

KEY FACTS

Official name: Tuvalu

Head of State: Queen Elizabeth II, represented by Governor General Lakoba Italeli (from 16 Apr 2010)

Head of government: Prime Minister Enele Sopoaga (from 4 Aug 2013)

Ruling party: There are no organised political parties, although there are opposing political groupings.

Area: 26 square km (nine islands – five coral atolls and four reef islands)

Population: 11,000 (2012)*

Capital: Vaiaku in Funafuti administrative division

Official language: Tuvaluan, English

Currency: Australian dollar (A\$) = 100 cents)

Exchange rate: A\$1.10 per US\$ (Jul 2013)

GDP per capita: US\$3,260 (2012)*

GDP real growth: 1.40% (2012)

GDP: US\$37.00 million (2012)*

Inflation: 1.40% (2012)

Balance of trade: -US\$19.00 million (2012)*

Foreign debt: US\$13.00 million (2012)

* estimated figure

Tuvalu

Like many other small Pacific islands, Tuvalu depends largely on remittances from overseas Tuvaluans and grants, particularly from Australia. After two years of contraction, the economy grew by 1.0 per cent in 2011, largely due to higher remittances. The consumer price index increased by 0.5 per cent in 2011, which was lower than in most other Pacific economies, reflecting the appreciation of the Australian dollar (which Tuvalu uses as its currency) against the US dollar.

The *Asian Development Bank Economic Outlook 2012* reports that total revenues and grants for 2011 were slightly below budget but about 20 per cent higher than in 2010. The increase was mainly due to the grants. Government expenditure fell by more than 7 per cent as subsidies were reduced and spending on capital projects declined. These developments led to a reduction in the fiscal deficit from over 30 per cent of GDP in 2010 to about 8 per cent in 2011. However, weakly controlled spending on the Tuvalu Medical Treatment Scheme remains a heavy drain on the budget with actual expenditure 70 per cent above budget in 2011. Total government debt was estimated at 44.3 per cent of GDP in 2010, and may be higher with the status of contingent liabilities from joint-venture fishing companies to be determined.

The market value of the Tuvalu Trust Fund stood at A\$115.1 million as of 30 September 2011. As this was 9.7 per cent below its prescribed maintained value, nothing was distributed from the fund to the Consolidated Investment Fund (CIF – the vehicle through which budget deficits are financed).

Growth is expected to edge up to 1.4 per cent and 1.3 per cent in the next two years, supported by development partner-financed upgrading of the Tuvalu airfield and airport. Increases in remittances are also expected. Total revenue and grants are budgeted at A\$24.1 million in 2012, 7 per cent less than actual 2011, due to a projected 3.3 per cent reduction in receipts from fishery licences and lower grant funds. Government expenditure is estimated at A\$29.2 million (US\$30.4

million) (13 per cent below 2011) as the government tries to control spending. At A\$5.1 million (US\$5.3 million), the budget deficit is forecast at 14.3 per cent of GDP. The CIF held A\$3.1 million (US\$3.2 million) in December 2011 and, given the expected deficit, is likely to be exhausted this year. Further distribution from trust fund earnings is not expected until 2014 at the earliest.

COUNTRY PROFILE

Historical profile

1819 The captain of a ship owned by Edward Ellice, an English member of parliament, visited Funafuta and named the island Ellice Island.

1850–75 European diseases, and the kidnapping of islanders for forced labour on plantations in Fiji and Australia (a practice known as 'blackbirding'), reduced the population from 20,000 to 3,000.

1877 The Western Pacific High Commission was set up by Britain, headquartered in Fiji. The Ellice Islands and other island groups come under its jurisdiction.

1892 A British protectorate was declared over the Ellice Islands and the group was linked administratively with the Gilbert Islands to the north.

1916 The UK annexed the protectorate, which was renamed the Gilbert and Ellice Islands colony.

1975 The Ellice Islands, under the old native name of Tuvalu (eight standing together), became a separate British dependency.

1978 Tuvalu became an independent country within the Commonwealth.

1987 The Tuvalu Trust Fund was established; it provides an average 15 per cent of the country's annual budget.

1989 A UN report on the greenhouse effect listed Tuvalu as one of the island groups, which would completely disappear beneath the sea in the twenty-first century unless drastic action was taken.

