



## **JOINT STATEMENT**

### **FCCC Partners with Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma to promote Sustainable Practices this Christmas**

**20 December 2024**

The Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (**FCCC**) is collaborating with the Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma this Christmas season to promote sustainable practices and raise consumer awareness, in line with FCCC's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) goals.

This ongoing initiative has been implemented during various religious celebrations to foster an inclusive, ethical and environmentally friendly marketplace in Fiji.

FCCC and the Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma will publish daily messages on social media to encourage the public to adopt safe, responsible, and environmentally friendly practices this festive season.

FCCC CEO, Joel Abraham highlighted the importance of Christmas, for all Fijians.

"Christmas is a time of joy, celebration, and togetherness, where Fijians of all faiths come together in the spirit of giving. Amidst this festive cheer, we must also remember our responsibilities to the environment and vulnerable communities," said Abraham.

"As such, we are pleased to partner with the Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma to promote sustainable practices that align with ESG goals this festive season. Through this collaboration, we aim to foster a community that values the environment, promotes substantiality, and embraces mutual respect".

The President of the Methodist Church in Fiji shares this sentiment and recognises the importance of promoting harmony and togetherness with mutual respect for all traditions and cultures.

"As we celebrate the joy and blessings of Christmas, we are reminded of our responsibility to be stewards of God's creation. This season is not only about receiving but also giving back – to our communities, to those in need, and to the environment that sustains us. Together with the FCCC, we hope to inspire Fijians to embrace sustainable practices, so our actions reflect the love and care we are called on by God to show for one another and for future generations."

FCCC and the Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma are excited to collaborate on this initiative

and more in the future to promote inclusivity, sustainability, and fair treatment. This partnership highlights the shared commitment to fostering environmental stewardship, strengthening community bonds, and honouring Fiji's rich cultural diversity this festive season. This Christmas season let us come together as a community to make thoughtful decisions that contribute to a more sustainable and equitable society for all.

### About FCCC

The Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission is dedicated to enforcing the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission Act 2010, promoting competition, fair trading, and regulating national infrastructure for the benefit of all Fijians.

### About Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma

The work of the Methodist Church (and all Christian Churches) during this Advent Season and into the coming year (2025) is to encourage all its members and all citizens to restore the image of the baby boy King that we are celebrating this time of the year. Christmas is about Christ and it is about "Restoring His Image" is about love, care, hope, sharing and is also about all things good, noble and upright. It is our prayer that we will enjoy this season and as the same time think about those who might not be as privilege as ourselves. Christ is about love, sharing and caring for one another".

-End-



#### MINDFUL CHRISTMAS CONSUMPTION

This Christmas, embrace the philosophy of "Quality over Quantity." Plan meals with care, find creative ways to use leftover dishes, and share extra food with neighbors or those in need. Opt for seasonal, locally sourced ingredients to lessen your environmental footprint and spread holiday cheer responsibly.






#### RESPONSIBLE GIFTING

Give with purpose this festive season. Make mindful gift choices by supporting local artisans and businesses and opting for ethically sourced presents. Reduce your environmental impact and carbon footprint by choosing local eco-friendly options and being aware of your online shopping habits.




#### ENERGY-CONSCIOUS HOLIDAYS

Brighten up your Christmas while conserving energy. Turn off holiday lights, unplug gadgets and electronics when not in use and invest in energy efficient decorations and appliances. Remember, even devices in standby mode are still consuming power.



#### WATER-WISE CHRISTMAS

Be mindful of water use during the holiday season. Take shorter showers, turn off taps while brushing teeth and fixing any leakages immediately contribute to water conservation. You can also collect rainwater to water your gardens to reduce water usage.







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## NATURE APPRECIATION

Reconnect with the beauty of God's creation this Christmas. Spend time outdoors and immerse yourself in the wonders of the natural world, appreciating the beauty of the season. Let the holiday spirit inspire a sense of gratitude and admiration for the environment.



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## RESTORING THE ENVIRONMENT

Celebrate the spirit of giving by helping the planet this Christmas. Plant trees and mangroves, and try participating in local conservation projects such as community clean-up campaigns. Supporting efforts to boost biodiversity is another way to nurture nature, while embracing the holiday spirit.



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## GIVING BACK WITH PURPOSE

This Christmas, make a difference by raising awareness and promoting sustainable living, encourage your community to support causes that focuses on environmental stewardship and food security. Ensure that your charitable donations go to environmentally conscious organisations and encourage others to embrace sustainable choices during the season.



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## RESPECTING HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

Celebrate the spirit of Christmas by promoting understanding and harmony. Embracing and honouring different customs and traditions and fostering a spirit of inclusion, is what welcomes people to celebrate in their own unique way and this makes the season special for everyone.



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## GREEN DECORATIONS

Decorate your home with eco-friendly decorations. Choose decorations that are reusable and opt for natural materials like wood and fabric, avoid using single use plastics. You can choose reusable lights and make your own ornaments from materials like pinecones, leaves and other natural items to keep your celebrations joyful and sustainable.



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## SAFE AND JOYFUL CELEBRATIONS

While Christmas is a time of joy, it's also important to keep safety a priority. Teach your children how to recognise unsafe situations and ensure they know who the trusted adults they can turn to are in case of an emergency. Keep hazardous items, like sharp objects, unsafe toys and flammable decorations, out of reach to ensure a fun and accident-free holiday.

