

# Joint NGO Submission to the Universal Periodic Review of Samoa September 2015

## A. Introduction

This submission has been prepared by the Samoan Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations (**SUNGO**), in consultation with a number of Samoan Non-Governmental Organisations (**NGOs**)<sup>i</sup>

SUNGO is an Incorporated Society [with a current membership of 178]<sup>ii</sup>, registered in 1998, that aims to work in partnership with civil society and government to promote sustainable development and improved quality of life for people of Samoa. It achieves this by providing information, programmes, opportunities, and advocacy for civil society in Samoa. SUNGO provides alternative development options to assist vulnerable groups in Samoa, as well as providing input into Government policy on behalf of NGOs, Community Based Organisations (**CBOs**) and Civil Society Organisations (**CSOs**) on issues concerning the wellbeing of people and society.

## B. Constitutional and legislative framework

1. Some protection of human rights is provided for in Part II of the Samoan Constitution, including: the right to life (art 5); right to personal liberty (art 6); freedom from inhuman treatment (art 7); freedom from forced labour (art 8); right to a fair trial (art 9); rights concerning criminal law (art 10); freedom of religion (art 11); rights concerning religious instruction (art 12); rights regarding freedom of speech, assembly, association, movement and residence (art 13); rights regarding property (art 14); and freedom from discriminatory legislation for some groups (art 15). Further there are strong legislative environment for the protection of basic human rights in Samoa. These include the rights to due process, right to property, freedom of religion etc.

2. Samoa is a party to four of the core international human rights instruments: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (**ICCPR**), Convention on the Rights of the Child (**CRC**), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (**CEDAW**) and the Convention against Enforced Disappearances (**CED**),

3. Samoa has signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (**CRPD**) but has yet to ratify it,

4. Samoa is commended for signing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in addition to the previously ratified four Human Rights Instruments however Samoa needs to adopt a comprehensive legal framework for the protection of human rights in line with international standards.

### Recommendations:

4.1. Samoa should immediately sign and accede the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (**ICESCR**) and its Optional

Protocol; International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (**CERD**); Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (**CAT**) and its Optional Protocol; Optional Protocol to CEDAW; Optional Protocols to CRC; International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers (**ICPRMW**) and Members of their Families; Convention (No. 169) concerning indigenous and tribal peoples in independent countries;

4.2. Samoa should immediately ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (**CRPD**) and its Optional Protocol;

4.3 Samoa should work to incorporate into domestic law the human rights treaties it has ratified (listed at 2 above) following consultation with a diverse group of people who are affected by these laws and processes.

4.4 As priority, Samoa should ratify, at a minimum, the ICESCR, CERD, CAT, CRPD and ICPRMW by Samoa's next Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in 2019. Samoa should, as in 2 above ratify each of the treaties and conventions listed in 4.1 above, and also incorporate these into its domestic law.

4.4. Samoa should provide for and resource human rights and responsibilities education including lessons on rights under the Samoan Constitution, in primary and secondary schools and in communities.

5. Samoa is commended for establishing an independent human rights institution as recommended in 2011.

### **Recommendations:**

5.1. Samoa's Human Rights Institute must be accredited under the 'Paris Principle' and must be independent and adequately resourced.

5.2 Revise and update Schedule One of the Ombudsman Act 2013 to include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (**ICCPR**)

5.2. Samoa should support the establishment of a Pacific Human Rights Commission, to be housed in Samoa, which will develop policies and guidelines to address human rights concerns from countries in the Pacific region that do not have a HRC or whose HRC is suppressed by political agendas.

### **C. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms**

6. Samoa is commended for issuing a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council which would benefit the country from advice, promotion, protecting and reporting on thematic or country specific human rights issues.

### **D. Promotion and protection of human rights in society**

#### ***1. Equality and non-discrimination***

7. Samoa benefits from a constitutional guarantee of freedom from legislation that discriminates on the basis of descent, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, social origin, place of birth, family status (Constitution, art 15). This guarantee, however, needs to be proactively promoted and activated within Samoan societies ensuring people benefits

from the equal enjoyment of human rights at a societal level irrespective of one's abilities.

**Recommendation:**

7.1 Office of the Ombudsman and the National Human Rights Institute should proactively promote and protect human rights in society with adequate resources from government for them to be able to do this.

