



## GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

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### **THE PREMIER AND THE PRIME MINISTER RELEASED A JOINT STATEMENT TO SIGNIFY THEIR FIRST MEETING IN NIUE**

**Alofi, Niue – 04 June 2024** – The Prime Minister of New Zealand, Right Honourable Christopher Luxon and the Premier of Niue, Hon. Dalton Tagelagi have agreed to enhance the special relationship that exists between their two countries, as Niue marks 50 years of self-government in free association with New Zealand.

Prime Minister Luxon and Premier Tagelagi held formal talks this morning and released a Joint Statement to signify their first official meeting in Niue. The two leaders emphasised the enduring nature of the unique constitutional arrangement, and the strong people, social and economic connections it fosters. The two leaders discussed and agreed to enhance the relationship that exists between Niue and New Zealand as trusted partners.

“New Zealand and Niue share a close bond and it’s been great to sit down with Premier Tagelagi to discuss areas of cooperation and our mutual priorities,” Prime Minister Luxon says.

“Our work with Niue extends across sectors including health, education, and infrastructure resilience.”

The Prime Minister of New Zealand, Christopher Luxon announced \$NZ21m for renewable energy to help Niue reach its goal of 80% renewable energy by 2025. Mr Luxon said, “this will reduce Niue’s reliance on expensive diesel with a resilient energy system that could also reduce the cost of living for Niueans, while also bringing down greenhouse emissions.”

Premier Tagelagi said he was pleased about New Zealand’s investment into Niue’s renewable energy infrastructure as infrastructure is one of the key priorities for Niue and building resilient systems for the future.

New Zealand has also committed NZ\$2 million to the Niue Ocean Wide Trust (NOW), a public-private partnership which aims to develop a resilient blue economy and ensure long term ocean conservation and management.

Funding for these initiatives comes from New Zealand’s International Development Cooperation programme.

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