



**A paper on the Regional Youth Parliament organised by National Parliament of Solomon Islands in consultation with the House of Representatives of Bougainville and New South Wales Parliament.**

**Prepared by**

**Parliamentary Civic Education Department**

**National Parliament of Solomon Islands.**

**November 2013**

## **1. Aknowledgement:**

This paper has been developed to report on the success and experience of hosting the first regional youth parliament program for youth parliamentarians representing three parliaments: Bougainville House of Representatives, New South Wales Parliament and National Parliament of Solomon Islands. On that same note, it is worthy to thank the Solomon Islands Government, UNDP PSP, the Twinning Partnership of NSW Parliament, House of Representatives of Bougainville and National Parliament of Solomon Islands and development partners and individuals who have contributed significantly to the success of the Regional Youth Parliament held in Honiara on 25 – 28 September 2013.

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## **GLOSSARY**

MEHRD – Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development

MECDM – Ministry of Environment Climate Change Disaster Management and Meteorology

MWYCFA – Ministry of Women Youths Children and Family Affairs

NPSI - National Parliament of Solomon Islands.

NSW – New South Wales

NSW Parliament - New South Wales Parliament

PNG- Papua New Guinea

PSP – Parliamentary Strengthening Project

RTCC - Responding to Climate Change

RYP – Regional Youth Parliament

SI – Solomon Islands

SIG – Solomon Islands Government

SPC – Secretariat of the Pacific Community

UNDP – United Nation Development Program

UN – United Nations

UNICEF – United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund

## 1. Details of the Regional Youth Parliament (RYP)

In January 2013 a local working committee comprised of 10 members was appointed by National Parliament of Solomon Islands (NPSI) and Solomon Islands Government (SIG) to organise the first Regional Youth Parliaments held in Solomon Islands for Youth Parliamentarians representing three Parliaments in the Pacific Region: The Bougainville House of Representatives, New South Wales Parliament and the National Parliament of Solomon Islands. Unfortunately the Youth Representatives from Bougainville did not attend the RYP due technical problems relating to the processing of their passports in Port Moresby.

Under the twinning cooperation established in July 2009 a formal twinning partnership was established by NSW Parliament with Bougainville House of Representatives and National Parliament of Solomon Islands. Out of this partnership arrangement, the idea of organising this Regional Youth Parliament emerged and was endorsed by the Speakers and Clerks of the three parliaments in Honiara in 2012.

The local working committee includes the following Individuals.

### **Executive:**

Mr Patteson Lusi – Chairman, Director of the Parliamentary Civic Education Unit

Mr Edward Anisitolo – Deputy Chairman, Director of the Youth Division in the Ministry of Women, Youth and Children Affairs.

Ms Marisa Pepa – Secretary, Parliamentary Civic Education Officer, National Parliament of Solomon Islands.

### **Members**

Mr James Iroga - Director of the Secondary Division, Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development

Mr Celsius Talifilu – Project Manager, UNDP Parliamentary Strengthening Project.

Mr Andre Tipoki – Deputy Director, Youth Division Ministry of Women, Youth and Children Affairs

Mr Thaddeus Siota – Research Officer Climate Change Department, Ministry of Environment, Disaster Management, Climate Change and Conservation.

Mr Jefferson Hallu – Committee Secretariat (Legal), National Parliament of Solomon Islands

Ms Joy Rikimae – Head of Media Unit, National Parliament of Solomon Islands.

## **2. Identify the problem:**

In 1965, the United Nation (UN) made a declaration on the promotion among youths of the ideals of peace, mutual respect and understanding between all races of people around the world.

In 1985 the UN General Assembly made another call for countries and organisations that deal with youth services to recognise the important role young people played especially in development and peace.

Ten years later, on the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year, the UN further supported its commitment in directing international and regional organisations that deals with youths to start addressing the problems and challenges young people faced in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries. This formal declaration further helped to establish the “World Programme of Action for Youths in 2000 and Beyond” .This was described as an international strategy or roadmap to tackle the youth problems plus give space for young people to freely participate in the society. Furthermore it provides avenue for national governments, policy makers and planners to find ways in improving the youth services with the support of international organisations and non government organisations that deal with youths.

Despite the UN call, since 1995 the world continues to experience political, economic and social changes, the UN, national governments and regional and international organisations were working very hard ensuring that developments actually touch the young people around the world. On the other hand, the changes taken place in the international scene made it more difficult to achieve the goal in developing countries; some of the circumstances were limited financial support for young people programmes and projects, lack of political support for youth projects, gender discrimination, unemployment, domestic and international conflicts and social disorder.

In 1997, the youth population was 1.03 billion or 18% of the total human population living on the surface of the earth .Interestingly majority of these young men and women lived in developing countries and regions this figure increased in this 21<sup>st</sup> century.

For the pacific region in June 2011 the human population reached more than 10 million mark but is expected to reach 15 million by 2015. Most of the people lived in the Melanesia region, the region accounted for total population of 8.8 million or almost 88%, whilst the Polynesian region consisted 668,000 or 7% and the Micronesian population was around 546,000 people this represented 5% of the total population.

