



GOVERNMENT OF TONGA

MEDIA RELEASE

(23rd September, 2025)

“Cultivating US-Pacific Islands Countries Business Partnerships”

Monday 22 September 2025 | New York:-On the sidelines of the 80th Session of the UN General Assembly Meetings, the United States Deputy Secretary of State, Hon. Christopher Landau co-hosted in partnership with the Senior Leadership of the US Business Council for International Understanding (BCIU) a public private sector dialogue with Pacific Islands Leaders on Monday 22 September 2025 at the Westin Grand Central Hotel in New York.

The aim was to provide a platform to convene an audience of private sector executives, public sector leaders from the US and the representatives from Pacific Islands Forum - for an off-the-record discussion on opportunities, challenges, priorities across the Pacific Island region.

It was a welcomed opportunity for Pacific Leaders and Heads of Delegation to meet and network with private sector representatives from the US, identifying investment opportunities and exchange shared priorities for public private partnerships (PPP).

Tonga's Prime Minister Hon Dr 'Aisake Valu Eke participated at the Business Forum with the Minister responsible for facilitating business and private sector investment, the Hon. Kapelieli Lanumata, Minister of Trade and Economic Development.

High-Level delegation from the Pacific including the President of Palau, His Excellency Suragel Whipps Jr, President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Her Excellency Dr Hilda Heine and the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, Hon James Marape, were amongst Pacific Leaders represented at the event.

The event highlighted the commitment of the United States to supporting economic cooperation and strengthening economic ties with the Pacific.

The Business Council of International Understanding (BCIU) is a nonpartisan, U.S.-based nonprofit organization, founded by US President Eisenhower in 1955.

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