

Free Bird Institute Limited

Fiji Islands

24 November 2017

MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT

- **FBL enters into a Mutual Services Agreement with Narita Airport Business Co Ltd**

The Board of FBL is pleased to announce that it has entered into a Mutual Services Agreement (Agreement) with the Narita Airport Business Co Ltd (NAAB) on 1 September 2017. NAAB is a limited liability Company registered in Japan and is a fully owned subsidiary of the Narita International Airport Corporation (NAA). NAAB's core business is to provide lounge reception and baggage cart services in the passenger terminals at the Narita International Airport in Chiba, Japan.

NAAB has indicated that corporations in and around the Narita International Airport including NAAB are experiencing difficulties with sourcing personnel to such corporations. This is a direct result of the continuous developments which will boost functions at the Narita International Airport; therefore, the shortage of human resources is imminent in the near future. Accordingly, with the 2019 Rugby World Cup and 2020 Summer Olympics that will be held in Japan, the demand for English speaking employees in and around the Narita International Airport will increase.

NAA's President and CEO in its 2015/2016 Annual Report highlighted that the Airport has already extended its network to 107 overseas destinations at the end of October 2016 and with the Japanese Government setting out a target to attract 40 million foreign visitors to Japan in a year by 2020 and 60 million by 2030, the growing need for further functional improvements continues is inevitable.

The Fiji Bureau of Statistics in its preliminary findings, reported that the unemployment rate in Fiji in the 2015-2016 year declined to 5.56% from 7.1% in 2010-2011 which has been at its all-time lowest in Fiji in the last 15 years. This is still quite high in comparison with Japan's unemployment rate of 2.80 as released in September 2017 given its population size.

NAAB recognises that with FBL already established in Fiji and having its parent Company in Japan; it would be of much interest to FBL to enter into such Agreements with them that allows both parties to assist each other in resolving matters arising in both countries.

As such, FBL will assist NAAB to facilitate the recruitments of Fiji Nationals to work in corporations in and around the Narita International Airport in Chiba, Japan.

FBL's Chief Operations Officer, Mereseini Baleilevuka mentioned that this would be a great opportunity for Fijians to work abroad and also develop work ethics of a developed nation.



Mrs Baleilevuka also highlighted that this partnership could further boost the number of international students coming to study at our Institute over the next years as NAAB have also agreed that it would also arrange for employment of the Japanese students studying English at our Institute with organisations in and around the Narita International Airport. She further stated that this would definitely have a direct impact on our current services in Fiji in terms of home stay benefits and local employees.

FBL has already received approvals from other regulatory authorities and is awaiting one final approval from the Ministry of Employment.

Yours sincerely



Hiroshi Taniguchi
Chairman



Waisale Iowane
Executive Director