1996 The 12-member parliament was forced out and Bikenibeu Paeniu became prime minister.

1998 Tomasi Puapua was appointed governor general.

1999 A no-confidence vote forced out Paeniu. Ionatana Ionatana was elected prime minister.

2000 Ionatana Ionatana died suddenly. Tuvalu was formally admitted to the UN.
2001 Parliament elected Faimalaga Luka as prime minister but later lost a no-confidence vote; Koloa Talake was elected as his replacement.

2002 Nine out of 15 MPs were re-elected. Parliament elected Saufatu Sopoanga as prime minister.

2003 The Sopoanga government lost its majority and ruled as a minority government. Faimalaga Luka was sworn in as governor general. The government regained its majority.

2004 During the first six months of the year, there were several very high 'king tides' associated with the new moon. At only four metres above sea level at their highest points, the islands experienced seawater swamping of homes and agricultural land. Prime Minister Sopoanga lost a no-confidence vote; Deputy Prime Minister Maatia Toafa was elected prime minister.

2005 Filoimea Telito was sworn in as governor general. Tuvalu signed the Pacific Islands Air Service Agreement (PIASA), to become the eighth Pacific Islands Forum country to do so. PIASA is designed to ensure open skies policies with more viable routes for airlines in the Pacific.

2006 In general elections, eight out of 15 members of parliament lost their seats, including the entire cabinet. Maatia Toafa retained his seat but lost the premiership when Apisai Ielemia was selected as prime minister.

2008 In a referendum voters agreed to maintain a constitutional monarchy.

2010 The US awarded Tuvalu a grant of US\$10,000 to begin a biofuel power generation programme, using copra-bio-diesel, made from the waste of the copra crop (coconut shells and husks). Lakoba Italeli became governor general. Tuvalu became the 187th member of the IMF. In parliamentary elections, of the 26 non-partisan candidates participating, 10 (out of 15) incumbent MPs retained their seats. Maatia Toafa won nine votes (out of 15) to become prime minister again. Prime Minister Toafa's first budget was challenged and Willy Telavi joined with the opposition to topple him. Telavi was elected by parliament as prime minister; he won eight votes Enele Sopoaga won seven.

2011 A two-week state of emergency was declared in January following opposition-led street demonstrations that threatened the residences of the governor general and prime minister. Constituents of the Nukufetau island community demanded that their representative, finance minister Lotoala Metia, should resign. The government introduced a ban on public

meetings, lifted in February. In June, the project to supply water to every home in Tuvalu had progressed to installing water tanks and associated plumbing to the seven outer islands. Funding for the work was provided by the UN and EU. A state of emergency was declared in October after fresh water ran out and bottled water dwindled to a week's supply. The US Navy delivered 136,000 litres of bottled water and the New Zealand Red Cross responded by delivering personnel and desalination machines. The shortage was the result of a lack of rainfall blamed on the La Nina weather pattern. Tuvalu had no rainfall for seven months and low rainfall for three years. The lack of rain had an impact on crops giving the island a food shortage problem. There were 30 confirmed cases of water borne diseases, due to the poor quality of drinking water. During the Commonwealth Heads of Government summit, in October, the 16 countries in which the British monarch is Head of State unanimously agreed to change the royal line of succession from that of first born son to the first born child (regardless of its gender). The change will be enacted after the succession of Prince William (currently second in line to the throne, after his father Prince Charles).

2012 In July, the US warned Tuvalu not to register Iranian ships and provide a flag of convenience (allowing owners to obtain insurance and financing of cargo), thereby breaking international sanctions against Iran. On 1 July the Seasonal Workers Programme (SWP) was officially launched. Australia grants special visas to Pacific Island workers on the SWP, on the proviso that they return to their home country when their sponsored work in Australia is completed. Around 150 workers had applied for the SWP by October.

2013 A constitutional crisis developed after the death in December 2012 of Lotoala Metia and the holding of a by-election to elect his successor. The Nukufetau by-election was eventually held on 28 June and was won by opposition candidate Elisala Pita. Governor General Italeli had to intervene to order Parliament to convene on 30 July; Toam Tanukale resigned, in an apparent manoeuvre to allow Prime Minister Televi to suspend parliament and delay a by-election to replace Mr Tanukale. Governor General Italeli exercised his powers and removed Mr Telavi, replacing him with Enele Sopoaga as interim prime minister; he was confirmed in office by parliament on 4 August. The by-election was held on 10 September and was won by Leneuoti Maatusi, giving Prime Minister Sopoaga a majority of three. Under the Majuro Declaration signed in September after the annual Pacific Forum meeting in the

Marshall Islands Tuvalu stated its intention of being 100 per cent powered energy by 2020.

