OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

PRESS RELEASE (No. 9 of 2026)

ODPP brings together national and regional stakeholders to strengthen fight against Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling

More than 170 participants from Fiji and across the Pacific have come together for a two-day conference hosted by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), focused on strengthening collective efforts to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

The conference, held under the theme Combating Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling, was opened by Acting Director of Public Prosecutions, Nancy Tikoisuva, who highlighted the importance of bringing together key stakeholders to address the complex and evolving challenges associated with these serious offences.

The conference brings together a broad cross-section of the justice sector and partner organisations, including representatives from the United States Embassy, Judiciary, the ODPP, the Permanent Secretary for Justice, the Fiji Police Force and Criminal Investigations Department (CID), as well as regional and international prosecution counterparts, including representatives from the Commonwealth and the Offices of the Director of Public Prosecutions of Tonga, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea. Also participating are members of the private Bar, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and civil society organisations (CSOs), reflecting the importance of a collaborative and multi-sectoral approach.

Combating human trafficking and migrant smuggling cannot be achieved by any single institution or agency working in isolation. It requires a concerted, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, supported by a strong national framework that brings together law enforcement, prosecution, the Judiciary, government ministries, NGOs, civil society and international partners. Effective coordination, information sharing and collective responsibility are essential to strengthening prevention, identifying and protecting victims, and ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice.

A key highlight of the opening session was a presentation on the United States Trafficking in Persons (TIP) 2026 Report, which examined Fiji's standing, the implications for the country and recommendations for Fiji to consider in strengthening its response to human trafficking.

Over the two days, the conference will explore a range of important and emerging issues, including the legal frameworks governing human trafficking, global governance and partnership mechanisms, challenges in prosecuting trafficking offences, and the protection of victims and witnesses through victim-centred approaches and safe homes.

Other key discussions will examine the role of NGOs and civil society in addressing trafficking, emerging trends within the labour market, and the growing challenges associated with human trafficking through maritime routes and the movement of people across borders.

The conference will also look at the intersection of human trafficking and artificial intelligence, including the potential use of technology in facilitating trafficking activities, as well as the links between human trafficking and drug trafficking.

Through expert presentations, panel discussions and interactive sessions, the conference provides an important platform for sharing experiences, strengthening institutional cooperation and identifying practical approaches to improving the prevention, investigation and prosecution of human trafficking offences.

The two-day conference reflects the importance of a coordinated, multi-agency and regional approach in tackling human trafficking and migrant smuggling, while strengthening the protection of vulnerable individuals and upholding the rule of law.

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19 November 2026

NB: Pictures attached below and more can be obtained from the ODPP Fiji X account



The Acting Director of Public Prosecutions, Ms Nancy Tikoisuva (left) with Chief Guest Ms Christina Cavallo, Charge d'Affairs, US Embassy, Fiji (being garlanded by ODPP prosecutor Ms Reama Tavaiqia) on day one of the ODPP Annual Conference held at Shangri-la Yanuca, Fiji.



The Acting DPP, Ms Nancy Tikoisuva during the opening of the ODPP Annual Conference on 19 November 2026 at the Shangri-la Yanuca, Fiji.



Chief Guest Ms Christina Cavallo, Charge d'Affairs, US Embassy, Fiji addressing the participants at the Day 1 of ODPP Annual Conference on 19 November 2026 at Shangri-La Yanuca, Fiji.



Participants on Day 1 of the ODPP Annual Conference at Shangri-la Yanuca, Fiji.



More than 170 participants gather today at the two day ODPP Conference on Combatting Human Trafficking & Migrant Smuggling being held at the Shangri-La Yanuca, Fiji.