According to SPC demographers, the rapid population increase has continued to affect the overall quality of life and basic services needed like health, education, better communication and security.

As of November 2012, the Asia Pacific region was reported to contain 60% of the World Youth Population (750 million young people aged between 15-24 years) with majority living in developing countries (SPC, 2011, Pacific Islands Pop Tops 10 million, SPC:1).

It is common in the Asia- Pacific region that youths faced problems such as high rate of unemployment, formal education system that do not prepare youths for modern formal employment, threats of health related problem and lack of structural opportunities for youths to

directly participate in the decision making process in their country this can lead to political instability and break down of law and order in the region.

In 2005, the Solomon Islands Household Income and Expenditure Survey was carried out by Bureau of Statistics it highlighted that youth, aged between 14 and 29 years accounted for 154,833 out of total population of 533,627 in 1999. However a rapid growth rate of about 4 percent will see tripled this amount in 2016. This statistics clearly showed that the young population of the country will in the near future become the investment of the country hence government and its relevant development partners needs to create avenues for young men and women to start participating in the political, social and economic developments of the country.

In consideration of the importance of young generations in the society, the Coalition of National Unity and Rural Advancement Government under leadership of Prime Minister Hon Dr Derek Sikua supported the Ministry of Women, Youths and Children Affairs hosting the first National Youth Parliament in 2009 in Honiara for 50 Youth Parliamentarians representing the 50 constituencies in the National Parliament of SI. The financial and technical support came from SIG, National Parliament, UNDP and various development partners like Save the Children and Commonwealth Youth Programme (Ministry of Women, Youth Children and Family Affairs, 2012, 5).

## **THE BOUGAINVILLE, NSW & SOLOMON ISLANDS YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

### **The Rationale for the Bougainville, NSW and Solomon Islands Youth Parliament**

Many national governments and parliaments in the region recognise that the youth parliament program is one of the best modern youth models that will encourage young people to learn and participate in the nation building process of their countries. From this message the three Parliaments of Bougainville, NSW and NPSI planned to organise a regional youth parliament program under their twinning partnership on 25 – 28 September 2013 at National Parliament of Solomon Islands in Honiara. On that understanding the three parliaments believed that organising such a program for youth parliamentarians will pave the way forward for our future leaders to build confidence and capacity in leadership skills. In a natural sense, if an individual can learn the realms of leadership and positive community participation at an early age, they are more likely to do so when they grow up.

The Regional Youth Parliament program was not only educated young people on parliamentary democracy and governance but was an avenue where by youths came together to learn and discuss national and regional issues affecting the countries in the region plus use the program to freely identify ways to contribute positively in addressing the pressing issues affecting the countries and region of the Pacific. Furthermore, it allowed them to experience the responsibilities experienced by our leaders and hopefully motivated them to develop a career path that focus on helping to address the problems faced in the region. Finally such undertakings certainly helped our youth leaders and groom them to be responsible leaders in their schools, communities and countries in the futures.

For this Youth Parliament Program, the Youth Parliamentarians focused on climate change. The working committee recommended this topic was the best one for the regional youth parliamentarians to deliberate on. The majority of the Island nations in the pacific have felt the effects of the climate change and are vulnerable to sea level rise and change weather patterns (RTCC

Staff, 2012, 1). In addition climate change is becoming an international issue that is addressed on the global scene and again pacific island countries are taking the leading role in the southern hemisphere calling on UN and the industrial world to address the effects of climate change in the world. On that understanding since January this year the working committee worked closely with the Ministry of Environment, Disaster Management, Climate Change and Conservation in identifying the exact area in the Climate Change that everyone are well versed with hence, the proposed Climate Change Bill 2013 focused on mitigation and adaptation strategies. Mitigation refers to the possibility for youth to reflect on their local surroundings and identify the negative ways that countries including island states in the pacific currently experience climate change due to the releasing of foreign gases into the atmosphere .The bill also allowed Youth Parliamentarians to find simple and possible ways of addressing the negative impacts of climate change affecting the small Island states including larger islands like Papua New Guinea and Australia.

In the pacific youth groups have showed commitment to address the negative impact Climate Change has on the people and islands in the region. In 2011 young people of the Kiribati a country made up of 32 atolls and islands and home to a population of over 100,000 people made a stand calling on the UN and developed countries to support them in their struggle to address climate change. The young boys and girls sent a message to UNICEF *“it is clear and relevant to everyone on the planet; climate change is eating away our adolescents future and placing the physical and mental development at risk”* (Tomas Jensen, 2011, 1). Furthermore the youths engaged in a planting of mangroves project for coastal protection as one practical sign of their commitment to support the call of their leaders in addressing the negative impacts of Climate Change in Kiribati and rest of the pacific region.

