



PARLIAMENT NEWSLETTER

2016 Parliament Bi-Annual Newsletter, Issue No. 2
July - December

HEAD OF STATE OPENS THE 2016 - 2017 PARLIAMENT SESSION

His Excellency, the President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote opened the 2016-2017 Parliament session for the first time as the Head of State on September 12th, last year.

The President was accorded a Guard of Honour by the RFMF before addressing Members of Parliament, members of the Judiciary, members of the Diplomatic Corps, other invited guests and also the nation who watched the opening live via telecast on Fiji TV and FBC TV.

In his official address, the President urged Members of Parliament to be worthy in public life of the ordinary men and women who had put them in the prestigious organisation, to whom they owed their ultimate duty.

"We are now a nation that is unified, more so than at any time in our entire history and we are a nation on the move," he said.



His Excellency, the President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote inspects the Guard of Honor during the opening of Parliament.



His Excellency, the President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote delivering his keynote address during the opening of Parliament.

"All around us are the signs of revival and rejuvenation. Let us re-dedicate ourselves to the task of continuing to rejuvenate our nation and giving it the sense of direction and purpose it deserves."

"Let us set an example in this Parliament for young Fijians, who look to us to build a future worthy of their dreams and aspirations. Because it is by setting a standard of excellence here that we can inspire them to excellence themselves. And be powerful role models in the quest to make Fiji great."

Meanwhile, for the 2016-2017 session, both sides of the House have agreed to a week-long sitting, taking the total sitting months to six, compared to four months for the 2015-2016 session.

In February, March, April, May and July 2017, Parliament will sit for one week every month.

In the 2015-2016 session, Parliament only sat in February, April, May-June, July and also a one-day sitting in June for the budget address.

"A Resilient Parliament responsive to the needs of the people and driven by the ideal of a better quality of life for all Fijians"

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NEW MP SWORN-IN



New Member of Parliament Hon. Howard Politini (Jnr) who was sworn in late last year.

PARLIAMENT HOSTS FIJI'S FIRST-EVER WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT



Participants of the Women's Parliament forum with Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni and representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), European Union and the Governments of New Zealand, Australia, and Japan.

Fifty women from various backgrounds across Fiji gathered to be part of Fiji's first-ever "Women's Parliament Fiji" held from 16th-18th August, 2016.

The initiative was organised by the Fijian Parliament in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and was supported by the European Union and the Governments of New Zealand, Australia, and Japan.

In her official address, Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni said: "The hosting of such an event offers a unique opportunity to Fiji's aspiring women leaders to learn about Parliament and important development issues, and build their policy skills."

"This event also confirms the commitment of the Fijian Parliament to promoting women's participation in politics."

The women participants for the 2016 Women's Parliament Fiji were selected by a Steering Committee comprising representatives from the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, National Council of Women and the Office of the Secretary-General to Parliament.

UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative Osnat Lubrani, said UNDP was proud to have supported the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji in facilitating such an event.

"This is part of our ongoing work in the region and globally on promoting women's leadership and political participation at the highest decision making levels," Ms Lubrani said.

New Zealand High Commissioner H.E. Mark Ramsden congratulated the participants, adding that women's voices were crucial to the success of any organisation, including national governments. New Zealand is a proud supporter of the UNDP Parliamentary Strengthening Programme.

Head of the Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific Ambassador Andrew Jacobs also shared his views saying that Parliament had a fundamental role to play in ensuring sustainable and equitable development.

"Women parliamentarians are needed to ensure that the needs and interests of all parts of the population are represented," he said.

Meanwhile, the idea of facilitating Practice Parliaments for women was first proposed in 2010 at a Pacific Islands Forum Small Island States meeting on "Advancing Women's Participation in Decision Making Processes."

The Practice Parliaments are designed to bridge some of the gaps in the existing efforts to support women's political participation by developing a broader set of skills and by giving women participants the opportunity to apply those skills.



Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni delivering the keynote address during the opening of the Women's Parliament in August, 2016.

MILESTONE ACHIEVEMENT IN PARLIAMENTARY PARTNERSHIP



Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni and her delegation meets with their Russian counterparts.