Political structure

Constitution

The constitution dates from 1978. The British sovereign is head of state, represented by a governor general with limited powers. The governor general's powers to veto government measures were abolished under a constitutional amendment in 1986. Each island is ruled by a traditional council of chiefs which runs services and determines development priorities.

Independence date

1 October 1978

Form of state

Constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy

The executive

The British monarch is titular Head of State, represented by a governor general, whose functions are largely ceremonial. The governor general is appointed on the advice of the prime minister, in consultation with parliament.

Executive power is exercised by a cabinet of five members and is led by the prime minister. The government is collectively accountable to parliament.

National legislature

The unicameral Fale i Fono (parliament) has 15 members, directly elected for four-year terms. Seven islands send two members each, with one from Nukulaelae (with the smallest population). The parliament has the power to make laws, it can remove the prime minister through a vote of no-confidence and can be dissolved early by the governor general in accordance with the constitution.

Last elections

16 September 2010 (parliamentary)

Results: Parliament: 26 non-partisan candidates stood for election, 15 were chosen including 10 incumbent members.

Next elections

2014 (parliament)

Political parties

Ruling party

There are no organised political parties, although there are opposing political groupings.

Political situation

The politics of Tuvalu are dominated by the very real possibility that this collection of low-lying islands and atolls will disappear as global warming raises sea levels. Progress towards implementation of the Kyoto Protocol on climate change has not been broad or thorough enough and the peoples of all small islands are running out of time. So the action by the representative of Tuvalu, at the UN conference on climate change in Copenhagen (Denmark) in December 2009, when he

pledged with delegates to produce a legally binding agreement before storming out and closing the day's session, could be understood, if not forgiven. Environmental campaigners gave impromptu support for the passionate protest.

Population

11,000 (2012)*

The population is projected to reach 14,000 by 2025.

Population density is the highest in the South Pacific. Just over half of the total population is concentrated on Funafuti, which is the only urban centre. The water supply is poor.

In September 2003, Niue invited

Tuvaluans to migrate to their island to boost the dwindling population.

Last census: November 2002: 9,561

Population density: 372 inhabitants per square km (2010). Urban population 50 per cent (2010 Unicef).

Annual growth rate: 0.4 per cent, 1990–2010 (Unicef).

Ethnic make-up

Tuvalu's population is Polynesian in origin.

Religions

Christianity, under which the Church of Tuvalu (Congregationalists) accounts for 97 per cent of the population.

Education

The vast distances between islands make the provision of education harder, as each small community requires a trained teacher. There is only one public, secondary school, located on the island of Vaitupu, where children reside for the academic year.

Compulsory years: Seven to 14.

Pupils per teacher: 19.5 (in primary schools); 12.2 (in secondary schools) (2005)

Health

Tuberculosis has been a long-term problem, which is monitored regularly and remedied under directly observed treatments (Dots), which has notably increased the rate of recoveries.

Figures from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNCF) (formerly Unicef) revealed in January 2010 that 80 per cent of families in the most vulnerable communities were without funds to buy food; more heads of households were losing their jobs due to the global economic crisis, which had resulted in rising food prices and falling remittances. Malnutrition, particularly among children and women, was becoming of increasing concern as governments in the Pacific region were cutting back on social expenditure in the face of recession.

Life expectancy: 61 years, 2004 (WHO 2006)

Fertility rate/Maternal mortality rate:

3.7 births per woman, 2004 (WHO 2006)

Child (under 5 years) mortality rate

(per 1,000): 30 per 1,000 live births (WHO 2012)

Head of population per physician:

0.55 physicians per 1,000 people, 2002 (WHO 2006)

Welfare

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Main cities

Vaiaku in Funafuti administrative division (capital, estimated population 5,310 in 2012), Asau (664), Lolua (539) Savave (503), Kua (457).

Languages spoken

Official language/s

Tuvaluan, English

Media

Press

The *Tuvalu Echo* is published fortnightly and the government publishes a newsletter *Sikuleo o Tuvalu*.

Broadcasting

The government operates Radio Tuvalu and the online Tuvalu-News (www.tuvalu-news.tv). Most residents receive foreign television satellite programmes.

Radio: Radio Tuvalu is a government-owned station.

