

MSG Foreign Ministers Meeting

The Foreign Ministers Meeting on the MSG Secretariat's 2014 Work Program was officially opened by Mr Yvon Faua of the Front De Liberation Nationale Kanak et Socialiste (FLNKS) on Friday 13 December at the MSG headquarters in Port Vila, Republic of Vanuatu.

Mr Faua welcomed the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of External Trade, Hon Edward Natapei Nipake of the Republic of Vanuatu; Ratu Inoke Kubuabola, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Fiji, H.E Patteson Oti, High Commissioner of the Solomon Islands to Fiji and Vanuatu who is deputizing on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and External Trade of Solomon Islands and Mr. Sakias Tameo Director General of the Department of Foreign Affairs Bilateral Division who is deputizing for the Minister of Foreign Affairs & Immigration of Papua New Guinea.

In welcoming the members, Mr Faua requested a minute silence in honour of late Jean Sese, a former Chair of the MSG Senior Officials Meeting and long-serving esteem representative of the Republic of the Vanuatu to MSG meetings for many years.

Mr Faua during his opening remarks thanked Ministers for their time and commitment in

attending the annual work program and budget meeting for the MSG Secretariat.

He noted that this year has been a very busy year for the MSG Calendar commencing with the Silver Jubilee Celebration in all MSG capitals which culminated in the FLNKS hosting Melanesia Week in New Caledonia, during the 19th MSG Leader's Summit in Kanaky New Caledonia. Mr Faua on behalf of the FLNKS said that the FLNKS Political Bureau was very privileged to host for the 2nd time in the life of its membership to the MSG the important meeting for the MSG Leaders. He said hosting the Melanesia Week in Kanaky New Caledonia created so much awareness of the MSG among the people of New Caledonia and thanked all members for their continued support to the people of Kanaky and their political aspirations.

Mr Faua also thanked members for facilitating the very successful Eminent Persons Group that lead to the realization of the EPG Report and the MSG 2038- Prosperity for All Plan. He urged members to support and consider the strategy before it is presented to Leaders for their endorsement in 2014.

The Representative of the FLNKS also called on Ministers to consider two main reports to be presented to the Foreign Ministers namely the progress report presented by the MSG High Level Representative, Ambassador Kaliopate Tavola and the report by the Senior Officials Meeting Chair, Mr Mickael Forrest on the outcomes of the Senior Officials Meeting.

Authorized By Mr Yvon Faua representing FMM Chairlady

MSG Secretariat Port Vila Vanuatu