



TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

Media Release

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CCF to Provide Analysis of Governments Constitution.

The Citizens' Constitutional Forum will shortly provide a critical and thorough analysis of the 2013 Fiji Government Constitution released today.

CCF reiterates that this document cannot be considered a constitution by the people of Fiji following the discarding of the Peoples Draft constitution on January 10th, 2013, which was drafted after nationwide consultations by the Yash Ghai led Commission. It is important to note that this is the constitution drafted by the Government legal team and is better recognized as the Government's.

CEO Reverend Akuila Yabaki stresses "it is vital that this Constitution be thoroughly scrutinized to ensure that the various provisions adhere to the universal best practices in terms of clear separation of powers between the three arms of Government: the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary."

It is also critical to ascertain whether the document upholds the principles of good governance for accountability and transparency in government institutions where powers are not vested in only one or two offices of the Legislature. The various provisions under the Bill of Rights are another area which needs thorough scrutiny so that ordinary citizens can be informed on how and if their fundamental rights are protected.

The CCF intends to provide a comparative analysis between the Peoples Draft, the Government Draft and the final constitution to reflect how much of the people's views are captured.



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At this juncture, CCF urges all citizens to access the Fiji Constitution and await the Analysis which would provide clarification on the implications of the various sections of the constitution on the people of Fiji. The section on the Bill of Rights, the Form of Government, the prospective electoral process, provisions that discuss land use, socio-economic and economic justice issues and the various public accountability provisions may interest people.

CCF expects to provide the full analysis of the 2013 Fiji Constitution in the very near future.

For further information please contact the communications team at CCF on communications@ccf.org.fj or contact Roneel Lal on 9708431.

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Reverend Akuila Yabaki

CEO - CCF