



Statement by

His Highness Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa Sualauvi II

Head of State

of the Independent State of Samoa

On the Occasion of the Presentation of Credentials of

H.E. Mrs Martha Mavrommati

Cyprus High Commissioner-designate

To the Independent State of Samoa

Office of the Head of State, Vaialele

Thursday 7th March 2019

Your Excellency,

I am pleased to accept the Letter of Credence by the President of the Republic of Cyprus, His Excellency Mr Nicos Anastasiades accrediting you as the High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus to the Independent State of Samoa.

I also extend my sincere thanks for presenting the Letter of Recall for your predecessor and ask that you convey my best wishes for the good health of the Honorable President Mr Nicos Anastasiades.

Excellency,

Our two nations have more than 15 years of diplomatic relations and have continued to work closely through our engagement with the European Union, and in areas of common interest particularly through our shared membership in the Commonwealth of Nations and the United Nations.

Through our engagement with the EU at the national and regional level we continue to benefit in a number of priority areas for Samoa and our region including but not limited to a strengthened water and sanitation sector, climate change, human rights and gender equality. Just last week, Samoa hosted a Pacific ACP-EU High Level Political Dialogue on the Post-Cotonou Agreement, as well as the EU and UN high-level event on the Spotlight Initiative, a multi-year initiative funded by the EU focussed on eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls in the Pacific.

Excellency,

We look forward to further strengthening our cooperation in the international fora, based on our shared values such as freedom, peace, justice and respect for human rights. I thank you for the updates on Cyprus and for the kind wishes for a successful 2019 Pacific Games to be held in Samoa.

Excellency,

I wish you the very best in your tenure as the High Commissioner of Cyprus to Samoa. I am confident that during your term, the cordial relations enjoyed by our two countries will continue to grow and strengthen, as well as cooperation between our two Governments.

I hope that you will enjoy the rest of your visit in Samoa and Samoan hospitality.

Soifua.