



## MEDIA INVITE

26 August, 2016

### **MOANA PASIFIKA VOYAGE – WA'A ARRIVAL CEREMONY**

Join the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) for the **Wa'a Arrival Ceremony** of the **Moana Pasifika Voyage** from **6:00am – 7:30am, 1 September**, at the **Kahanamoku Beach, Hilton Hawaiian Village in Waikiki, Honolulu**.

The Arrival Ceremony of the Wa'a (Traditional double-hulled canoes) will provide a traditional Hawaiian welcome to honoured guests from across the globe, to be followed by speeches from; **Master Navigator, Nainoa Thompson, Hawaiian Governor, David Ige, His Excellency President of Micronesia, Peter Christian, His Excellency President of Palau, Tommy Remengesau** and **IUCN Director General, Inger Andersen**.

*Wa'a Hawai'i loa, Hikianalia and Mo'okiha o Pi'ilani* and a flotilla of youth canoes and outrigger canoes will sail into *Kahanamoku Beach* with our *Wa'a* family and Pacific Island Leaders and dignitaries, bringing a call for action on Climate Change and a Sustainable Pacific Ocean. This event is a public commemoration of the Pacific Ocean, which ties together the people of the Pacific Island Countries and serves as our planet's single greatest source of natural resources.

*The Wa'a arrival is open to the public and is free from fees or registration requirements, so no press credentials are required to capture coverage of the ceremony. However, for inclusion on the press roster and provision of appropriate vantage points for media coverage, it is advised to contact the event focal points below and register your attendance for ongoing communication updates and increased coordination with event management personnel.*

**Note:**

*The Vaka Arrival Ceremony will finish at 7.30am, which will give you ample amount of time to make it to the Blaisdell Center by 9.30am for the Opening Ceremony of the IUCN World Conservation Congress if you have already registered for press credentials to cover the opening events.*

Please contact **Andrew Irvin** ([andrew.irvin@iucn.org](mailto:andrew.irvin@iucn.org)) and **Frank Koloï** ([frank.koloi@iucn.org](mailto:frank.koloi@iucn.org)) for additional details and validation on the press roster for the Pacific Ocean Summit. For more info, visit: <http://www.moanavoyage.org/pacific-ocean-summit-the-iucn-world-conservation-congress/>

For media queries pertaining to the broader World Conservation Congress or registration and press credentials, contact [congressmedia@iucn.org](mailto:congressmedia@iucn.org) or visit: <http://iucnworldconservationcongress.org/press/media-registration>