



## Information on Working Groups of Constitutional Reform Program

Constitutional Congress and the Eminent Persons Advisory Council (EPAC) are the working groups of the Constitutional Reform Program.

### CONSTITUTIONAL CONGRESS

Formally appointed in 2007 by the Government:-

- *To progress the Constitutional Reform Programme; and*
- *Prepare final content of a new Constitution for Solomon Islands.*

Its Terms of Reference comes from Cabinet decision (C [2006] 5). According to 2005 *White paper on the Reform of the Solomon Islands Constitution*, Congress will "undertake the task of finalizing a draft text of a new constitution of Solomon Islands..."

Congress' comprises Provincial and National Nominees.

#### Provincial Nominees:-

- *Nominated by respective Provincial Executives to represent their provinces & Honiara City in Congress.*
- *Liaise between Secretariat (CRU) & their respective Provincial Executives about Reform tasks carried out in provinces.*

#### National Nominees:-

- *Appointed by the National Government to represent various stakeholders of national interest, which includes youth & women representatives.*
- *They will ensure voices of stakeholders represented are heard during Congress' meetings.*

### EMINENT PERSONS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The associate body of Congress established in 2007:-

- *To evaluate the work of Congress, bringing to the Reform a wealth of experience & inclusiveness.*
- *Comprises Solomon Islanders recognized for their traditional or civic capacities as distinguished national leaders. They represent all Solomon Islands communities, including Chinese, Kiribati, Tuvalu communities, etc.*

### Meetings of Congress & EPAC

#### Joint Plenary

This is a series of meetings held over a set period that Congress & EPAC sit to discuss constitutional issues together as a group.

It is a forum where members can express views & comments, take note of issues & put together submissions as part of the Constitutional Reform Process.

#### Executive Meetings

Meetings between Constitutional Congress & EPAC Executive held with CRU to discuss crucial issues relating to the Reform Work Program.