

## Fiji Day Remarks – Manager Corporate Governance

Good afternoon, everyone, and good afternoon, Fiji, for you tuning in live from here and abroad.

Today, as we celebrate Fiji Day, we come together not just as colleagues, but as sons and daughters of a nation built on unity, diversity, and shared purpose. Fiji Day reminds us of the historic moment in 1970 when our country took its place among the family of nations, independent, proud, and determined to chart its own destiny. It is a time to reflect on how far we've come, and to renew our promise to serve Fiji with loyalty and integrity.

For us at FICAC, that promise has a special meaning. The Commission was established to safeguard the very principles that define our independence: fairness, accountability, and the rule of law. We were created to ensure that public power is never used for private gain, and that no one is above the law. In many ways, FICAC is one of the quiet defenders of Fiji's democracy, working behind the scenes to uphold the values our forefathers fought for.

As we mark this Fiji Day, we do so with renewed energy under our Strategic Plan 2025–2030, built around the theme *Speed, Integrity, and Impact*. This plan challenges us to deliver justice swiftly, to act with integrity in every decision, and to create real impact — not through words, but through outcomes that restore public trust. It is a plan that shifts us from measuring activity to proving results: faster investigations, stronger prosecutions, smarter prevention, and greater transparency.

But beyond plans and policies, this day is also about people; about you, the officers of FICAC. From our investigators and lawyers, to our registry, finance, and support staff — each of you plays a vital role in ensuring that corruption finds no safe ground in Fiji. Your long hours, your sacrifices, and your quiet dedication are what give meaning to our mandate.

Fiji Day reminds us that our strength as a nation lies not in wealth or power, but in service — in the simple, steadfast act of doing what is right, even when no one is watching. That is the essence of integrity.

So as we share this meal and our talanoa this afternoon, let us celebrate the journey of our nation, the work of this Commission, and the people who make it possible. Let us carry forward the spirit of Fiji; a spirit of courage, honesty, and unity ; into everything we do.

Vinaka vakalevu, and happy Fiji Day to you all.