Customs Organization (WCO) on 26th January 2010. Fiji is now the 66th country to accede to the Convention.

The Convention is regarded as a blueprint for simplification, harmonization and modernization of customs procedures. These best practices were evolved into standards and incorporated in the Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC) on the simplification and harmonization of customs procedures, which was entered into force on 3 February 2006. The core of this instrument is modernized customs working methods, based on risk management, and supported by modern technology.

Fiji's accession to the RKC will ensure that the Fiji Islands Revenue & Customs Authority (Fiji) adopts simple yet efficient customs procedures, ensuring maximum level of facilitation to goods and passengers moving around the world. FIRCA recognises that the effectiveness and efficiency in how we conduct our work is fundamental to the development and promotion of investment in Fiji.

The RKC offers many benefits not only to FIRCA but to the nation as well. Firstly Fiji traders will be able to reduce their costs of trading goods; and secondly FIRCA will be able to concentrate our human resources on examining high-risk goods only. The implementation of the RKC will yield results by improving the effectiveness and efficiency of customs administrations and, therefore, economic competitiveness.

FIRCA is now undertaking a review of all its business processes to ensure that its practices and procedures are consistent the within the transitional period stipulated in the Convention. The accession is a milestone achievement for FIRCA as we strive for efficiency to meet the current demands of international trade

JITOKO TIKOLEVU
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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