

# Samoa joins the WHO-FIC Network

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# Samoa joins the WHO-FIC Network

- Samoa is the first PICT to join the World Health Organisation Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) Network
- This is an opportunity to be part of the global discussion on the development and use of health classifications, and the importance of having PICT representations in global initiatives
- Ms Kirisitina Etuale, Principal Medical Records Officer, Ministry of Health, has been appointed as the Samoan Country Focal Point to the [WHO-FIC Network](#).

# How are Focal Points involved?

- ICD-11 Country Focal Points are member state-designated persons to participate (and vote) in Classification and Statistics Advisory Committee – International Classifications of Diseases (CSAC-ICD) processes
- For countries who do not have an official voting member as nominated through a collaborating centre.
- CSAC-ICD is the WHO-FIC Network Committee supports WHO and the WHO-FIC Network in keeping ICD-11 of the WHO-FIC in line with current knowledge.

# What it meant for Pacific Island Territories

- This was an opportunity for PICT to have an insight of the developments of ICD11
- The reassurance that the information will be available through the WHO-FIC Network.
- PICT will have access to implementation platforms
- Engage in discussion with committees and groups.
- During 2022 Samoa has attended virtual discussion leading up to the annual meeting in October

# Benefits for ICD coders.

- Indicating the need for additional guidance for coders and technical improvements
- Work Plan to be centered around the transition and implementation phases of ICD-11
- Understanding of the Guidelines and rule of ICD 11
- ICD-11 is now officially in effect for the national and international recording and reporting of illness, deaths and more.
- Has encouraged Samoa to move on to ICD-11

# Recommendations

- Nomination of one WHO-FIC focal person to represent Pacific. This is to ensure the Pacific (PICT) are provided with the same information.
- Establishment of PICT WHO-FIC network for the Pacific to nominate representative to global initiatives. It is a good opportunity for the region to ensure that the ongoing development of health classifications is fit-for-purpose for the countries in the region
- Secure funding for PICT representative. Donors will fund only one PICT representative.

# Ms Kirisitina Etuale and Ms Vicki Bennett attending the WHO-FIC Network Meeting in Geneva





**Dr Tedro Adhanom  
Ghebreyesus**

WHO Director-General  
and

**Dr Robert Jakob**

Classifications  
Terminologies and  
Standards Team Lead