**8. Women**

Samoa has a greater recognition of women's rights in Samoa, where more women continue to occupy senior roles and positions of leadership within its economy. Despite this increase, Samoan women continue to be marginalised within government, church communities and village councils where there are several impediments to overcome before women can truly benefit from equal enjoyment of rights. These include the following:

7.1. Only one Church in Samoa has allowed ordination of women to be priests, lay preachers or pastors.<sup>iii</sup>

7.2 Remunerations for Male and Female village representatives continue to [Pulenuue & Sui Tamaitai] remain discriminatory with the female representative receiving less than the male representative.

7.3. Some villages where women hold matai titles still do not recognise these matai women within the village government whilst some villages do not recognise titles bestowed upon women by their families.<sup>iv</sup>

7.4. At present only 3 out of the 49 members of the Samoan Parliament are women. There remain considerable impediments where in some villages, women are not allowed to hold matai titles hence are not entitled by law to become political candidates in villages such as Lalomanu Aleipata and Leulumoega Tuai. These impediments disadvantage women and contribute to lower political representations of women.

**Recommendations:**

7.1.1 National Council of Churches should support the ordination of women to be priests, lay preachers or pastors.

7.1.2. Samoa should fulfil its commitment to equality and non-discrimination and ensure equal remuneration for men and women for work of equal value.

7.3.3 Samoa should support the women who are matai title holders and ensure that they have equal opportunity to participate in community, villages and in the political decision making processes.

7.3.4 Samoa should align its laws on political representation to its obligations under CEDAW.

7.3.5 Samoa should take corrective measures to reduce gender imbalance in the legislative and executive branches of government,

**8. Children**

8.1. Domestic and sexual violence and abuse against children is widespread and continues to be a problem in Samoa.

8.2 Incidences of child vendors particularly after school hours and during school holidays continue despite article 32.1 of the CRC protecting children from work that interferes with the child's education, social development, etc.

8.3 Due to cultural sensitivities sex education is often overlooked within education programmes however this needs to be discussed in order to address related issues.

**Recommendation:**

8.1.1. Government should provide tougher penalties around sexual violence and abuse of children and strengthen its child protection laws in these areas.

8.1.2. Government should urgently implement a child sex offenders' register.

8.1.3 Government needs to strengthen sex education targeting early teenage pregnancy, STIs and HIV AIDS.

8.1.4 Government should take measures to reduce numbers of child vendors, consistently with its obligations under Convention (No. 182) concerning the prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour and Convention (No. 138) concerning minimum age for admission to employment.

**9. Employment**

9.1 Securing employment continues to be a problem in Samoa where many school leavers and graduates find it difficult to secure paid employment.<sup>v</sup> Similar to other countries in the Pacific like Fiji, Vanuatu, Tuvalu etc, that encourage the mobilisation and transfer of their skilled labourers, Samoa should consider strengthening this area through partnerships with other nations that it has bi-lateral relations with.

**Recommendations:**

9.1.1 Government must strengthen its TVET Programs ensuring that there is alternative course of studies for students to undertake.

9.1.2 Samoa should actively seek partnerships and opportunities particularly within the Pacific for mobilisation of its skilled labourers.

9.1.3 Samoa should negotiate for more intakes into the existing seasonal workers schemes.

**10. Traditional / Indigenous Rights**

10.1 Land Tenure systems continue to be problematic because often decisions that affect the land such as leases, royalties etc. does not involve land owners [heirs/sulis] or the community resulting in increased conflicts and tensions and loss of land use by indigenous owners.

**Recommendations:**

10.1.1 Government needs to consult more with the people on the use of traditional lands.

**II. Right to life, liberty and security of person**

**11. Violence against women**

11.1 We commend the Government for passing the Family Safety Act 2013 and its current implementation however there needs to be increased awareness around its provisions especially on protection orders and there needs to be a multi-sectoral approach to addressing domestic violence. [involving the matais, communities, churches etc]

11.2 We note that recommendation 73.32 [criminalisation of rape within marriage] has yet to be implemented and we urgently recommend that Government fulfils this recommendation.

