



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **TAX COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCES TAX AGENT PROGRAMME A SUCCESS**

The Commissioner of Inland Revenue, Mr Joseph Dokekana, has announced that the tax agent programme that came into effect on 1 January 2023 is meeting its objectives. So far 15 tax agents have been registered with the Inland Revenue Department, receiving their Registration Certificates.

The registration process protects members of the business community and other taxpayers by ensuring that persons who act on their behalf in tax matters have the required skills and test of character to do so. To become registered, the agent must be a member of the Institute of Solomon Islands Accountants (ISIA), have no criminal record, not be bankrupt or in government employment, and meet other requirements.

“This new registration ensures that taxpayers receive the highest standard of service in relation to their tax matters,” said Mr Dokekana. “It increases trust between the government service and the taxpaying community.”

Income tax returns are due to be lodged with the IRD by the end of March for those taxpayers with a tax year ending 31 December. Those tax returns filed by persons calling themselves “tax agents”, but who are not registered with IRD, will not be accepted by IRD.

It is an offence to charge a fee to prepare a return or otherwise act on behalf of someone else, unless the person is a registered tax agent. The tax agent will display their registration certificate in a prominent place in their office.

Set out below is the list of Tax Agents who have been registered by the Commissioner as of 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023:

- 1) Mr. Roger Murray Townshend
- 2) Mr. Aubrey Talasasa (AT & Associates)
- 3) Mr. Kevin Murray
- 4) Mr. Simon Meke Ramoifai

- 5) Mr. Ting Sing Ung
- 6) Ms. Loreta Heana Roke (LH Consulting Services Ltd)
- 7) Ms. Wei Ting (Nina) Chen (Yam & Company)
- 8) Mr. Seng Kong Ng (Genesis Agency Limited)
- 9) Mr. Silas Likoho Vikea
- 10) Mr. Wayne Morris
- 11) Mr. Greg Sojnocki
- 12) Ms. Debbie Sifoni
- 13) Mr. Gift William Akwai Fakaia (GA Williams and Associates)
- 14) Mr. Vincent Francis Misi
- 15) Mr. Baoro Laxton Koraua

For contact details of these Tax Agents, please see IRD website [www.ird.gov.sb](http://www.ird.gov.sb)

IRD is urging all taxpayers to check that their agent is registered. The roles and responsibilities of a tax agent are set out on the IRD website at [www.ird.gov.sb](http://www.ird.gov.sb).

Those tax agents that their applications are pending, please contact Inland Revenue Division on the following details:

- Willie Honimae      Ph. 24621      Email: [whonimae@mof.gov.sb](mailto:whonimae@mof.gov.sb)
- Hitchen Dauara      Ph. 21552      Email: [HDauara@mof.gov.sb](mailto:HDauara@mof.gov.sb)
- Eric Saelea          Ph. 28242      Email: [esaelea@mof.gov.sb](mailto:esaelea@mof.gov.sb)

Included below are photos of tax agents receiving their Tax Agent Certificate



From left, Loreta Roke receiving her Tax Agent Certificate from George Tapo



Mr. Silas Vikea receiving Tax Agent Certificate from George Tapo (right) Deputy Commissioner