



TUVALU APPOINTS IMLI GRADUATE AS MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

IMLI notes with pride the appointment of Honourable Simon Kofe as Minister of Justice, Communication and Foreign Affairs of Tuvalu. Honourable Kofe is an IMLI graduate of the class of 2013-2014, who, at the time he joined the Institute held the position of Legal Officer, in the Fisheries Department of his government.



The Honourable Simon Kofe with Professor David Attard during the Graduation Ceremony held on 7 June 2014

The Honourable Simon Kofe lends credit to IMLI for the training he had received, which prepared him for his rapid career growth since his graduation in 2014. As soon as he return home after graduating from IMLI, the Honourable Kofe was appointed Senior Magistrate in the Senior Magistrate's Court of Tuvalu. He became a Member of Parliament in 2018.

Honourable Kofe recognizes that the training he received propelled him to the forefront of international governance in his country, and ultimately culminated in his subsequent appointment as Minister of Justice, Communication and Foreign Affairs.

The appointment of the Honourable Simon Kofe has not come as a surprise to IMLI, as during his time at the Institute, the Honourable Kofe proved to be a committed and hardworking student. Indeed, during the 2014 graduation, he was awarded the REMPEC Marine Environmental Law Prize.



The Honourable Simon Kofe receiving the REMPEC Marine Environmental Law Prize from Mr. Frédéric Hébert (the then Director of REMPEC)

Upon his appointment as Minister, the IMLI media office had the pleasure of interviewing Honourable Kofe. In the interview, he had this to say:

"IMLI has contributed significantly to my professional development and career. I am forever grateful for the dedicated lecturers at IMLI for not only imparting knowledge but more importantly inspiring my interest in the field of international law. The knowledge and perspective gained from my studies at IMLI have proven invaluable to my role as the Minister for Foreign Affairs."

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