**Recommendations:**

11.1.1 Government must adequately and sufficiently resource the implementation of the Family Safety Act 2013.

**12. Prison**

12.1 Conditions of detention are still a concern in Samoa and issues around basic health care, sanitation, water and hygiene and overcrowding remains. Further the lack of rehabilitation and reintegration activities identified in round one still exists.<sup>vi</sup>

**Recommendations:**

12.1.1 Samoa Government to increase budgetary allocation in its budget to expedite the building of the approved new compound for the Samoa Prisons and Corrections Services.

12.1.2 The new infrastructure should be adequately resourced to ensure that all issues raised in 12 above are addressed.

12.1.3 Samoa Government must ensure utmost security for the prisoners and the public.

**13. Police**

13.1 Whilst there has been considerable progress around police practises, knowledge around human rights law and enforcement of the same noted since the last review there needs to be continuous up skilling of police officers especially new recruits around the law and human rights.

**Recommendations:**

13.1.1 Government must adequately resource the up skilling of all police officers to update their knowledge and information for the effective delivery of their services.

**14. Administration of justice**

14.1 Noting the progress since the last review around administration of Justice, there remains an inadequate and unequal access to justice in Samoa. Access to lawyers and to the court system is unaffordable for many.

14.2 We commend the government's decision to implement a Community Law Centre which will resource our marginalised population.

14.3 Samoa's Office of Ombudsman has recently amended its Act in June 2013. However the public remains uninformed of the major changes in the powers of the Ombudsman and services under the Ombudsman Amendment Act 2013 such as the setting up of the National Human Rights Institute [NHRI] and the Special Investigations Unit [SIU].

**Recommendations:**

14.1.1 We urge the Samoan Government to regulate the fee structures charged by the private lawyers on certain legal matters. Alternatively, Government should increase resources and initiatives around pro bono legal services.

14.1.2 We strongly urge the Samoa Government to expedite the resourcing and set up of this essential service [Community Law Centre] for its people.

14.1.3 The Samoa Government should promote effective public awareness programs related to the roles of the Office of the Ombudsman and the changes to its Act.

**IV. Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Information**

15.1 Whilst Freedom of Expression is widely understood and generally accepted in Samoa there remain certain impediments within certain rural village settings where Freedom of Expression has been suppressed.

15.2 Access to public documents remains a challenge in Samoa due to the amount of fees charged to access the documents which include Acts, Bills, and Regulations etc.

**Recommendations:**

15.1.1 The current amendments to the Village Fono Act must include the Freedom of Speech and Expression as articulated under Article 13 of the Constitution.

15.1.2 Government must establish a mechanism to ensure that people has free access to Information.

**V. Right to participate in public and political life**

**16. Voter Education**

16.1 With increase in younger voting population, there is a growing demand for voter education so that people are informed and free to cast their votes.

**Recommendations:**

16.1.1 The Samoa Government should include voter education and civic responsibilities in the Education Curriculum.

16.1.2 Samoa Government to increase voter awareness in communities and villages.

**17. Unrepresentative electoral system**

17.1 The political system requires that a person must hold a matai [chiefly] title to qualify to stand in the elections which is an impediment to those who do not hold those titles and in particular women.

**Recommendation:**

17.1.1 To review the Village Fono Act to ensure compliance with CEDAW and the Bill of Rights in the Samoa Constitution.

**VI. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living**

**18. Poverty, homelessness and social security**

18.1 At present the Superannuation Scheme is set at 7% employer and 7% employee and this is insufficient to secure adequate standard of living for the contributors.

18.2 Also, the Samoa Government provides senior citizens pensions at ST130.00 per month which is insufficient to meet the basic needs of recipients and their families.

**Recommendation:**

18.1.1 Samoa Government should consider reviewing its Superannuation Contributions to ensure social security of contributors.

18.1.2 The Samoa Government should increase Senior Citizens pensions to ensure they are able to meet their basic needs.

**19. Right to Health [Recommendations 73.36]**

19.1 Healthcare services in Samoa remains predominantly public funded and there is significant growth in the provision of private sector healthcare services. New Public Services facilities that have been built in Apia and Satapuala are commended. Samoa also has 7 district healthcare facilities. However, there are critical areas that require Samoa's support primarily in the resourcing of all these facilities with the relevant medical profession and pharmaceutical personnel to provide the services in order for Samoans to fully and equally access their rights to health care.

