



e-Newsletter

Information from SSOAP

September 2025

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JULY 2024-JUNE 2025

SSOAP's AGM for FY24/25 was held on Friday 19th September 2025 at Taumeasina Village at Moata'a, an innovative Tiny House Mastery Resort by member Sili Valerie Saena-Tuiā. The timing was to have the meeting within 3 months after the closure of the financial year, and the venue was for members to relax and enjoy networking at a beach front environment.

Master of Ceremony Fonoti Emile Adams called on Elder Dr. Tofaeono Iupati to deliver the opening prayer. Emele was busy with secretarial duties, while Sili was very much engaged with logistical arrangements. Please note that VP Afuamua was overseas on duty assignments. Other members of the Task Force Team provided the support as necessary.

A minute of silence was observed to pay tribute to members, *"ua fai i lagi le folauga"*.

The AGM minutes of 06 Dec. 24 for FY23/24 were endorsed, before the presentation of the President's report for FY24/25.

President Asuao reported on the following:

- ✓ SSOAP Update: Executive Structure, Membership, Objectives-Target Areas, and Members'-Expertise (general & specialists).
- ✓ Administration: Office, Funding support, Equipment procured, Operational allowance, Executive and Task Force monthly meetings, and Meetings-e-approval system to facilitate timely delivery of action items.
- ✓ Deliverables: Contributions to Samoa's NBSAP 2025-2030, National Biodiversity Policy 2025-2030, and Citizenship by investment.
- ✓ Deliverables-Contributions to Projects: Sustainable Transformation of Domestic Agrifood Systems (STODAS)-Business Incubator System at SROS, GAFSP PO (SFFI-SAO-SWAG) led Program, Global Shiology Project.
- ✓ SSOAP Outreach: Newsletter, EOI, Seminars (at NUS), and Facilitated Networking, and
- ✓ Innovative Strategies: SSOAP to become a Supervising Entity, Potential inputs into the Government's Miliona Program, Resolving the National Consultancy Challenge, and
- ✓ Acknowledgement to the *"all the helpers"*.

Treasurer Fonoti presented the Audited Financial Report, which was approved in principle, subject to minor amendments to the text. These were attended to during the days after, then a final signing off to confirm its approval.

At election time for new Office Bearers, the members overwhelmingly voted in the same team to continue its services, for another (2) two years. The President acknowledged the trust and support of the members, and insisted on maintaining a yearly election as a formality process.

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Regarding other matters, Food Safety Scientist and member, Lomia, was given the opportunity to share her story on an innovative product that she has developed. The product is available on the market as a healthy drink. Additional information can be sourced from her for those who care about their health.

It was a lovely evening that followed, which was also attended by our Savaii and SCATAP colleagues, who (Chinese team) all signed up to be members of SSOAP.



Food for thought:
According to Winston Churchill: “***Scientists Should be on Tap, not on Top***”.

TO THE GROUP: REACH OUT IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS FOR OUR NEXT VERSION.

Asuao Kirifi Pouono (President)

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