

Constitutional Reform Unit

**OFFICE OF THE PRIME
MINISTER AND CABINET**



SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

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Vanuatu-based Solomon Law students go through 2nd 2014 Draft Federal Constitution

Solomon Islands law students in USP Emalus Campus have gone through a 5-day awareness consultation on the *2nd 2014 Draft Federal Constitution of Solomon Islands* in Port Vila, Vanuatu since Monday 26 October 2015.

The Vanuatu-based law students unanimously endorsed the 2nd 2014 Draft Federal Constitution and their contributions will be compiled as part of their review of contents during the 2015 Awareness program.

Fifty (50) final and third year law students took part in the awareness; a follow on consultation, which Constitutional Reform Unit (CRU) conducted in 2012.

CRU and DCC Government's Fundamental Reform jointly conducted the awareness, which the Solomon Islands Law Students Association (SILSA) facilitated in Port Vila.

The awareness meetings were held for three hours in the evenings as students had study priorities set for the week, however the consultations on the Draft was productive as students were versed with it and inputs were straightforward.

Majority of students attending the meeting have studied constitutional law, as well as the federal and unitary system, and concepts relating to these systems.

Mr. Warren Paia, Policy Secretary of DCC Government's Fundamental Reform made his presentation on the first evening. Mr. Reginald Teutao held detailed awareness on the Draft since Tuesday 27 October.

Mr. Teutao in his closing remarks on Day 5 of the meeting said that he was extremely pleased with the attendance of participants, as it's been a "full house" since Day 1.

"As lawyers-to-be keep up this kind of attitude," he said, "the majority of you will be working in the institutions mentioned in this draft constitution, so this is a good start."

The President of SILSA Mr. Johan Doiwale also thanked the team for involving them in the process of consultation and the students for their full attendance and participation, which has made this awareness as success.

In terms of the program, this round of consultation is for scholars, civil society organizations, national stakeholders and the institutional workforce.

The awareness at the Emalus USP Law campus in Port Vila, Vanuatu was held from Monday 26 to Friday 30, October 2015.

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