The Parliament of the Republic of Fiji and the Russian Federation Council, which is the Upper House of the Federal Assembly of Russia (Parliament of the Russian Federation), signed a Memorandum of Understanding in October, last year to strengthen their bilateral ties.

Speaker of Parliament Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni signed the MOU alongside her counterpart, Mrs. Valentina Matvieko, in a special ceremony held in Moscow.

The MOU signified the importance of the partnership between the two Parliaments and is guided by the desire to further strengthen and expand the inter-parliamentary cooperation on a friendly and mutually beneficial basis and in the interest of developing relations between the two countries.

"The signing of the MOU is very critical to us and we are very proud that this parliamentary partnership has been established," said Hon. Dr Luveni.

"This parliamentary relationship marks an occasion where the momentum of the relationship between Fiji and Russia continues."

The momentum carries on from a visit to Russia by the Hon. Prime Minister, Voreqe Bainimarama in June 2013 where a couple of Agreements and MOUs were signed.

Mrs Matvieko, who is the President of the Federation Council, said that the relationship between the two countries was already a dynamic one and the MOU signed was a sound foundation for the new parliamentary partnership.



Speaker of Parliament Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni signing the MOU with her counterpart Mrs. Valentina Matvieko.

"Russia and Fiji are geographically distant from one another, but this does not prevent our countries to develop friendship," said Mrs. Matvieko.

"The Federation Council is interested in co-operation with the Parliament of Fiji in the international parliamentary exchanges such as the IPU and the Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Forum."

The MOU also agrees to the broadening of political, economic, scientific and humanitarian ties between the two countries and practice parliamentary delegation exchanges to promote closer interaction with each other in the interest of further development of inter-parliamentary cooperation.

In addition to other cooperation aspects in the MOU, both Parliaments agreed to

exchange information on legislative procedures, legislations, parliamentary procedures, as well as the official publications and other documents of mutual interest pursuant to the legislation of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Fiji.

The MOU runs for five years and will be prolonged automatically for the next five-year term unless either party decides otherwise.

Meanwhile, Minister for Agriculture Hon. Inia Seruiratu, Opposition Member of Parliament Hon. Jiosefa Dulakiverata Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Robin Nair, Fiji's Ambassador to Japan Isikeli Mataitoga were part of the Fijian delegation to Russia.

4TH SPEAKERS DEBATE FOCUSED ON EDUCATION



Panellists for the 4th Speakers Debate held at Nadi's Civic Centre on November 17th, 2016.



People from various walks of life attended the 4th Speakers Debate held at Nadi's Civic Centre on November 17th, 2016.

In its quest to promote sustainable and quality education in the country the Fijian Parliament in collaboration with the UNDP hosted the fourth and final Speakers Debate for 2016, at Nadi's Civic Centre on November 17th, last year.

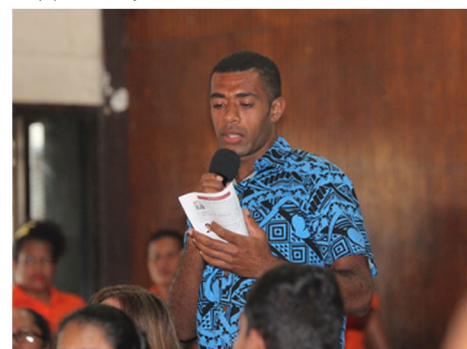
The debate featured the Minister for Health and Medical Services Hon. Rosy Akbar, who

substituted for the Minister for Education Hon. Dr Mahendra Reddy, National Federation Party Leader Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad, National Training and Productivity Centre Acting Director Mr Peni Taoi, Fiji Teachers Union General-Secretary Mr Agni-Deo Singh, Chief Education UNICEF

Pacific Ms Niki Abrishamian and SVC Head Girl Ms Arieta Boseiwaqa as panellists. The Speaker of Parliament Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni moderated the debate.

During the debate, it was discussed that education was the key for the development of any country and Fiji was committed to achieving SDG 4, which is committed to ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.

The debate was made possible through funding support of the UNDP Fiji Parliament Support Project.



A youth raising a question to the panellists during the 4th Speakers Debate held at Nadi's Civic Centre on November 17th, 2016.