Similarly, in Fiji a youth environmental organisation know as Project Survival Pacific (PSP) has worked hard over the years to safe guard the survival of the Island people from the impact of climate change and push hard for sustainable development in Fiji and rest of the region. The youth group applied 4 simple approaches to educate people of Fiji about the effects of Climate Change in the pacific region. The 4 approaches are community engagement and education to youth groupings, the use of media and communication links to educate everyone on climate change, get the support of youths to fully understand the outcomes of the Rio 20 Summit and last one is train a climate change ambassador programme for young people age 18 – 28 years old who have an interest to learn about climate change negotiations (Tierney Smith, 2012, 1-2).

At the regional level, regional youth groupings have worked extremely hard in voicing the concerns of pacific islanders in addressing the impact of climate change in the pacific. For example CPS organised a Pacific Climate Change Leadership Workshop attended by young people from Pacific Islands. The training was looking at ways of reviving the traditional knowledge of caring for the environment complemented by advance in modern science as a way of helping pacific islanders to better prepare Pacific island communities for natural disasters and change of environment due to climate change. Furthermore, CPS helped youths in building leadership capacity amongst young people who are interested to be pacific ambassadors against climate change in the region (CPS, 2010, 1).

In 2012 The Pasifika Youth Climate Change Leadership workshop was held in Fiji. The regional youth workshop was described as one occasion youth representatives learn about the implication of



climate change with out look to the safe guiding of the future for the Pacific from the impact of the Climate Change in the Pacific (350 Pacific ,2012,1). The workshop was attended by representatives of all 13 countries with the long term aim to engaging 1000 young people across the Pacific region against climate change.

As future leaders of the South Pacific Region, this regional youth parliament program paved way for young people to join other young people of the pacific to actively engage in addressing negative impacts of climate change on the Island nations in the pacific especially the low lying coastal island states like Kiribati, Tuvalu, Niue and Wallis and Futuna which continue to experience high sea level rise and change of weather patterns.

Again attending this Youth Parliament Program helped the Youth Parliamentarians to advance their learning and understanding of the positive and negative impacts Climate Change has on their respective countries and the Pacific region as a whole. Moreover, they became good ambassadors in supporting governments and Parliaments in leading youths using the local technologies to control the release of unwanted gases into the atmosphere. With the existing youth networking in the pacific region the youths attending the Youth Parliament Meeting hoped to link with youths in the pacific to support the past, present and future call of the governments of Pacific Islands Countries for developed countries to reduce the releasing of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

### **3. An assessment of past Youth Parliament Programs in the Pacific Region:**

In the Pacific few countries including State Parliaments in Australia and New Zealand have organised Youth Parliaments in response to the need to give space for youths to actually participate in development and leadership in society. Countries like Fiji, Samoa and New Zealand in the past have organised Youth Parliaments for their young people. In New Zealand, the Youth Parliament was first organised in 1997 and was held every three to four years. Similarly NZ Youth Parliament was an opportunity for young New Zealanders to learn about New Zealand democracy and influence public decision making.

In recent years the three Parliaments joined other regional members in organising youth parliament program in their respective jurisdictions. For the NSW Parliament, its YMCA NSW Youth Parliament was first launched in 2002; this is a special youth model parliament programme targeting youth age 15 – 18 years. During the Youth Parliament, the youth parliamentarians gathered in the parliamentary committee developing bills, legislation and policy in the Parliament Chamber. In 2002 Youth Parliament was attended by 32 participants representing electorates in NSW. In general the programme gives opportunity for young people to voice concerns and views in the running of the state of NSW. Furthermore, it is an avenue where the voice of young people of NSW is heard by policy and law makers (YMCA NSW Youth Parliament, 2013, 1-2).

For NSW Parliament organising the Youth Parliament helped their youths in 4 areas .First it give space for young people in the electorates to voice their concerns to their politicians, planner and policy maker's .Second, it is a great opportunity for youth Parliamentarians to develop skills in leadership, public speaking and encourage team work. Third, it is an avenue for young people to come together to learn about government and politics of Australia and NSW. Finally, it encourages youths together to know each other and more importantly establish friendship and network with other youths.

In early 2013, the Bougainville House of Representatives organised a Mock Youth Parliament for youths of Buka and surrounding communities on the northern tip of Bougainville. The Mock Youth Parliament was described by the Speaker of Parliament Andrew Miriki as a great opportunity for their youths to learn about how national and international issues are discussed in a real parliament. It also increased knowledge of Youth Parliamentarians of the roles and responsibilities of Members of Parliaments. This mock Youth Parliament was organised in commemorating Commonwealth Day.

In 2009 SIG and NPSI and relevant development partners like the EU and UNDP successfully hosted the first ever National Youth Parliament in Honiara. The week National Youth Parliament was described as a success because it was able to bring to Honiara 50 Youth Parliamentarians (25 male, 25 Female) representing the 50 Constituencies in SI to learn about youth issues experienced both abroad and in the Solomon Islands. Also, it provided opportunity for the young ambassadors to learn about Parliamentary democracy adopted by SI from UK and the chance to actually debate just like the MPs they represented on the floor of the National Parliament. Despite it was a very expensive programme it allowed the Youth Parliamentarians to freely share and exchange ideas and experiences of the many challenges Youths in Solomon Islands faced in this 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries, and how best to overcome these social and economic problems faced.

