



**NATIONAL PARLIAMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS  
BILLS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

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**Report on the Political Parties  
Integrity Bill 2013**

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**National Parliament Paper No. 20 of 2013**

Presented on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013

National Parliament Office

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Bills and Legislation Committee had completed its scrutiny into the Political Parties Integrity Bill 2013 on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September. Initially about 13 civil society organisations were invited to appear before the Committee. However, only seven were able to make it on the hearing date. About 22 witnesses appeared before the Committee and were able to present different opinions on the Bill.

At the initial hearing the Committee cannot proceed because it held the view that some of the clauses of the Bill are unconstitutional. The Chairman wrote to the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (OPMC) to express this. They responded to the Chairman's letter which the Committee acknowledge and was grateful for it. They express that they are not going to make any major constitutional amendment but changes were made to the clauses of the Bill to realign it with the Constitution.

The Committee after hearing submissions from those who appeared before it during the inquiry realise that there are still further infringement on the Constitution by other clauses of the Bill. The Committee again send out an invitation to the OPMC on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September to come clarify these constitutional issues. No response was forthcoming from them therefore the Committee decided to outline these issues in this report. The Committee resolved that these infringements must be corrected otherwise a later constitutional challenge in the High Court may render this Bill unconstitutional and therefore caused a lot of efforts and resources put into this Bill to be futile.

There are a number of political issues addressed in this Bill. A core issue the Committee feels that it is absent in this Bill is the enhancement of political stability in our governance system. The Bill seems to focus more on the administration and organisation of political parties leaving the political instability experienced within our governance system to be unresolved.

Generally the Committee is of the view that this Bill should not be allowed to continue on through Parliament unless the Constitutional issues are sorted out. On the other hand the Bill can be amended in such a way that it did not have an adverse impact on the Constitution or the other option is to redraft the Bill to just an administration of political parties Bill.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The Bills and Legislation Committee (“the Committee”) has completed its review of the *Political Parties Integrity Bill 2013* (“the Bill”) introduced in the House during the current (4<sup>th</sup>) meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> Parliament by the Prime Minister’s Office. The Bill was submitted to the Speaker through the Clerk to Parliament as required under the *Standing Orders*<sup>1</sup>. The Speaker examined the Bill<sup>2</sup> and authorised it to be introduced in the current Parliament meeting.

The initial inquiry into the Bill should have occurred on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July 2013. However the Committee held that the Bill require fundamental constitutional amendments before it can be operational as anything to the contrary will render the Bill unconstitutional and so resolved to postpone the inquiry. The Committee through the Chairman on that same date (30/07/13) outline the necessary constitutional amendments and submit it to the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (OPMC) for their consideration. The OPMC in its response to the Committee on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2013 inform the Committee they opted to realign the clauses of the Bill to comply with the Constitution instead of making any major constitutional amendments. With this assurance the Committee conducted its rescheduled hearing on the Bill from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2013 and heard oral submissions from a range of stakeholders. The minutes of these meetings and other deliberative meetings is annexed as **Appendix 1**. The Committee met again on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September to go through the draft report on the Bill. The Committee then commends this report for the information of Members and for Parliament consideration.

### 1.1 Terms of Reference

Pursuant to its mandate under the *Standing Orders*, the terms of reference of the Committee in this instance is to examine the Bill and to report its observations and recommendations on the Bill to Parliament.

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<sup>1</sup> *Standing Order* 44 (1).

<sup>2</sup> As required by *Standing Order* 45 (1).

## 1.2 Functions of the Committee

The Bills and Legislation Committee is established under *Standing Order* 71, an Order made pursuant to the *Constitution*<sup>3</sup>, and under that Order has the functions, together with the necessary powers to discharge such, to:

- (a) examine such matters as may be referred to it by Parliament or the Government;
- (b) review all draft legislation prepared for introduction into Parliament;
- (c) examine all subsidiary legislation made under any Act so as to ensure compliance with the Acts under which they are made;
- (d) monitor all motions adopted by Parliament which require legislative action;
- (e) review current or proposed legislative measures to the extent it deems necessary;
- (f) examine such other matters in relation to legislation that, in the opinion of the Committee require examination; and
- (g) make a written report to each Meeting of Parliament containing the observations and recommendations arising from the Committee's deliberations.

