



# GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **NIUE IS ON TRACK FOR 98% OF 12 – 15 YEAR-OLDS FULLY VACCINATED BY THE END OF THE WEEK**

*Government of Niue Rollout Pfizer / BioNTech Vaccine For Youth*

**Alofi, Niue – 24 November 2021** – The Government of Niue (GON) today announced that it had commenced the second dose rollout of its Pfizer and BioNTech (Comirnaty) programme to vaccinate its youth aged 12-15 years of age.

Niue is one of the few countries globally to be COVID-19 free and fully vaccinated over 97% of its eligible population aged 16 years and older.

Of the 141 eligible youth who received their first dose of the vaccine in October, 135 received their second dose on Friday last week, with three youth awaiting the second dose this week. This will mean that 98% of eligible youth have received their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of the Pfizer vaccine by the end of this week.

Five other youth who recently turned 12 years of age also received their first dose of the vaccine last week but are not included in the 98% coverage.

The Premier of Niue, Hon. Dalton Tagelagi says the Government of Niue aims to continue protecting the people of Niue, including its youth, with the vaccine programme.

“We are delighted with the 98% vaccination rollout of our youth, and we hope that those that have yet to make up their minds will decide to vaccinate in the coming weeks. Our main priority continues to be the health and safety of the Niue people, and we continue to work with New Zealand’s health authorities to support us in our vaccination rollout.”

In another announcement, the Government of Niue would like to inform the public that all fully vaccinated arrivals currently in MIQ facilities have all tested negative on their day three test as part of standard testing protocols. All arrivals into MIQ will be released on Sunday, 28 November 2021, after a negative result is received for their day 12 test.

GON will also like to reiterate that the start date for reducing MIQ stays from 14 days to 10 days has still not yet been decided by Cabinet.

“As we anticipate the reduction of MIQ, this is an important update in the way GON has managed COVID-19 thus far. We will ensure that we commence these changes with the utmost care and based on the latest medical advice for the people of Niue to protect their health and safety,” says Premier Tagelagi.

**ENDS**

For further information or any questions, please contact the DG of Ministry of Social Services, Gaylene Tasmania, [Gaylene.Tasmania@mail.gov.nu](mailto:Gaylene.Tasmania@mail.gov.nu) or the Secretary of Government on +683 4308 or email on [Niue.secgov@mail.gov.nu](mailto:Niue.secgov@mail.gov.nu).