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## PRESS STATEMENT

## Clarification on the Shareholding of Digicel Caribbean Executive AV Services Limited in Mulifanua Beach Resort Samoa Limited

We wish to provide clear and accurate information regarding the shareholding status of Digicel Caribbean Executive AV Services Limited (DCEAVS) in Mulifanua Beach Resort-Samoa Limited (MBRS), to avoid any confusion or misinformation.

DCEAVS is a foreign company based in St Lucia. In February 2022, DCEAVS acquired approximately 15% of the shares in MBRS.

As part of our internal compliance review, MBRS identified that DCEAVS does not hold a Foreign Investment Certificate (FIC), which is a legal requirement under the Foreign Investment Act of Samoa for all foreign investors.

In December 2024, this matter was formally raised with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour (MCIL), and DCEAVS was notified to obtain a Foreign Investment Certificate in order to comply with Samoan law.

To date, DCEAVS has not obtained the required certificate.

In response, and in accordance with our commitment to compliance, MBRS has placed the shares under its own holding pending full compliance by DCEAVS with all relevant legal requirements. We note that this approach is being applied consistently to all shareholders in similar circumstances, and DCEAVS is not the only shareholder whose shares are being held in this manner.

We are aware that there are different views on how the legislation should be interpreted and applied—whether the responsibility lies with the foreign investor (such as DCEAVS) or with the Samoan company that includes foreign shareholders. Again, we emphasize that our actions apply broadly to any shareholder not in compliance with the Foreign Investment Act.

We are continuing to work constructively with the relevant authorities to ensure full legal compliance and transparency in this matter.

We issue this statement to clarify the situation and avoid the spread of inaccurate or misleading information.

For any further questions, we encourage the public and media to contact MBRS directly.

## **ENDS**