



STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Review of the Fiji National Sports Commission August 2019 – July 2020 Annual Report



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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 Radrodro 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 Fiji National Sports Commission for the period from August 2019 – July 2020.

This review was undertaken 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 committee first met to deliberate in March of this year and formulated questions pertaining to the Annual Report which were sent to the Sports Commission for its response. Upon receipt of all relevant information on the committee's queries, the committee compiled its findings and subsequently endorsed its report in March.

No significant issues arose during the committee's scrutiny of the operations and financial statements of the Sports Commission for 2019 - 2020. However, the committee has made two recommendations to the Sports Commission for the enhancement of its service delivery.

Firstly, the Sports Commission should consider working with the Ministry of Youth and Sports and other agencies such as, Municipal Councils and the Ministry of Housing and Community Development, to identify and upgrade grounds for community use in rural and peri-urban areas.

And secondly, the committee recognises that the Sports Commission faced challenges in the achievement of some of its strategic objectives due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, we are of the view that the Sports Commission should engage in a more concerted effort with its stakeholders for the sustenance of its Sports Development Programmes.

At this juncture, I wish to thank the Executive Chairman of the Fiji National Sports Commission, Mr. Peter Mazey, and his staff for their timely 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 Radrodoro and Hon. Dr Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu for their contributions during the committee's deliberations.

On behalf of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs, I commend this Report to Parliament and request all members of this august House to take note of the Report.



Hon. Viam Pillay
Chairperson

LIST OF ACRONYMS

FNSC - Fiji National Sports Commission

MP - Member of Parliament

RECOMMENDATION:

The Standing Committee on Social Affairs has conducted the annual review of the Fiji National Sports Commission for 2019 – 2020 and recommends that the House take note of its report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The 2019 - 2020 Annual Report of the Fiji National Sports Commission was tabled in Parliament during the December 2021 meeting and referred to the Standing Committee on Social Affairs for its scrutiny.

Standing Orders 109(2)(b) allows Standing Committee on Social Affairs to examine matters related to health, education, social services, labour, culture and media.

Furthermore, Standing Orders 110(1)(c) authorises the Standing Committee to “*scrutinise the government departments with responsibility within the committee's subject area, including by investigating, inquiring into, and making recommendations relating to any aspect of such a department's administration, legislation or proposed legislative program, budget, rationalisation, restructuring, functioning, organisation, structure and policy formulation.*”

1.1 Committee Procedure

We first met in March to deliberate on and formulate questions pertaining to the 2019 - 2020 Annual Report of the Fiji National Sports Commission which was sent to the Commission for its response.

Upon receipt of all relevant information on the committee’s queries, we compiled our findings on the Annual Report and subsequently endorsed it in the latter part of this month.

We received written response from the Fiji National Sports Commission for this annual review. They are available on the Parliament website, at the following link: <http://www.parliament.gov.fj/committees/standing-committee-on-social-affairs/>

2.0 ABOUT THE FIJI NATIONAL SPORTS COMMISSION

- 2.1 The principal activity of the Commission is to guide and enhance the delivery of sports programmes in Fiji through a coordinated approach at all levels of participation by government statutory bodies and the community and to ensure the development of sports in Fiji. The Commission was established under the Fiji National Sports Commission Act No. 5 of 2013.

3.0 COMMITTEE'S OBSERVATIONS

- 3.1 No significant issues arose during the committee's scrutiny of the operations and financial statements of the Sports Commission for 2019 - 2020.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That the Sports Commission work with the Ministry of Youth and Sports and other agencies such as, the Municipal Councils and Ministry of Housing and Community Development, to identify and upgrade grounds for community use in rural and peri-urban areas.
- 4.2 We recognise that the Sports Commission faced challenges in the achievement of some of its strategic objectives due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, the committee recommends that the Sports Commission engage in a more concerted effort with its stakeholders for the delivery of its key Sports Development Programmes.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The committee has fulfilled its mandate to review the 2019 - 2020 Annual Report of the Fiji National Sports Commission. No significant issues have been observed.

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 Vegnathan
(Deputy Chairperson)



Hon. Alipate Nagata
(Member)



Hon. Salote Radrodoro
(Member)



Hon. Dr. Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu
(Member)

APPENDIX

Published written evidence

Written evidence was received from the Fiji National Sports Commission and can be viewed on the Parliament website at the following link: <http://www.parliament.gov.fj/committees/standing-committee-on-social-affairs/>