4 October, 2012

Invitation and sponsorship of the PICISOC-PACINET 2012 ICT Conference –22 - 26 November 2012 at the USP ICT Centre, Fiji

The Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society (PICISOC) in collaboration with the Fiji Government, the University of the South Pacific, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and its industry member country partners are pleased to announce this year's PACINET conference in Fiji at the USP ICT Centre from 22 – 26 November, 2012.

The Pacific Islands Chapter of the Internet Society (PICISOC) is a chapter of the Internet Society that represents the interests of users in the Oceania Pacific region. It is a non-funded organisation run by volunteers from within the Pacific IT community that focuses on local issues and developments. The organisation seeks to provide impartial advice to governments and the public on Internet-related matters that are relevant to Pacific Island people. For more information, please click on the PICISOC website: http://www.picisoc.org

The theme of this year's PICISOC conference – called PACINET - is "Access to all" which we hope will enhance knowledge of current and potential PICISOC members about internet development in the Pacific. At the same time, it is an opportunity for government and other prospective donor organisations from Pacific Island Countries and Territories to appreciate and learn about the role and potential impact of PICISOC within the Pacific. PICISOC seeks to broaden the market for enhancing opportunities in the Information and Communication Technology sector which will facilitate ICT for Development in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories.

Each year since 2002, PICISOC has organised its annual PacINET conference in a different member country, and these have been very successful with each host country receiving sponsorship from prominent member organisations and other industry participants locally.

Since our first PacINET conferences which was also held in Fiji, others have been hosted by the governments of Tonga (2003), Vanuatu (2004 & 2010), Kiribati (2005), Samoa (2006), Solomon Islands (2007), Cook Islands (2008), Papua New Guinea (2009) and American Samoa (2011), PacINET has attracted up to 300 delegates from across the Pacific Island Countries and Territories and also from other parts of the world. It is anticipated that this year's conference will be similarly successful.

PacINET brings together many Internet practitioners working in diverse areas. As a consequence, PICISOC has been at the forefront of a number of important initiatives in the Pacific region. These include raising awareness in the following areas:

- Geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing (RS);
- IPV6;
- Cybersecurity leading to the establishment of PacCERT;
- Routing leading to the establishment of PacNOG (Pacific Network Operators group;
- People with disabilities supporting Access for All in annual PacINET conferences;
- Internet governance foreshadowing the formation of the Pacific IGF (Internet Governance Forum);
- FOSS (Free and Open Software); and
- Gender and technology
- Equal opportunity and access to all

This letter invites your organisation to attend and or sponsor the PACINET 2012 Conference which is to be held on 22 – 26 November, 2012 at the USP ICT Centre. As an add-on, there will be an exhibition site in the USP premises to give your organisation an opportunity to promote its services and products. Sponsorship of PacINET, and of The Pacific Chapter of the Internet Society itself, would provide your organisation with the opportunity strengthen relationships with new and existing customers across the Pacific and Oceania region.

Through direct sponsorship of PICISOC, the Board and its current membership of nearly 800 members from the Pacific and Oceania regions would be able to actively promote your organisation and its interest in PICISOC activities within its communications and at events that they participate in, both regionally and internationally. Although nearly half of our PICISOC members are resident in Fiji, PICISOC also has the potential for global outreach through the collective networks of our large membership.
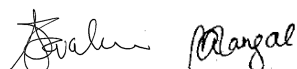
For this PacINET, a banner will be printed with your company or organisation logo and your logo will also appear on the PICISOC website. We will have media coverage during the conference.

Alternative sponsorship options such as teas and lunches, etc would also be considered. I hope your organisation will be able to sponsor this important event and look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully,

Maureen Hilyard   **Siaosi Sovaleni and Anju Mangal**   **Kisione Finau**
PICISOC Chair   **SPC & PacINET Organising Committee**   **Japan-USP ICT Centre**
Cook Islands   **Fiji**   **Fiji**