Other news agencies: ABC Pacific Beat:

www.radioaustralia.net.au/pacbeat

Pacific Magazine:

www.pacificmagazine.net

Pacific Islands New Association (Pina):

www.pina.com.fj

Economy

Tuvalu is a mere 26 square kilometres in size and has an economy to match. The small subsistence economy accounts for approximately 30 per cent of GDP. It is supplemented by copra exports and official transfers and investment income from overseas assets. Its smallness means that even a slight change in economic activity will affect GDP. Tuvalu has had to take its revenue where it can and when it was allocated .tv as its country-level domain (CLD) indicator it went into business with a California corporation to take advantage of it. The government sold its share in

DofTV Corporation in 2001 for A\$20 million (US\$10 million) and continues to receive a small royalty.

Other sources of revenue are fishing licences for the exclusive economic zone and remittances from seafarers (some 20 per cent of GDP). The Tuvalu Maritime Training Institute was upgraded over the period 2005–07. This was an important project as it not only increased economic activity but also ensured the Institute retained its accreditation from the International Maritime Organisation.

The Tuvalu Trust Fund (TTF) invests in equities and is normally an important source of income. The government invests its budget surpluses in the TTF as a financial stockpile for years when it runs a deficit. A second fund—the Falekaupule Trust Fund—for the outer islands, has been provided with funds by a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The Asian Development Bank estimated GDP growth of 1.5 per cent in 2009 and forecast growth of 1.6 per cent in 2010.

A sales tax of 5 per cent exists but the proposals to introduce value added tax (VAT) was being considered in 2009. The introduction of VAT would become important if the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement is ratified, since Tuvalu would be expected to lose customs revenue on imports goods from the region.

External trade

Tuvalu is a member of the South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreement (Sparteca) along with 12 other regional nations, which allows products duty free access by Pacific Island Forum members to Australian and New Zealand markets (subject to the country of origin restrictions).

Most foreign earnings are provided by sales of stamps and coins by mail order, and remittances.

Imports

Principal imports are food, animals, vehicles, mineral fuels, machinery and manufactured goods.

Main sources: Fiji (23.8 per cent of total in 2008), Australia (18.3 per cent), New Zealand (17.2 per cent).

Exports

Copra and fish are the principal export commodities; coconut oil is exported to New Zealand.

Main destinations: Germany (typically 62 per cent of total), Italy (21 per cent), Fiji (7 per cent).

Agriculture

About 80 per cent of the population survive through subsistence agriculture.

Much of the soil is infertile, rainfall is variable and crops are liable to cyclone damage. Copra is the only export crop. Family smallholdings produce subsistence crops

of pulaka, taro and other vegetables, bananas and coconuts. Agriculture is under threat from salinisation of the soil caused by rising ocean waters.

Fishing and exploitation of the sea are important to the economy, serving mainly local consumption. There is potential to increase income by negotiating fisheries agreements with other countries. The typical annual marine fish catch is 500 tonnes.

In April 2010 the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) (eight island states including Tuvalu) collectively agreed to close to *purse seine* fishing in 4.55 million square kilometres of high seas in their area, from 1 January 2011, to vessels licensed to fish in their waters. The area involved stretches from Palau and Papua New Guinea in the west to Kiribati in the east, from the Marshall Islands in the north to Tuvalu in the south; it holds an estimated 25 per cent of the world's tuna supply.

On 12 April 2011, a summit of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) concluded its strategy for a policy of sustainable fishing in the Pacific. The PNA treaty, which was established in 1989 and expires in 2012, is seen as in need of an overhaul. As a collective region (FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, PNG, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu) control around 25–30 per cent of world stocks of tuna. Only 5 per cent of sales revenue is returned to the PNA and ministers called for specific changes, including an increased share of profits, PNA crews on-board *purse seine* vessels (minimum 10 per cent), conservation and management measures including a limit to fish trapping (fish aggregating devices (FADs)), net mesh rules and the establishment of an observer agency and fisheries information management system.

Industry and manufacturing

A small industry sector (baking, construction, boat building, coconut oil mill, soap making etc) serves local needs, some handicrafts are exported.

Tourism

There is no developed tourist industry owing to Tuvalu's remote location, infrequent flights and lack of amenities.

In 2007 (the latest government statistics), there were 1,127 visitor arrivals, most of which were from Fiji (368), followed by Japan (219), Australia (120) and New Zealand (104). However, the majority of Fijian arrivals are expatriates returning home to see family and friends. Arrivals for January–June 2008 totalled 890, with the majority of visitors (355) staying in Vaiaku Lagi, the only hotel.