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY VISITATIONS JULY-DECEMBER

COURTESY CALLS TO THE FIJIAN PARLIAMENT - JULY TO DECEMBER, 2016

No.	Delegation Name & Country	Number of Delegates	Date
1	Courtesy call from the Speaker of the Victorian Parliament - Speaker Langgiller met with our Deputy Speaker Hon. Ruveni Nadalo Melbourne, Australia	1	08/07/16
2	Visit by the members of the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea to Fiji Seoul, Korea	2	10/08/16
3	Regional representative of the OHCHR, Ms Chitralakha Massey United Nations	1	17/08/16
4	Visit by the KOICA Vice President & Delegation South Korea	6	08/09/16
5	French Senators Visit the Fijian Parliament	7	12/09/16
6	H.E. Ms Naela Chohan, Non-Resident High Commissioner of Pakistan	1	30/09/16

MPs - OVERSEAS MEETINGS JULY - DECEMBER

Invitation	Delegation Name & Country	Number of Delegates	Date
Australia-New Zealand Scrutiny of Legislation Conference	Hon. Lorna Eden, Hon. Niko Nawaikula, Parliament of Western Australia, Perth, Australia	2	11 th - 14 th July
47 th Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference (POCC) and Pacific Clerks Workshop (PCW)	Deputy Speaker Hon. Ruveni Nadalo, Kingdom of Tonga	1	11 th - 13 th July (POCC) & 14 th July (PCW)
1 st Commonwealth Women's Leaders Summit	Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni, London, Great Britain	1	14 th July, 2016
UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni, Hon. Netani Rika, Hon. Semesa Karavaki, New York, USA	3	18 th - 20 th July
Courtesy Call to Korea - MOU between the Fijian Parliament and the Korean Parliament	Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni, Seoul, Korea	1	22 nd - 26 th July
5 th Biennial High-level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF)	Hon. Dr Brij Lal, New York, USA	1	21 st - 22 nd July
Asia Pacific Regional Workshop for Parliamentarians on Cybersecurity and Cybercrime, Parliament of Queensland	Hon. Balmindar Singh, Hon. Ratu Sela Nanovo, Brisbane, Australia	2	25 th - 28 th July

International Leadership Conference	Hon. Ro Temumu Kepa Hon. Mohammed Dean, Kathmandu, Nepal	2	28 th - 31 st July
Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs	Hon. Viam Pillay, Hon. Veena Bhatnagar, Hon. Salote Radrodoro, Hon. Anare Vadei, Hon. Mohammed Dean, China	5	1 st - 7 th August
Building a Nuclear-Weapon Free World	Deputy Speaker Hon. Ruveni Nadalo, Hon. Netani Rika, Hon. Ratu Isoa Tikoca, Astana, Kazakhstan	3	28 th - 29 th August
43 rd Session of the ACP PA and Inter-session meetings of the JPA - Bureau and Committees	Hon. Ashneel Sudhakar, Brussels ACP House and European Parliament	1	11 th - 14 th September
Attachment to Victorian Parliament	Deputy Speaker Hon. Ruveni Nadalo, Melbourne, Australia	1	12 th - 13 th October, 2016
Visit to Moscow (Signing of multiple Agreements)	Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni, Hon. Inia Seruiratu and Hon. Jiosefa Dulakiverata, Russia	3	7 th - 14 th October
RANZCOG-2016 Annual Scientific Meeting	Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni, Perth, Australia	1	17 th - 19 th October
135 th IPU Assembly and Related Meetings	Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni, Hon. Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Hon. Semesa Karavaki, Geneva	3	23 rd - 27 th October
11 th Women Ministers and Parliamentarians Conference (AFPPD)	Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni and Hon. Mereseini Vuniwaqa Bangkok, Thailand	2	4 th - 5 th November
Pacific Network of Public Accounts Committees (PaNPAC)	Hon. Ratu Sela Nanovo, Honiara, Solomon Islands.	1	7 th - 9 th November
18 th General Assembly of the Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Conference on Environment & Development (APPCED)	Hon. Mikaele Leawere Hon. Vijay Nath, Seoul, Korea	2	10 th - 12 th November
Pacific Parliamentary Forum	Hon. Lorna Eden, Hon. Iliesa Delana Hon. Aseri Radrodoro, New Zealand	3	14 th - 18 th November
18 th General Assembly of the Asia Pacific Parliamentarians Conference on Environment & Development (APPCED)	Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni, Hon. Alexandra O'Connor, Hon. Mikaele Leawere, Seoul, Korea	3	10 th - 12 th November
2016 CPA Australia & Pacific Regional Conference	Deputy Speaker Hon. Ruveni Nadalo, Raratonga, Cook Islands	1	28 th - 30 th November
11 th Meeting of Women Speakers of Parliament	Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni, Hon. Veena Bhatnagar, Hon. Salote Radrodoro, United Arab Emirates	3	11 th - 12 th December
44 th Session of ACP PA and 32 nd session of the JPA	Hon. Ashneel Sudhakar, Central Africa	1	14 th - 21 st December

