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### Press Release



### Samoa to Commemorate International Girls in ICT Day 2023

Apia, Samoa – April 27, 2023 – The Office of the Regulator (“OOTR”) and the Ministry of Communication Information and Technology (“MCIT”) will co-host the commemoration of International Girls in ICT Day 2023 on April 27, 2023, at the TATTE Convention Centre in Apia. The event will feature a keynote address by the Associate Minister of MCIT, Afioga Fuiono Tenina Crichton, Guest Speaker, Tuifuisa’a Patila Amosa, Vice-Chancellor (“VC”) for the National University of Samoa (“NUS”), and remarks by the Director of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Development Bureau, Dr. Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava. The main event of the day will be a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and, project competition on the theme of **Digital Skills for Life**.

Endorsed by all ITU Member States in 2011, International Girls in ICT Day is an annual event that is celebrated around the world on the fourth Thursday of April. The goal of the day is to encourage girls and young women to pursue studies and careers in information and communications technology (“ICT”).

ICT is a rapidly growing field however, there is a big gender gap worldwide. Celebration of this day annually prompts Member States to encourage girls to consider studying ICT subjects. The outcome is increasing the number of women with career opportunities in this sector. Qualified women will bridge the gap allowing them to pursue highly paid jobs that in Samoa and any part of the world.

The event in Samoa will be a great opportunity for college girls to learn more about ICT and to meet other girls who are interested in the field. The keynote address and guest speaker will provide valuable insights into the world of ICT, and the STEM project competition will give girls a chance to showcase their skills and creativity.

The OOTR & MCIT are committed to promoting ICT education and training for girls and young women. We believe that ICT is an essential skill for the 21st century, and we are working to ensure that girls have the opportunity to learn about and use ICT.

Attached is the Program of the Day for more information.

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