

# PARTICIPANTS

The 10th Annual Centre for Democratic Institutions  
Pacific Parliamentary Dialogue

Port Vila | Vanuatu | 9 - 11 December 2008



centre for **democratic** institutions

*In Partnership with*



**The National  
Parliament of  
Vanuatu**



## VANUATU

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### **Hon George Wells MP | *Speaker of Parliament***

George Wells is the 9th Legislature Speaker of Parliament. He was elected to Parliament in 1995. During his time as an elected Member of Parliament, Mr Wells has been Minister for Internal Affairs and has held the position of Leader of Government Business.

### **Hon Ture Kailo MP | *Government Whip***

Ture Kailo was born on the island of Aniwa and was elected to Parliament in the recent national election in September 2008. The previous Director of the Department of Youth and Sports, Mr Kailo now holds the position of Government Whip in Parliament.

### **Hon Moana Carcasses MP |**

Moana Carcasses was elected to Parliament in 2002 and has been in both Government and Opposition. In 2007 he was the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and until September 2008 he was the Leader of the Opposition.

### **Hon Dominique Morin MP |**

### **Hon Don Ken MP |**

### **Mr Ati George Sokomanu | *Former President of Vanuatu***

Ati George Sokomanu, who is from the village of Mele on the island of Efate, worked in the British administration of the New Hebrides, during the Condominium times, and became one of the leaders in the independence movement that developed in the 1970s. When the country became independent in 1980 as Vanuatu, he was the first President elected under the new Constitution, and held that office until 1978. Since his retirement from public office, Mr Sokomanu was chair of the Decentralisation Committee, and also a member of the Constitutional Review Committee appointed by Parliament in 2001 to review the Constitution, and he has continued to maintain a keen interest in public affairs.

### **Professor Don Paterson | *School of Law - University of the South Pacific***

Professor Don Paterson came to Port Vila, Vanuatu in 1985 to establish the Pacific Law Unit of the University of the South Pacific. In the early 1990s, the Pacific Law Unit was expanded into the School of Law of the University, and Professor Paterson has been teaching in that School until today. His main interests, which occupy most of his time, are constitutional and administrative law, and land law and customary law.

He was secretary of the Constitutional Review Committee appointed by the Parliament of Vanuatu to review the Constitution, whose report, although presented to Parliament in late 1991, has yet to be considered by Parliament.



**Mr Godwin Ligo | *Broadcaster***

Godwin Ligo was born October 19th 1948 in Vanuatu, he is the founder and part owner of Capitol FM 107, the first commercial FM Radio Station in Vanuatu.

**Mr Derek Brien | *Pacific Institute of Public Policy***

Derek Brien is the Communications Director at the Pacific Institute of Public Policy (PiPP), an independent, non-partisan and not-for-profit think tank based in Port Vila, Vanuatu. With a background in development planning, Derek has over fifteen years experience working in the Pacific, Australia, the UK and south east Asia on a diverse portfolio of social and economic development initiatives. As a consultant to government, Derek has been actively involved in policy formulation, application and review. His speciality is the application of communication tools to stimulate and support policy making through better awareness and inclusive debate. He is the author of a publication profiling the political parties in Vanuatu and is currently leading a team preparing a detailed study into voter behaviour and political campaigning during the 2008 Vanuatu election.

**Mr Martin Tete | *Chief Electoral Officer -Vanuatu***

**Mr Peter K Taurakoto | *Ombudsman – Vanuatu***

**Ms Marie-Noelle Ferrieux-Patterson | *Former Ombudsman-Vanuatu***

## AUSTRALIA

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**Hon John Pandazopoulos MP | *Victorian Legislative Assembly Member for Dandenong | Australian Labor Party***

John Pandazopoulos was first elected to State Parliament as the Member for Dandenong in 1992. During 2002-2006, Mr Pandazopoulos was Minister for Gaming, Tourism, assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs, as well as gaining the portfolio of Racing.

John previously worked as a Senior Organiser with the Finance Sector Union, and Manager at McDonalds. John served as City of Berwick Councillor (1987-1991) including as Mayor (1990-91). John went to school in Doveton and later gained his BA at Monash University where he was also Secretary of the Monash Association of Students (1982-84).