Facilities, including the airport, the sole hotel and some guest houses, are

concentrated on Funafuti. The other islands are relatively unspoilt, but are not easily accessible.

Environment

The government has publicly acknowledged the problem of the rising sea levels, but feels the situation has been exaggerated by the world media. Claims that the islands will be washed away by 2050 are debateable.

Mining

Tuvalu has no known mineral resources.

Hydrocarbons

There are no known hydrocarbon reserves. All fuel requirements are met by imported petroleum products.

The UN Law of the Sea gave Tuvalu an exclusive economic zone of 12,949 square km for exploration.

Energy

Total installed generating capacity was 1,480kW in 2005. The Energy Department is responsible for policy and planning for the atolls, while the Tuvalu Electricity Corporation supplies energy to customers. Japan agreed to supply three new 600kW diesel-powered generators and upgrade the distribution grid. The government has placed an emphasis on renewable energy in a bid to reduce reliance on imported fuel; there has been a take-up in the supplementary use of solar-photovoltaic (PV) panels on Vaitupu and Niutao. Niulakita is entirely powered by solar-PV home systems.

Banking and insurance

The state-owned National Bank of Tuvalu (NBT) dominates the country's banking sector. Its monopoly position ensures that it remains in profit.

Tuvalu's currency is the Australian dollar and interest rates are determined by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), so the government has little control over monetary policy. The royalty revenues generated by the '.tv' domain name (after the sale of the DotTV Corporation) have been lower than expected and are paid irregularly.

Central bank

National Bank of Tuvalu

Time

GMT plus 12 hours

Geography

Tuvalu is a scattered group of nine small atolls, extending about 560km (350 miles) from north to south in the western Pacific Ocean. Fiji lies to the south, Kiribati to the north and the Solomon Islands to the west. The Tuvalu archipelago consist of six true atolls and three reef islands. The true atolls are Funafuti, Nanumea, Nui, Nukufetau and

Nukulaelae, while Nanumaga, Niulakita and Niutao are single islands. The last three have small salt-water ponds, while Nanumea has a fresh water pond, unusual for an atoll.

At their highest point, these islands are only four metres above sea level, and vulnerable to the rise in sea levels caused through global warming.

Hemisphere

Southern

Climate

Hot and humid, temperatures 26–32 degrees Celsius. Rainfall varies considerably, up to 3,000mm in a year, falling most heavily from November–February. Hurricanes possible.

Entry requirements

Passports

Required by all.

Visa

None required, however visitors must have return/onward tickets and sufficient funds for their stay.

Currency advice/regulations

No restrictions on import and export of local and foreign currency.

Customs

Personal effects allowed duty-free. There are quarantine regulations for plants and animals, and it is inadvisable to carry fruit or plant material. Certain goods may be subject to regulation or import licensing, such as arms, fireworks, drugs, motorcycles, jewellery.

Health (for visitors)

Health facilities are basic.

Mandatory precautions

Vaccination certificate for yellow fever required if travelling from an infected zone.

Advisable precautions

There is rabies risk. Vaccinations for diphtheria, tuberculosis, hepatitis A and B, polio, tetanus and typhoid are recommended.

Hotels

There is only one hotel, the government owned Vaiaku Lagi Hotel. Reservations should be made well in advance. Visitors may be asked to share rooms when there are accommodation shortages. Private guest houses are also available. Tipping is optional and not expected.

Public holidays (national)

Fixed dates

1 Jan (New Year's Day), 15 May (Gospel Day) 12 Jun (Queen's Official Birthday), 5 Aug (National Children's Day), 1–2 Oct (Tuvalu Days, Anniversary of Independence), 25–26 Dec (Christmas). Holidays that fall at the weekend are taken either on Friday or Monday.

Variable dates

Commonwealth Day (second Mon in Mar), Good Friday, Easter Monday.

Working hours

Banking

Mon–Thu: 0930–1300; Fri: 0830–1200.

Business

Mon–Fri: 0800–1600.

Government

Mon–Thu: 0730–1615; Fri: 0730–1245.

Shops

Mon–Sat: 0630–1730.

Electricity supply

240V AC (on island of Funafuti only)

Weights and measures

Imperial system (metric units allowed in some instances).

