Regional Parliamentary Workshop on Improving Compliance with the UN Programme of Action Addressing The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons and Promoting Greater and More Effective Participation by Women MPs in Parliamentary Defence, Security and Interior Committees

APIA PLAN OF ACTION

We, Members of Parliament and Other Representatives from Samoa, The Cook Islands, Kiribati, Fiji, Niue, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu and The Solomon Islands

Cognizant of the fact that the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons poses a continuing, grave threat to the security, stability, sustainable development and general economic welfare of all regions worldwide

Mindful of past and potential future challenges that the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons poses in the Pacific Islands region

Aware of the need to review and strengthen domestic firearms legislation in our respective countries to meet these challenges

Aware also of the importance of facilitating greater participation by Women Members of Parliament in this arena, in particular given the disproportionate impact of the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons on Women

Recalling, with approval, the Adoption of the UN Programme of Action Addressing the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in 2001 and the International Tracing Instrument in 2005

Recalling also the importance of compliance with the National Reporting requirements under the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons

Noting, with approval, the holding of the Third Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action Addressing the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City from 18-29 June 2018
Determined to make a meaningful contribution to achieving the Objectives of this Workshop and further advance the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and The SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway)

Hereby Undertake:

1. To urge our respective countries to submit National Reports every two years on steps taken to implement the UN Programme of Action Addressing the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons

2. To promptly review and revise domestic firearms legislation within relevant parliamentary committees in our respective countries to ensure that such legislation adequately addresses all threats arising in this area

3. To mobilize and meet with Women MPs from all political parties to encourage greater participation in Defence, Security, Interior and Gender Committees of our respective Parliaments, including addressing issues pertaining to the context of armed domestic violence

4. To urge our respective Governments to ensure adequate representation at the upcoming Third Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action Against The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons, to take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City from 18-29 June 2018

5. To encourage our respective Governments to actively explore and support ratification of/accession to and implementation of other international treaties which seek to enhance global security, such as the Arms Trade Treaty as well as Treaties that seek to prevent the development, manufacture and stockpiling of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) in addition to promoting implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions addressing the non-proliferation of WMDs to Non State Actors

6. To enhance existing communication between States Parties by way of regional support, collective action and cooperation

7. To Report Back to PGA within a period of 4 months from the date of adoption of this Plan of Action on steps we have taken individually, pursuant to this Plan of Action

Done this 27th Day of April, 2018 in Apia, Samoa