

No. 4180

**NEW ZEALAND (IN RESPECT
OF NEW ZEALAND'S ISLAND TERRITORIES
and WESTERN SAMOA)**

and

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND (IN RESPECT OF FIJI,
WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION and TONGA)**

**Agreement (with appendix) for the continued operation
of a South Pacific Health Service. Signed at Wellington,
on 20 September 1957, at Apia, on 26 September
1957, at Suva, on 15 November 1957, at Nukualofa,
on 2 December 1957, and at Honiara, on 10 January
1958**

Official text : English.

Registered by New Zealand on 25 February 1958.

No. 4180. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND (IN RESPECT OF NEW ZEALAND'S ISLAND TERRITORIES AND WESTERN SAMOA) AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (IN RESPECT OF FIJI, WESTERN PACIFIC HIGH COMMISSION AND TONGA) FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF A SOUTH PACIFIC HEALTH SERVICE. SIGNED AT WELLINGTON, ON 20 SEPTEMBER 1957, AT APIA, ON 26 SEPTEMBER 1957, AT SUVA, ON 15 NOVEMBER 1957, AT NUKUALOFA, ON 2 DECEMBER 1957, AND AT HONIARA, ON 10 JANUARY 1958

WHEREAS, on the 7th day of September, 1946 the Government of Fiji, the Western Pacific High Commission, acting for and on behalf of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, and the Government of New Zealand, acting in respect of New Zealand's Island Territories including Western Samoa, desiring to combine for the more effective protection of the health of the people in the Territories under their administration, entered into an Agreement for the establishment of a South Pacific Health Service,²

AND WHEREAS on the 11th day of June, 1951³ the Government of Fiji, the Western Pacific High Commission and the Government of New Zealand entered into a further Agreement for the continued operation of the South Pacific Health Service replacing the Agreement of 7 September, 1946,²

AND WHEREAS the said Agreement of the 11th day of June, 1951 provided that it should continue in force until the 31st day of December, 1954,

AND WHEREAS with the concurrence of the parties thereto, the said Agreement of the 11th day of June, 1951 has nevertheless continued to have full effect up to the date of the entry into force of the present Agreement,

AND WHEREAS the said Agreement of the 11th day of June, 1951 applied to the Colony of Fiji, to the Kingdom of Tonga and to the several Western Pacific

¹ Came into force on 10 January 1958, the date of the last signature, in accordance with article 14 (1).

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 101, p. 82.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 101, p. 77.

and New Zealand Territories for and on behalf of, or in respect of which it was signed,

AND WHEREAS it is desired to make provision for the continued operation of the South Pacific Health Service in accordance with the provisions contained in the present Agreement,

AND WHEREAS it is desired that the Government of Tonga and the Government of Western Samoa should be joined as parties to the present Agreement,

AND WHEREAS the Government of Fiji, the Western Pacific High Commission and the Government of Tonga are authorized to conclude the present Agreement by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

AND WHEREAS the Government of Western Samoa is authorized to conclude the present Agreement by the Government of New Zealand,

NOW THEREFORE the Government of Fiji, the Western Pacific High Commission, the Government of New Zealand, the Government of Tonga, and the Government of Western Samoa (hereinafter referred to as "the participating Administrations") agree as follows :

1. The South Pacific Health Service shall extend and apply to the Territories named in the Appendix¹ hereto, and may, by agreement between the Participating Administrations, be extended and applied to other Pacific Island Territories.

2. The South Pacific Board of Health, established pursuant to the said Agreement of the 7th day of September, 1946, (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") shall continue to supervise and control the South Pacific Health Service.

3. The Board shall consist of :

(a) The Inspector-General, South Pacific Health Service, appointed under Article 8 of the present Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "the Inspector-General") who shall be Chairman of the Board ;

(b) The Director of Medical Services, Fiji or (whenever the same person holds office as Inspector-General and as Director of Medical Services, Fiji) a person nominated by the Governor of Fiji ;

(c) The Director-General of the Department of Health, New Zealand, or his representative ;

(d) The Director, Division of Nursing of the Department of Health, New Zealand, or her representative ;

(e) A person nominated by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific ;

(f) A person nominated by the Premier of Tonga ;

(g) A person nominated by the High Commissioner of Western Samoa.

¹ See p. 118 of this volume.

4. (1) Meetings of the Board shall be held at those times and places which the Board or the Chairman may from time to time determine : provided that a meeting (hereinafter referred to as "the Annual Meeting") shall be held at least once during each year as near as possible to the month of June ; and provided also that at least each alternate meeting shall be held in Suva.

(2) At any meeting of the Board, four members of the Board shall constitute a quorum, provided that one of those members shall be the person appointed under sub-paragraph (e) or sub-paragraph (f) or sub-paragraph (g) of Article 3.

(3) At any meeting of the Board, the Chairman shall have a deliberative vote and, in case of equality of votes, shall also have a casting vote ; and the decision of the majority of members present shall be the decision of the Board.

(4) The Board may invite observers to attend any of its meetings.

5. The headquarters of the Board shall be located in Suva.

6. The Board shall have the power to establish and maintain office premises and shall employ the clerical and other office staff which it may from time to time deem necessary.

7. The functions of the Board shall be :

(a) to advise the Participating Administrations on all health matters within their Territories ;

(b) to collect information in regard to the incidence of disease within the Territories of the Participating Administrations, and to ensure the transmission of relevant information to the Participating Administrations ;

(c) to revise from time to time the standard code for quarantine reporting which has been drawn up by the Board for the guidance of the Participating Administrations ;

(d) to assist the Participating Administrations in maintaining adequate medical, nursing and sanitary staff ;

(e) to nominate a person or persons to act on behalf of the Board in selecting candidates for appointment to the South Pacific Health Service ;

(f) to encourage, coordinate and, if necessary, initiate medical research within the Territories of the Participating Administrations ;

(g) to advise the Participating Administrations in all matters relating to the training of Assistant Medical Practitioners, Nurses, Sanitary Inspectors, Technicians and auxiliary health personnel ;

(h) to make recommendations to the Participating Administrations as regards the conditions of service, including the salary scales, of all grades of medical and health personnel ;

(i) to consider the estimates of expenditure presented to it by the Inspector-General, and to establish its annual budget ;