



"LEX EST TUTISSIMA CASSIS"

THE FIJI LAW SOCIETY

ESTABLISHMENT:

The Fiji Law Society is established pursuant to Section 12 of the Legal Practitioners Act of 1997 and shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seal.

OBJECTIVES:

The main objectives of the Society are described under Section 12 of the Act as follows:

- Maintain and improve the standards of conduct and learning of the legal profession in Fiji
- Promote the welfare and preserve the integrity and status of the legal profession in Fiji
- Assist the Government and Courts in all matters affecting legislation, law reform, administration and the practice of law in Fiji
- Aid and give countenance to law reform and represent the views, interests and wishes of the legal profession
- Protect and assist the public and the legal profession in all matters relating to the practice of law
- Investigate charges of professional misconduct against any practitioner and take action as appropriate
- Facilitate or intervene in any application for admission as a barrister and solicitor or any other application made under the Act
- Provide advice to the Chief Justice as regards his powers and duties under the provisions of the Act

MISSION:

To promote and maintain the integrity of the legal profession by providing honest and effective services to members and the community.

VISION:

Fiji Law Society is a valued institution committed to the rule of law and advancing the legal profession through best practices.

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

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1. As we come to the end of another Law Society term I take this time to reflect on the year that has gone. The events of 5th December 2006 posed major challenges for the Fiji Law Society. In September 2006 upon being elected, I was determined to bring about massive changes which I thought would provide a great deal of benefit to our legal profession and in particular the younger members of the profession. Unfortunately, we got derailed by the events of 5th

December 2006 and the consequence of that was that we were unable to complete all of the reforms that were in my mind at the start of my presidency. I know it has been tough for most of us with the down turn in the economy. However, keep your chin up, things can only get better.

2. Looking back at the year, however, I must say that we achieved quite a lot of things. In summary, the Council:

[a]. Brought in a new style of leadership where members were constantly in touch with me and my views

through newsletters.

[b]. Highlighted the needs of legal practitioners with the various Court Registries.

[c]. Set up the website.

[d]. Provided an affordable Convention at a first rate venue.

[e]. Established good contacts with large sponsors this year and I am hopeful that they will continue to support the Society in the following years.

[f]. Obtained an increase in funding from the Contribution Fund. We are leaving the Law Society with substantial funds and have put aside \$311,873.00 towards the purchase of a property.

[g]. Wanted research facilities to be made readily available to all members and this is why you will see that most of our links are to research websites.

[h]. Wanted to create a mentor group of Senior lawyers and I believe that we took the first step by the vesting of new life memberships.

[i]. Wanted to set up office facilities for visiting members to use at the Secretariat and that has also been achieved.

[j]. Wanted to reward outstanding legal practitioners and this was done through the Awards.

[k]. Has created closer ties and links with South Pacific Island law societies.

[l]. Protected young graduates by pushing for their employment opportunities.

[m]. Put together interesting CLE Programmes.

[n]. Got the Cause List on email.

[o]. Recognised young achievers and gave them more responsibility at large functions such as the Convention, SGM, representation of Law Society in public events.

[p]. Hosted an Early Solstice party for Suva, Lautoka and Labasa.

[q]. Fulfilled our ceremonial functions like hosting young admittees to post admission morning teas, hosting Judges farewells, welcoming judges.

[r]. Encouraged the setting up of Arbitration and Mediation as a form of dispute resolution.

[s]. Designed Sports Coat for FLS for men and women.

[t]. Sent out regular FLS Newsletters.

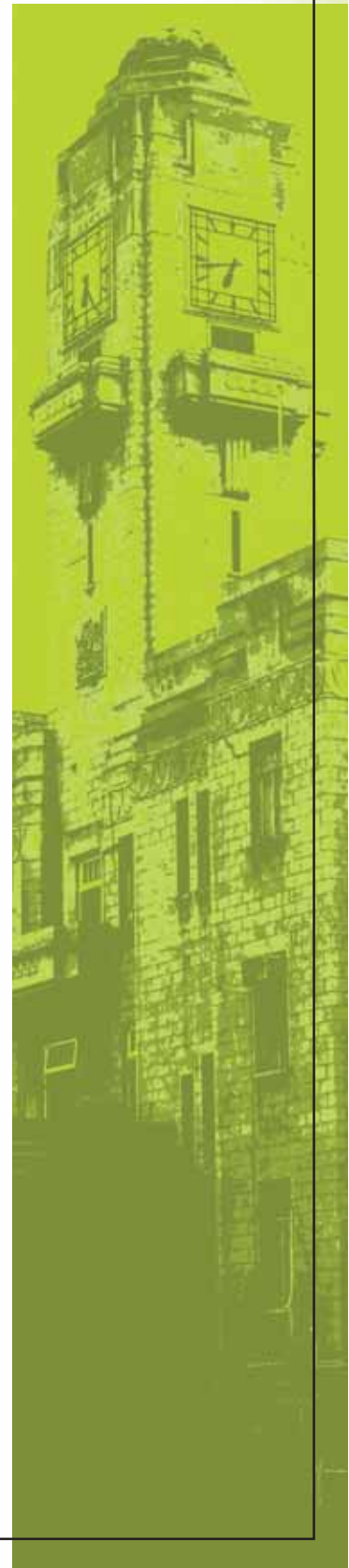
[u]. Formulated and implemented strong policies on Trust Account breaches and making representations to Chartered Accountant Firms who were only producing one page Audit Reports.