## 1.3 Membership

The current members of the Bills and Legislation Committee (9<sup>th</sup> Parliament) are:

Hon. Manasseh D. Sogavare, MP (Chair)

Hon. Dr Derek Sikua, MP

Hon. Milner Tozaka, MP

Hon. Matthew Cooper Wale, MP

Hon. John Maneniaru, MP

Hon. James Tora, MP

Hon. Douglas Ete, MP

Hon. Sam Iduri

Hon. Johnly Hatimoana

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<sup>3</sup> Section 62, *Constitution of Solomon Islands* 1978.

## **2 POLICY CHOICES**

### **2.1 Background**

Political integrity and stability have been identified by past and current Governments as key elements of good governance that are necessary for providing an enabling environment for sustainable economic development. These Governments have acknowledged the fact that political stability is crucial to the successful management of social and economic affairs of the country. Equally to that is the need for politicians and aspiring politicians to have integrity and a culture of respect for the offices they hold and powers they exercise on behalf of the people. While the solution to achieving political stability might require different immediate actions, the achievement of political integrity is indispensable to the achievement and sustenance of political stability in the country.

Solomon Islands has indeed, over the period 2000-2001, experienced political instability resulting in 10 different Governments formed during the same period.<sup>4</sup>

Recognizing this problem and the threat it poses to peace development and sustainable economic development, the former Government of Prime Minister Hon Dr. Derek Sikua introduced the Political Party Integrity Bill for its first reading in 2010. The Bill was intended to require compulsory registration of political parties, give greater recognition and responsibilities to political parties and to provide restriction in the frequency with which motion of no-confidence is moved in Parliament. The Bill did not get the support of the MPs and was defeated.

### **2.2 Consultations**

The current Government embarked on a project to strengthen political integrity and stability in September 2011 and its completion will be the passage of this Bill through Parliament.<sup>5</sup> A nationwide consultation on this project commenced in November 2011 where more than 480<sup>6</sup> national, provincial and community leaders representing the people of this country formally participated in the consultation process.

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<sup>4</sup> Task Force Committee, 'Consolidated Report Nationwide Consultation on Political Integrity and Stability in Solomon Islands', 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2012, p2

<sup>5</sup> Ibid

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

From evidence presented to the Committee it was discovered that a lot of the inputs into this Bill was taken from the views expressed from the nationwide consultation. The Committee feels that the consultation number of 480 people is not representative of the country.

The women when appearing before the Committee for this Bill expresses their concern on the different views from Solomon Islanders on the Issue of temporary special measures (TSM) obtain from nationwide consultations. In the nationwide consultation on this Bill a lot of the people disapprove the idea of TSM whilst another consultation carried out by RAMSI indicated support by many Solomon Islanders for women TSM.

### **2.3 Purpose of the Bill**

The purpose of the Bill as summarized by the vice president of the Solomon Islands Democratic Party is for the registration, administration, development of political parties and the promotion of integrity in party operations.<sup>7</sup> Representatives from the Prime Minister's Office and Cabinet when appearing before the Committee stressed that the Bill is very much about how parties should be formed—it is only about political parties in terms of how they conduct themselves; it is about the integrity of a party rather than the stability of the Parliament.

Whilst the Committee agrees with steps taken to formalise political party organisations in our country however it does not resolve the political instability affecting the political governance of this country.

### **2.4 Stability of the Parliament**

Many of the witnesses who appeared before the Committee express their hope and satisfaction that a lot of the political instability experience in our country will now be resolved through the enactment of this Bill. However such hopes were dashed when after much scrutiny they realise that the Bill deals only with party administration for the stability of the Government. The Bill placed more emphasis on the stability of Government rather than the Parliament.

