Parliament staff encouraged to uphold values

PARLIAMENT staff members have been urged to uphold the highest ethical values in carrying out their day to day duties.

The call came from Les Gonye, Clerk Assistant Committee, Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of New South Wales at the 2nd Annual CDI Professional Development Course for Parliamentary Officers from Melanesia at Parliament House yesterday.

Over 50 participants from PNG Parliamentary Services, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu are attending the four-day workshop facilitated by the Centre for Democratic Institutions in partnership with PNG National Parliament Service.

A facilitator for the workshop, Mr Gonye touched on the issue of code principles of parliamentary work and said staff should employ the highest standard of ethical values which included impartiality, respect and accountability.

He urged staff to put aside their personal interest to serve the leaders.

On accountability, Mr Gonye said very big expenditure must be put on tender and to be accountable from big appropriations to small items like travel agents.

He said NSW also had corruption but that was minimal with set systems in place.

Deputy Parliament Clerk Simon Ila said the aim of the workshop was to prepare staff in the various areas of their present employment and give them the relevant experience which would be used as a tool to apply resources on achieving certain goals, beginning with research and analysis, writing, planning and budgeting and understanding parliamentary practice.

The workshop will end on Friday.