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- [v]. Made balanced representations to various international organisations who visited Fiji on fact finding missions i.e Lawasia, UN, EEU.
- [w]. Actively participated and encouraged sports and social pursuits by members in Quizzes, Cricket, Soccer and Golf.
- [x]. Encouraged members to pursue an active and healthy lifestyle
3. It is not easy to constantly be in the spotlight with the paparazzi always on your tail but I believe that we have managed that to the best of our abilities. In the course of the last eleven months I have had to give 77 speeches or talks and attend numerous meetings where the Law Societies views were sought. One day I may publish these speeches because they reflect my inner thoughts and shows the passion that the Council had for issues we thought were dear to us. As President I can safely say that at least 60% of my work day was spent on Law Society matters. A large part of any ordinary day was spent on mundane bread and butter issues, like attending to correspondence, meeting with people, giving speeches, speaking at prize giving's and school functions, dealing with daily issues relating to the Secretariat.
4. We have also been embroiled in our fair share of controversies with some of the decisions we have made. We are currently involved in litigation relating to constitutional issues, litigation by members suing the Society for decisions we made with respect to Practising Certificates and dealing with threats of rival societies being formed. In hindsight, I would have done some things very differently but once decisions are made then one must show true leadership and take the knocks on the chin. However, this does not prevent me from saying sorry to anyone I might have hurt along the way.
5. We have steadfastly stood up for the Rule of Law. As President, I have never lost sight of the fact that I represented the Society as a whole. In the SGM we were told to keep a low media profile, be non political and seek dialogue. The Society is made up of differing views in light of the recent events in Fiji. The views of all members are important. The question was how to best present the Law Society in a dignified but firm manner. I chose to be polite, always suitably attired, soft spoken and careful about what I said because that is my personal style and because I felt that this style best represented the dignity of the legal profession. I personally feel that the last twelve months was also a time to protect and preserve the legal profession bearing in mind that our functions are regulated by legislation. What would be the strength of having a legal profession if we were to lose our statutory functions. I know that this philosophy differed from others who wanted me to be more confrontational and outspoken. Others think that my style was too soft. Well, everyone is entitled to their own views.
6. I must thank my Council members who stood by me during the good times as well as the rough times. I think that it is unfortunate that some people got the impression that we had a split Council. What we had was a very committed Council which engaged in rigorous debates on issues but we came up with united resolutions at the end of the day. I see that my trusted friend and treasurer Neel Shivam has not stood this year for Council and I think this is a big loss to the Society. I would like to wish him well for the future.
7. There are many things I had planned which I could not achieve during my tenure and these were to:
- [a]. Push for an Independent Body to deal with disciplinary matters and to complete a higher number of prosecutions
- [b]. Reform the Legal Practitioner's Act 1997
- [c]. Bring all legal practitioners under the Law Society [including our friends and colleagues from the DPP]
- [d]. Set up a Bar Association
- [e]. Issue membership cards for members
- [f]. Set up video linking facilities at the FLS
- [g]. Create Senior Counsels
- [h]. Buy a Law Society building
- [i]. Create Lawcare – a mentor body
- [j]. Obtain Professional Indemnity Insurance at affordable rates
- [k]. Send young practitioners to Bar Leaders Courses overseas
8. I hope that the incoming Council will continue with my vision and achieve some of these bread and butter issues that daily affect legal practitioners.
9. There are still some exciting things in the pipeline. We hope to purchase sets of wigs and gowns for hire. We are also asking for quotes to improve the toilets at Lautoka High Court. I am sure we will also seek to do the same in Suva and Labasa. It would be nice if the Government allocates Counsels Rooms in all Court facilities around Fiji.
10. We have set aside enough funds to now purchase a property for the Society. For many years we have talked about buying a property but have never been able to achieve this aim. I believe that we are now ready. We saw a couple of good properties this year but things didn't work out. I am really excited about the fact that this will happen very soon.
11. Last year at the AGM we discussed the issue relating to the qualification in our accounts about the VAT



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issue. Having talked to our Accountants they are making representations to the FIRCA Commissioner to resolve the matter. We feel that the matter should be treated as a contingent liability. The FLS is not registered for VAT. We hope that this matter will be resolved shortly.

12. One thing that I would like to encourage is showing of respect for the senior members of the profession. When I started my legal practice we had this unwritten code of showing utmost respect for senior members of the legal profession. Young members would offer their seats in Court to Senior Counsel and even ask that their cases be stood down whilst a Senior Counsel was in Court. We would address senior members with respect and in most cases that respect was accorded back to us. I would dearly love to see this practice being fully revived. Our profession is steeped in tradition and dignity and we should not lose sight of this fact.
13. I believe that there has to be a healthy relationship between the Bar and Bench. I would like to thank the hard working members of the judiciary who have continued to work and function in the face of some very trying times. I look forward to the day when every judge or magistrate has his or her own chambers and courtroom, full research facilities, a designated transcriber, and research assistants to help them with their work. I also look forward to the day when the jurisdiction of the Magistrates Court is increased and much needed reforms are put into place. This is also an opportune point for me to thank Justice Gerard Winter who graciously accepted our invitation to be the after dinner speaker at the FLS Convention. We just couldn't have asked for a better person to do the job.
14. I hope that some of my zany little health tips have worked for you. I also hope that some of you are now writing poetry and getting a life outside the law. I see that our Soccer Team is doing well. The Cricket Team under Doc Tuloma's captaincy won a big game against Defence Club and the Young Lawyers Quizzes were always a huge success. I cannot forget the wonderful batting and bowling of my dear friend Akuila Naco or young Diven Prasad's googlies and Wylie Clarke's speed bowling. I am also hoping that Nilesh Prasad and Nilesh Lajendra are promoted up the batting order next year. Our golf team under the leadership of Feizal Hanif did really well as well.
15. I would also like to remember all those legal practitioners who passed away.
16. The biggest thrill in my one year has been the sense of fulfillment of giving back to a profession to which I owe so much. I love the legal profession and I will do all in my power to protect and cherish it.
17. I must also thank the Secretariat for their hard work and dedication and in particular the biggest thank you is to Afrana Nisha, my pillar of rock. Afrana, you are the best. Keep up the good work and thank

you for being there at all times.

