

NATIONAL PARLIAMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS

NINTH PARLIAMENT - FIRST SESSION - FOURTH MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday 27 March 2013

NP/05/1/11

The Speaker took the Chair at 9:50 am.

Prayers were said by the Clerk.

The following Members were:

Present: Hon. Peter Shanel Agovaka
Hon. Horst Heinz Bodo Dettke
Hon. Douglas Ete
Hon. Jackson Fiulaua
Hon. John Moffat Fugui
Hon. Moses Garu
Hon. Alfred Ghiro
Hon. Seth Gukuna
Hon. Dick Ha'amori
Hon. Johnley T. Hatimoana
Hon. Rick Houenipwela
Hon. Shemuel Sam Iduri
Hon. Martin Kealoe
Hon. Christopher Laore
Hon. Gordon Darcy Lilo
Hon. Alex Lionai
Hon. Varian Loñamei
Hon. Vika Lusibaea
Hon. Martin T. Magga
Hon. John Maneniaru
Hon. Andrew Manepora'a
Hon. Samuel Manetoali
Hon. Commings Aston Mewa
Hon. Elijah Doro Muala
Hon. Joseph Onika
Hon. David Day Pacha
Hon. Dickson Mua Panakitasi
Hon. Danny Philip
Hon. Selwyn Riumana
Hon. Connelly M. Sandakabatu
Hon. Charles Sigoto
Hon. Dr Derek Sikua

Hon. Clay Forau Soalaoi
Hon. Stanley Festus Sofu
Hon. Manasseh D. Sogavare
Hon. Martin Sopage
Hon. Hypolite Taremae
Hon. Silas Kerry Vaqara Tausinga
Hon. Peter Tom
Hon. David Tome
Hon. James Tora
Hon. Bradley Tovosia
Hon. Milner Tozaka
Hon. Namson Tran
Hon. Matthew Cooper Wale

Absent: Hon. Steve W. Abana
Hon. Walter Folotalu
Hon. Manasseh Maelanga
Hon. Snyder Rini
Hon. Job Dudley Tausinga

In-Attendance: Mr. Billy Titiulu, *Attorney-General*

PRESENTATION OF PETITION

The Member for Aoke/Langalanga presented a petition regarding the 'Constituency Development Funds Bill 2013' which was signed by 602 individuals.

The member for Aoke/Langalanga requested that the petition be referred to a special select committee.

By head count, the number of members who rose in their place did not meet the prerequisite of Standing Order 16(6). Only 10 members rose and the member for Temotu Pele due to his special condition raised his hand.

The 10 members who rose include:

1. Hon. Milner Tozaka
2. Hon. Matthew Wale
3. Hon. Johnley Hatimoana
4. Hon. Dr. Derek Sikua
5. Hon. Manasseh Sogavare
6. Hon. Peter Shanel Agovaka
7. Hon. John Maneniaru
8. Hon. Douglas Ete
9. Hon. Heinz Bodo Dettke
10. Hon. Andrew Manepora'a and
11. Hon. Martin Magga raised his hand

The petition therefore was not referred to a special select committee.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND OF REPORTS

By Sir Allan Kemakeza, Speaker of National Parliament:

“National Parliament of Solomon Islands Strategy Annual Report 2012” (*National Parliament Paper No.4 of 2013*)

ASKING AND ANSWERING OF QUESTIONS

Question No.13 - Release of Education and Health Funds from NBSI Sale

Hon. Dr. Derek Sikua (Leader of Opposition and MP for North East Guadalcanal) asked the Minister of Finance and Treasury a question relating to when the holders of the Education and Health Funds from the sale of NBSI will release the funds to members for the purposes intended, what the current total amount in each of the Funds, what the total amount of interest in each of the Funds, who benefits from the interest and what percentage of the interest are the holders benefitting from and how much is this so far.

The Minister of Finance and Treasury, Hon. Rick Houenipwela answered the question.

Supplementary questions were asked by:

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| Hon. Matthew Wale | - | MP for Aoke/Langalanga |
| Hon. Douglas Ete | - | Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee and MP for East Honiara |
| Hon. Manasseh Sogavare | - | Chairman of the Bills and Legislation Committee and MP for East Choiseul |

Supplementary questions were answered by:

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Hon. Rick Houenipwela | - | Minister for Finance and Treasury and MP for Small Malaita |
| Hon. Gordon Darcy Lilo | - | Prime Minister and MP for Gizo/Kolombangara |
| Mr. Billy Titiulu | - | Attorney-General |

Hon. Dr. Derek Sikua thanked the Ministers for answering the questions.

Question No.15 - RAMSI Exit

Hon. Dr. Derek Sikua (Leader of Opposition and MP for North East Guadalcanal) asked the Minister of Police, National Security and Correctional Services a question relating to the reasons for RAMSI's withdrawal from Solomon Islands in mid 2013.

The Member informed the house that he agreed with the Prime Minister and Minister of Police, National Security and Correctional Services to postpone the question until the next sitting day.

Question was therefore postponed until the next sitting day.

Parliament suspended at 11:08am for 15 minutes.

Parliament resumed at 11:38am.

BILLS

Bills – Second Reading

‘Constituency Development Funds Bill 2013’

Debate on the Second Reading of the ‘Constituency Development Funds Bill 2013’ continued and the following members contributed:

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|-------------------|---|---|
| Hon. Matthew Wale | - | MP for Aoke/Langalanga |
| Hon. Douglas Ete | - | Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee and MP for East Honiara |

Parliament suspended at 12:45pm until 2:30pm.

Parliament resumed at 2:51pm.

Debate on the Second Reading of the ‘Constituency Development Funds Bill 2013’ continued and the following members contributed:

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|---------------------------|---|--|
| Hon. Andrew Manepora’a | - | MP for East Are’are |
| Hon. Stanley Sofu | - | Minister of Public Service and MP for East Kwaio |
| Hon. Dick Ha’amori | - | Minister of Education and Human Resources Development and MP for West Makira |
| Hon. Milner Tozaka | - | Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee and MP for North Vella La Vella |
| Hon. Connelly Sandakabatu | - | Minister of Development Planning and Aid Coordination and MP North West Choiseul |
| Hon. James Tora | - | Chairman of the Parliamentary House Committee and MP for Ulawa/Ugi |
| Hon. Samuel Manetoali | - | Minister of Culture and Tourism and MP for Gao/Bugotu |

At 4:30pm, the Prime Minister moved that “*Standing Order 10 be suspended in accordance with Standing Order 81 to permit the continuation of the Second Reading debate of the ‘Constituency Development Funds Bill 2013’ until adjourned by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 10 (5)*”.

Question put and passed.

Debate on the Second Reading of the ‘Constituency Development Funds Bill 2013’ continued and the following members contributed:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Hon. Rick Houenipwela | - Minister of Finance and Treasury and MP for Small Malaita |
| Hon. Dr. Derek Sikua | - Leader of the Opposition and MP for North East Guadalcanal |
| Hon. Gordon Darcy Lilo | - Prime Minister and MP for Gizo/Kolombangara |

The Minister for Rural Development, Hon. Alex Lionel delivered his speech in reply.

Question *“That the ‘Constituency Development Funds Bill 2013’ be now read a second time”* put and passed.

Bill committed to Committee of the Whole House.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker adjourned Parliament in accordance with earlier resolution of the House and pursuant to *Standing Order* 10(5) at 7:00 pm until 9:30am on Thursday 28 March 2013.

Confirmed.

Sir Allan Kemakeza, KBE
Speaker of National Parliament

27 March 2013