

Constitutional Reform Unit

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MINISTER AND CABINET**



SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

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Choiseul Province supports change to Federalism

Participants of the Choiseul Province Awareness on the 2nd 2014 Draft Federal Constitution of Solomon Islands have given a unanimous support for the shift to Federalism from the current system.

They made this resolution after their consultation meeting on Friday 11th September 2015.

There was an air of confidence and satisfaction among all participants when Chairman of the meeting Mr. Simmy Vazarabatu asked participants if they supported the change to Federalism, to which all agreed.

The participants also endorsed the amendment of Section 61 of the current Constitution to create the Constituent Assembly that will ratify and adopt the Federal Constitution.

During the meeting, participants said that the way the current 2014 Draft is written is truly home-grown and is suitable for Solomon Islands' situation.

Some said that they appreciated the fact that the 2nd 2014 Draft is much easier to read and understand, because it is written in modern English.

They also expressed thankfulness to Constitutional Reform Unit's Consultant Lawyer Mr. Reginald Teutao for making clear explanations, especially on legal concepts.

Subject areas that Choiseul participants made their input in within the 2014 Draft included, land and resource ownership; State and Community governments and; Federal government and its institutions.

All participants actively participated in the awareness meeting, seeking clarifications, making suggestions and, speaking of experiences and views, which were taken note of by the Choiseul Constitutional Congress team.

The fifty participants of the Awareness included Provincial Assembly Members (MPAs), church, chiefs, women representatives, officers and professionals of Choiseul Province.

Premier Jackson Kiloe officially closed the meeting on Friday at Qurusu Hall at the Provincial Headquarter in Taro.

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