18. As a President, I quickly realized that I would never please everyone. What I quickly learned in the job was that as long as I acted in good faith and with total honesty I could live with the decisions that I made. When I went to the JSC meeting on 15th January 2007 what was foremost on my mind was to attend to urgent pending matters such as the renewal of the tenure of Court of Appeal judges and the recall of members of the judiciary who I felt had been unfairly sent on leave. I was greatly relieved when the JSC was able to get the Chief Magistrate recalled to office. The issue relating to the Chief Justice was taken out of my hands once he was suspended before the first JSC Meeting post 15th January 2007. My honest belief was that we could have resolved all issues relating to the judiciary [including the recall of the Chief Magistrate and the Chief Justice] by giving control of the judiciary back to the judiciary. I have since kept my silence even whilst under severe attack for my decision to attend the 15th January 2007 meeting. I am now particularly interested in the outcome of the decision on the legal issues pertaining to the Judicial Review.
19. I take this opportunity to wish my successor and the new Council great success. I leave the Council with a very healthy bank balance and I hope you will take the Law Society to greater heights in the coming twelve months.



Devanesh P. Sharma
President

".. There shall be a Council consisting of a President, a Vice president and six other persons, all of whom shall be members of the Society and elected annually by the members of the Society.."

- Section 19 of the Legal Practitioners Act 1997



Mr. Devanesh Sharma
President



Ms. Tupou Draunidalo
Vice-President



Mr. Neel Shivam
Treasurer



Ms. Laurel Vaurasi
Treasurer



Mr. Isireli Fa
Council Member



Ms. Shayne Sorby
Council Member



Mr. Luke Daunivalu
Council Member



Mr. Robinson Prasad
Council Member



THE COUNCIL

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2006-2007 COUNCIL

".... The Council shall during the month of September in every year convene a general meeting of the Secretary."

The Council of the Fiji Law Society comprises of eight members who are elected by the members and hold office for 12 months. Elections are held annually in the month of September and conducted by secret ballot.

The present Council was elected at the Society's Annual General Meeting which was held on the 9th September 2006 at Warwick Hotel on the Coral Coast, Fiji. The election results were as follows;

President	Mr. Devanesh Sharma
Vice-President	Ms. Tupou Draunidalo
Council Members	Mr. Isireli Fa Mr. Luke Daunivalu Mr. Robinson Prasad Ms. Shayne Sorby Mr. Neel Shivam Ms. Laurel Vaurasi

The Council of the Fiji Law Society convenes its meetings once a month at the Fiji Law Society Secretariat. During its tenure of office, the Council met on 11 occasions to discuss issues concerning the Society, formulated policy decisions on membership, considered complaints by the public against lawyer's and disciplinary matters, admissions to the High Court, professional developments and other related matters.

Meeting attendance;

Tabulated below is the attendance record of each Council Member during the term.

Council members	Sept 06	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 07	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Devanesh Sharma	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tupou Draunidalo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Neel Shivam	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	■	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	■
Isireli Fa	✓	✓	✓	■	■	■	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robinson Prasad	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Luke Daunivalu	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	■	✓	✓
Laurel Vaurasi	✓	■	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shayne Sorby	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Key: ■ month did not attend meeting; ✓ in attendance

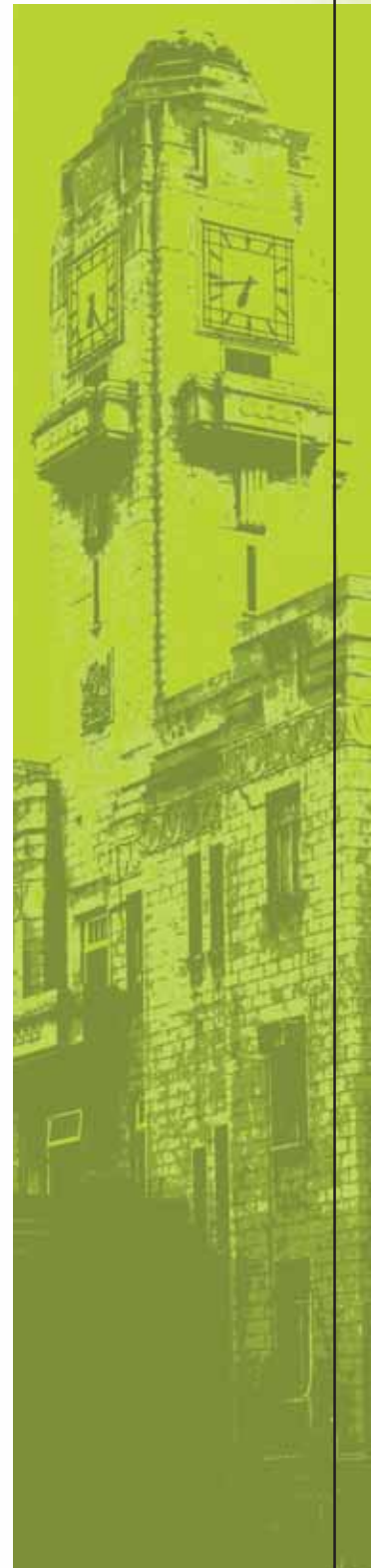
SOUTH PACIFIC LAW FORUM

PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON THE SOUTH PACIFIC LAW FORUM

