



Ref.: C.L.6.1994

The Director-General of the World Health Organization presents his compliments to the Governments of the Member States and has the honour to transmit the text of a letter, received on 22 March 1994, requesting admission of Niue to the World Health Organization. In accordance with Article 6 of the Constitution, and Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Health Assembly, this application shall be placed on the agenda of the next session of the Health Assembly.

The Director-General avails himself of this opportunity to renew to Member States the assurance of his highest consideration.

GENEVA, 31 March 1994

ENCL: (1)



GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

FAKATUFONO NIUE

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Dear Director General,

The Government of Niue has for some time now, considered the question of becoming a member of the World Health Organisation. Having given the matter detailed consideration, it is my honour to formally submit to you on behalf of the Government of Niue an application for Niue to be admitted as a Full Member of the World Health Organisation. That application is made pursuant to Articles 3 and 6 of the Constitution of the World Health Organisation. It is respectfully requested that the application by Niue for Full Membership be placed before the next meeting of the Health Assembly (WHA 47) to be held in Geneva in May of this year. The Government of Niue would like to send a delegation comprising the Minister of Health, and the Director of Health in support of Niue's application, to the Health Assembly meeting.

Niue is a self governing state in a free association with New Zealand. It's constitutional position, and self governing status are detailed in the attached statement of Niue Constitutional and International Status, attached and marked as Appendix 1. That statement has been prepared in consultation with New Zealand and describes Niue's constitutional position vis a vis New Zealand. The application is for Niue to join the World Health Organisation as a full member. I add at this point that New Zealand fully supports the application by Niue to join the World Health Organisation. That support will be submitted at the meeting of the Health Assembly at which Niue's application is to be considered.

Since becoming a self governing state in free association with New Zealand in 1974, Niue has steadily expanded and developed its foreign relations in line with its limited resource capabilities and the increased need for closer cooperation with other countries in the region across a broad spectrum of activities. For example, Niue is a member of the South Pacific Forum, the paramount political body in the region and a member of the South Pacific Commission.

It has played an active role in the Forum deliberations as well as the two major regional organisations established by the Forum, the Forum Secretariat and the Forum Fisheries Agency. In particular it is of significance that in October of last year Niue was admitted to full membership of UNESCO.

Niue has entered into treaties in its own right and in particular is the depository of the Niue Treaty, a treaty on cooperation and Fisheries Surveillance and Law Enforcement in the South Pacific Region. That treaty was open for signature at Honiara, Solomon Islands on July 1992. Attached hereto and marked as Appendix 2 are details of Multi Lateral treaties to which Niue is a party in its own right.

Over the last year or so the Government of Niue has considered with interest World Health Organisation activities in the various fields within its mandate. As in most countries, health is of primary importance to my Government, and my Government is convinced that Niue is in a position not only to contribute effectively to the work of the World Health Organisation but also to benefit substantially from the assistance which the World Health Organisation offers countries such as Niue. Having studied the World Health Organisation Constitution, the Government of Niue pledges and undertakes to abide by its provisions and to accept all the obligations enshrined in that Constitution. It also accepts and agrees to meet the membership fees payable pursuant to the Constitution.

I express the hope that this application to join the World Health Organisation will receive the favourable consideration of the Health Assembly. The Government of Niue would be more than happy to provide any further information that may be required to enable the Health Assembly to give proper and detailed consideration to the application submitted.

I submit Sir my very best wishes and kindest regards and assurances of my Government's highest consideration.

Yours sincerely



Hon O V Jacobsen
MINISTER OF HEALTH