**Hon Robyn Parker MLC | *New South Wales Parliament | Liberal Party of NSW***

Robyn entered the NSW Parliament as a Member of the Legislative Council in 2003. She is the Opposition Parliamentary Secretary for Education & Aboriginal Affairs and Chair of the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2. Robyn's background is in the community services sector. Robyn has also owned and managed several small businesses. Robyn is a board member of the Australian Institute of Policy and Science and the co-convenor of the NSW Parliamentary Group on Population and Development



and NSW Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation. Robyn lives with her husband David and children in the Hunter Valley, 2 hours north of Sydney.

**Hon Grant McBride MP | *New South Wales Parliament Assistant Speaker and Member for The Entrance | Australian Labor Party***

## **AUTONOMOUS BOUGAINVILLE REGION HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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**Hon Magdalene Toroansi MP | *Member for Central Bougainville representing Women, Autonomous Bougainville Region House of Representatives***

Magdalene Toroansi was first elected Member for Central Bougainville Representing Women in the Autonomous Bougainville Government in May 2005 where she started as one of the three person, care taker Government. She then became Minister for Local Level Government, Women, Religion, NGOs and Traditional Authority until June 2007, and following this Minister for Women, Religion and NGOs to June 2008. She is now an Ordinary Member of the House of Representatives.

Before being elected to Parliament, Magdalene served in the PNG Foreign Service from 1989-2003, which included postings in London, Washington, New York (UN) and Seoul.

**Hon Francesca Semoso OBE MP | *Acting Speaker & Regional Women's Representative, North Bougainville Region***

Francesca Semoso was elected Deputy Speaker of the Autonomous Bougainville Region House of Representatives on 15 June 2005. She is also the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Select Committee on HIV/Aids.

Prior to her election, Francesca was a radio broadcaster based in Port Moresby after graduating from the National Arts School. She was also a Member of the Bougainville Constitutional Commission which developed the Constitution for the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

**Hon Thomas Lugabai MP | *Autonomous Bougainville Region House of Representatives***

## **FIJI**

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**Hon Adi Sivia Qoro | *Former Member of the House of Representatives and Minister for Commerce and Industry, Parliament of Fiji.***

**Mr Niko Nawaikula | *Former Member of the House of Representatives and Deputy Speaker, Parliament of Fiji.***

Niko Nawaikula was first elected as a member of the Parliament of Fiji in August 2005. He was re-elected during Fiji's General Election in May 2006 and became Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives. He has held several parliamentary services



positions apart from being Deputy Speaker. He was Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Justice, Law and Order responsible for the endorsement and recommendations of appointment of judges in the High Court, Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal in Fiji. He was a member of the Public Accounts Committee, Social Services Committee and other Parliamentary Select Committees. He was Fiji's representative to the ACP parliament and the EU parliament in Brussels.

Immediately before entering Parliament Mr. Nawaikula was a private Legal Practitioner and operated his own firm. Prior to 2002 he held various positions including Legal Manager of the Housing Authority of Fiji, and Board Secretary and Legal Manager of the Native Land Trust Board. When Fiji's parliament was removed by the military in 2006 Mr. Nawaikula returned to practicing law.

## KIRIBATI

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### **Mr Rimeta Beniamina MP | *Member for Nikunau***

Rimeta Beniamina was first elected as MP for Nikunau constituency in 2002 replacing his father, a long time politician who could not contest the election due to illness. He was re-elected in 2003 and 2007. Before entering Parliament Rimeta was a fisheries officer responsible for the licensing and monitoring of foreign fishing vessels in Kiribati waters. Rimeta holds a Bachelor of Applied Science Degree from the Australian Maritime College in Tasmania and a Diploma in Tropical Fisheries from the University of the South Pacific.

### **Mr Tekiau Aretateta MP | *Member for Tabuaeran***

Tekiau Aretateta is one of the MPs for Tabuaeran constituency in the Phoenix Group. He was first elected to Parliament in 2007 and is a member of the current Government. Prior to his time in Parliament, Tekiau was a police sergeant based in Tabuaeran, having begun work as a police officer in 1982. Tekiau is married to Raine and they have 2 children.

