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STATEMENT REGARDING THE INTERNATIONAL EXPRESS MAIL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AND THE POSTAL ADMINISTRATION OF FIJI

Agreement signed in Suva, Fiji on August 3, 2001, and in Arlington, Virginia on December 21, 2001.

RELEASE IN FULL

Explanation of Agreement

This agreement establishes an expedited mail service between the United States and Fiji. The agreement contains provisions governing service options, the collection of postage from senders, the conditions and restrictions applicable to items sent in the service, and the mutual obligations of the signatory postal administrations with respect to this type of mail. The agreement consists of two documents: (1) an "agreement" which defines the service and establishes the mutual obligations of the two postal administrations, and (2) "detailed regulations" providing detailed procedures for the implementation of the terms of the agreement.

Background Information of Negotiations

Negotiations for this agreement were conducted by exchange of correspondence between the U.S. Postal Service and the postal administration of Fiji between June and December 2001.

This agreement was concluded at this time in order to initiate an International Express Mail Service from the postal administration of Fiji. This Agreement replaces the EMS Agreement signed between the postal administrations of the United and Fiji in 1991.

Effect of Agreement

The effect of this agreement is to provide the benefits of International Express Mail Service, including greater speed and reliability, to postal customers who have expressed a need for this type of service for transmitting items to and from Fiji. The service will generate revenues for the United States Postal Service through the collection of postage, rates and fees.

Legal Authority

The authority for this agreement is the Universal Postal Convention, Beijing 1999.