- 1.0 Ms Tupou Draunidalo, Mr Isireli Fa and I represented the Fiji Law Society at the South Pacific Forum funded by AusAid and organised by the Law Council of Australia. The Forum was designed to bring delegates and representatives eleven South Pacific Island nations to discuss issues affecting the legal profession in the Australia Pacific region. The intention was for the Delegates to study the various Law Societies and Bar Associations in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra and Brisbane, attend the Rule of Law Conference in Brisbane and then attend the most important event on the agenda, a Roundtable meeting between all South Pacific Island delegates on Sunday 2nd September 2007.
- 2.0 The initiative represented a wonderful opportunity for bar leaders, government officials and practitioners from South Pacific to foster and strengthen links between one another and their counterparts in Australia and New Zealand. The idea was that interaction with representatives from Australia's leading legal professional bodies would provide forum participants with the extra skills and support required to improve the governance and organization of the legal profession.
- 3.0 Mr Fa and I arrived in Sydney on Monday 27th August 2007 and represented Fiji at the welcome dinner and keynote address delivered by Mr Tim Bugg.
- 4.0 On 28th August 2007 the delegation visited the Law Society of New South Wales where they were given information and details about the Law Society, its infrastructure and its functions. The Delegation then went to visit the land and

Environment Court where they held discussions with Judge Nicola Pain. I was asked to give the vote of thanks to Judge Pain on behalf of the delegation. In the afternoon the delegation visited the National Native Tribunal where they were briefed by senior members of the Tribunal about the infrastructure of the tribunal and the six notable cases relating to aboriginal land claims stemming from the Mabo decision. An eminent barrister gave an account of the Mabo case. Ms Draunidalo joined the Delegation at this point. The Delegation then flew to Canberra on Tuesday afternoon.

- 5.0 On 29th August 2007 the Delegation visited the Law Society of ACT. The President of the Law Society gave a vivid account of the infrastructure of the Law Society, the Bar Association and the recent trend towards corporatisation by some law firms. Law firms now have the statutory basis to become companies in Australia. The Delegation was also shown how disciplinary cases are dealt with by a special section of the Law Society that is designed to investigate such cases. At mid morning the Delegation visited a Canberra law firm and were given a presentation on the systems that the firm used to create and track documents within their system. The system was highly computerized and the firm had its own IT and Marketing Division. The firm also allowed the Delegation to inspect its library where the Delegation was shown the computerised bar coding system. Mr Fa, with his extensive knowledge about computerisation asked very pertinent and relevant questions which proved to be beneficial to all members of the Delegation. After lunch the Delegation visited the Parliament and was given a tour of the complex. At 3.00pm the Delegation visited the Law Council of Australia where the Council made a



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presentation of how the Council functions within Australia. The Delegation was informed that as at 2002 there were some 50,000 lawyers in Australia, comprising of 7,566 solicitor practices, 3,670 barrister practices, 41 patent attorney businesses, 18 government solicitor/prosecutor organizations, 8 legal aid authorities and 191 community legal centres. Roughly this equated to one lawyer for every 550 Australians. All up there were 93,753 people employed by the 11,494 legal practices in Australia. Solicitor Practices with one partner/proprietor accounted for 69.2% of practices in Australia. The Law Council of Australia is like a parent body of which law societies and bar associations including a large corporatised law firm are members. The Law Council is a strong lobby group and also leads the way in ensuring that there is uniformity of legal practice within Australia. The Law Council also provided the delegation with a hard copy of a Code of Conduct for legal practitioners. In due course it is hoped that the said Code of Conduct will also be adopted by the Fiji Law Society as it encompasses current issues being faced by members of the legal profession in Fiji. At 4.00 pm the delegation visited the Australian Government Solicitors [AGS] offices and were given an in depth review about the types of services that the AGS provides. The AGS has specific areas of legal expertise [policy, litigation etc] and is bound to provide legal services to the Federal Government in some areas [defence, energy] whilst it is also able to compete for work with other law firms in other areas. A lot of legal work is tendered out by Government and Government Departments thereby giving an equal opportunity for law firms to apply. To put the AG's role into perspective, its annual turnover last year was close to \$111,000,000.00. The Delegation engaged in an interesting discussion on conflict of interest at this meeting.

6.0 The Delegation then flew to Melbourne on 30th August 2007. The Delegation visited the Victorian Bar and were given a presentation by Justice Geoffrey Eames QC on Advocacy and Advocacy Training. Many members of the PNG Bar have attended the Bar Leaders Course facilitated by the Victorian Bar. It would be an

opportunity for legal practitioners from Fiji to attend this course in the future. The Delegation also heard from Pam Morton on Ethics and Julie McCormack on Continuing Professional Development. In most law societies within Australia CLE Programmes are designed by a special unit within the Law Society. The Victorian Bar Association is very well organized and owns substantial assets. There is a wonderful Barristers Club called the Essoign Club within the Victorian Bar Building. Here, the Barristers can meet, relax and discuss matters between themselves and also have the benefit of wonderful cuisine. The Delegation also visited the Supreme Court of Victoria and toured the Library, the Banco Court and the old Dungeon Cells. In the Supreme Court Library we came across the original diary note of the Clerk of the Court in Ned Kelly's trial in 1888. The Delegation also met the Chief Justice of Victoria. To put matters into perspective, some of the Law Societies and Bar Associations in Australia employ over 100 persons. The Fiji Law Society employs three persons. After visiting the Victorian Bar the Delegation flew the same afternoon to Brisbane.

