**UPR Vanuatu**

**2 May 2024, 9 am**

**1 min 45 seconds**

Thank you Mr. President/Madame Vice President,

Samoa extends a warm welcome to the Hon. Minister of Justice and Community Services, John Amos Nalau Masilaiwia and delegation of Vanuatu.

As a Small Island Developing State, Vanuatu has endeavoured both domestically and internationally to champion climate change ambition. We therefore applaud Vanuatu’s leading role for the climate change advisory opinion at the International Court of Justice, and resolution at the UN General Assembly.

Despite their vulnerability to climate change, and natural disasters including the impacts of twin cyclones in March 2023, Vanuatu has made notable progress in the third UPR cycle namely , strengthening mental health, expanding reproductive health services, and increasing the number of women in the judiciary.

With a view to further support that ongoing efforts and priorities of Vanuatu, Samoa would like to recommend the following,

1. Strengthen climate resilience and disaster risk reduction, including early warning systems with the support from international and regional partners.
2. Continue efforts to advance gender equality, in particular women’s’ leadership and political participation, and
3. Enhance the rights of persons with disabilities through human rights awareness campaigns, and capacity building programmes in partnership with the international and regional community.

We wish Vanuatu a successful UPR and travels home.

I thank you