19.2 We commend the existing relevant policies within the Health Sector<sup>vii</sup> however NCDs and conditions including obesity, diabetes, heart diseases, high blood pressure, stroke and cancer are still increasing at an alarming rate. The prevalence of these diseases is high and increasing as evident in the following data - Obesity, is currently 52.7% Diabetes 23.3% and High Blood Pressure 21.4%.<sup>viii</sup> In addition, NCDs are now appearing in young people and complications from these diseases are more common. Samoa should evaluate the effectiveness of these policies given the steady increase over the past few years.

**Recommendations:**

19.1.1 Samoa should improve the quality of health care service delivery ensuring that there are sufficient medical personnel outsourced to the district healthcare facilities and in the main resource centre.

19.1.2 Samoa should increase scholarship opportunities for medical studies and seek bi-lateral assistance to increase scholarship opportunities.

19.1.3 More Opportunities to be provided for specialised medical studies in the fields that are vital to the Health Sector in Samoa.

19.1.4 Samoa should strengthen health promotion and primordial prevention.

## **20. Right to Education [Recommendations 73.38 & 73.39]**

Education in Samoa is compulsory from ages 5 to 14<sup>ix</sup> but challenges are still evident as follows:

20.1 There are still many children noticeably roaming the streets instead of attending school,

20.2 There is still lack of enforceability of the Act and minimum resourcing to ensure proper implementation,

20.3 Weak enforcement by the Village Representatives<sup>x</sup>

20.4 While education is compulsory there are hidden costs hindering the full realisation of right to education,

### **Recommendations:**

20.1.1 Samoa increases financial resources and oversight to ensure the full implementation of the Education Act 2009.

## **21. Environment [Recommendations 73.41]**

21.1 Awareness of people on climate change issues and its impacts remains a challenge and needs to be effectively addressed by government.

### **Recommendations:**

21.1.1 Mainstream climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies within the Education Curriculum and within government and the Samoan community at large.

21.1.2 Government should adopt a multi-sectoral approach including the involvement of Non-Governmental Organisation in raising awareness within Samoa and internationally.

## **22. Rights of the migrant worker**

22.1 Samoa has yet to sign and ratify the Migrant Workers Convention. Further, there are weak legislative frameworks that ensure the protection of the rights of migrant workers.

### **Recommendations:**

22.1.1 Samoa Government should ratify the Migrant Workers Convention before the next UPR cycle.

## **VII Key Initiatives**

23.1 We commend the current work of the Police Force in reducing drug and alcohol related crimes however there is still need for the police force to undergo specific trainings to better equip officers for the effective deliverance of their roles.

23.2 Further Samoa needs to prioritise its budget allocations specifically in the areas of education and health which are the important sectors that deals with the education and health of the nation.



**Recommendation:**

23.1.1 Samoa to support the strengthening of the Police Force by providing further capacity building initiatives and to seek partners in the region for experiences sharing.

23.1.2 Samoa to increase its budgetary allocations to the Education and Health Sector to expedite the key initiatives and commitments by these Sectors to ensure that people have access to these basic rights to Education and Health.

**VIII Capacity Building and Technical Assistance**

24.1 Climate change is a constant threat to Small Islands Developing States. Samoa as a SIDS will continue to be impacted by climate change. We believe that there is a need for Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Risk Management awareness to be built at the community level as well as mainstreaming Climate Change and its impacts in primary schools curriculums.

**Recommendation:**

24.1.1 Samoa should support local Non-Governmental Organisation to build awareness of the matter discussed in 24.1 above in communities.

24.1.2 Samoa should provide the technical assistance and support for the NGOs that will conduct awareness programs.

24.1.3 Samoa should start mainstreaming Climate Change and its impacts in the Schools curriculums.

## ENDNOTES:

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<sup>i</sup> Adventist Disasters Relief Agency [ADRA], Goshen Trust, Nuanua o le Alofa [NOLA], Pan Pacific South East Asia Women Association [PPSEAWA], Samoa Family Health Association [SFHA], Senese, SUNGO

