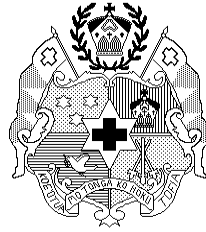


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MEDIA RELEASE

COUNCIL OF EUROPE GLOBAL ACTION AGAINST CYBERCRIME (GLACY) PROJECT: CYBERCRIME & ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE TRAINING 24 APRIL - 1 MAY 2015, NUKU'ALOFA

28 April 2015

- 1 In November 2013, the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga submitted its intention to accede to the Council of Europe's Budapest Convention on Cybercrime. In October 2014, Tonga was officially invited by the Council of Europe to accede to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime.
- 2 As a result of this invitation, Tonga has been considered a priority country under the Council of Europe's Global Action on Cybercrime (GLACY) Project to prepare Tonga before its accession to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime.
- 3 The GLACY Project is a joint project of the European Union and Council of Europe aimed at enabling criminal justice authorities to engage in international cooperation on cybercrime and electronic evidence on the basis of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime.
- 4 In light of this, the Council of Europe within the framework of the GLACY Project and in association with the Attorney General's Office will be conducting relevant trainings through the following workshops from 24 April to 1 May 2015:
 - (1) Judicial Introductory Training,
 - (2) First Responder Course for Law Enforcement,

- (3) Workshop on Interagency Cooperation, and
- (4) Workshop on Setting up a Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT).

5 The objective of these trainings is to assist criminal justice professionals in Tonga to enhance their understanding of cybercrime and electronic evidence by equipping them with additional knowledge that will enhance their effectiveness.

6 Present in Tonga to conduct these trainings are Mr Steven David Brown, Project Manager for the Council of Europe’s GLACY Project, as well as Mr Nigel Jones and Mr Angel Averia, consultants for the Council of Europe on matters relating to cybercrime and electronic evidence.

7 “The potential for harm caused by criminals who exploit the many advantages of the digital age must be met by a criminal justice system equipped with the right legislation, skills and tools for the job. The foresight and recognition of the Kingdom of Tonga in building such resources will help protect the Tongan people now and in the future” says Steven David Brown, Project Manager for the Council of Europe’s GLACY Project.

8 “The Government of the Kingdom of Tonga is grateful to the European Union and the Council of Europe for allowing the GLACY Project to provide Tonga with these useful and timely training, especially soon after the connection of Tonga to the Southern Cross submarine fibre optic cable. After the training, the Tongan officials and private operators will surely be more aware and prepared to protect the Tongan people from cyber threats and risks, and to bring cyber criminals to justice” says Mr ‘Aminiasi Kefu, Acting Attorney General and Director of Public Prosecutions.

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