



[PART 4]

**III. ORDERS OF THE DAY – Consideration of Select Committee Reports**

**1. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 215, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on P.P. 2014/2015 No. 151, Polynesian Airlines Company Annual Report for the Financial Year 2012/2013**

The Chairperson of the Committee, **Hon PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang, Individual Voters** moved motion for Committee report to be approved by the Assembly. The Chairperson read out Committee recommendations.

**The Committee Report was approved without debate. Pursuant to Standing Order 54, Government to table a response no later than 90 days after the approval of the Committee Report.**

**2. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 216, Report of the Primary Production Committee on P.P. 2014/2015 No. 120, Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for the Financial Year 2012/2013.**

The Chairperson of the Committee, **Hon LEAUPEPE Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi, Member for Aana Alofi No. 1** moved motion for Committee report to be approved by the Assembly. The Chairperson read out Committee recommendations.

- i. LEALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi, Member for Faleata West*, acknowledged the report and made reference to production for exports, stating that ‘sea’ is no longer allowed to be exported to Australia. The Member also commented on fumigation services especially for fine mats, and noted that Australia Customs does not acknowledge the certificate

provided from the local Ministry of Agriculture, and stated that this should be reviewed. Furthermore, the Member stated that there is an increase in rhinoceros beetles around Vaitele area endangering coconut trees.

The **CHAIRPERSON** in response to matter raised regarding rhinoceros beetles, stated that the Ministry is working to resolve this issue.

**The Committee Report was approved. Pursuant to Standing Order 54, Government to table a response no later than 90 days after the approval of the Committee Report.**

**3. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 217, Report of the Government Administration Committee on P.P. 2014/2015 No. 124, Annual Report of the Public Service Commission for the Financial Year 2010/2011.**

The Chairperson of the Committee, **Hon TUUU Anasii Leota, Member for Siumu** moved motion for Committee report to be approved by the Assembly. The Chairperson read out Committee recommendations.

- i. **LEALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi, Member for Faleata West**, queried recommendations of the Committee particularly where it mentions that PSC is facing challenges, and questioned as to what these challenges were. Also queried that the recommendation on the retirement age, qualifications and appointments of Chief Executive Officers and Assistant Chief Executive Officers.*

**MOTUOPUAA Uifagaasa Aisoli Vaai, Committee Member, Member for Vaisigano No. 2**, clarified that the difference in appointment between the CEO and ACEO as clarified by the PSC CEO is that there are often cases of conflicts of interest. ACEO's reappointment after contract expiry is subject to the final say by the CEO.

**LEALAILEPULE** queried whether ACEO's have the right and power to appeal and lodge grievances regarding appointment.

The **Hon MINISTER for Public Enterprises, LAUTAFI Fio Selafi Purcell**, clarified that there is a grievance process where the ACEO can show his or her views if he believes he was dealt with unfairly.

**The Committee Report was approved. Pursuant to Standing Order 54, Government to table a response no later than 90 days after the approval of the Committee Report.**

**4. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 218, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the P.P. 2014/2015 No. 78, Annual Report of the Samoa International Finance Authority for the Year 2013.**

The Chairperson of the Committee, **Hon PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang, Individual Voters** moved for Committee report to be approved by the Assembly. The Chairperson read out Committee recommendations.

- i. AVEAU Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo, Member for Faleata East* queried as to the purpose for Committee recommending to utilize methods that

are used in other Pacific Islands. Also on Recommendations 2 stating staff loans, the Member queries as to why the Committee requested the staff loans be removed. Furthermore, staff entitlements and benefits were queried.

The **Chairperson** clarified that the first Committee recommendations advises the Authority to seek other alternatives to develop the services in order to gain revenue for the country. The second recommendation is to ensure a consistency throughout the board for public servants. Central Bank of Samoa used to grant staff loans but it was ceased however, the Authority still continues this scheme but it should also be ceased for consistency and in compliance with Cabinet Directives. The third recommendation does not raise an issue in regards to the entitlements and benefits of the staff Authority, however, they have different entitlements in regards to number of annual leave but it should be consistent with other public servants.

The **Hon PRIME MINISTER** clarified that the Authority promotes Samoa as a potential investment country overseas, initiatives have been done in Hong Kong and the like. In terms of privileges for employees in Ministries and Corporations – the privileges granted to employees vary depending upon the Chief Executive Officer at the time. It is a common idea that privileges and benefits granted to staff under corporations are better than Ministries but Cabinet has addressed this anomaly by regulating similar benefits for all.

**AVEAU** stated that the phrasing of the recommendations can be misinterpreted to mean that there was an issue with the operation of the Authority.

**The Committee Report was approved. Pursuant to Standing Order 54, Government to table a response no later than 90 days after the approval of the Committee Report.**

**5. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 219, Report of the Justice, Police and Prisons, Land and Titles Committee on the P.P. 2014/2015 No. 119, Samoa Law Reform Commission Report on the Law Practitioners Act 1+976, Report 05/11.**

The Chairperson of the Committee, **TUISA Tasi Patea, Member for Sagaga le Falefa**, moved motion for Committee report to be approved by the Assembly. The Chairperson read out Committee recommendations.

- i. **MOTUOPUAA Uifagaasa Aisoli Vaai, Member for Vaisigano No. 2**, queried the use of “barrister” and “solicitor” as there is a difference between the two, whereas now there is only one term to define both.*
- ii. **LEALAILEPULE Rimoni Aiafi, Member for Faleata West**, queries whether a consultation was conducted by the Committee and questioned as to why most of the recommendations were not approved.*

- iii. **AVEAU Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo, Member for Faleata East**, queried as to why there are missing sections in the report, and requested for the Chairperson to clarify on recommendation 37.

The **Chairperson** stated that the Member of Faleata East take note that the Report states recommendations that are not used in the Act that was passed in 2014.

**LEALAILEPULE** queried as to whether the Committee consulted the Law Society or the Attorney General Office in order to discuss the recommendations in the Samoa Law Reform Commission report.

The **Chairperson** stated that all recommendations were considered and relevant bodies were consulted. In response to comment by the Member for Vaisigano No. 2, clarified that a barrister and solicitor is still a lawyer, although the duties vary they are regarded as lawyers.

**MOTUOPUAA** stated that he wanted the Report to be disregarded as not all Members of the Committee have signed the Report.

**LEALAILEPULE** reiterated on the matter raised by Member for Vaisigano No. 2, and stated that all Members of the Committee must sign the Report, as the Assembly cannot accept a Report that does not have witnesses that will be directly affected by the issues.

**The Committee Report was approved. Pursuant to Standing Order 54, Government to table a response no later than 90 days after the approval of the Committee Report.**

**Proceedings were suspended at 10:15pm**

**Proceedings to resume at 9.00am, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2015.**