

## Introducing ... the Pacific's very own –The Pacific Design Male Condoms



FOR the first time Pacific Islanders can enjoy their very own brand of condoms - the "Pacific Design Male Condoms".

The two new Pacific Design Male Condoms: "Safe Rider" and "Sensuous" - are strawberry flavoured, measure 53mm in width and come in Pacific art foil packages. The Safer Rider condom is blue in colour while the Sensuous condom is reddish brown in colour.

The two designer condoms have been developed as part of a joint project of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) and the United Nations Populations Funds (UNFPA) Office for the Pacific.

The attractive foil packaging for the condoms reflects Pacific art. The packaging design was created by Ms. Tane Mosese of Hatamara Graphics Company Ltd, a young talented graphic designer based in Fiji's capital city, Suva.

The UNFPA sincerely thanks her for developing the packaging designs and those involved in pilot testing of the condoms in various Pacific Island Countries (PICs).

Reaction from the 11 Pacific Island Countries, who took part in the pilot testing of these condoms - was overwhelmingly in support of replacing the plain foil packaged condoms that are currently being provided at government health centers and hospitals in most PICs.

The new condoms should be available free of charge from all government clinics including hospitals, health centres, nursing stations, etc., in Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, Kiribati, Mar-

shall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

The dual purposes of condoms are for family planning and prevention of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) including the Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus (HIV). The GFATM and UNFPA - joint project also looks at improving condom programming in efforts to address both purposes.

To support condom programming, UNFPA has developed a Rapid Needs Assessment (RNA) toolkit to help countries review the main issues affecting condom supply, distribution, acceptability and usage and to identify the next steps to improve condom programming at the level of the nation, province or area/district. Condom programming ensures that sufficient numbers of condoms are available at all levels of society and at locations that are accessible to everyone.

Also developed under this project is a manual for Community Based Distribution of condoms, designed for trainers or coordinators of Community-Based Distributors programmes in the Pacific. It is intended to serve as a useful resource for training CBD Trainers who could take the manual to their districts/provinces to provide training to others.....PNS(ENDS).

For more information, please contact:

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