



## **MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT (For Immediate Release)**

### **CHANGES TO BOARD COMPOSITION**

ATH wishes to advise of the following changes to the ATH Board:

In accordance with article 6.5 of the ATH Articles of Association, the Strategic Investor, The Fiji National Provident Fund, via a notice dated 3 March 2023, has made the following changes to ATH Board:

Appointment of New Directors:

#### **1. Mr. Daksesh Patel**

Mr Patel is the Chairman of the Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF). He is a respected businessman, leader and entrepreneur with extensive experience in the Australian steel industry within the Australia region.

Mr Patel was the InfraBuild CEO from October 2019 to July 2021, helping the business during a time of transformational change. As CEO, Daksesh led transformation activities to arrest the business's performance trajectory, setting the foundation for optimisation and establishing a platform for future growth.

He is a current Board Director of InfraBuild, Australia's largest vertically integrated long steel manufacturer, as well as a member of the global LIBERTY Steel Group Board.

Mr Patel has held senior leadership roles in privately-held businesses operating throughout the Oceania region. He is a member of Vinod Patel Group, one of Fiji's largest privately owned enterprise. These businesses own and operate diversified portfolios in manufacturing, distribution and building products, including the steel industry, and collectively employ over 2000 people. He founded Mesh & Bar, Australia's largest independent steel reinforcing company, in 1988.

Throughout his career, Mr Patel has continued to make a meaningful contribution to Fiji. In 2016, Daksesh became Chairman of Energy Fiji Limited and oversaw its transition from a government owned statutory body into a newly corporatised entity in 2018.

Under Daksesh's leadership, EFL achieved partial divestment with an aim to eventually list on the local stock exchange positioned as one of the few utilities in the region achieving a sustainable level of return on assets. Determined to drive a sustainable future, Daksesh is a key supporter of EFL's commitment to the cultivation of clean, renewable sources of energy.

#### **2. Mr. Joe Taoi**

Mr Taoi is an industry expert who has 30 years of experience in the international shipping, warehouse & distribution, supply chain management and trade facilitation advisor. Mr Taoi is the founder of Freight Services (Fiji), a family owned logistic & moving company.

Mr Taoi previously set on various boards relevant and crucial to export trade, financial and private sector development in Fiji. He was actively involved in establishment of the Fiji Indigenous Business Council. He was also instrumental in the planning, designing and implementation of the private sector body, the Fiji Export Council (FEC). He was Chair of the Board from 2004 to 2015. Mr Taoi is the former President for the Fiji Papua New Guinea

Business Council, Board Member of Fiji New Zealand Business Council and board member for Merchant Finance Limited from 2013 to 2016.

He was also a past President of Rotary Club of Suva and current Chairperson of Raiwaqa Health Centre.

### 3. Mr. Attar Singh

Mr Singh is the General Secretary of Fiji Longshoremen & Staff Association and the Industrial Relations Advisor for the National Union of Municipal Workers and Fiji Airline Pilots Association. Mr Singh started his career as an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer for Air Pacific Limited. He has held various Union position in the past including General Secretary for Transport Workers Union, Fiji Aviation Workers Association, Fiji Mineworkers & Staff Union etc.

Mr Singh is currently a board member of Fiji National Provident Fund, the National Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Board and the Employment Relations Advisory Board. He had previous held Board positions in Fiji National Training Council, National Occupational Safety & Health Advisory Board, Labour Advisory Board and the Minimum Wages Council.

Mr Singh had also held International Union positions as Board member of Asia Pacific Executive Board (Singapore), Secretary of Uni Global Union (Geneva) and Secretary of International Transport Workers Federation (London).

These newly appointed Directors will replace:

1. Ms. Kalpana Lal
2. Mr. Taito Waqa
3. Mr. Pravinesh Singh

The above changes are effective from 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023.

The Board of ATH would like to sincerely thank Ms Kalpana Lal, Mr Taito Waqa and Mr Pravinesh Singh for their services to the ATH Group. During their tenure as Chairperson and Board Directors, ATH Group grew significantly, expanding its operations across the Pacific.

ATH will make further announcement in relation to the appointment of ATH Board Chairperson.

(End)

Chairperson/ Director

Director/ Company Secretary

3 March 2023