## NEW ZEALAND

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### **HE Jeff Langley | *New Zealand High Commissioner to Vanuatu***

Mr Jeff Langley was appointed New Zealand's High Commissioner to Vanuatu in June 2007, taking up the position in August of that year. Prior to this appointment, Mr Langley served as Deputy Director of the South and South East Asia Division of New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and prior to that, has been posted to Brasilia and New York.

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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### **Hon Peter Iwei MP | *Member for Telefomin & Deputy Governor for Sandaun (West Sepik) Province***

### **Hon Boka Kondra MP | *Member for North-Fly, Western Province***

## SAMOA

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### **Mr. MOEFAAUO Lufilufi MP | *Associate Minister and Member for ANOAMA'A EAST***

MINISTRY: Village Mayors & Special Committee on Traditional Salutation and Legends Chairman, Mayors Committee Upolu

Political Party: Human Rights Protection Party

Years as Member of Parliament: 12/2/2005 - 2006, 2006 -present

12/2/2005 – 2006: Parliamentary Under Secretary for Ministry of Commerce Industry and Labour

2006 – present: Associate Minister to Minister of Women, Community and Social Development

Committees: 2005 – 2006: Member of Justice, Police & Prisons and Lands and Titles Committee, Regulations Review Committee, Privileges and Ethics Committee

### **Mr TAUA Faraimo | *Member for PALAULI WEST***

Political Party: Independent Member

Years as Member of Parliament: 2006 - present

Committees: Health & Social Services, Internal Affairs, Community and Social Development Committee, Primary Production, Commerce, Industry and Labour Committee.

## SOLOMON ISLANDS

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### **Hon Laurie Chan MP | *MP for West Guadalcanal***

The Hon Laurie Chan is the MP for West Guadalcanal constituency. First elected to Parliament in 2001 and re-elected again in 2006, Mr Chan is currently the Chair of the Foreign Relations Committee. He was Foreign Affairs minister from December 2002 to May 2006 and also held the Finance Minister's portfolio in 2002. He has attended several international and regional conferences including an International Monetary Fund meeting, and a Commonwealth Heads of Governments meeting. He is a private businessman.

### **Hon John Patteson Oti MP | *MP for Temotu Nende***

John Patteson Oti is the MP for Temotu Nende constituency. He was first elected to Parliament in 1997, and held his seat in 2001 and 2006. Mr Patteson has held several parliamentary positions including Deputy Speaker of National Parliament in 2005, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee in 2002, and Chair of the Special Select Committee on Immunities, Privileges and Powers of Parliament in 2007. He has also held a number of Ministerial portfolios including Deputy Prime Minister in 2007, Minister for Foreign Affairs from 1997 to 2000 and again from 2006 to 2007, Minister for Communication, Aviation and Meteorology from 2004 to 2005, and Leader of the Opposition from 2001 to 2003.

Before entering Parliament, Mr Patteson was Special Secretary to the Leader of Opposition from 1995 to 1997, a political analyst in





1994, Provincial Secretary for the Ministry of Provincial Government from 1991 to 1993 and Desk officer – Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1983 to 1990. Mr Patteson holds a Bachelors Degree in History/Politics and Public Administration from the University of the South Pacific.

**Ms Ruth Liloquala** |

## TONGA

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**Hon Tu'iha'ateiho** | *Noble of the Realm*

Hon Tu'iha'ateiho is the no. 1 Noble's Representative of Ha'apai as well as one of the youngest members in the House. His noble title was bestowed upon him in 2004 after the death of his father, who had previously held the title. Hon Tu'iha'ateiho grew up and was educated in Hawaii, California and Alaska, United States. He is also a keen sportsman and is the Chairman of the Tongan Body-Building Association. He is happily married with 4 children. (2 boys & 2 girls).

