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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **MINISTER KUBUABOLA PROMOTES PIDF IN SOUTH KOREA**

Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Ratu Inoke Kubuabola has been promoting the Pacific Island Development Forum (PIDF) as an ideal regional mechanism for implementation of green economy and green growth related developments for Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDs).

In meetings with government and non-government entities in Seoul, Republic of Korea, Minister Kubuabola continued to champion PIDF as the appropriate regional entity for implementation of green and blue growth programmes in the region for PSIDs.

“PIDF is well placed to advocate and advance issues, initiatives and approaches for the region and partners willing to do business with PSIDs on such issues should take advantage of it right away,” he said.

At a meeting with Wisdom Foundation (W-Foundation), a non – profit organization established in May 2012 and accredited under a charter granted by the Ministry of Knowledge and Economy of Korea and which aims to assist countries that have insufficient access to clean drinking water, Minister Kubuabola encouraged the Foundation to enter into partnership with PIDF.

“Wisdom Foundation will be able to achieve its objectives assisting Pacific island countries including Fiji which prone to global warming effectively in partnership with PIDF,” he said.

W-Foundation officials said they were happy to take up the offer since they are committed to accumulate global attention and efforts to alleviate the problem caused by global warming and inducing shortages of drinkable fresh drinking water.

The Foundation is carrying out various activities to attract attention and create awareness on the plight of PSIDs and will in partnership with PIDF investigate various options and strategies to achieve their objectives in the Pacific.

They are expected to begin formal discussions with PIDF secretariat on the partnership soon.

Minister Kubuabola also met with Korean investor Mr. YG Chang and Tourism Fiji Korea Regional Director Ms. Daisy Park.

Minister Kubuabola is transiting through Korea on his way to attend the PALM Ministerial Meeting in Japan.