

Membership to the Constitutional Congress and Elders Group

The constitutional reform process is now entrusted in the people and communities of Solomon Islands. They will undertake that responsibility through a Congress made up of 36 persons. An Elders Advisory Group made up of 20 persons will assist the Congress. In all not taking into account advisors and experts, the Constitutional reform process will actively involve 56 Solomon Islanders.

The combined effort of the Congress and the Elders will ensure that the constitution making process remains focused on the overall Solomon Islands community interest and not the agendas of just a few.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONGRESS

The Congress membership is made up according to criteria to ensure that it remains as far as practicable relevant and representative of Solomon Islands society. Overall, it must have the competence to perform its task. The following criteria therefore was taken into account:

- Provincial and Honiara representation
- Gender representation and balance
- Youth representation
- Skills, special expertise and aptitude to undertake the job; and
- Connection to a Solomon Islands non government organisation such as SINCW, SIBA etc

The Congress membership reflects a balance of that criterion. The provincial and Honiara representation was done in collaboration with the provincial governments and Honiara City. Each province including Honiara were free to nominate their own persons to represent the overall provincial and city community interest on the Congress. In doing so all were encouraged to ensure that the nominees were gender balanced.

All representatives to the Congress have equal status and the right to speak

The persons appointed to the Constitutional Congress list are:

Tony Hughs
Charles Levo
Alice Puia
Dr Glynn Galo

Ashley Wickham
Abraham Baeania
Catherine Pule
Judith Fangalasu

Jenny Tuhaika

Walton Naezon

The provincial and youth nominees are:

Western Nominees

Choiseul Nominees

Warren Paia
Jackson Piasi
Pat Loe

Viola Malasa
Simmy Vazarabatu

Isabel Nominees

Central Nominees

Jane Tozaka
Chief Dennis Lulie

Irene Vaukei
George Saemane

Guadalcanal Nominees

Malaita Nominees

Hilda Kari
Chris Tagaraniana
Paul Tovua

Dr Alice Pollard
Fr. John Gereia
Hudson Kwalea

Makira Ulawa Nominees

Temotu Nominees

Clara Rebitai
Jack Faga

Sir John Ini Lapli
Roslyn Lemoba

Rennell Bellona Nominees

Honiara City Nominees

Joy Abiah
Jonathan Angikimua

Joseph Huta
Catherine Adifaka

Youth Nominees

Harry Alick Walter
Phylisca Fate

ELDERS ADVISORY GROUP

The Elders Advisory Group is made up of indigenous and non indigenous Solomon Islanders who are distinguished civil and traditional leaders in their own right. All settler groups within Solomon Islands are represented. The Congress is required to work closely with the Elders who with their invaluable life experiences and skills are able to collectively bear wisdom to many

issues and guide the Congress in its task. The Congress is required to work closely with the Elders. Importantly the Congress technical committees involved in drafting a new constitution will be required to have their reports endorsed by the Elders before submitting them to the full Congress for decision.

The rules of the Elders Group will be determined at the induction. The Elders list is not closed. Additional members may be recruited should the Elders so advise.

The current Elders list is as follows;

Sir Peter Kenilorea	Sir Moses Pitakaka
Sir Baddley Devesi	Sir George Lepping
Danny Phillip	Ataban Tropa
James Vaukei	Clement Rojumana
Daniel Ho'ota	Joses Tuhanuku
Henry Manuhea	Rt Rev Lazarus Munamua
Vainga Tion	Tapualiki Samasoni
Colin Gauwane	Dr John Roughan
Sabino Jerry	Josephine Behulu
Nuatali Angelina Tongarutu	Matthew Quan

COMPOSITION OF THE CONGRESS AND ELDERS LISTS AT A GLANCE

30% of appointees are women

Youth are represented

All Solomon Islands settler groups are represented

All provinces are represented

Honiara is represented

Church networks are represented

Women networks are represented

Academic interests are represented

Financial and economic interests are represented

Grass roots are represented