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<sup>7</sup> Gabriel Suri, Submission, 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2013, p1

The Committee feels that a core issue amongst others, to be resolved within our political system is the instability caused by MPs crossing the floor of Parliament. The Committee is of the view that one way of addressing this, is by ensuring the overall stability of Parliament. By ensuring the stability of Parliament will indirectly resolve the stability of Government, an objective of this Bill.

The approach taken in this Bill undermines resolving this core issue as reflected by **clause 36 (2)**. This clause allows a person to formally resign from one political party and become a member of another.

## **2.5 Shadow Government**

Further to addressing political stability the Committee feels that the Bill should have gone further to legislate for the proper establishment of the Opposition office. The Bill should properly organise the office of the Leader of the Opposition, establish shadow ministers; formally establish the office of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition. Currently the only person paid to do any work in the opposition, is the Leader of Opposition. The proper establishment of such offices will see MPs in the opposition having something to do in the Opposition and will not be attracted to go across to the government side because they have something to do. Give them the same kind of benefits and remunerations and allow them to carry out the function of scrutinising the executive government.

## **2.6 Reserved Candidacy for Women**

An issue of much debate in our country today is the affirmative action of allocating temporary special measures (TSM) to women with regards to our political governance. The women groups appearing before the Committee for this Bill clarified that it is not a gender issue but the need for equal participation or gender balance in Parliament.

This Bill in clause 32 tries to achieve this aim by indicating that. *"In a general election, a political party must reserve for women at least 10% of the total number of candidates it selects to contest the election"*. Many views expressed during the inquiry state that this clause will not achieve its objective because it depends upon the desire of a political party to support development of women in politics or not.



The Committee is of the view that to address the overall issue of women in politics a legislation of its own should be brought to Parliament rather than a piece meal solution. An option suggested is the legislating of women to contest regional parliament seats. The other is for the reforming of our electoral process to a preferential voting system where certain numbers of seats are allocated to women. The Committee acknowledge and supports the idea of bringing women into Parliament. However this requires the political will and the motivation of all fellow male politicians to find an amicable solution to the ongoing debate on this issue.

#### **2.7 Sponsors and permissible donors of political parties**

Clause 40 of the Bill sets out the process for the reporting with the Commission any donations to political parties received from other sources. The term 'donations' as define under clause 2 is broaden to capture everything possible. Though this is commendable, the Committee feels that it would be much better to include measures' for exposing these sources or transparency requirements that are able to link where this funds are sourced from. Such requirements can allow permissible donors to fund political parties.

### 3 CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

The national Constitution gives power to Parliament by section 59(1) to make laws for peace, order, and good governance of Solomon Islands. However this is subject to the other provisions of the Constitution.

In the course of the inquiry submissions made to the Committee unveil several infringements on the national Constitution by certain clauses of the Bill. These infringements must be seriously addressed as they will render this Bill unconstitutional and make all the efforts put into its preparation futile. Outline below are some of the constitutional issues highlighted during the hearing of the Bill.

#### 3.1 Freedom of Association

The following clauses in the Bill can be challenged as infringing upon one's constitutional freedom to "*freedom of conscience of expression and of assembly and association..., assemble freely and associate with other persons to form or belong to political parties ...*" The freedom is protected under section 3 and 13(1) of the Constitution.

- (1) **Clause 13** prohibits groups from nominating a candidate unless the group is registered under the proposed law.

The intention of this clause is that it forces political groups to register. The mechanism used, however, affects directly freedom of individuals to associate and to form or belong to a political party. It is, therefore, contrary to section 13 of the Constitution.

- (2) **Clause 14** only allows a group of 300 hundred citizens to apply for registration of a political party.

The intention of this clause is to discourage non-serious and seasonal groupings and to encourage mega parties. The current number of 300 is very high and very restrictive. This clause takes away individual person's freedom of association as prescribe under section 13 of the Constitution.

- (3) **Clause 36** prohibits a person from becoming a member of more than one political party.

