MEDIA RELEASE

Honorary Consul Russia Appointment

FIJI - RUSSIAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BOOSTED WITH APPOINTMENT OF FIJI'S FIRST HONORARY CONSUL IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION



HC Khanin, with the Hon PM Bainimarama and Waisale Serevi while visiting Fiji last year

Dr. Philipp KHANIN was recently granted the formal letter of consent of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to be Fiji's Honorary Consul in Russia, resident in St Petersburg. The Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama had endorsed the recommendation of Fiji's Non-Resident Ambassador to the Russian Federation HE Isikeli Mataitoga, for the appointment.

This is a historic occasion as it is the first time in the history of Fiji/Russia Diplomatic Relations that an Honorary Consul has been appointed for Fiji in Russia. It will open new opportunities to explore new areas of diplomatic and bilateral engagement, thus deepening our relations further.

Ambassador Mataitoga has encouraged the new Honorary Consul to prioritize developing tourism and through his own companies to bring tourist from Russia to Fiji.

Dr. Khanin is a Professor of International Politics at St Petersburg State University and owns and operates a few businesses. He is also a Vice President of the Russia Rugby Union. He is keen to explore sports exchanges, especially in Rugby.

He has visited Fiji and personally met Prime Minister and other high officials in the government and private sector.

Ends.

Embassy of the Republic of Fiji 30 September 2021