



OFFICE of the REGULATOR

PRESS RELEASE

The Office of the Regulator (OOTR) will hold a final consultation for the National Emergency Telecommunication Plan (NETP) at the Development Bank of Samoa, Level 6 Conference Room on Thursday, 28 February 2019 from 10am to 1:30pm. This project is possible because of the OOTR team's commitment and the continuous support from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) through their usual assistance to its member countries including Samoa. This consultation will be the last from a series of consultations conducted since October in 2018. There were many solutions proposed from stakeholders during past consultation which Samoa needs to improve its preparation, response during and after disasters. While these solutions complemented best practise, and improve the way DMO operates, the implementation of the NETP will encounter challenges such as the lack of resources and technologies to acquire the resilience needed. This has resulted in having NETP focusing on the budget and how to strategically have the solutions in place. The National Emergency Telecommunication Operational Plan (NETOP) support the NETP and focuses on the operation of the communication cluster on all the four phases of disaster management. The Regulator, the Regional Director of the ITU based in Thailand and the Telecommunication Expert from New Zealand will facilitate this consultation with the aim to finalise everything before the end of April 2019. Participants of the consultation include stakeholders from government agencies, private sector, NGO and the industry.

Wednesday, 27 February 2019