The intention of this clause is to create party-loyalty by taking away the constitutional right of individual freedom of association. It is also contrary to section 13 of the Constitution.

- (4) **Clause 43** prohibits a political party from entering into a coalition agreement with group of independent candidates.

The intention of this clause is to discourage independent groupings. It, thus, takes away collective freedom of individuals to associate freely contrary to section 13 of the Constitution.

- (5) **Clause 45(4)** prohibits names of candidates from appearing on more than one list of candidates selected by a party to contest a general election.

The intention of this clause is to discourage moving from one party to another and to give certainty to voters. It sets out to instil sense of loyalty in party politics. The prohibition thus, is contrary to section 13 of the Constitution.

- (6) **Clause 64** gives the Returning Officer power to hold a nomination paper invalid if a candidate is nominated to represent a group that is not registered.

The intention of this clause is to force political parties to register. However this restriction is contrary to the section 13 of the Constitution.

- (7) **Clauses 43, 44** refer to **Schedule 2** of the Bill which sets the minimum rules for Coalition Agreements.

One of the significant intentions of the minimum rules is to reform the process for election of Prime Minister by ensuring that the leader of

the party which has won the highest number of seats would automatically be nominated as the Prime Minister. Unless Schedule 2 to the Constitution is amended, the minimum rules are nothing. There are two constitutional rights under **Schedule 2** of the Constitution that would be infringed by the minimum rules stipulated in Schedule 2 of the Bill, namely:

- (a) The right of all Members of Parliament to stand as candidatures.
- (b) The right of Members of Parliament to nominate a candidate of their choice.

### 3.2 Freedom of Expression

The following clauses can be challenged as hindering one's freedom to enjoy his/her "*freedom of expression*". This fundamental right is protected under section 12 of the Constitution. Anything contrary to this right is not reasonably justifiable in a democratic society.

- (1) **Clause 48** prohibits non-contesting party from campaigning and carrying out advocacy.

The intention of this clause is to preserve election campaign for registered political parties only; and is a mechanism for development of parties. It is however contrary to section 12 of the Constitution.

- (2) **Clause 17(1) (c) (iv)** prohibits political parties from using the word, "independent".

The intention of this clause is to discourage independent MPs. However, without a constitutional amendment Bill, the clause infringes upon the freedom of individuals to express themselves.

- (3) **Clause 20** gives power to the Commission to disapprove an application for registration of political parties.

The intention of the clause is to ensure that political parties do not duplicate each other. That is well and good, but it infringes upon freedom of groups or individuals to express themselves.

## **4 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

After going through the Bill the following core issues were identified by the Committee;

### **4.1 Consultations**

As express by most of the witnesses who appeared before the Committee they were not aware of any consultations done on the Bill. The women groups were more concern that without any consultations with them their views were left out. They feel that a lot of issues including international conventions were ratified on their behalf for the convenience of the country to receive international favors. However their plight for political recognition is still undermined as is done in the Bill.

### **4.2 Constitutional amendment**

A significant issue with this Bill as previously outline is, its contravention of the fundamental rights express in our national Constitution by some of the clauses, specifically the freedom of association, assembly and expression. There is great need for a constitutional amendment to be brought to Parliament to allow the Bill to be applied in its current form, or the Bill be amended to realign with the Constitution.

### **4.3 Bill focus more on Government stability**

Upon examination, the Bill maintains the overall structure and contents of the Bill that was prepared and presented to the Speaker by CNURA Government in 2010. However, its focus is more on the stability of the Government by strengthening the organisation and administration of political parties rather than ensuring political stability and integrity of the Parliament.

### **4.4 Drafting error**

It was highlighted to the Committee during the Inquiry that clause 48(3) is similar to clause 49(1). Whether these clauses refer to two different scenarios or it is an oversight on the part of the drafters, it seems to repeat itself and therefore will need amending or proper expression in the drafting. This reflects poor drafting.

