



OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NEW ZEALAND  
APIA, WESTERN SAMOA

30 November 1962

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the discussions we have had concerning the inheritance of international rights and obligations by Western Samoa, which became an independent sovereign state on 1 January 1962.

Further to our discussions, I have the honour to state that it is the understanding of the Government of New Zealand that the Government of Western Samoa agree to the following provisions :-

- (i) All obligations and responsibilities of the Government of New Zealand which arise from any valid international instrument are, from 1 January 1962, assumed by the Government of Western Samoa in so far as such instrument may be held to have application to or in respect of Western Samoa.
- (ii) The rights and benefits heretofore enjoyed by the Government of New Zealand in virtue of the application of any such international instrument to or in respect of Western Samoa are, from 1 January 1962, enjoyed by the Government of Western Samoa.

I should be grateful for your confirmation that the Government of Western Samoa are in agreement with the provisions aforesaid and that this letter and your reply shall constitute an agreement between the two Governments.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) J. B. WRIGHT

High Commissioner for New Zealand  
in Western Samoa

Hon Fiame Mata'afa FM II C.B.E.,  
Prime Minister of Western Samoa,  
APIA.

B 1962/7.



GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN SAMOA

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT

APIA - - - - - WESTERN SAMOA

30 November 1962

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of today's date the text of which reads as follows :-

"I have the honour to refer to the discussions we have had concerning the inheritance of international rights and obligations by Western Samoa, which became an independent sovereign state on 1 January 1962.

Further to our discussions, I have the honour to state that it is the understanding of the Government of New Zealand that the Government of Western Samoa agree to the following provisions :-

- (i) All obligations and responsibilities of the Government of New Zealand which arise from any valid international instrument are, from 1 January 1962, assumed by the Government of Western Samoa in so far as such instrument may be held to have application to or in respect of Western Samoa.
- (ii) The rights and benefits heretofore enjoyed by the Government of New Zealand in virtue of the application of any such international instrument to or in respect of Western Samoa are, from 1 January 1962, enjoyed by the Government of Western Samoa.

I should be grateful for your confirmation that the Government of Western Samoa are in agreement with the provisions aforesaid and that this letter and your reply shall constitute an agreement between the two Governments."

I have pleasure in confirming that the Government of Western Samoa are in agreement with the provisions set out in your letter of today's date and that your letter and this reply shall constitute an agreement between the two Governments.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Fiamē Mata'afa F.M. (II))

PRIME MINISTER

His Excellency Mr J.B. Wright C.B.E.,  
High Commissioner for New Zealand in Western Samoa,  
APIA.