## **5 Details of the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013:**

In order to host this regional youth parliament program the working committee worked closely with the host government and parliament, taken into consideration the government youth policy and activities that targets youths in general. The other factor was to work closely with regional and international donor partners that are interested in addressing youth issues like unemployment, crime and teenage pregnancy. For example, in 2009 South Pacific Community (SPC) and the UNDP provided financial and technical support to host the SI National Youth Parliament for 50 Youth Parliamentarians, again as primary stakeholders and great supporters of the Youth Parliament.

On that same note, the youth parliamentarians had the chance to share their views and concerns on how governments and parliaments of pacific island states should work together in addressing climate change. The working committee liaised with the Solomon Islands Government and Climate Change Department in the Ministry of Environment, Disaster Management Climate Change and Conservation and Committee Secretariat of the National Parliament in preparing the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013. There are four reasons for selecting the climate change bill. First the proposed Bill and its associated plans were formulated for the purposes of the Youth Parliament in September 2013 with its focus on the mitigation, in particular emission reduction and use of friendly technologies. Second, the Solomon Islands Government and Ministry of Environment, Disaster Management Climate Change and Conservation in June 2012 launch the Solomon Islands National Climate Change Policy 2012-2017 however SIG is yet to formulate legislations which allowed the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change Disaster Management and Conservation and relevant stakeholders to implement the policy for the next 5 years. Third, Climate Change is currently a hot topic that is continuously debated in international, regional and national institutions due to its positive and negative impacts on people and the environment. Finally the theme for this regional youth parliament program was *“Youth in Partnership for Climate Change Think Local Act Now”*. This was an opportunity for Youth Parliamentarians to debate the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013 with the understanding of sharing their local experiences of what exactly happened in their

countries due to the impact of climate change and how they can help to address negative impact of climate change using the local knowledge and technologies.

**6 Main objectives of the Regional Youth Parliament:** By the end of the one week regional youth parliament program,

1. The youth parliamentarians were able to build on their confidence to lead in their schools, youths grouping, villages and communities. As eluded earlier, this Youth Parliament Program will certainly help the young leaders to recognise their leadership qualities and prepare to utilise them in the future.
2. This regional youth parliament was an opportunity for youth parliamentarians to learn about parliamentary democracy, procedures and processes adopted and practiced by the three parliaments and to compare the similar and different features of parliamentary practices applied in their Parliaments.
3. In general the week long programme allowed selected youth parliamentarians to voice concerns and views in the running of the governments and parliaments. Furthermore, it was an avenue where voice of young people was heard by policy and law makers and contributes to influence public decision making.
4. It was an avenue young people came together to learn about government and politics in Bougainville, NSW, SI and pacific region.
5. It encourage youths to come together to know each other and more importantly establish friendship with other youths.
6. This Youth Parliament program allowed young people of the pacific to actively engage at an early stage in addressing negative impacts of climate change affecting most of the islands in the region especially the low lying coastal island states like Kiribati and Tuvalu which continued to experience sea level rise on their small islands and atolls.
7. Finally, for this regional youth parliament program, 37 Youth Parliamentarians represented three parliaments of the region .Hopefully the success of the regional youth parliament will encourage Parliaments of the 11 member countries of the Pacific Islands Forum to consider strengthening RYP in the future.

**7. The Regional Youth Parliament Program:**

In brief the four days program of the RYP started on 25 and end on 28 September 2013.

*Wednesday 25 September 2013:* The first day was basically focused on the theme: State, Governance and Government, under this theme we had presentations on Youth Affairs, Climate Change and Parliamentary Democracy from facilitators representing, Solomon Islands, Bougainville and NSW Parliaments. Later in the afternoon the participants meet and had consultation meetings with representatives of Government, Parliament and NGOs that actively engaged in Climate Change issues in Solomon Islands. The main purpose of this session was to give time for the Youth Participants to gather relevant and details information on the proposed bill, more importantly was to prepare their speeches for second reading the next day. The final session the Youth Parliamentarians met in the three political groups to appointment their leaders for the parliament debates on Thursday 26 September and Friday 26 September 2013. The government group elected the RYP Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Management and Meteorology and Minister of Agriculture and Livestock. The Opposition

Group also elected their Leader of the Opposition and deputy Leader of Opposition. And the Independent Group also met and elected their leader and his deputy.

*Thursday 26 September 2013:* The second day theme was on Parliament Sessions on the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013. The participants started the morning session with first reading of the Climate Change Mitigation Bill 2013 in the Parliament Chamber followed with adjournment of Parliament sitting from the PM of the RYP to allow the Bills and Legislation Committee of the RYP to conduct committee hearings on the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013. The first reading of the Mitigation Bill was made by the Minister of Environment, Disaster Management, Climate Change and Meteorology.