### **4.5 Cost analysis**

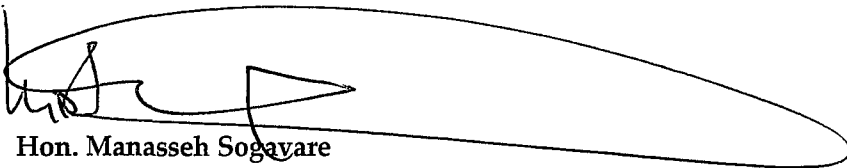
As with many of the Bills that have already come before the Committee there is no cost analysis that will indicate the cost of facilitating and implementing this Bill. The Committee feels that after some time it will seek the inclusion in the standing orders rules to request from the sponsors of any Bills to provide along with the Bill the cost analysis on any particular Bill. This Bill once enacted will see a significant amount of

funds directed towards the establishment of the political parties Commission and the funding of political parties in the country. It would be better to have an idea of how much is to be allocated for each year's budget towards this.

## **5 RECOMMENDATIONS**

After scrutinizing the Bill, the Committee makes the following recommendations;

- 1. The Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to clarify and resolved the constitutionality issues highlighted in this report.**
- 2. The Bill must not proceed in its present form through parliament because of the need to bring in constitutional amendments to resolve the core issue of political stability, or**
- 3. The Bill be redrafted in such way that it does not have an adverse impact on the Constitution, or**
- 4. The Bill be redrafted as a political party administration Bill only and renamed as the “Political Parties (Registration and Administration) Bill 2013.**
- 5. That amendments be made to the Standing Orders to authorize the Bills and Legislation Committee;**
  - a. to reject a Bill that comes before it, if it deems to be unconstitutional,**
  - b. to make a constitutional reference to the High Court for determination on a constitutional point.**



**Hon. Manasseh Sogavare**

Chairman

Bills and Legislation Committee

September 2013



## 6 APPENDICES

### APPENDIX 1: MINUTES



BILLS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

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NATIONAL PARLIAMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS

#### **Deliberative: Meeting No. 1**

**Minutes of the deliberative meeting into the Constitution (Functions of Electoral Commission) (Amendment) Bill 2013, Financial Institutions (Amendment) Bill 2013 and the Political Parties Integrity Bill 2013.**

Held: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2013

Venue: Parliament Conference Room II

Time: 10:21am.

#### **1. Members Present**

Hon. Manasseh D. Sogavare (Chairman)

Hon. Mathew Cooper Wale

Hon. John Maneniaru

Hon. Milner Tozaka

Hon. Douglas Ete

#### **Secretariat**

Mr Wilson Anii, Committee Secretariat

**Opening Prayer:** Hon. Douglas Ete

#### **2. Chair's Opening Remarks**

The Chair welcomed and thanked members for attending. The Chair introduces the three new Bills. He suggested discussing the two short amendment Bills first before the Political Parties Integrity Bill.

#### **3. Constitution (Functions of Electoral Commission Bill 2013**

The Chairman introduces the Bill and Invite members to suggest relevant stakeholders required to appear before the Committee. Members discussed and resolved on the following stakeholders;

- Rep from the Prime Minister's Office
- Rep from the Electoral Commission
- Legal Draftsman
- Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs

Members directed the Committee Secretariat to upload the three Bills on the Parliament website and advertise them, calling for submission in the Solomon Star newspaper.

#### **4. Financial Institution (Amendment) Bill 2013**

Chairman invite suggestions for stakeholder required to appear before the Committee. The Committee resolved for the following to be invited;

- Rep from the Ministry of Finance
- Rep from the Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI)
- Reps from all the commercial Banks currently operating here
- The Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce
- The Solomon Islands Forests Association

Members directed the Secretariat to have copies of the Financial Institution Act and the Central Bank of Solomon Islands Act ready for the Committee.

