



THE COOK ISLANDS GAZETTE

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EMBRACING THE 'KIA ORANA VALUES' IN PARLIAMENT

It is hereby notified for general information that by the powers vested in me by Section 5 of the Legislative Services Act 1968-69, I, Hon. Tai Tura, Speaker of Parliament HEREBY GIVE NOTICE of the recognition and practice of the 'Kia Orana Values' in the Parliament of the Cook Islands with effect from today Friday 11th June 2021.

KIA ORANA communicates the essence of our people and islands. Therefore, it should be our on-going desire to live and breathe our shared Kia Orana Values. Accordingly, all Members of Parliament by mutual agreement have this day made a commitment to embrace the Kia Orana Values in our Parliament.

In an effort to promote the ideal of a modern Parliament that is truly aligned with the core values of our Cook Islands people and is deeply rooted in our culture and traditions, while reflecting our unique way of life, I have much pleasure in declaring a new Kia Orana Spirit dress code for the Debating Chamber that is to be a new Parliamentary tradition applicable at every sitting of Parliament that takes place on a Friday, our recognised Kia Orana Day.

On any such sitting day, Members of Parliament shall dress in our unique Cook Islands fashion. In this regard, appropriate wear may include but not limited to Pareu shirts and long trousers for the men, and pareu dresses for the women. All members are welcome to wear 'aka-mānea' accessories such as fresh neck and head ei, mother of pearl and pearl necklaces, sea-shell necklaces, rito hats, and any other items that are Cook Islands made and portray the Kia Orana Spirit.

Further to the above, items like suits and ties are no longer required on such sitting days as well as during Parliamentary Select Committee Meetings. The usual business attire is required for all other sittings of Parliament.

Kia manuia and may this new tradition be a blessing for everyone.

Dated at Rarotonga this 11th day of June 2021.

Hon TAI TURA
Speaker of Parliament