After the adjournment the youth parliamentarians conducted the committee hearing of the Mitigation Bill. The Youth Parliamentarians had the opportunity to participate in the committee hearings as committee members and witnesses. Also, the Youth Parliaments had the opportunity to listen to presentations from real witnesses. A total of 25 real witnesses represented three Government Ministries and NGOs directly involved in climate change issues appeared in front of the Bills and Legislation Committee.

*Friday 27 September 2013:* The third day of the RYP began with the youth parliamentarians debated the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013 in its second reading. Again this was great opportunity to hear all the Youth Parliamentarians discussed and debated the merits and principles of the Bill.

In the afternoon we witnessed the RYP debated the Climate Change Mitigation Bill 2013 in the Committee of the Whole House. Again the Chairman went through the clauses of the Bill with the youth parliamentarians during the Committee of the Whole House. Later in the afternoon, the Youth Parliamentarians debated the Bill the final time in its third reading. We witnessed the Bill was voted after debate in the third reading and was passed.

*Saturday 28 September 2013:* The final day of the RYP, the Youth Parliamentarians went on a civic outreach programme to the western region of Guadalcanal Island. The Youth Parliamentarians & facilitators visited the San Isidiro disable vocational school and Vilu War Museum. The San Isidiro is a vocational school operated by the Roman Catholic Church for disable people of SI. It offers educational training on home economics, agriculture and carpentry.

#### **8. Participants of the Regional Youth Parliament**

The RYP Programme was attended by two officials and 5 Youth Parliamentarians (2 boys & 3 Girls) representing the NSW Parliament. The two officials of the NSW were Simon Johnston Coordinator of the Twinning Partnership and Rita Bila Education Officer of the NSW Parliament. For Solomon Islands was represented by 20 Youth Parliamentarians (14 girls & 6 boys). The SI Youths Parliamentarians were selected from 20 high Schools and 3 tertiary institutions (***see appendices 2 for details of the participants***). Despite the Youth Parliamentarians of Bougainville not able to attend the RYP Programme, Mr Peter Topura Director of the Procedures Department of Bougainville House of Representatives was able to do presentations on parliamentary democracy and youth affairs of Bougainville to Parliament on the first day of the RYP Programme.

#### **9. Resources available for the Regional Youth Parliament:**

The Regional Youth Parliament program received positive responses from the Solomon Islands Government and three government ministries that directly involved in the planning, preparation and hosting of the program. Since January the working committee received technical and financial support from the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, Ministry of Environment, Disaster Management, Climate Change and Conservation and Ministry of Women Youth and Children Affairs. On that same note the Speaker of Parliament Sir Allan Kemakeza, Clerk of Parliament Taeasi Sanga and officers of the National Parliament are so excited to take the leading role in hosting this regional youth parliament especially as it relates well to the Parliament Strategic Plan 2012 -2016.

#### **10. Funding of the Regional Youth Parliament**

The UNDP Parliamentary Strengthening Project (PSP) allocated US \$20,000.00 towards the Regional Youth Parliament program. Also, the National Parliament and Solomon Islands Government assisted the working committee in its preparation for the youth parliament program and post youth parliament. The Ministry of Women Youth and Children Affairs spent SBD \$50,000.00 towards the organising of the Youth Parliament. Not forgetting the Ministry of Environment Climate Change, Disaster Management and Conservation also supported RYP with SBD \$20,000.00. Also the Australian Government supported the program in hosting a dinner for the Youth Parliamentarians, facilitators and members of the organising committee. Not forgetting the Virgin Blue Airline of Australia helped the RYP in meeting airfares for the NSW Youth Parliamentarians. Finally the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the Twinning Partnership helped in funding the accommodations and meals for the participants and officials of the RYP.

#### **11. Observers of the Regional Youth Parliament**

During the four days program 7 observers attended most of the sessions. The observers represented three organisations in the pacific region; this includes the PNG Institute of Business, Transparency Centre in Vanuatu and Transparency Solomon Islands. See below details of the details.

1. Ms Vani.K. Nades – PNG Institute of Business
2. Mr Albert Taufau – Transparency Vanuatu
3. Mr Step Nielsen- Transparency Vanuatu
4. Representatives of Transparency Solomon Islands

#### **13. Recommendations**

1. This Youth Parliament Program required bigger technical and financial support in order to collectively achieve its objectives and expected outputs. The RYP was implemented due to strong commitment from Parliament and Solomon Islands Government with the support of UNDP and development partners.
2. For future RYP Program there is a strong feeling from the three Parliaments to extend invitation to regional Parliaments hence it is important for APEC 2013 to take the responsibility in discussing the matter on that level in order for everyone to know which Parliament is willing to host the future RYP.

## **Conclusion**

The success of this Regional Youth Parliament was one that signifies the strong commitment of the Twinning Partnership of the three Parliaments: Bougainville House of Representatives, NSW Parliament and National Parliament of Solomon Islands. More important was to allow young women and men of the three Parliaments to experience how their leaders actually participated in parliamentary democracy to influence the public decision making process.

