

Memorandum of Understanding
between
the Ministry of Health & Medical Services of Kiribati
and
Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington,
New Zealand

Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is designed to promote research and education co-operation between the Ministry of Health and Medical Services of Kiribati (MHMS) and Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand (VUW).

Status of this MOU

This MOU reflects the intentions of the parties to work together in good faith and in a spirit of partnership to pursue the Purpose. It does not create legally enforceable obligations.

Partnership

The partnership between MHMS and VUW will address the following specific projects:

- (1) Access to library facilities
 - a. VUW will provide two nominated members of MHMS with adjunct status that will provide them with access to VUW's library facilities for the purposes of accessing information in academic medical journals and similar sources.
- (2) Access to scholarships for I-Kiribati students.
 - a. I-Kiribati research students wishing to study at VUW are able to apply for VUW's Pasifika scholarships at both masters and PhD level in accordance with relevant policies and University requirements.
- (3) Partnership in health research
 - a. VUW will identify staff in its Faculty of Health who are interested in working on issues related to the healthcare and related disciplines in Kiribati.
 - b. VUW and MHMS will work together to identify appropriate research issues.
 - c. MHMS will identify healthcare workers in Kiribati who can work on these research issues and will provide access to facilities in Kiribati to progress research on these issues.
 - d. VUW and MHMS will work together to source funding from national (Kiribati and/or New Zealand) and international agencies to progress research.
- (4) Advanced training for MHMS staff
 - a. VUW and MHMS will investigate developing a "grow our own" programme for advanced training of staff in Kiribati, based on the model currently implemented by a collaboration of the National University of Samoa and VUW. This involves students remaining in Kiribati, being taught and supported remotely from New Zealand and being able to join virtual student communities.
 - b. Depending on funding, VUW staff may be able to visit Kiribati on a regular basis (e.g., every six months) and Kiribati students would have the

- opportunity to visit New Zealand. Alternatively, and depending on funding, Kiribati students and VUW staff may visit a third site (e.g., the National University of Samoa) to take advantage of other partnership arrangements.
- c. VUW and MHMS will jointly seek international or national funding for the "grow our own" programme.

Duration

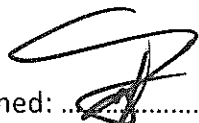
This MOU will commence from 7 February 2023 and shall remain in effect until 6 February 2028.

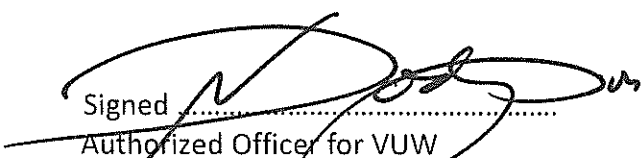
Termination or Amendments

This MOU may be terminated by either party by notification in writing.

This MOU may be amended by mutual agreement of the two (2) Parties in writing.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:

Signed: 
 Authorized Officer for MHMS

Signed: 
 Authorized Officer for VUW

Timote I. Hiribea
 FULL NAME

NEIL DODGSON
 FULL NAME

Minister MHMS
 TITLE

DEAN FGR
 TITLE

7th Feb 2023
 DATE

7/2/23
 DATE

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