



STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Review of the National Fire Authority 2013 Annual Report



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI
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COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP



Chairperson

Hon. Viam Pillay MP
Government Member



Deputy Chairperson

Hon. George Vegnathan MP
Government Member



Member

Hon. Alipate Nagata MP
Government Member



Member

Hon. Salote Radrodoro MP
Opposition Member



Member

Hon. Dr Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu MP
Opposition Member

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the report of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs on the annual review of the National Fire Authority 2013 Annual Report.

In accordance with its established Annual Report review process, the Committee examines Annual Reports of agencies, in order to investigate, inquire into, and make recommendations relating to the agencies' administration, legislative or proposed legislative programme, budget, functions, organisational structure and policy formulation. As part of this process, the Committee received written responses from National Fire Authority to gather additional information.

The process has proven to be an effective means of gauging its progress and maintaining a high level of scrutiny of the agencies under review.

This review was made in accordance with Standing Order 109(2)(b) which mandates the Committee to look into issues related to health, education, social services, labour, culture and media.

The review looked at the 2013 financial year in relation to nine key areas: The organization's administration; structure; budgetary allocation; programmes and activities; policies; challenges; achievements; priorities for the coming years; and its implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

At this juncture, I wish to thank the Chief Executive Officer, Mr, Sowane Puamau and his staff for their assistance in this review process. I also extend my gratitude to my Committee colleagues namely: Hon. George Vegnathan (Deputy Chairperson), Hon. Alipate Nagata, Hon. Salote Radrodro, and Hon. Dr. Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu for their contributions. Finally, I thank the Secretariat, Ms. Sheron Narayan, Ms. Marica Tuisoso, and Ms. Atelaite Leba for the assistance provided during the committee's deliberations

I, on behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs, commend the Review of National Fire Authority 2013 Annual Report to Parliament and request all members of this August House to take note of the Committee's Report.



Hon. Viam Pillay
Chairperson

COMMITTEE'S OBSERVATIONS

The Standing Committee on Social Affairs has conducted the annual review of the National Fire Authority for 2013.

We note that the National Fire Authority has had a lapse of six years in reporting on its operational and financial performance. The submission of Annual Reports is an important element of accountability to Parliament. We are concerned with the delay in the submission of NFA's Annual Reports as it reduces our ability to effectively scrutinise its performance and administration of its programs in a timely manner.

We look forward to a change so that the National Fire Authority is more vigilant in the timely submission of its Annual Reports to Parliament.

We have no further matters to bring to the attention of the House. We recommend that the House take note of our report.

Recommendation

1. That the National Fire Authority submit its pending Annual Reports from 2014 to 2019 before the end of the 2020/2021 financial year to allow for proper scrutiny.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' SIGNATURE

We, the Members of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs, hereby agree with the contents of this report:



Hon. Viam Pillay
(Chairperson)



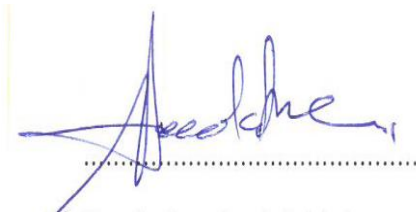
Hon. George Vignathan
(Deputy Chairperson)



Hon. Alipate Nagata
(Member)



Hon. Salote Radrodoro
(Member)



Hon. Dr. Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu
(Member)

APPENDICES

Published written evidence

Written evidence and supplementary information was received from National Fire Authority and can be viewed on the Parliament website at the following link:

<http://www.parliament.gov.fj/committees/standing-committee-on-social-affairs/>