Again the positive outcomes of this Regional Parliament in SI had set the bench mark for future regional youth parliament. With the strong commitment of the Governments and Parliaments of the three participating Parliaments and with the support of the our primary development partners, the RYP was able to achieve the aims and objectives of this first regional youth parliament ever organised in the Small Island States of the Pacific.

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## Appendices

### Annexure 1 – Program



## Bougainville, NSW and Solomon Islands Youth Parliament 2013

*Youth in partnership for Climate Change: Think Local, Act Now!*

### Official Program

#### Day One: Wednesday 25 September

Time	Activity	Venue
7:00 am	Breakfast	Honiara Hotel
8:00 am	Transport participants to the venue for the official program: Honiara Hotel to Paul Tovua Complex	Honiara Hotel to Paul Tovua Complex
9:00 am	<b>Official Opening Program</b> Speeches : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Minister of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs.</li> <li>2. Minister of Environment, Disaster Management, Climate Change &amp; Meteorology.</li> <li>3. Minister of Education &amp; Human Resources Development.</li> <li>4. Head of Delegations of Bougainville House of Representatives.</li> <li>5. Head of Delegation of NSW Parliament.</li> <li>6. Speaker of the National Parliament of Solomon Islands</li> </ol> See separate program Annex 1	Paul Tovua Complex
9:50 am	<b>Official photo for invited guests and RYP participants in the Parliament Chambers.</b>  <b>Press Conference</b> Chairman & Deputy Chairman of the working committee to attend the press conference	Paul Tovua Complex Conference Room
10:00 am	<b>Tea Break</b>	Paul Tovua Complex Dining Room
10:20 am	<b>Overview of the four days program:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chairman &amp; members of organising committee to explain the four days program</li> <li>2. Ground rules</li> <li>3. Announcements</li> </ol>	Paul Tovua Complex



10:30 am	<p><u>Theme: State, Government and Governance</u></p> <p><b>Session 1: Overview of Youth Affairs in Solomon Islands</b></p> <p><b>Presenter: [Youth Representative from SI].</b></p> <p>Focus :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Current problems affecting youth population and how NCRA Government addresses the youth problems in SI.</li> <li>2. Youth programs &amp; projects addressing impacts of Climate Change in SI.</li> </ol> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> James Iroga, Director of Secondary Division, Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development.</p>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>
10:50 am	<p><b>Session 2: Overview of Youth Affairs in Bougainville and NSW, Australia</b></p> <p><b>Presenters</b> - Peter Topura Representative of Bougainville Parliament] Youth Rep of NSW Parliament</p> <p>Focus :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Current problems affecting youths in Bougainville and NSW and how ruling governments address the youth problems and challenges.</li> <li>2. Describe youth programs &amp; projects that help to addressing the impacts of Climate Change in Bougainville and Australia.</li> </ol> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> James Iroga, Director of Secondary Division, Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development.</p>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>
11:20am	<p><b>Session 3: Overview of SI Government commitment in addressing Climate Change in SI.</b></p> <p><b>Focus:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On the impact of Climate Change in SI special attention on Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013.</li> <li>2. Current arrangements of MECDM to addressing Climate Change in Solomon Islands.</li> <li>3. Progress of SI youths role in advocating against Climate Change in SI &amp; Pacific region</li> </ol> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Hudson Kauhiona Deputy Director of Climate Change Department, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change Disaster Management and</p>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>

	<p>Meteorology.</p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> James Iroga, Director of Secondary Division, Ministry of Education and Human Resource.</p>	
11:40 am	<p><u>Theme : The experiences and application of Parliamentary Democracy in the Pacific</u></p> <p><b>Session 4: Parliamentary Democracy of Solomon Islands.</b></p> <p>Presenter: Taeasi Sanga Clerk of SI Parliament/ Albert Kabui Constitutional and Parliamentary Law and Practice Legal Specialist</p> <p>Focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Westminster Parliamentary system SI adopted from UK in 1978.</li> <li>2. Understanding the law making process of the National Parliament of Solomon Islands.</li> </ol> <p><b>Facilitators:</b> James Iroga, Director of Secondary Division, Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development.</p>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>
12:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex Dining Room</b>
1:00 pm	<p><b>Session 5: Parliamentary Democracy of Bougainville and NSW</b></p> <p><b>Presenter :</b> Peter Topura, Representative of Youth Delegation of the Bougainville House of Representatives.</p> <p>Rita Bila, Education Officer of the NSW Parliament</p> <p>Focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The experience of Westminster Parliamentary System in Bougainville and NSW Parliaments.</li> <li>2. Understanding the Law Making process in Bougainville and NSW Parliaments.</li> </ol> <p><b>Facilitators:</b> Marisa Pepa, Civic Education Officer, National Parliament of SI</p>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>
1:30 pm	<p><u>Theme: Preparation for the Parliamentary Committee hearing and debate</u></p> <p><b>Session 6: Roles and functions of the Parliamentary committees and the appointment of committee chairperson and members.</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Celsus Talifilu, UNDP Parliamentary</p>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>

