**\* MEPSL HANDS-ON TRAINING OPENING REMARKS \*+**

A warm welcome to you all.

1. Firstly, I wish to begin by thanking each and every one of you for being with us here today. I am very pleased to welcome you all to this vital training workshop.
2. Secondly, I would like to sincerely thank the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Hub and SPC through the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) for their ongoing support in progressing the Minimum Energy Performance Standard and Labelling (MEPSL) initiatives.
3. As you may be aware, the Energy Bill for Kiribati was endorsed by Parliament in December 2022, and had recently assented by HE Te Beretitenti. The endorsement of this Energy Act is a milestone for Kiribati as it provides a legal framework and supported regulations that could accelerate our energy transition to achieve our national energy targets set out in the Kiribati Integrated Energy Road Map (KIER) and in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).
4. The Minimum Energy Performance Standard and Labelling (MEPSL) is one of the key components as stipulated under Part VIII of the Act and it is currently prioritized by the Government of Kiribati to implement. Through the assistance of NDC-hub, the PCREEE has supported Kiribati through MISE in ensuring MEPSL has the necessary institutional, monitoring and evaluation structure in place as well as the technical expertise to effectively administer and enforce the Energy Act 2022. Today we are very honored and privileged to have PCREEE expert, Mr. Sosefo Tofu and Mr. Paea Tau’aika to conduct a 3 days’ workshop on Minimum Energy Performance Standard and Labelling (MPSL) operationalization including Mr. Prasad from Fiji Energy Department who is also joining us in person and other expert who will be joining online to share their experiences on MEPSL activities.
5. I understand that most of you have been involved in the Kiribati Pacific Appliance Labelling and Standard (PALS) project which MISE initiated for the last 5 years and I acknowledged the support from our local suppliers who have already started importing energy efficient appliances including freezers and refrigerators with energy labels, and lightings. This workshop will further improve your knowledge and understanding on minimum energy performance standard and labelling and will introduce the Pacific Appliance Database (PAD) online registration system which MISE will utilize to regulate targeted electrical appliances once MEPSL legislation is enacted.
6. Moreover, this training will build your understanding on PAD online system for product registration, inspection, and monitoring. It will also give you the opportunity to explore the system where you will understand it’s different features and functions for future use, hence I will recommend your active participation and interaction in this training.
7. Lastly, I would like to thank our local ministries counterparts, private sectors who are our main key role players in the local market industry for all your continuous support to this initiative and for your active participation in this workshop. MISE is looking forward to working with you in the future to implement this initiative efficiently and effectively.
8. With these few remarks, I now leave with you our traditional blessings of Te Mauri, Te Raoi ao te Tabomoa.
9. Thank you for your attention and I wish you a fruitful workshop.

Kam rabwa!