

**Constitutional Reform Unit**

**OFFICE OF THE PRIME  
MINISTER AND CABINET**



**SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT**

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

**TEL: 21209 FAX: 28649**

**PRESS STATEMENT**

**Date: February 06, 2012**

## **Choiseul starts its Convention on the Draft Federal Constitution**

**Provincial Conventions on the 2011 Draft Federal Constitution of Solomon Islands have commenced with Choiseul being the first province to hold its convention early this month.**

Choiseul Provincial Nominees of Constitutional Congress Mr. Simmy Vazarabatu (team leader), Ms. Viola Malasa and Dr. Glynn Galo are currently in Taro for this undertaking, which will last for two weeks and should be completed by 10<sup>th</sup> of February.

It is understood that chiefs, provincial members and representatives of various stakeholders around Choiseul are part of this convention. According to the Constitutional Reform work plan, Provincial teams in Congress will be holding conventions in the provinces for representatives there to have their final say on the draft Federal Constitution. Choiseul province is listed as the first province to hold its convention, followed by Rennell Bellona province later this month.

Though this activity is dependent on the weather and steady processing of funds from the Ministry of Finance, Congress expects to complete the provincial conventions by July this year.

All nine provinces including Honiara City will hold respective conventions before the draft is put together in one final form for the National Convention also to be held later this year. These are part of the consultation process in gaining greater public awareness and consensus on the Constitutional Reform of Solomon Islands.

Contents of the 2011 Draft derives from provincial and Honiara City feedbacks on the 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 Draft Federal Constitution, which the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Plenary of Congress and EPAC (Eminent Persons Advisory Council) reviewed and put into a constitution format for final public review. This version will be made available on the Constitutional Reform website soon.

End//////////