



The Solomon Islands Minister of Finance and Treasury and Member of Parliament for Small Malaita Constituency, Hon. Ricky Houenipwela MP visited the Melanesian Spearhead Group Secretariat in Port Vila on the 14th June 2012.

During the visit the Minister of Finance met with the Director General, Directors and staff of the Secretariat. At the meeting, the Minister was able to get a briefing from the Management about the work priorities and activities of the Melanesian Spearhead Group Secretariat.

Minister Houenipwela during the meeting said that he was most impressed with the work of the Secretariat and expressed his desire to know about the priorities the Secretariat is working on in relation to economics and public finance as well as trade. The Secretariat provided written briefs for the Minister on these and pledged to continue to update him as well as the Solomon Islands Government on relevant developments.

“I did not know much about the work of the Secretariat but I am impressed with your work having learnt from the briefings and the meeting I had with the MSG Secretariat management and staff,” SI Minister for Finance and Treasury Hon. Houenipwela said.

Director General of the MSG Secretariat Mr. Peter Forau on behalf of the management and staff said he was honored to receive the Minister being a first Finance Minister from an MSG member to visit the Secretariat. He confirmed that officials of the Secretariat would be visiting Honiara Solomon Islands to have further meetings with the Minister and his officials.

The MSG Secretariat was pleased to hear from the Minister that he will endeavor to facilitate the payment of Solomon Islands contribution to the MSG Secretariat when he returns to Honiara.

The Solomon Islands Minister for Finance and Treasury visited the Secretariat while attending the ACP Ministerial Council Meeting and the ACP/EU Joint Ministerial Council Meeting held in Port Vila from 11 to 16 June 2012. Minister Houenipwela also took the opportunity to meet with the Solomon Islands students at USP during this period. He was accompanied by Mr Cornelius Walegere, Assistant Secretary of the Europe & International Economic Cooperation Branch of

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & External Trade, Mr Daniel Rove and Mrs Rose Tungale Kitua of the Ministry of Development and Planning Aid Coordination of the Government of the Solomon Islands.

***MSG Secretariat  
Port Vila  
Republic of Vanuatu  
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