7.0 From Friday 31st August 2007 to Saturday 1st September 2007 the Delegation attended a Conference on the Rule of Law held at the Banco Court – Supreme Court Building in Queensland. The Delegation heard some of the most powerful speakers in the South Pacific including Justice Brennan, the Chief Justice of Queensland Hon. Paul de Jersey AC, Hon Wayne Martin Chief Justice of Supreme Court Western Australia, Hon. James Spigelman AC Chief Justice of NSW, Damien Bugg, Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. Nicholas Cowdrey NSW Director of Public Prosecutions, Ms Karen Mathis, Immediate Past President of the American Bar Association and Ms Megan Mahon President of the Queensland Law Society. I was accorded the honour of being a member of the Panel Discussions on Saturday afternoon and spoke to the conference at large.

8.0 On Sunday 2nd September 2007 we had to attend and participate in the South Pacific Delegates Roundtable. This was supposed to be the most important aspect

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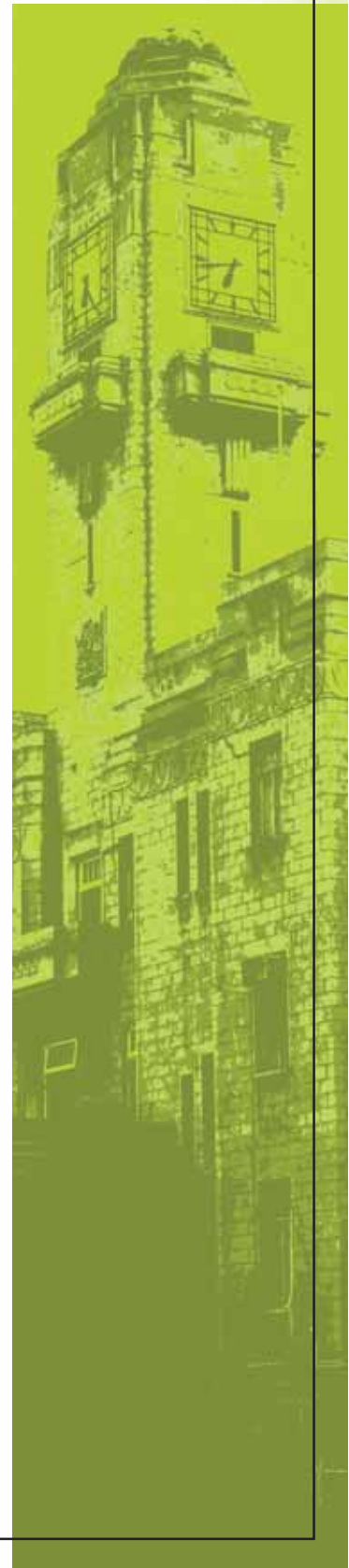
of our trip. The Roundtable was designed to get a country report from the delegates, get views on the Conference and formulate a way forward to set up a South Pacific Bar Secretariat. Mr Fa and I represented Fiji. The Delegation resolved that the South Pacific Secretariat was a good idea and a steering Committee made up of Australia, NZ, PNG and Fiji with two others would put together a working paper on how the Secretariat can function. The good thing to have come out of this Roundtable was that it established Fiji's position as a premier player within the South Pacific. Mr Fa's strong contribution during the discussions was one of the highlights of the Roundtable. The results of the Forum will hopefully now lead to the creation of the South Pacific Bar Secretariat being established which body will work towards providing a unified voice for lawyers within the Pacific region. The Law Council then presented a draft South Pacific Bar Secretariat website.

- 9.0 On Monday 3rd September 2007 the Delegation visited the Queensland Law Society and the Legal Aid Commission. The Fiji Legal Practitioners Act 1997 appears to have been modeled on the Queensland Act. However, Queensland Law Society has some 7,000 members and the legislation has evolved to bring the practice of law into the twenty first century. The resources that the Queensland Law Society has are vast. But what struck the Delegation was the desire and commitment by the Society to give great service to lawyers and the community, to constantly improve their services and to come up with innovative new ideas. The disciplinary procedures have moved away from Fiji's practice in that there is an independent Legal Services Commission

["LSC"] which receives and investigates complaints. The Legal Services Commission is State funded. The LSC investigates matters and those which it feels should be taken further are sent to the Law Society Disciplinary Body for comment. The Law Society informs the LSC whether charges ought to be laid against the legal practitioner. The system is independent, transparent and there are checks and balances and resources which make the system highly effective. CLE's are designed by another Division within the Law Society. CLE's are also a way to generate income for the Society. The Society owns its own insurance company [assets worth around \$88 million], and provides Law Care whereby lawyers are able to get counseling, legal advice and discuss issues that is causing them stress.

OBSERVATIONS

- 10.0 Overall, I was very impressed with the Forum and the Law Societies and Bar Associations of Australia. I was also able to see first hand the benefits of a split profession i.e. Solicitors and Barristers. There are vast resources in the hands of the Law Societies and these resources are utilized to their maximum potential and are managed in such a way to enhance the value of the resources. Since the law Societies are so powerful as a body they are able to negotiate very good deals and packages for their members by way of bulk buying in terms of stationery, IT equipment, etc. We can only learn from Australia. However, the visit has also made me painfully aware of reasons for the shortcomings of our Law Society. In Australia a substantial amount of power and responsibility is given to the Secretariat which is managed by full time employees. The Council is in reality a policy body. Our Law Society is under resourced and is managed by three persons [including an extremely hard working Secretary] and a Council of 8 lawyers. One can hardly call the Council a full time body. The Council only meets once a month. The Secretariat is supposed to fully implement all the Society's statutory functions such as Administration of the Secretariat, Regulate Practising Certificates, Regulate and protect the integrity of the legal profession, regulate Disciplinary Complaints, Procedures and Prosecutions,



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organise and Present CLE's, organise Conventions, act as a counselor for Legal Practitioners, make and implement Policies on behalf of the Law Society, administer and regulate the functions set out under the Trust Account Act 1997 etc. Legal Practitioners must understand that the resources we have are severely limited but we must have the desire and the will to adhere to and develop safe and honest practices, live within our means and do everything possible to uplift the integrity, image and profile of the legal profession. Rather than relying on the Secretariat or the Council the onus is on the legal practitioners to take the initiative to maintain and adhere to the requirements of the Legal Practitioner's Act 1997 and the Trust Accounts Act. It is obvious though that reform is needed to the Legal Practitioner's Act 1997 to bring about a separation of functions. I think that the idea of setting up a Legal Services Commission is a good one. The Secretariat of the Fiji Law Society should be strengthened with the Secretary being elevated to the role of a CEO and adequate staffing must given to run the Secretariat.

