



**Minister for Home Affairs and Immigration**  
Honourable Mr. Pio TIKODUADUA

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**RESPONSE TO WRITTEN QUESTION 09/2023 (A)**  
**BY THE**  
**HON. LENORA QEREQERETABUA**

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**Can the Minister update the Parliament on the remuneration, allowances and all entitlements of former RFMF Commanders from the years January 2005 to 16 September 2021?**

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**BACKGROUND**

During the last Parliamentary Sitting on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 the Assistant Minister for Housing and Local Government Hon Lenora Qereqeretabua asked the Minister for Home Affairs and Immigration, Hon Pio TIKODUADUA for the remuneration, allowances and all entitlements of former RFMF Commanders from the years January 2005 to 16 September 2021.

**Reasons for brief.** This brief is written to provide Honourable Lenora Qereqeretabua a response to her question in Parliament.

**Scope of brief.** This brief will explain in detail the number of Officers that have held the position of Commander RFMF from the period January 2005 to 16 September 2021 and the range of remuneration held by the Commanders from this period. The brief will also explain other allowances and entitlements received by former Commanders.

Prior to the current Commander of the RFMF Major General Ro Jone Kalouniwai, three commanders held the leadership position in the RFMF. The former Prime Minister Rear Admiral Voreqe Bainimarama held the position of Commander RFMF from 2005 to 04 March 2014, Brigadier Mosese Tikoitoga held the position of Commander from 5 March 2014 to July 2015. Rear Admiral Viliame Naupoto acted in the position of Commander RFMF from August 2015 to February 2016 prior to being appointed as the Commander RFMF in March 2016.

Remuneration for the three previous commanders of the RFMF ranged from an annual salary of between \$94,000.00 - \$222,000.00. This base annual salary varies between the three previous commanders; however, the respective base salaries are not inclusive of other allowances. During the period 1999 to 2014 of Rear Admiral Bainimarama's leadership in the RFMF, apart from his annual remuneration, he also received the RFMF service allowance.

Brigadier Tikoitoga and Rear Admiral Naupoto did not receive any additional allowances as the period of them taking up the position coincided with the introduction of the revised civil service contracts that did not allow any other allowance apart from the remuneration package.

The three previous Commanders in the RFMF, also receive entitlements as part of the position they held as the head of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces. The Commanders are entitled to an official vehicle with a driver for official duties and the Commander is entitled to Business Class travel for official overseas meetings only. Additionally, as the Commander RFMF, the officers were entitled to an official phone and official government residence in which he pays 8% of his basic salary as rent and this is deducted at monthly intervals which is paid directly to the Office of the Accommodation and Government Housing Unit at the Ministry of Finance.

The Commanders are entitled to 21 days of annual leave or any other leave entitlements applicable to the government employees and contribute towards the superannuation (FNPF) during their period of service in accordance with the relevant laws. Furthermore, the Commanders were entitled to free medical attention by a government medical officer, however, a charge is levied for any medication and drugs. Free dental attention is not entitled for public officers or those subsidized by government. This entitlement of free medical service is limited only the Commander, and this does include his family or dependents.

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## **Minister for Home Affairs and Immigration**

Honourable Mr. Pio TIKODUADUA

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### **RESPONSE TO WRITTEN QUESTION 09/2023 (B)**

**BY THE**

**HON. LENORA QEREQERETABUA**

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**The rate of return of RFMF Annual Reports for the period January 2005 to 16 September 2021 as per legal requirement/s then and now, for tabling in Parliament.**

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#### **BACKGROUND**

During the last Parliamentary Sitting on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 the Assistant Minister for Housing and Local Government Hon Lenora Qereqeretabua asked the Minister for Home Affairs and Immigration, Hon Pio TIKODUADUA for *the rate of return of RFMF Annual Reports for the period January 2005 to 16 September 2021 as per legal requirement/s then and now, for tabling in Parliament.*

**Reasons for brief.** This brief is written to provide Honourable Lenora Qereqeretabua a response to her question in Parliament.

The Ministry has noted the past request for the tabling of the RFMF's Annual Report in Parliament and as the Minister responsible for the Forces, I wish to highlight in this August House that I will endeavour to have the RFMF reports table during my term of office. I acknowledge that the delay in the submission of the reports was change in leadership and staff rotation within the headquarters attributed in the hold up in the compilation of the reports.

Currently my Ministry has received the Annual Report for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 which will be tabled to Cabinet. The RFMF is in the process of retrieving and collating the annual reports from 2005 to 2018. Given the massive task to compile the reports from this period, I have been given the assurance by the Commander of the RFMF that these Annual reports will be submitted and tabled to a later date.