What do you bring to the role of Secretary General of PIFS?

1. In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are and will be, renewed commitment globally and regionally by countries to build a more robust international order. I believe the new Secretary General of PIFS should be an individual with expertise and diplomatic tact that has experiences in operating in complex political environments; in climate and natural disaster camps, humanitarian missions, post-conflict contexts, small island developing states, and the profile fits a senior international civil servant. The role is for that international civil servant with diplomacy or the Pacific “mana” in her or his sleeves. **I am that international civil servant.**

2. I will be pro-active, bringing energy and creativity to the role. My goal is to reset the PIFS to be more relevant, resilient, and responsive. The PIFS as the main political driver of sustainable development, Pacific regionalism for the next 8 years of the Decade of Action needs to become more relevant to fast changing economic, social, and environmental circumstances and realities. The PIFS needs to embrace regionalism, enhance sustainability and inclusiveness to build back differently and safeguard stability, growth and resilience for Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS).

3. My 35-year career in international relations and development cooperation; intergovernmental and multilateralism has given me opportunities to learn globally and from other regions of the world, which I believe will enable me to offer insights and creative solutions through **my 4Cs of coordination, cooperation, commitment and care** to restore and revitalize the PIFS to be more relevant, resilient and responsive to Pacific regionalism and the Post-COVID priorities of the Pacific Blue Continent.

4. I will bring optimism and also vision based on realism to the job with empathy and care for people. Equally important, I intend to build and gain the trust of colleagues, experts and teams in the organization/PIFS. I believe I am an effective, trusted, and informed facilitator and a person who knows **how and when to step out to the balcony and return to the dancing floor** to help achieve consensus and agreement.

5. I will bring a clear, meaningful strategic vision to the role, rooted in my genuine “ofa” for Oceania and unflinching conviction that the Pacific can work together to raise the standards of living of all our peoples to new heights, while leading on the global arena on issues such as climate change, sustainable development, innovation, gender equality and green/blue economic recovery Post-COVID.

6. I will nurture a close and harmonious working relationship with colleagues and teams, and with member countries. I will lead in a supportive and positive manner to keep attracting and retaining talented and ambitious professionals from around the Pacific Blue Continent – from Micronesia to Melanesia to Polynesia. I will actively promote good governance, transparency, and accountability to support the work of colleagues and of PIFS. **I am that servant leader.**

We can only achieve our goals if we work together. “If you want to walk fast, walk alone. But if you want to walk far, walk together.”

---

**Lalanga - 4C vision for Pacific Regionalism**

- Better Coordination
- Strategic Cooperation, not competition or duplication
- Commitment and Accountability
- Duty of Care, with highest ethical standards

[@ASiamomua Lalanga 4Cs]
What do I see as top priority tasks ahead and the new challenges?

(i) The post-COVID priorities for building back differently to ensure that no one is left behind and the 2050 Strategy that was mandated by the Pacific Forum Leaders at the 2019 Leaders’ Meeting.

A successful outcome on post-COVID for the region will demonstrate the credibility of the PIFS and other members of CROP (Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific) and its ability to coordinate, cooperate, commit and care for the Pacific Island Forum’s vision and objectives on sustainable development. I will do everything I can to support these engagements through my 4Cs, and bring them together with the Leaders and members to successful conclusions and outcomes.

(ii) PIFS Reform

I see PIFS as the vehicle and instrument to promote economic prosperity, social inclusion, peace and security, environment sustainability and better living standards for all of its Members. The 51st and next Pacific Forum Leaders Meeting should deepen the efforts of Leaders to help its countries and strengthen technical assistance and capacity building programs. Through a more strategic, stronger, more assertive approach of the 4Cs, I will support Leaders through concerted regional and international actions for a clean and resilient global recovery that will be central to the long-term success of the region’s public health, economies and the environment.

International cooperation with other international organizations in a proactive and forthcoming manner to broaden the partnerships, available resources and multilateral commitment to achieving the internationally agreed goals and regional priorities will be critical.

Amelia Kinahoi Siamomua
Tonga’s Candidate for the Secretary General of PIFS
July 2020