

## MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT (For Immediate Release)

## BUSINESS OPERATIONS DURING THE SECOND OUTBREAK OF COVID19

The COVID 19 pandemic has wreaked havoc across the globe, leading to health and economic crisis in developed and developing countries alike. The social fallout from this pandemic has been immense as well with disparities in health outcomes between different social groups.

Fiji has been fortunate on this front, particularly from a health and social perspective, where for almost a year since the first case of Covid 19 was detected in March 2020, Fiji managed to avoid any COVID related health crisis. The second outbreak of the virus appears more serious as the virus has spread unexpectantly rapidly across the main island. Whilst the ATH Group of companies operates in a COVID safe manner and took measures to prepare for such situations, this outbreak on the telecommunications sector looks to have had a greater impact due to the more severe resultant economic downturn.

The ATH Group subsidiaries, particularly, Vodafone Fiji and Telecom Fiji have been working with the relevant Ministries to combat the rising health, economic and social implications due to this second wave.

ATH is confident that the products offered by the group companies, including the M-Paisa Platform, Vitikart app, the heavily discounted smartphones and continuing efforts to provide affordable and quality telecommunication services will help people keep in touch with each other during these difficult times. However, more importantly, robust, functioning telecommunications networks and services is a critical element in assisting Fiji and Fijians to bring this outbreak under control and will be an essential element in reestablishing a new normal.

Notably, the pandemic has caused an increase in demand for data and Internet from users here and abroad and the ATH Group and its subsidiaries continue to invest in innovative technologies to enhance the customer experiences.

In terms of financial impact to the group, the Pandemic has caused loss in revenue for some of the group subsidiaries. However, the diversified revenue base of the group has allowed ATH to cushion the impacts to some extent. Whilst the full impact of COVID-19 on the business of the company and the group entities remains to be seen, the group continues to monitor and assess its business operations daily and will undertake actions as appropriate.

ATH and its operating subsidiaries have implemented precautionary measures, protocols and have established, and continually review plans for alternative arrangements and strategies under different scenarios to minimize the disruptions to its day-to-day operations.

(End)

Chairperson/ Director

Company Secretary and Chief Executive Officer

## About ATH:

The ATH Group of Companies comprises ATH, Telecom Fiji Limited, Vodafone Fiji Limited, FINTEL, Fiji Directories Limited, ATH Kiribati Limited, Telecom Vanuatu Limited and Datec (Fiji) Limited and its subsidiary, Datec Australia Pty Limited, Bluesky American Samoa, Vodafone Samoa and Vodafone Cook Islands and Digitec Communications Limited.

ATH is a public company listed on the South Pacific Stock Exchange and is Fiji's principal telecommunication holding company, through its investments and provision of direct services in a broad range of telecommunications and related services throughout 15 operating companies in ten Pacific Island markets in Fiji, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Samoa, Cook Islands, American Samoa, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Australia and Singapore.

The Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF) is ATH's largest shareholder.

## Contact:

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