



## **National Anti-Money Laundering Council**

Established under the Financial Transactions Reporting Act 2004

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### **PRESS RELEASE 01/2024**

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### **National Anti-Money Laundering Council Commits to Strategies to Combat Financial Crime**

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The National Anti-Money Laundering Council (Council) has agreed on strategies to further strengthen legal and institutional measures to combat money laundering and financial crimes in Fiji. This was discussed and agreed at the Council's meeting on 20 February 2024.

The Council is concerned with the nature and number of financially motivated crimes recently reported in Fiji and the potential wealth that local criminals and their associates are gaining from these crimes.

The Chairperson of the Council, Solicitor-General and Permanent Secretary for Justice, Mr Ropate Green, emphasised that it is important that Fiji has strong laws and institutions in place to fight the problem of financial crime. These institutions also need to have competent and properly equipped officials who can detect, investigate and prosecute financial crimes and to trace and confiscate the illicit wealth generated by these crimes.

Mr Green addressed the areas relating to our laws and the capacity of our institutions that needed improvement. The Council is fully committed to addressing these deficiencies by working with relevant agencies and with technical assistance from international partners.

The Council is also driving national efforts to prepare for Fiji's next mutual evaluation in 2026 where the country will be assessed on its compliance with international standards on combating money laundering and financial crimes.

**Ropate Green**  
**(Chairperson)**  
**Permanent Secretary for Justice**

### **Background Information**

*The National Anti-Money Laundering Council is established under the Financial Transactions Reporting Act 2004 and is an inter-agency committee whose members include:*

- 1. the Permanent Secretary for Justice, as Chairperson;*
- 2. the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Fiji;*
- 3. the Director of Public Prosecutions;*
- 4. the Commissioner of Police;*
- 5. the Chief Executive Officer of the Fiji Revenue and Customs Services; and*
- 6. the Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit.*

*The Council provides advice to the Minister for Justice on key laws in Fiji relating to crime prevention and detection. The Council also facilitates coordination between relevant government agencies to ensure the detection, investigation and prosecution of money laundering and other serious financial crimes in Fiji.*