	<p>Strengthening Project &amp; Acting Director of Committee Secretariat, and Marson Lilopeza, SI Parliament.</p> <p>Focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain about the role and functions of Bills and Legislation Committee</li> <li>2. Role of Parliamentary Committees including BLC to scrutinise the government.</li> <li>3. Appointment of the Chairman and Members of Parliamentary Committees.</li> </ol> <p><b>Facilitators:</b> Marisa Pepa, Civic Education Officer, National Parliament of SI</p>	
2:00 pm	<b>Tea Break</b>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex Dining Room</b>
2:30 pm	<p><b>Session 6: Committee continue</b></p> <p>Consultation meeting with stakeholders/witnesses related to the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013</p>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>
4:00 pm	<p><b>Session 7: Deliberate meeting for the appointments of the PM and Leader of Opposition.</b></p> <p><b>Presenter : Albert Kabui</b>, Constitutional and Parliamentary Law and Practice Legal Specialist , SI Parliament</p> <p>Focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parliamentary procedures &amp; practices of National Parliament of SI</li> <li>2. Appointing of the leaders of three political groupings.</li> </ol> <p><b>Government.</b>  Prime Minister  Deputy Prime Minister  Minister of Environment, Climate Change Disaster Management &amp; Meteorology.</p> <p><b>Opposition Group</b>  Leader of Opposition  Deputy Leader of Opposition</p> <p><b>Independent Group</b>  Leader of the Independent Group.  Deputy Leader of Independent Group</p> <p><b>Facilitator:</b> Marisa Pepa, Civic Education Officer, National Parliament of Solomon Islands</p>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>
4:30 pm	<p><b>Wrap-up of Day 1</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Patteson Lusi, chairman of RYP working committee</b></p>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>

4:45 pm	<b>Return to the Honiara Hotel</b>	Honiara Hotel
6:30 pm	Transport participants to the venue for the Official welcome dinner Honiara Hotel – Sea King Restaurant	Honiara Hotel
7:00 pm	<b>Welcome Dinner host by Speaker of National Parliament, Sir Allan Kemakeza.</b> See separate program Annex 2	Sea King Restaurant
9:00 pm	<b>Transport participants back to the hotel after the Welcome Dinner</b>	Sea King Restaurant

**Day Two: Thursday 26 September**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Venue</b>
7:00 am	<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>Honiara Hotel</b>
8:00 am	<b>Transport participants to the Paul Tovua Complex</b>	<b>Paul Tovua Complex</b>
8:30 am	<b>Briefing of the second day programme and announcements</b>  Chairman & Members of organising committee	<b>Paul Tovua Complex Conference Room</b>
9:00 am	<i>Parliament Sessions on the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013</i>  <b>First Reading</b>  <b>Government to introduce the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013</b>  <b>Note:</b> For this session the Clerk of the Regional Youth Parliament will read the short title of the bill.	<b>National Parliament Chamber</b>
9:30 am	<b>Followed with the Second Reading Debate of the Climate Change (Mitigation ) Bill 2013</b>  <b>Note:</b> Youth Minister responsible for the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013 to present the proposed bill on behalf of the ruling government.  Youth Minister responsible for the bill to adjourn debate. PM to adjourn Parliament.	<b>National Parliament Chamber</b>
10:00 am	<b>Tea Break</b>	<b>Conference Room II</b>
10:15 am	<b>RYP Bills and Legislation Committee hearing commences</b>  <b>Facilitators:</b> Wilson Anii, Committee Secretariat (Legal), National Parliament of Solomon Islands.	<b>Parliament Dining Room</b>
11:15 am	<b>Short Break for the BLC to prepare for the second segment of the committee hearings</b>	<b>Conference Room II</b>
11:30 am	<b>Continue with the Committee hearing.</b>  <b>Facilitators:</b> Wilson Anii, Committee Secretariat (Legal), National Parliament of Solomon Islands.	<b>Conference Room II</b>
12:30 pm	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Parliament Dining Room</b>
1:30 pm	<b>Continue with the committee hearings.</b>	<b>Conference Room II</b>

	<b>Facilitators:</b> Wilson Anii, Committee Secretariat (Legal), National Parliament of Solomon Islands.	
2:30 pm	<b>Tea Break</b>	<b>Parliament Dining Room</b>
2:45 pm	<b>Continue with the committee hearings.</b>  <b>Facilitators:</b> Wilson Anii, Committee Secretariat (Legal), National Parliament of Solomon Islands.	<b>Conference Room II</b>
3:45 pm	<b>Continue with the committee hearings.</b>  <b>Facilitators:</b> Wilson Anii, Committee Secretariat (Legal), National Parliament of Solomon Islands.	<b>Conference Room II</b>
3:45 pm	<b>Youth Parliamentarians to prepare notes and points for debate the next day.</b>	<b>Conference Room II</b>
4:30 pm	<b>Return to Honiara Hotel</b>	Honiara Hotel
6:30 pm	<b>Dinner at Lime Lounge (Proudly Sponsored by Australian High Commission Office In Honiara)</b>	Lime Lounge
7:30 pm	<b>Free evening</b>	