MEETINGS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT : JULY TO DECEMBER, 2016

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE, LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Number of Meetings	Issues Before The Committee			
	Annual Reports	Petitions	Bills	
55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2014 General Elections Report by Electoral Commission and Multi - Observer Group; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yavusa Navauvau Petition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Bill, No. 34, 2016 Public Order (Amendment) Bill No. 23 2016; Code of Conduct Bill, No. 22, 2016 Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Bill, No. 28, 2016 Community-Based Corrections Bill, No. 33, 2016 Adoption Bill, No. 21, 2016 	

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Number of Meetings	Issues Before The Committee		
	Annual Reports	Petitions	Bills
56	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of iTaukei Affairs 2015 iTaukei Trust Fund Board 2015 USP 2015 Ministry of Youth and Sports 2015 Ministry of Education 2015 Ministry of Local Government 2009, 2010 & 2011 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill Heritage Bill Rotuma Land Bill and Rotuma Bill National Employment Centre

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE

Number of Meetings	Issues Before The Committee			
	Conventions	Annual Reports	Petitions	Bills
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hague Convention on the Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Co-operation in Respect of Parental Responsibilities and Measures for the Protection of Children (1996 Convention) UN Convention on Electronic Communication in International Contracts World Trade Organisation on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement World Trade Organisation Trade Facilitation Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiji Police 2014 Ministry of Defence and National Security 2014 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None

STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Number of Meetings	Issues Before The Committee		
	Annual Reports	Petitions	Bills
39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Rural and Maritime and National Disaster Management -2014 Annual Report Ministry of Agriculture Annual Report of 2009, 2011 and 2012 Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) Consolidated Report 2010-2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kava Bill Land and Water Resources Management Bill Forest Bill Aquaculture Bill Meteorological and Hydrological Service Bill

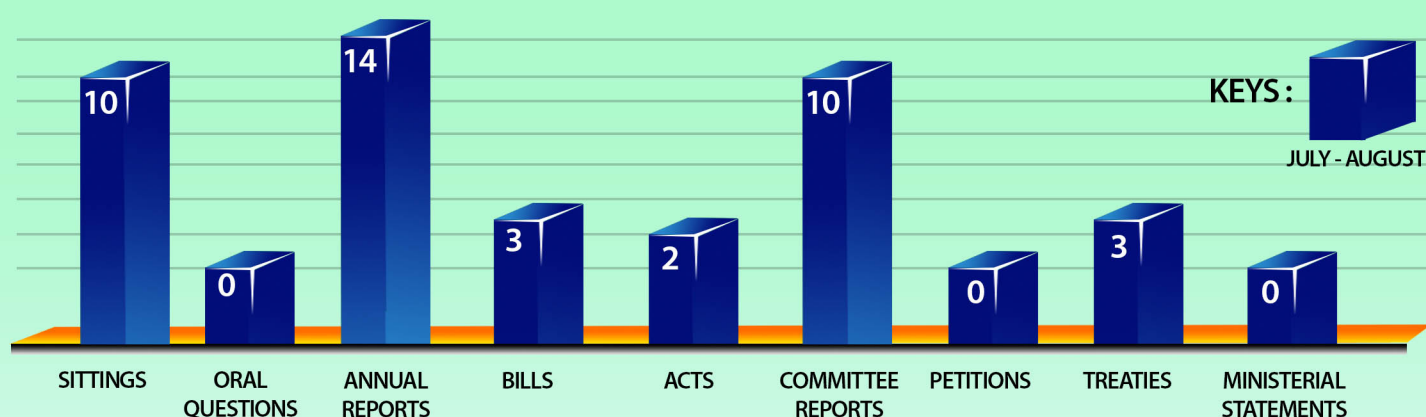
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Number of Meetings	Issues Before The Committee		
	Annual Reports	Petitions	Bills
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reserve Bank of Fiji Annual Report 2015 Fiji Electricity Authority Annual Report 2016 Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit Annual Report 2015 Fiji Meats and Industries Board Annual Report 2013 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TLTB to review lease distribution to personal accounts and land rent premised on unimproved capital value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Bill Public Order (Amendment) Bill, 2016; Code of Conduct Bill Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Bill Community-Based Corrections Bill Adoption Bill