## RESOURCE TEAM

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**Prof Benjamin REILLY** | *BA (Hons, 1<sup>st</sup> Class, UNSW), PhD (ANU)*

Benjamin Reilly is Director of the Centre for Democratic Institutions and Professor of Political Science in the Crawford School of Economics and Government at the Australian National University (ANU). In addition to his academic career, he has previously served with the United Nations, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), and the Australian government. Professor Reilly has held visiting fellowships at Oxford, Canterbury and Harvard universities, and has received financial support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the United States Institute of Peace, the East-West Center and the Australian Research Council. He holds a PhD in Political Science from the ANU.

Professor Reilly's publications include *Democracy and Diversity: Political Engineering in the Asia-Pacific* (Oxford University Press, 2006), *Electoral System Design: the New International IDEA Handbook* (International IDEA, 2005), *Democracy in Divided Societies: Electoral Engineering for Conflict Management* (Cambridge University Press, 2001), *Electoral Systems and Conflict in Divided Societies* (National Research Council, 1999), *Democracy and Deep Rooted Conflict: Options for Negotiators* (International IDEA, 1998), and *The International IDEA Handbook of Electoral System Design* (International IDEA, 1997). He has also published in academic journals such as the *Journal of Democracy*, *International Political Science Review*, *International Security*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Party Politics*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *Democratization*, *Electoral Studies*, *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, *Australian Journal of Political Science*, *International Peacekeeping*, *Commonwealth and Comparative Politics*, *Representation*, *Asian Survey*, *Pacifica Review*, *Pacific Affairs*, *Journal of Pacific History* and the *Pacific Economic Bulletin*, and in newspapers

such as the *International Herald Tribune*, *Washington Post*, *Asian Wall Street Journal*, *Wall Street Journal Europe*, *Jakarta Post*, *Australian*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, and the *Australian Financial Review*. His latest book is a study of party politics in fragile states, *Political Parties in Conflict-Prone Societies: Regulation, Engineering and Democratic Development* (United Nations University Press, 2008).

Professor Reilly has advised governments and international organizations on issues of democratisation, constitutional reform, party politics, electoral system design and conflict management in states including Afghanistan, Bosnia, Bhutan, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Fiji, Guyana, Lebanon, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands.

#### **Mr Quinton CLEMENTS | BA (Hons, 1<sup>st</sup> Class, ANU)**

Quinton Clements BA is Deputy Director of the Centre for Democratic Institutions at the Australian National University. His work focuses on strengthening parliaments and implementing good governance best practice.

Prior to taking up this position, Mr Clements held a number of positions in the Australian Public Service and in the Department of the House of Representatives, Parliament of Australia. He served as Inquiry Secretary to the Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories; and acting Committee Secretary for the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD and the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works. Mr Clements has also worked in the National Parliament of Papua

New Guinea as Committee Secretary to the Parliamentary Select Committee on a Pacific Economic Community.

Mr Clements has consulted on issues of parliamentary strengthening and good governance in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Island Countries for agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme. He has been an associate of the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Project in the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University. Mr Clements' academic research focuses on nation building, nationalism and identity formation, and issues of socio-economic development and governance. He contributed to the Australian Strategic Policy Institute's report on the Solomon Islands, *Our Failing Neighbour: Australia and the Future of Solomon Islands*; and co-edited a book *Building a Nation in Papua New Guinea: Views of the Post-Independence Generation* (Pandanus Press, 2003).

#### **Luke HAMBLY | BA (Hons, Anthropology, ANU), MA (ANU)**

Luke Hambly has been CDI's Executive Officer since 2005. Previous to this, he worked within the discipline of Anthropology at the ANU, including 2 years as research assistant to the Anthropology Department in the Research School of Pacific & Asian Studies (RSPAS).

In 2004 Luke completed a post graduate degree at the ANU, being awarded a Masters in Applied Anthropology and Participatory Development. Luke was employed at AusAID between 1998 and 2000 working in a variety of areas within the agency, including the PNG branch, where in 2000 he was given the opportunity to work





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for 3 months with the Bougainville Peace Monitoring Group as a civilian monitor on the island of Buka. In 1999 he also spent 3 months in Alice Springs working with the NT Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority assisting in the registration of sacred sites within the Northern Territory of Australia.

Luke co-edited the CDI volume *Political Parties in the Pacific Islands* (Pandanus Books, 2006)