ii **SUNGO Membership Organisation**

1. Adventist Development & Relief Agency
2. AeLe Fou Primary Sch
3. AGLOW Samoa
4. Aiga Potopoto
5. Alamagoto Youth Club
6. Autalavou EFKS
7. ALII MA FAIPULE- Vaitele
8. Alofilima ole Alofa - Fogatuli
9. Animal Protection Society
10. APTC - Technical College
11. Asosi Taulasea Samoa
12. Atinae Tauatiae Samatau
13. Au Fai Faatoaga, Lafu Manu Tauatiae
14. Aufailafumanu Puleono Salafai
15. Tama O le Sami
16. ALII MA FAIPULE- Saina
17. Autalavou EFKS Manunu
18. Autalavou EFKS Moataa
19. Autalavou EFKS Poutasi
20. Autalavou EFKS Tanoalei'a
21. Autalavou EFKS Tulaele
22. Autalavou EFKS Vaoala
23. Autalavou Katoliko Safotu
24. Autalavou Nasareta
25. Autalavou Tamaitai o le Mauga
26. Avanoa Tutusa
27. Baha'i Charitable Trust
28. Clarence Sebastian Trust Foundation
29. BASI
30. Congregational Christian Church Vaipuna
31. Courier of Samoa
32. Diabetes Association Inc
33. Education and Science Foundation
34. EFKS - Vaitele Uta
35. EFKS Leauvaa
36. EFKS Lelepa
37. EFKS Nu'u
38. EFKS Vaipu'a
39. EFKS VAVAU COMMUNITY
40. Ekalesia Faapotopotoga Kerisiano i Samoa
41. Export Taro Growers Group
42. Faalapotopotoga Atinae o Komiti Tumama o Samoa (Samoa Women Committee Development Organisation (SWCDO))
43. Faalapotopotoga Aufaifaatoaga Laiti i Aleisa
44. Faalapotopotoga o Atinae mo le Soifua - Fusi, Saoluafata
45. Faasao Savaii Society
46. Faataua le Ola - FLO
47. Faleasiu Women Fellowship
48. Fasitoo-uta Aoga Amata
49. Fathers Association Faleasui/Satomai
50. Fortress of Faith Ministries Trust
51. Gagaifolevao Junior Youth EFKS Lefaga
52. Gataula Primary Health Care
53. Gautavai EFKS Youth
54. Goshen Trust

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55. Independent Water & Waste Schemes Association
  56. Inter Island Group
  57. Kionasina Fishing Club
  58. Komiti Atinae Faleu, Manono
  59. Komiti o Tina - Siupapa, Lepa
  60. Komiti o le Vai Nuusuatia
  61. Komiti Tina - Falefa
  62. Komiti Tina Faleapuna
  63. Komiti Tina Poutasi
  64. L.T.L Society / Vaiolii Tuanai
  65. Le Piu Farmers
  66. Le Taeao Fou Organisation
  67. Le Talie Women Organisation
  68. Leadership Samoa
  69. Leo o Faamanuiaga (Voice of Blessing)
  70. Loto Taumafai Education
  71. MAFUTA Organisation
  72. Lotofagā Development
  73. Mafutaga Tina EFKS Faatoia
  74. Mafutaga Tina EFKS Faleapuna
  75. Mafutaga Tina EFKS Tafitoala
  76. Magiagi EFKS After School Reading Programme
  77. Malaemalu Methodist Youth
  78. Manumalo Baptist School - Salelologa
  79. Manumalo Baptist School and Community Center Trust Inc
  80. Matagaluega Metotisi Leulumoega-tuai
  81. Matuaileoo Env't Inc - METI
  82. Mauloa Agriculture Development
  83. Methodist Saloga Salelologa
  84. Motivational Arts Dance & Drama (MADD) Gallery
  85. Namusigano Development Organisation
  86. National Council of Early Childhood Education
  87. National World Women's Christian Temperance Union
  88. Nuanua o le Alofa – NOLA
  89. O le Pupu Pue National Park (Local Committee)
  90. O le Siosiomaga Society - OLSSI
  91. Pacific Water & Waste Association
  92. Paia Catholic Youth
  93. Pan Pacific South East Asia Women's Association - PPSEAWA
  94. Paneta Kalapu
  95. Papaseea Sliding Rock Development
  96. Pasefika Mana Samoa Social Work Services Inc
  97. Piu Community Development
  98. Punalei Pool Club
  99. Robert Louis Stevenson Foundation (R.L.S. Foundation Inc.)
  100. Rotaract Club of Samoa
  101. Saina Methodist Youth Group
  102. Saleimoa Community Based Organisation
  103. Samalaeulu Worship Centre
  104. Samoa Adventist PTA
  105. Samoa Aids Foundation - SAF
  106. Samoa Association of Manufacturers & Exporters - SAME
  107. Samoa Association of Human Rights and Law Incorporated
  108. Samoa Association of Women Graduates - SAWG
  109. Samoa Cancer Society
  110. Samoa Conservation Society
  111. Samoa Family Health Association – SFHA
  112. Samoa Council of Churches
  113. Samoa Hotel Association - SHA
  114. Samoa Registered Nurses Association – SRNA
  115. Samoa Returnees Charitable Trust
  116. Samoa United Nations Association