#### **5. Political Parties Integrity Bill 2013**

Chairman once again invites members to suggest relevant stakeholders required to appear before the Committee. The following was suggested by members;

- Reps from each Political Parties in the country
- Rep from PMO
- Civil society organizations
- Women
- Young women parliamentary Group (YWPG)
- Youths

#### **6. Schedule**

Members of the Committee agreed to start with the hearing on Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> July after Parliament adjourned for the two amendment Bills and the Political Parties Integrity Bill will start on Tuesday the 30<sup>th</sup> July.

The secretariat was reminded to seek the consultation report on the political parties Bill from the PMO and to ask Albert Kabui to draft a tabulated comparative analysis of the previous Political Parties Bill and the current Bill for Parliament.

#### **7. Close**

Closing prayer by Hon. John Maneniaru  
Meeting closed at 11:30am.

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### **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Hearing 1 Meeting No. 2**

2 September 2013, Conference Room 2, Parliament House, 10:10am

#### **Members Present**

Hon. Manasseh Sogavare, MP (Chair)  
Hon. John Maneniaru, MP  
Hon. Matthew Cooper Wale, MP  
Hon. Douglas Ete, MP

**Stakeholders (Witnesses)**

Mr Graham Leung - Legal Draftsman/OPMC  
Mr Mose Saitala - Chief Technical Advisor/OPMC  
Mr James Remobatu - Secretary to Cabinet/OPMC  
Mr Anthony Makabo - Senior Crown Counsel (Drafting)/AG Chambers

**Secretariat**

Mr Wilson Anii, Committee Secretary

**In-attendance**

Hansard Dept  
Media Dept

**1. Welcome & Opening Statement**

Chairman acknowledged and thanked the stakeholders for their commitment to appear before the committee for the public hearing into the 'Political Parties Integrity Bill 2013'.

**2. Hearing into the 'Political Parties Integrity Bill 2012'**

The Chairman made a brief opening statement and invited those appearing to make their presentation.

The Secretary to Cabinet thanked the Committee for the invitation to appear and introduce the representatives from the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Attorney General Chambers.

The Chief Technical Advisor and the Secretary to Cabinet made presentation on the amendments to the Bill to the Committee.

The Committee go through a clause by clause discussion on the Bill with the stakeholders.

**3. Lunch Break at 12:32pm**

Committee proceedings resume at 2:20pm.

The Committee questioned, made comments and seek clarification from those who appear on the different issues covered in the Bill.

The evidence concluded and the Chair thanked the stakeholders for their attendance.

#### 4. Closing

Closing prayer by Hon. Matthew Wale

The hearing closed at 5:45pm.

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### Hearing 2 Meeting No.3

3 September 2013, Conference Room 2, Parliament House, 10:29am

#### Members Present

Hon. Manasseh Sogavare, MP (Chair)

Hon. John Maneniaru, MP

Hon. Matthew Cooper Wale, MP

Hon. Douglas Ete, MP

#### Stakeholders (Witnesses)

Mr Timothy Lafuia	-	Chairman/DSE
Ms Nancy Jolo	-	General Secretary/DSE
Mr Charles Dausabea	-	President/MMF
Mr Charles Ashley	-	General Secretary/MMF
Mrs Delmah Nori	-	Member/WISDM
Ms Josephine Teakeni	-	Director/Vois Blong Mere Solomon

#### Secretariat

Mr Wilson Anii, Committee Secretary

#### In-attendance

Hansard Dept

Media Dept

#### 1. Welcome & Opening Statement

Chairman acknowledges and thanked the stakeholders for their commitment to appear before the committee for the second public hearing into the 'Political Parties Integrity Bill 2012'.

#### 2. Hearing with the Stakeholders

Development Services Exchange, 10:29am – 11:50am

Malaita Masina Forum, 11:55am – 12:47pm

Vois Blong Mere Solomon, 3:10pm – 4:25pm

The Chairman made a brief opening statement and invited the witnesses to present their submission on the Bill.

The Committee questioned, made comments and seek clarification from those who appear on the different issues covered in the Bill.

The evidence concluded and the Chair thanked the witnesses for their attendance.