POSSIBLE REFORMS

11.0 The reforms that I think that Fiji Law Society should seriously consider are as follows;

- [a]. Use the Life Members as a Senior Mentor Law Care Group to counsel and advise legal practitioners and to assist in formulating national policies
- [b]. Send young practitioners to the Victorian Bar Leader's Workshops.
- [c]. Negotiate an Indemnity Insurance package with Lexon [QLS Insurance Company] and make the same available to legal practitioners in Fiji.
- [d]. Adopt and develop the Code of Conduct put together by the Victorian Bar
- [e]. Push for legislative reform to have an independent Legal Services Commission.
- [f]. Purchase and implement CLE Programmes from Australia and New Zealand.
- [g]. Push for availability of IT Software for

management of legal practices.

- [h]. Encourage and develop better affinity with South Pacific Island Law Societies and become a leading player in the South Pacific Bar Secretariat.
- [i]. The Legal Practitioners Act 1997 needs to be amended extensively to incorporate some of the changes that are taking place elsewhere in the Pacific region.
- [j]. It is also time that we considered the possibility of corporatisation

CREATION OF A BAR ASSOCIATION

12.0 For many years the senior members of our profession have mooted the idea of creating a Bar Association. Having now seen the inner workings of the Australian Bar Associations I am fully convinced that the time is now opportune to create a Bar Association in Fiji. In fact Bar Associations can be created in the main centres and would [for the time being] be an affiliate of the Fiji Law Society. Those practitioners whose practice is mainly to do with litigation and [members of the judiciary] can be invited to become members of the Bar Association. Legislative reform may need to follow at a later stage. However, such a body would become a powerful lobby group for litigation lawyers and also take steps to look after the welfare of its members. We do not have to reinvent the wheel as I am sure that we can look at the Constitution of the Australian Bar Associations and draft one that is suitable for local requirements.

FINAL COMMENT

13.0 I believe that the trip to Australia was of great benefit. A special note of gratitude has to be extended to Tim Bugg [President of the Law Council of Australia], Ross Ray, Margery Nicoll, Hendryk Flaegel and Gwen Fryer of the Law Council of Australia. So many people went out of their way to make our time in Australia interesting. Janet Neville and her staff from LawAsia were also extremely helpful.

2007 FIJI LAW SOCIETY ANNUAL CONVENTION AT SHERATON FIJI

“THE RULE OF LAW & THE WAY FORWARD”

As Chair of the Convention Organising Committee [Tupou Draunidalo, Laurel Vaurasi and Shanye Sorby] I am pleased to report that this years’ annual convention was a great success in terms of the program, entertainment, member attendance and participation, convention venue and finances.

Total sponsorship was in the sum of \$40,500 and this subcommittee was headed by the President Mr. Sharma, the Secretary, Afrana and the Treasurer Mr. Shivam.

We put together a program that sought the participation of members of differing views on a very local and current theme. It proved to be a successful combination, drawing record attendance of members at the convention.

Most of the papers delivered at the convention are available from our website.

Ms Vaurasi and Ms Sorby arranged for the night entertainment which I believe has been the best offered at a convention.

We thank His Lordship Mr. Justice Winter, Mr. Apted and Ms. Waqanika for their contribution and management of the evening’s proceedings. The Treasurers report that the Society subsidized the convention in the sum of \$200 and when closing the books we managed a profit in the sum of \$25,900.

No convention report is complete without acknowledgment too of the Sponsors, the speakers, the Conveners and the members attendance, participation and interaction. Thank you.

Also, special mention is in order for the usual hard work put in by the Council Members, helpers and the Secretariat. In particular I would like to thank

Ms. Afrana Nisha, Ms. Vanita Singh and Mr. Clemence Tulele.

Those were the success stories.

There was one marked disappointment – the inability of Mr. John Cameron to attend and deliver his paper because of a travel ban. We hope this will not be repeated at any time in the future.

In signing off, thank you all again for your attendance, participation, contribution and hard work. I am sure most of us look forward to the next convention.

