**Constitutional Reform Unit** 

## OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET



## P.O. BOX G1, HONIARA SOLOMON ISLANDS

TEL: 21209 FAX: 28649

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## Guadalcanal discuss land matters in 2014 Draft Federal Constitution

As Guadalcanal Province Awareness on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014 Draft Federal Constitution of Solomon Islands approaches its end this week, participants deliberated on how the Federal constitution addresses land matters.

The discussions centered on land issues faced in Guadalcanal particularly on urban centre's expansion, land alienation, Honiara City boundary, customary and tribal land rights and the administration of land management in Government.

Despite strong yet respectful discussions, the participants appreciated that most of the concerns regarding these which they brought up at the Binu Convention in 2012, were well addressed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014 Draft Constitution.

CRU Consultant Lawyer Reginald Teutao also noted some additional comments to include as improvements to sections addressing land matters in the Draft.

The Guadalcanal Province Awareness on the  $2^{nd}$  2014 Draft Federal Constitution of Solomon Islands is currently held at Kingdom Harvest Hall at Henderson, Guadalcanal.

Participants in attendance include Members of the Guadalcanal Provincial Assembly, various stakeholders, women and community leaders from Guadalcanal.

The Guadalcanal Congress team will put together a report and present it to the Joint Congress and Eminent Persons Advisory Council (EPAC) Plenary to be held late 2015.

The final Joint Plenary will put together contents of the Final Draft Federal Constitution of Solomon Islands with the help of the Professional Constitutional Drafter Dr. Phillip Knight.

Congress and EPAC members will then handover the final content to Cabinet and the Prime Minister after its completion.

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