Social customs/useful tips

Tippling is not customary. In business an informal attitude prevails. It is customary to shake hands on meeting and taking leave. Sometimes business cards are exchanged after introduction. Business is conducted in English. Visitors should be perceptive to unfamiliar local customs. Alcohol is generally available, but there are some limitations on consumption outside licensed premises. The minimum drinking age is 20 years.

Getting there

Air

International airport/s: Funafuti International (FUN), east of Funafuti.

Airport tax: Departure tax: A\$10; not applicable to transit passengers

Surface

Water: There are two government-owned ships that sail infrequently between Suva (Fiji) and Funafuti; sailing time is three days.

Getting about

National transport

Road: The only tar roads are on Funafuti. Elsewhere there are tracks. There is a limited number of vehicles, including some minibuses.

Water: An inter-island service is available which can be interrupted by bad weather.

City transport

Taxis: There are a few taxis from the airport to the city centre. Hotels offer an airport pick-up service.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The addresses listed below are a selection only. While World of Information makes every endeavour to check these addresses, we cannot guarantee that changes have not been made, especially to telephone numbers and area codes. We would welcome any corrections.

Telephone area codes

The international direct dialling (IDD) code for Tuvalu is +688 followed by subscriber's number.

Useful telephone numbers

Police and fire: 20-726

Ambulance: 20-749

Chambers of Commerce

Tuvalu Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 27, Funafuti (tel: 208-46; fax: 208-29).

Banking

Development Bank of Tuvalu, PO Box 9, Vaiaku, Funafuti (tel: 201-99; fax: 208-50).

Central bank

National Bank of Tuvalu; PO Box 13, Vaiaku, Funafuti (tel: 208-03; fax: 208-02; e-mail: gmbt@tuvalu.tu).

Travel information

Air Fiji, 185 Victoria Parade, Suva, Fiji (tel: (+679) 331-5055; email: suvasales@airfiji.com.fj).

Air Marshall Islands, PO Box 1319, Majuro MH 96960, Republic of the Marshall Islands (tel: (+692) 625-3731; fax: (+692) 625-3730; email: amisales@ntamar.net; internet: www.airmarshallislands.com).

Funafuti International Airport, Vaiaku Funafuti (tel: 20-737, 20-057; email: travel@tuvalu.tv).

Funafuti International Airport, Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Works and Communication, Private Mail Bag, Funafuti (tel: 20-737, 20-725, 20-721; fax: 20-722).

South Pacific Tourism Organisation, Level 3, FNPF Place, 343-359 Victoria Parade; PO Box 13119, Suva, Fiji (tel: (+679) 330-4177; internet: www.spto.org).

Tuvalu Marine Department, Vaiaku, Funafuti, (tel: 20-055; fax: 20-722; email: danitaleli@yahoo.co.nz).

National tourist organisation offices

Tuvalu Tourism Office, Private Mail Bag, Vaiaku, Funafuti (tel: 20-184, 20-480; fax: 20-829; lleneuofi@yahoo.com; internet: www.timelesstuvalu.com).

Ministries

Ministry of Commerce and Natural Resources, Vaiaku, Funafuti.

Ministry of Finance, Vaiaku, Funafuti (tel: 20-840).

Statistics Division, c/o Finance Ministry, Vaiaku, Funafuti (tel: 20-839).

Other useful addresses

Asian Development Bank (ADB), South Pacific Regional Mission, La Casa di Andrea, Lini Highway; PO Box 127, Port Vila, Vanuatu (tel: (+678-2) 3300; fax: (+678-2) 3183; email: adbsprm@adb.org; internet: www.adb.org/SPRM).

Broadcasting and Information Office, Vaiaku Funafuti.

Business Development Advisory Board, PO Box 9, Funafuti (tel: 20-850).

Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Works and Communications, Private Mail Bag, Funafuti (tel: 20-737, 20-725, 20-721; fax: 20-722).

Department of Commerce, PO Box 33, Funafuti (tel: 20-839).

UN Permanent Mission of Tuvalu, 800 Second Avenue, Suite 400 B, New York, NY 10017 (tel: (+1-212) 490-0534; fax: (+1 212) 808-4975; email: enele@onecommonwealth.org).

Other news agencies: ABC Pacific Beat: www.radioaustralia.net.au/pacbeat

Pacific Magazine: www.pacificmagazine.net

Pacific Islands New Association (Pina): www.pina.com.fj

Internet sites

South Pacific Tourism Organisation: www.tuvalu.spto.org

Tuvalu home page: www.tuvaluislands.com