Tupou Draunidalo
Chairperson – Convention Committee

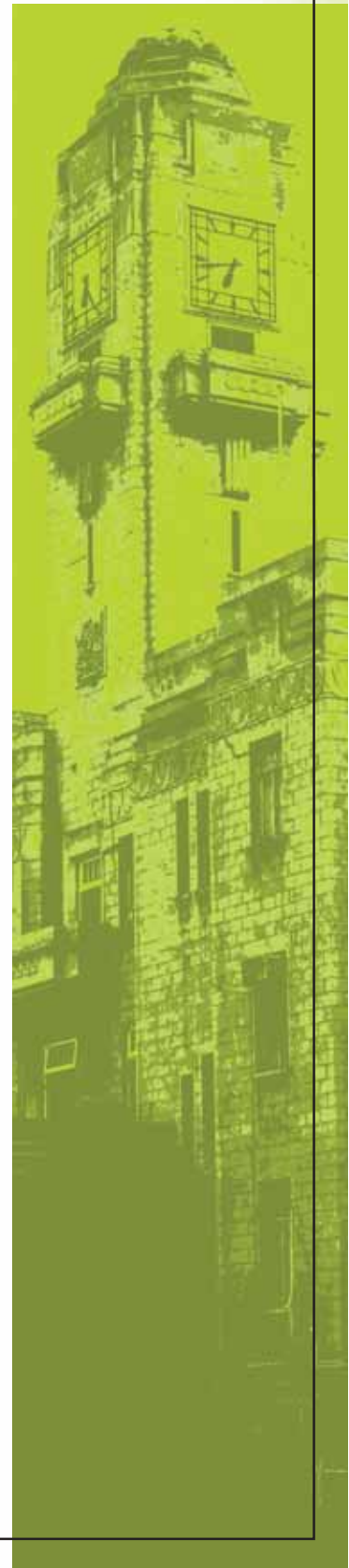
Fiji Law Society Convention

Income

Registration fees	156,008.00
Sponsorships	40,500.00
Interest Income	1,042.16
Donation	120.00
Total Income	197,670.16

Expenses

Accommodation & meals	153,209.93
Bank charges	372.05
Entertainment	5,961.33
General Expenses	3,315.51
Printing	2,875.11
Traveling	471.12
Meetings	448.12
Stationery	247.55
Conference Pack	2,933.33
Depreciation – Furniture & Fit	1,925.00
Total Expenses	171,759.05
Net (Profit)/Loss	25,911.11



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COMPLAINTS/ DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

The Society received 80 complaints for the year. A lot of the complaints dealt with delays and costs and these were mostly resolved through letters.

Legal Practitioners were asked to respond to the complaints within 14 days and most of them complied.

Alex Clunies Ross who was in charge of our Disciplinary Section had to leave suddenly and this left a large vacuum on the Secretariat.

The Council was specially keen to sort out complaints against defalcations concerning Trust Accounts.

The Council exercised its powers to suspend a number of practitioners for non compliance with regulatory matters.

Three Practitioners have taken the Society to Court.

There were two successful completed proceedings. Several more serious complaints have now been marked for prosecution.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

In the last 12 months the Secretariat of the Fiji Law Society has taken a more pro-active stance by preparing for an advance 12 months Continuing Legal Education Programme for its members. This involves organization, coordination and facilitation of the monthly CLE seminar presentations by senior, junior practitioners and judges in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa. The average attendance to the CLE seminars was 30 lawyers in Suva, 15 in Lautoka and 8 in Labasa. The programme has been very successful to date. Practitioners are benefiting greatly from the knowledge and experience imparted by the speakers given their difference areas of expertise on legal topics of interest. Continuous updates on Society's CLE Programme and reminders to members are published in the Society's email and website.

TRUST ACCOUNT

Under the Trust Account Act, members are required to submit Auditor's Report's and Trustee's Report's on Trust Accounts maintained by members for the financial period ended 30 September 2006 was quite satisfactory and only few trustees had to seek

an extension of time from the Attorney General in accordance with Section 12(2) of the Trust Account Act.

SOLICITORS TRUST ACCOUNTS – CONTRIBUTION FUND**Background**

The Trust Accounts Act 1996 was enacted on 21 October 1996 to make provisions for the proper conduct and audit of the trust accounts of the legal practitioners and related purposes.

Contribution Fund was established under the Act for collection of interest from trust bank accounts of solicitors, and distribution of interest income according to the provisions of the Act.

Each bank is required to pay on a monthly basis to the Funds Trustee interest calculated in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The management of the Contribution Fund is by the Funds Trustee as appointed by the Attorney General.

Distribution - Prior Years

In accordance with Section 18(2) of the Trust Accounts Act, interest is payable by the commercial banks at the rate of "2% less than the weighted time deposit rate as calculated by the Reserve Bank of Fiji".

As the weighted time deposit rate of the banks during the years 2004 and 2005 was below 2%, interest received from the banks relating to the Solicitors Trust Accounts during 2004 and 2005 was very negligible.

Development Since 2006

Due to monetary policies implemented by Reserve Bank of Fiji during late 2005 and thereafter, average term deposit rate offered by the commercial banks increased steadily since late 2005. Since January 2006, this rate has increased above 2% (minimum threshold as provided in the Trust Accounts Act).

Due to the increase in interest rates, significant interest income is now being received into the Contribution Fund Account since January 2006, and thereafter distributions to Fiji Law Society, Legal Aid Commission and other funds.

Given the above scenario, in comparison with distribution during 2005 and 2006, Fiji Law Society

has received significant contributions from the Contribution Fund Account during the year ended 30 June 2007.

CONFERENCE ATTENDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

100th Anniversary of the Hong Kong Law Society & LAWASIA Conference 5-8 June, 2007

The Council sent me to this Conference which coincided with a LawAsia Executive Council meeting. At the time the issue of the appointment of the President of LawAsia as Commissioner of the purported Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption ('FICAC') was subject of much debate.

The Council through the Secretariat sought the views of members on the appointment so that I could relay the same to the meeting of the Executive Council of LawAsia.

At that meeting the President of LawAsia declared at the outset that he had decided to not take up the appointment to FICAC. I was then asked to make a presentation for and on behalf of the Society so I relayed the summary of views put forward by members. I did not relay some of the detail in those views because there was no point in 'flogging a dead horse' and, out of respect for our host. My presentation was well received.

The keynote address at the conference was delivered by Dame Sian Elias, Chief Justice of New Zealand and a member of our Supreme Court. As usual, she spoke of the rule of law and the role of lawyers

and the organized profession with great clarity and vision. A copy of that address is available from our website together with the papers from the sessions that I attended.