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Number of Meetings	Issues Before The Committee
52	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, Majority Owned Entities – February 2009
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Government Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, Majority Owned Entities – Off-Budget State Entities – December 2009.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Government Commercial Companies and Commercial Statutory Authorities – June 2009.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Statutory Authorities – June 2009.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Government Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, Majority Owned Entities, Off-Budget State Entities – December 2010.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Government Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, Majority Owned Entities and Off-Budget State Entities – June 2010.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Statutory Authorities – December 2010.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Statutory Authorities – June 2010
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Government Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, Off-Budget State Entities, Majority Owned Entities, Provincial Councils, and Special Projects – December 2011.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Government Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, and Off-Budget State Entities – June 2011.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Statutory Authorities – December 2011.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Statutory Authorities – June 2011
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Government Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, Off-Budget State Entities and Majority Owned Entities – December 2012.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Government Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, Off-Budget State Entities and Majority Owned Entities – June 2012 .
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Statutory Authorities – December 2012.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Statutory Authorities – June 2012.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Government Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, Majority Owned Entities – Off-Budget State Entities – June 2013.
	Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – Audits of Statutory Authorities – June 2013.
	Report of the Auditor - General of the Republic of Fiji - Audit Report on Statutory Authorities - December 2014
	Report of the Auditor- General of the Republic of Fiji - Audit Report on Government Commercial Companies, Commercial Statutory Authorities, Majority Owned Entities, Off- Budget State Entities - December 2014

PARLIAMENT SITTINGS : JULY TO SEPTEMBER, 2016



COMMITTEES AT WORK



Members of the Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights receiving submissions from the Fiji Women's Rights Movement in October, 2016.



Members of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs receiving submissions from the Ministry of Education in October, 2016.



Public Accounts Committee meeting in progress in October, 2016.



Standing Committee on Natural Resources listening to a submission in June.



Members of the Standing Committee on Natural Resources receiving submissions from PAFCO in November, 2016.



Members of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence during their tour of the Nasova Police Academy in December, 2016.



Members of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs on the island of Rotuma during their public consultation on the two Rotuma Bills in December, 2016.



Members of the Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights chats with Mohammed Saneem.



Members of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence receiving submissions from stakeholders in Nadi in November, 2016.



Members of the Standing Committees and Committees secretariat staff in a Standing Committee workshop facilitated by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) UK in November, 2016.



Public Accounts Committee hearing submissions from TPAF

PICTORIAL



Opening of the 2016-2017 Parliament session in September, 2016.



Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni releases blue and white balloons during the Fiji Day celebrations at Albert Park in Suva in October, 2016.



Hon. Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama thanking His Excellency for His most gracious speech at the opening of the Parliament session in September.



Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni officiated at the International Day of Democracy celebrations in Labasa in September, 2016.



Hon. Salote Radrodoro delivering her budget speech in the October sitting of Parliament.



Hon. Dr Brij Lal greeting students at the public gallery.



Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni with a student of Burebasaga District School in Rewa during their prize-giving ceremony in November, 2016.



A French delegation courtesy visit to the Speaker of the Fijian Parliament Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni in September, 2016.



Members of the Women's Parliament forum with Speaker Hon. Dr Jiko Luveni in August, 2016.



Members of Parliament during an Inter-Parliamentary Union workshop on Implementing SDGs through a Human Rights Perspective for Pacific Parliaments

PICTORIAL



Members of Parliament with facilitators of the Standing Committees workshop from the CPA UK. The facilitators conducted the workshop for the MPs in November, 2016.



