



KEYNOTE SPEECH BY THE ACTING PRIME MINISTER
HON. TUALA TEVAGA IOSEFO PONIFASIO
AT THE OFFICIAL MISS GLOBAL SAMOA 2024
AT THE CROWNING PROGRAM - TAUMEASINA ISLAND RESORT
TUESDAY, JULY 23RD, 2024 AT 3:00PM

Ladies and Gentlemen, Greetings and Talofa Lava!

It is a pleasure to stand before you today on this momentous occasion as we are about to crown our new Miss Global Samoa for the Miss Global competition in the Philippines in September 2024. Miss Global is an extravagant and prestigious global competition that empowers women for leadership and serves as an ambassador for cultural diversity. With its mission to empower women, embrace cultures, and embody the beauty within, the Miss Global Organization celebrated its 10th anniversary last year, marking a decade of excellence and inspiration.

Last year, Samoa made a huge impact when it entered the international pageantry world with the Miss Global contest held in Vietnam and Cambodia. Our very own Haylani Pearl Kuruppu was crowned the first runner-up among contestants from 70 countries, thereby creating history. This remarkable achievement is a testament that Samoan women can reach extraordinary heights when given the right opportunity and support.

Vodafone Samoa has been instrumental in this endeavour, taking Samoa to the world of international pageantry. The company provides this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and initiates world-class training for the Samoan contestants, making it a life-changing experience for each participant.

This year is no exception. Vodafone Samoa and its associates are proud to sponsor yet another contestant for Miss Global 2024. Miss Nicolina June Ah Kuoi will represent Samoa at the 2024 Miss Global International Competition. In September,

she will travel to the Philippines to be trained by the best in the industry, ensuring she is fully prepared to shine on the global stage.

International beauty pageants can be powerful tools for tourism promotion, leveraging their global reach to attract visitors and promote tourism. Samoa stands to benefit significantly from this exposure, as we saw in the last Miss Global competition. The Miss Global Pageant attracts millions of viewers and followers from various countries, providing an excellent platform to introduce Samoa's unique attractions and tourist destinations to a diverse audience in over 80 countries. With 1.3 million people worldwide following the Miss Global Organization, the potential for promoting our beautiful Samoa is immense.

The Samoan Government is committed to empowering women, promoting gender balance and equality, and eliminating violence against women.

Our new Miss Global will carry forward a legacy of empowerment and service. She will be an ambassador of goodwill, touching lives and creating positive change across the globe. This title is not just a crown but a responsibility—a commitment to embodying the values of kindness, empathy, and leadership.

We wish Miss Nicolina June Ah Kuoi all the best for her crowning today as Miss Global Samoa 2024. We will be crowning a woman who embodies grace, intelligence and compassion. She also possesses a combination of physical attractiveness, confidence, and certain qualities that make her desirable to others on the international stage. Let us come together and support her in her journey, hoping that we can create history once again.

To our Miss Global Samoa, as you step into this role, know that you carry the dreams and aspirations of countless young women especially our Samoan women. You got what it takes. You can do this. Let me also say, there is also that touch of mystery about you and an air of intrigue that we believe can make you more alluring and stand out from the rest.

May your reign be filled with purpose, joy, and the unwavering belief that you will change many lives.

Congratulations to Vodafone and Miss Global Team Samoa for making this possible.

Let the crowning begin

Soifua ma ia manuia!