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MEDIA RELEASE

MSG 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

March 11, 2013: Fiji will this year celebrate the Melanesia Week from March 18- 22 2013.

The celebrations will commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Melanesian Spearhead Group since its establishment in 1988. The theme for the anniversary celebration is "25 years of Melanesian Solidarity and Growth" which denotes the initials of MSG.

This follows the Official Launching of the anniversary celebration in Port Vila, Vanuatu on January and which will be followed by national celebrations in MSG capitals. The culmination of the Silver Jubilee celebrations will be held in June 2013 to coincide with the 19<sup>th</sup> MSG Leaders Summit in Noumea, Caledonia.

To mark this significant event, Grand Chief Sir Michael Somare a pioneer and founder of the Melanesian Spearhead Group would be the Chief Guest at a three - day event to be convened at the University of the South Pacific Laucaia Campus.

The planned activities would include Cultural performances by the USP students, public lectures, debates, Melanesia art& craft exhibition, traditional sport, documentaries on Melanesia and a Fashion Parade to showcase Melanesia fabric and style.

The second phase of the celebrations will be held over two days from 21-22 March at the Police Academy in Nasova and will feature displays of Fiji made products, food stalls and live displays by the Fiji Police Band.

Citizens of Fiji and the general public are requested to join in these celebrations and to support MSG achievements and Fiji's leadership at the helm of the Melanesia Spearhead Group's Chairman, Fiji's Prime Minister Commodore Voreqe Bainirarama.

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