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117. Samoa Victim Support Group
  118. Samoa Youth for Christ
  119. Saumalu Community Pre Sch
  120. Sei Oriana
  121. SENESE Preparatory School
  122. Shrine of the Three Hearts
  123. SIARCH (Samoan Institute of Architects)
  124. Simple Law
  125. SISDAC Autalavou Vaitele fou
  126. SISDAC Salelavalu
  127. Small Business Enterprise - SBEC
  128. Sosaiete Aufaipopo i Samoa
  129. Sosaiete o le Atinae o Aiga - Siufaga, Savaii
  130. Sosaiete Tau Atiae Fogatuli
  131. Sosaiete Tulimatagau
  132. South Pacific Business Development
  133. St Teresa PTA
  134. Survival Foundation Society
  135. Tagiilima Handicrafts Association
  136. Tanugamanono EFKS
  137. Tanugamanono Methodist Youth
  138. Tausala o Falefatu
  139. Tautai Samoa Association Inc
  140. Tavana Nurses on Wheels
  141. Tiapapata Arts Centre
  142. Tu ma Aga Faamatai Association
  143. Utulua Methodist Youth
  144. Vailele Learning Centre
  145. Vaisilika Organisation
  146. Vaitoomuli EFKS Youth Group
  147. VOC Women & Youth Fellowship Vaitele Uta
  148. Voice of Christ Full Gospel Church - Siufaga, Savaii
  149. Wesley College PTA
  150. Women in Business Development
  151. Women's Federation for World Peace
  152. Young Women's Christian Association
  153. Au-Uso Fealofani
  154. Au-Uso Fealofani
  155. Mafutaga Tina Metotisi Lefagaoolii
  156. Saleaula Methodist Youth
  157. Saloga Methodist Youth
  158. Finau ma Tauivi mo le Lumanai
  159. Faiva Alofilima o Tina
  160. Lumanai Manuia mo Aiga
  161. Au-Uso Fealofani
  162. Au-Uso Fealofani
  163. Methodist Youth and Sunday School
  164. TAGIILIMA
  165. Methodist Youth of Sapulu
  166. Au-Uso Fealofani
  167. Autalavou Metotisi Saletagalua
  168. Au-Uso Fealofani
  169. Tafua Tai Methodist Youth
  170. Sosaiete Fesoasoani Moni
  171. TAGIILIMA
  172. Sosaiete o Aumaga ma Taulelea
  173. Magfutaga Tina Asofitu (SDA)
  174. Universal Pentecostal Ministry (UPM)
  175. Nuusa Farmers Association
  176. Komiti o Tina ma Tamaitai Loa - Loimata o Apaula Papauta
  177. Assembly of God
  178. Seu le Manu ae Tagai i le Galu

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- iii Unpublished Report by Tuioti Sakaria Taituave entitled *Gender Roles Within the Church*
- iv Schoeffel, P (2015). Closed Reference Materials and Notes for *HDS 502 Gender Planning and Development*. Centre for Samoan Studies, National University of Samoa, Apia, Samoa
- v SUNGO & CSSP Joint Forum Report 2015
- vi Office of the Ombudsman & National Human Rights Institution, *State of the Human Rights Report 2015*
- vii National Non Communicable Disease Policy 2010-2015, Tobacco Control Policy , HIV Policy, National Reproductive Policy etc,
- viii National Non Communicable Disease Policy 2010-2015, National Non Communicable Disease Strategic Plan 2010-2014, Ministry of Health Annual Report 2009-2010
- ix Education Act 2009
- x Education Act 2009