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Press Release

FNU and Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation partner to enhance research

Suva, Fiji. The Fiji National University (FNU) and the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote and collaborate on research cooperation.

Speaking at the event, FNU's Pro Vice-Chancellor Research Professor Nii-K Plange said the MOU served as the foundation of a deep and mutually beneficial partnership between the two organisations.

"The partnership with the Ministry of Women, Children & Poverty Alleviation recognizes our core mandate and together we will undertake work whose outputs can contribute to the pressing challenges of climate change and the need for sustainability and economic wellbeing of our communities," said Professor Nii-K Plange.

The senior academic said together with knowledge creation, FNU is also committed to using its research capabilities to assist with Fiji's policy priorities.

"We believe that research findings always contribute to nation building and open new and challenging frontiers of knowledge. Indeed, as we participate in building a knowledge economy, research and skills for robust data analysis, will continue to remain a significant part of our core mandate," added Professor Plange.

FNU with the Ministry of Women, Children & Poverty Alleviation will undertake joint activities together which includes the following:

- development of collaborative research projects;
- organisation of joint academic and scientific activities, such as courses, conferences, seminars, workshops, symposia or lectures;
- exchange of academic and management staff for teaching and research activities;
- exchange of women, people living with disabilities and staff to undertake study, work placements or participate in research programs; and
- exchange of publications and other information of common interest

The MOU is valid for three years.

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About the Fiji National University: The Fiji National University (FNU) was established through the merger of 7 government-owned tertiary institutions in Fiji, and commenced operations from 1 January 2010. The constituent institutions are found at over 40 different locations across Fiji, and collectively offer Certificates, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas, Degrees, Postgraduate qualifications and Skills Upgrading for those who are already in employment. Approximately 30,000 students pass through the University each year. Over the last six years of its operations, the University has registered major achievements with regard to new programme delivery, quality improvements and contribution to research and publications via

its 5 Colleges: The College of Humanities & Education (CHE), the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences (CMNHS), the College of Engineering, Science & Technology (CEST), the College of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry (CAFF), the College of Business, Hospitality & Tourism Studies (CBHTS) and the National Training & Productivity Centre (NTPC).