

## Chapter 5: Bilateral Relationships including the Major Powers

Examines Fiji's approach to bilateral relations bearing in mind that there are no neat distinctions between bilateral and multilateral diplomacy; and that the success in one helps build success in the other. It also singles out that the texture and priorities of our relationships are inevitably shaped by Fiji's geography, history and values. The 'Pacific family first' approach for the region and the links with key strategic and traditional partners beyond the region are important to foster familial bonds and shared prosperity.

## Chapter 6: Prosperity

The chapter posits the importance of centrally advancing Fiji's economic interests for all Fijians. It highlights the importance and quality of our domestic economic policy settings, the enterprise of Fijian business, the hard work of Fijian labor and our ability to effectively navigate the regional and global economies and their underpinning institutions. The chapter further expounds on the importance of an open economy and trade and investment liberalization and the growth of the Fijian diaspora around the world and their economic importance to our country.

## Chapter 7: Foreign Policy and Development Assistance

This chapter highlights the important support of our international partners and the need to manage these relations across the government system. It also places importance on the work of diplomatic missions, honorary consuls and trade offices to promote Fiji's economic interests and attract foreign investment. Moreover, there is emphasis on the need for robust systems for coordinating, monitoring and evaluating development support and outcomes.

## Chapter 8: Implementing Foreign Policy

The chapter sets out how Government will approach the implementation of Fiji's Foreign Policy and the systems and resources required to enhance the progress of the whole of government machinery. This will ensure that a seamless coordinating structure is formed to advance the three pillars of the Fiji's Foreign Policy: Sovereignty, Security and Prosperity. Further, the chapter looks at the need for policy coordination and management and a more effective governance structure to produce professional cohorts with a wide scope of skillsets.

The Foreign Policy White Paper ensures a secure, prosperous and sustainable future for Fiji. It strengthens Fiji's stewardship role in the Pacific while advancing national interests and values.

To download the Policy please refer to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website:

<https://www.foreignaffairs.gov.fj/foreign-policy-white-paper-2/>



### Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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### Ministry of Foreign Affairs



### Shaping Fiji's Future on the Global Stage

## Fiji's Foreign Policy White Paper INFORMATION BROCHURE



Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua with Ministry of Foreign Affairs staff at the official launching of Fiji's Foreign Policy White Paper.

### Vision

A Premier Foreign Service that promotes and protects Fiji's Interests

### Mission

To manage Fiji's International relations through a robust Foreign Policy that enhances sovereignty, security and prosperity for all Fijians



# Introduction

## The Foreign Policy White Paper

The Foreign Policy White Paper is the cornerstone document that guides Fiji's engagement with the world. It outlines Fiji's vision to safeguarding sovereignty, enhancing security and advancing prosperity while addressing global challenges like climate change and transnational issues. In line with national priorities, the White Paper strengthens Fiji's role as a regional leader, promotes unity among Pacific nations, and ensures sustainable development for the future. It serves as a guide to navigating complex global dynamics while advancing Fiji's interests and values at the international stage. "This document sets the course for Fiji's sovereignty, security, and prosperity while promoting peace and unity in the Pacific." Fiji's first Foreign Policy White Paper was officially launched by the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka on Monday 23rd September 2024.

## Goal

The Foreign Policy White Paper sets out the path that Fiji will follow to meet the complex foreign policy challenges we face as a nation. The goal is to protect, promote and advance Fiji's sovereignty, security and prosperity. In doing so it sets out the underlying principles of Fiji's foreign policy, our overarching objectives, our broad priorities and the way in which domestic and foreign policy are closely intertwined. It is a narrative of where we wish to go and how to get there.

## Key Priorities

Fiji's Foreign Policy White Paper prioritizes the protection of sovereignty, enhancing security, fostering prosperity, strengthening regional unity and leading on climate action. It emphasizes protecting Fiji's independence, addressing threats like climate change and transnational organized crime, driving economic growth through sustainable practices, fostering cooperation with Pacific nations and advocating for global climate initiatives while implementing sustainable solutions locally. These priorities aim to ensure a secure, prosperous and sustainable future for Fiji.

## Focus Themes

### Chapter 1: Sovereignty, Identity and Values

The White Paper focuses on Sovereignty, Identity and Values and defines who we are and what we believe in. It also presents Fiji to the world and emphasizes the characteristics that define our society and our values. This is central to how we engage with the world. The chapter further delineates our interests, our international relationships, the ideas we bring to building a stronger region and the bilateral and multilateral investments to be undertaken to shape the Fijian society.

The Foreign Policy White Paper reaffirms the central position of the Pacific region in our foreign policy calculations. It makes clear that in all we do in foreign policy we will put the Pacific family first. The foundation of this White Paper is a whole-of-nation approach that integrates all elements of policy, domestic and external, and recognises that our security and prosperity ultimately depend on a clear-eyed view of our national interests and values and how best to advance them.

### Chapter 2: Security

This chapter focuses on Security with the preamble on Fiji's physical security and border protection, economic security, environmental sustainability and the capacity to address non-traditional threats and challenges to social cohesion. The chapter also highlights Fiji's leadership role in the Pacific, the leverage we have as a regional hub, the influence on regionalism, broader multilateral cooperation and the Ocean of Peace.

### Chapter 3: Transnational Security

Examines transnational security issues and poses strategic remedies to the transnational challenges which have the potential to erode social stability, wreak havoc on livelihoods and threaten the health of our community and the sustainability of our environment.

### Chapter 4: Climate Change

Addresses Fiji's vulnerability to climate change and proposes the need for national policy setting and unrelenting advocacy for action at regional and global level. This is in addition to the grounds set on the importance of comprehensive climate governance, the green economy, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the National Oceans Policy and investments in sustainability.