



Solomon Islands Government

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET
P.O. BOX G1, HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS
TEL: 21209 FAX: 28649
CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM UNIT

PRESS RELEASE
Date: Jun 24, 2016

Bar Association ends awareness on Draft Federal Constitution

The Solomon Islands Bar Association has completed its review of the 2nd 2014 Draft Federal Constitution of Solomon Islands on Friday 24 June 2016 with the Constitutional Reform Unit (CRU).

The meeting was extended for another week after Friday 17 June 2016, which was the intended date of the awareness consultation's completion. This was because the lawyers critically analyzed the document in terms of how the constitution will work from the legal context.

Thorough discussions on the 2nd 2014 Draft Federal Constitution were done on various provisions, as lawyers compared notes, legal experiences together with the aspirations in the draft, in terms of the federal context. Some of the lawyers reiterated that it is desirable to have a constitution that will actually work and not cause disruption to Solomon Islands.

CRU welcomes the legal analysis as these are critical to guiding the fine-tuning the proposed Federal Constitution, for it to become a constitution that fulfills the aspiration of the people as well as maintain its relevance for years to come.

Fifty (50) members of the Bar Association were present during the awareness program, which was held at the Monarch IBS Conference room. These included lawyers practicing from both private and public legal institutions in the country. According to CRU work program for 2016, this is the final group out of the stakeholders' consultations on the proposed Draft.

The consultation was official closed on Friday 24 June 2016.

CRU is a division established within the Prime Minister's Office to oversee the completion of the Solomon Islands' Constitutional Reform program.

End////