Deputy Speaker Hon. Ruveni Nadalo addressing MPs at the IPU Needs Assessment Mission on Sustainable Development Goals and Gender Equality in July, 2016.



IPU Needs Assessment Team with Women Members of Parliament



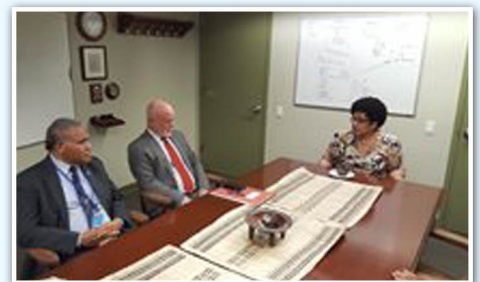
Members of Parliament attended a three-day professional development retreat on the role of Parliament in Extractive Industries in August, 2016.



Hon. Dr. Jiko Luveni was the Chief Guest at the Diwali celebration, in Geneva in October, 2016.



Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Public Enterprises, Civil Service and Communications Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.



Hon. Dr. Jiko Luveni and Hon. Netani Rika meet with the President of the UN General Assembly and Fiji's Permanent Representative to the UN H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson in July, 2016.



Kiribati and Fiji Head Teachers and education officials during a tour of Parliament in November, 2016.



Shadow Minister of Finance, Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad responding to the Budget Address in July, 2016.



Hon. Dr. Jiko Luveni shakes hands with Early Childhood teachers at the Fiji Early Childhood Teachers Association Conference held in Suva in August, 2016.

PARLIAMENT WINS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD AT FBEA



Speaker Hon. Dr. Jiko Luveni with the Award.

The Parliament of Fiji will continue to deliver with excellence in all aspects of its services, says Secretary-General to Parliament Vinina Namosimalua.

Mrs Namosimalua made the statement after the Department of Legislature received the Achievement Award in the Fiji Business Excellence Awards in November 2016.

This was the first time the Department has ever taken part in this awards and scooped this prestigious prize.

"We haven't been very long in this institution, and we've been able to come together as a corporate body to agree that we are going to deliver with excellence in all aspects of our services," she said.

"This is quite an achievement given that it's a reflection of impact by each employee of the organisation. This meant working extra hard on our systems and processes to ensure that we are customer-focused and friendly and more importantly, applying the values of the organisation in our daily work whilst at the same time, constantly reminding ourselves of our vision - "A Resilient Parliament responsive to the needs of the people and

driven by the ideal of a better quality of life for all Fijians". Mrs Namosimalua added that Parliament was geared towards delivering its services to its customers with utmost best. "Our gaps and failures are really stepping stones to getting us to where we would like to be in terms of satisfying our main customers and clients who are lawmakers," she said.

"By addressing these and being innovative and talking to them often about what and how they would like to be served, we should expect to do better. We are going to maximise the use of technology and manage the skills and knowledge of staff derived from training to produce quality results."

"Our agility as an organisation is going to be very critical as we react to changes brought on by time and new developments both internally and externally. The values of any organisation are key to its success."

"If employees grasp what the values of their organisation mean in practical terms, then the achievement of targets come naturally and the workplace becomes a great environment to be in every day."

The 2016 FBEA plaque that was awarded to the Department of Legislature in November.

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SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:



Parliament staff joined marchers who marched through Suva city to Albert Park on October 10th, last year to commemorate the Fiji Day celebrations.



From left- Prime Minister Hon. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, SODELPA newly-appointed leader Sitiveni Rabuka, Hon. Samuela Vunivahu, Hon. Alivereti Nabulivou, His Excellency the President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote and Hon. Mikaele Leawere during a cocktail at Government House in September, 2016



Fiji Day cocktail hosted by His Excellency the President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote at Government House for Members of Parliament, Members of the Diplomatic Corps and other dignitaries in October, 2016.



Some MPs joined Parliament staff for Christmas carol singing in December, 2016.



Parliament staff participate in a team bonding game during the Secretary-General Hour in September, 2016.



The Honourable Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with Naomi Lewakita from the Fiji School for the Blind and her family members during the opening of the 2016-2017 Parliament session in September.