### 3. Closing

The hearing closed at 4:25pm.

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#### Hearing 3 Meeting No.4

4 September 2013, Conference Room 2, Parliament House, 10:08am

#### Members Present

Hon. Manasseh Sogavare, MP (Chair)  
Hon. John Maneniaru, MP  
Hon. Matthew Cooper Wale, MP  
Hon. Douglas Ete, MP

#### Stakeholders (Witnesses)

Mr Gabriel Suri	-	Vice President/SIDP
Mrs Jenny Tuhaika	-	President/NCW
Mrs Ella Kauhue	-	Vice President/NCW
Mrs Emily Peoa	-	Staff/NCW
Mrs Sarah Sikwape	-	Staff/NCW
Mrs Oruvu Sepoe	-	Observer/CDI
Mr Norm Kelly	-	Observer/CDI
Sir Francis Billy Hilly	-	President/NP
Ms Kristina Sogavare-Chairlady	-	YWPG
Mrs Jasmine Waleafea	-	Exec member/YWPG
Ms Marisa Pepa	-	Exec member/YWPG
Ms Grace Hilly	-	Exec member/YWPG

#### Secretariat

Mr Wilson Anii, Committee Secretary

#### In-attendance

Hansard Dept  
Media Dept

### 1. Welcome & Opening Statement

Chairman acknowledges and thanked the stakeholders for their commitment to appear before the committee for the second public hearing into the 'Political Parties Integrity Bill 2012'.

### 2. Hearing with Stakeholders

Solomon Islands Democratic Party, 10:08am – 11:30am  
 National Council of Women, 11:35am – 12:54pm  
 Nasonol Party, 12:59pm – 1:54pm  
 Young Women Parliamentary Group, 2:00pm – 3:10pm

The Chairman made a brief opening statement and invited the witnesses to present their submission on the Bill.

The Committee questioned, made comments and seek clarification from those who appear on the different issues covered in the Bill.

The evidence concluded and the Chair thanked the witnesses for their attendance.

### 3. Closing

Closing prayer by Mrs Jasmine Waleafea  
 The hearing closed at 3:10pm.

## APPENDIX 2: SUBMISSIONS

Person/Ministry /Organization/ Institution	Title of Document	No. of Documents Submitted	Date received
OUR Party	Submission	1	11/08/2013
Development Service Exchange	Submission	1	3/09/2013
Solomon Islands Democratic Party	Submission	1	4/09/2013
Malaita Ma'asina Forum	Submission	1	6/09/2013

### APPENDIX 3: WITNESSES

The following witnesses appeared before the Bills and Legislation Committee;

Date of appearance	Name	Ministry/Institution represented	Position/Job title
2 <sup>nd</sup> /09/13	Graham Leung	OPMC	Legal Draftsman
	Mose Saitala	OPMC	Chief Technical Advisor
	James Remobatu	OPMC	Secretary to Cabinet
	Anthony Makabo	AG Chambers	Senior Crown Counsel (Drafting)
3 <sup>rd</sup> /09/13	Timothy Lafuia	DSE	Chairman
	Nancy Jolo	DSE	General Secretary
	Charles Dausabea	MMF	President
	Charles Ashley	MMF	General Secretary
	Delmah Nori	WISDM	Member
	Josephine Teakeri	Vois Blong Mere Solomon	Director
4 <sup>th</sup> /09/13	Gabriel Suri	SIDP	Vice President
	Ella Kauhue	NCW	Vice President
	Jenny Tuhaika	NCW	President
	Emily Peoa	NCW	Staff
	Sarah Sikwape	NCW Industrial	Staff
	Orovu Sepoe	CDI	Observer
	Norm Kelly	CDI	Observer
	Sir Francis Billy Hilly	Nasnol Party	President
	Jasmine Waleafea	YWPG	Exec member
	Marisa Pepa	YWPG	Exec member
	Kristina Sogavare	YWPG	Chairlady
Grace Hilly	YWPG	Exec member	