**Day Three: Friday 27 September**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Venue</b>
7:00 am	<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>Honiara Hotel</b>
8:00 am	<b>Transport participants to the National Parliament Building Honiara Hotel – National Parliament Building</b>	<b>National Parliament</b>
8:30 am	<b>Briefing of the fourth day program</b>  Chairman & Members of organising committee	<b>National Parliament Chamber</b>
9:00 am	<b>Second Reading</b>  <b>Debate of the Climate Change (Mitigation ) Bill 2013 continues</b>	<b>National Parliament Chamber</b>
12:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>National Parliament Dining Room</b>
1:00 pm	<b>Second Reading</b>  <b>Debate of the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013 continues.</b>  Note: Youth Minister sums up the debates with a speech.	<b>National Parliament Chamber</b>
3:30 pm	<b>Committee of the Whole House</b>  <b>Note:</b> The Parliament sits as committee of the whole to deliberate on the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013. Consider the paragraphs and clauses of the propose Bill.  Vote of the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013	<b>National Parliament Chamber</b>
4:20 pm	<b>Third Reading</b> Vote of the Climate Change (Mitigation) Bill 2013	<b>National Parliament Chamber</b>
4:30 pm	<b>Return to Honiara Hotel</b>	<b>Honiara Hotel</b>
6:00 pm	<b>Dinner, follow with Cultural Entertainment</b> <b>See separate program Annex 3</b>	<b>FOPA Cultural Festival Village</b>
9:30 pm	<b>Return to the Honiara Hotel</b>	<b>Honiara Hotel</b>

**Day Four: Saturday 28 September**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Venue</b>
7:00 am	<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>Honiara Hotel</b>
8:30 am	<b>Briefing of the final day programme</b> Chairman & Members of organising committee	<b>Honiara Hotel Conference Room</b>
9:00 am	<b>Community Outreach Programme</b> Visit the San Isidoro Vocational School  Visit to the Vilu War Memorial Museum  <b>See separate program Annex 4</b>	<b>San Isidoro Vocational School</b>  <b>Vilu War Memorial Museum</b>
12:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Lela Beach</b>
1:00 pm	<b>Free afternoon for the participants</b>	<b>Honiara Hotel</b>
7:00 pm	<b>Closing programme followed with farewell dinner.</b> <b>Host Prime Minister of Solomon Islands Hon</b> <b>Gordon Darcy Lilo</b> <b>See separate program Annex 5</b>	<b>Heritage Park Hotel</b>

*Updated Monday 22 September 2013.*



## Annexure 2 – List of Participants of the Regional Youth Parliament.



### REGISTRATION LIST

No	NAME	SEX	AGE	POLITICAL PARTY	Bills & Legislation Committee	PARLIAMENT
1	Theodora VON ARMIN	F	16	Government Prime Minister	Chairman /Witness	NSW
2	Ciara MORRIS	F	17	Government Minister of Forestry	Member/Witness	NSW
3	Jehannah MAY	F	16	Opposition	Member/Witness	NSW
4	Kieren KRESEVIC	M	17	Government Minister of Mines & Energy	Member/witness	NSW
5	Dylan McCUAIG-WALTON	M	17	Government Minister , Agriculture & Livestock	Member/Witness	NSW
6	Cynthia ROSAH	F	18	Independent	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
7	Tanya Ronu WICKHAM	F	17	Opposition Deputy Leader of Opposition	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
8	Melanie TIRANGALUVU	F	20	Government Deputy Prime Minister	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
9	Rochelle PALMER	F	17	Government	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
10	Ngirisi SIGIMANU	F	18	Government Minister of Education	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
11	Lucinda MAMUPIO	F	17	Government	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
12	Glennis INIFIRI	F	18	Government	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
13	Priscilla PITAKAKA	F	18	Government	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
14	Erena JATOBATU	F	17	Opposition	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
15	Oferi SADE	F	18	Opposition	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
16	Carol GALO	F	18	Opposition	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
17	Alison SURI	F	18	Government	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
18	Nicole FIFIRI	F	18	Government	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
19	Phillip FUNIFAKA	M	18	Opposition	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
20	Rudolf	M	14	Government	Member/Witness	Solomon

	MANIADALO					Islands
21	Denmark PAHU	M	16	Opposition Leader of Opp	Chairman/Witness	Solomon Islands
22	McChesney ALE	M	19	Government	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
23	Jim TAWA	M	17	Independent	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
24	Joel FANGALASUU	M	17	Opposition	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands
25	Zaneta Kafa	F	17	Independent Leader of Independent Group	Member/Witness	Solomon Islands