Please read the keynote address if only to inspire and remind us of the pivotal role we play individually and collectively in upholding & defense of the rule of law.

The annual accounts will show that the Society paid for registration, air fares and a per diem calculated to meet the cost of accommodation. The trip was a good investment in terms of ensuring that LawAsia heard our views first hand from an elected representative and, after email consultation with members.

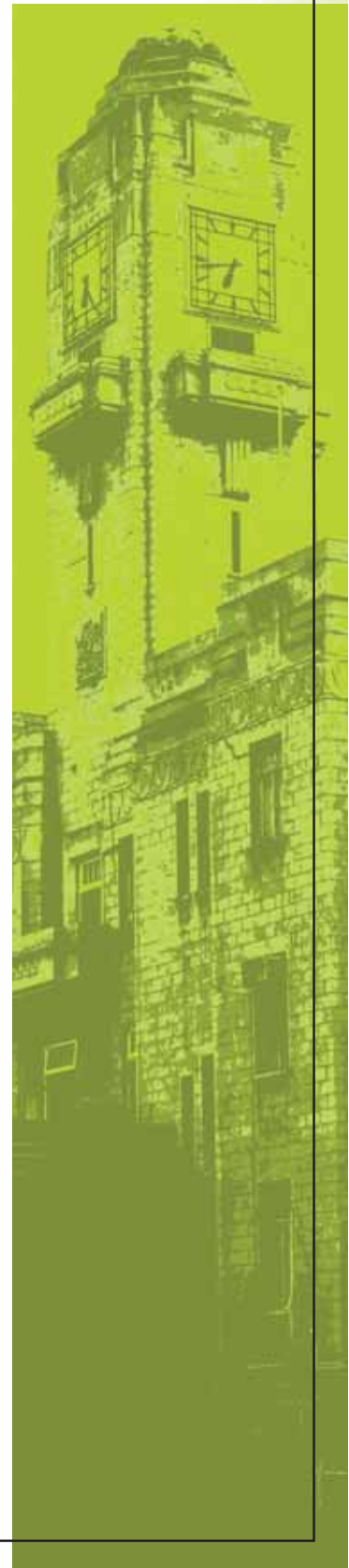
Tupou Draunidalo
Vice-President

YOUNG LAWYER OF THE YEAR

Mr Romulo Nayacalevu won the Marsh Young Lawyer of the Year Award. The announcement was made at the Fiji Law Society Convention's Gala Night at the Sheraton Fiji Resort from 20 – 22 July 2007.

Romulo Nayacalevu graduated from USP with an LLB in 2003, Awarded PDLP in 2004 and admitted to practice the same year. In 2006 he graduated with an MA (Governance).

Since completing PDLP, Romulo joined the private firm of Muaror & Co where he was the Associate



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Litigation Lawyer. In March 2007, he left Muaror & Co to join the United Nations under the regional office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights division.

Romulo is a firm believer of the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights. By respecting the rule of law, people are able to appreciate the inherent dignity, value and worth of the human person and in doing so; we will be able to show more of our humanity to one another thus achieving *salus populi suprema lex esto* (The welfare of the people shall be the supreme law).

Romulo is also the Vice President of the Fiji Young Lawyers Association and Chairperson of the Governance Alumni at USP. He also volunteers his time working with young people through the Scripture Union in Fiji ministry, the Pacific students for Christ and his local church.

AWARDS

The Society for the 1st time introduced the following awards which were given at the Fiji Law Society Annual Convention at Sheraton Fiji Resort on the Vodafone Gala night.

President's cup	-	Mr. Tevita Fa
Rookie of the year	-	Ms. Amrita Maharaj
Best excellence, Suva	-	Mr. Ritesh Naidu
Best excellence, West	-	Mr. Kitione Vuataki
Best excellence, North	-	Mr. Ami Kohli

Life membership	-	Mr. Abdul Lateef
Life membership	-	Mr. Barrie Sweetman
Life membership	-	Mr. Chattur Dasrath Singh
Life membership	-	Mr. Ram Krishna
Life membership	-	Mr. Harish Sharma
Life membership	-	Sir. Timoci Tuivaga

PRIZE FOR THE BEST FIJI LAW STUDENT

The Council annually donates a cash prize of F\$250 for the Best Fiji Student graduating in the Bachelor of Laws programme at the University of the South Pacific.

Mr Alipate Mataitini was awarded the Fiji Law Society Prize for 2007. Congratulations Mr Mataitini on your fine achievement.

SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat continued to operate from 100

Gordon Street, Suva. After the resignation of the former Ms Ofa Swan in December 2006, the Secretariat was functioning with only 2 staff for 7 months. Ms Afrana Nisha was appointed as the Secretary in January 2007. Ms Vanita Singh joined the Fiji Law Society as the Executive Officer in July 2007. Mr Clemence Tulele continues to diligently work as the Office Assistant.

Some of the activities that the Secretariat organized were:

- The Secretariat was deeply involved in prerequisite the grants from the contribution funds
- Introduction of content management software for hosting FLS website.
- The Secretariat launched the complaints brochures in November 2006.
- Hosted a farewell morning tea for Justice Gordon Ward.
- Fiji Women Lawyers Association AGM held at the Secretariat.
- Fiji Women Lawyers Association held a CLE and BBQ at the Secretariat.
- Fiji Young Lawyers Association hosted a cocktail at the Secretariat.
- The Secretariat hosted morning tea for 26 new admittees at the office.

Between the periods July 2006 to December 2006, an Australian Youth Ambassador through AusAid continued in a placement with the Society, assisting in the area of complaints and discipline. The Secretariat staff, Council and the AYA worked hard to implement policies and procedures to improve the functioning of the Society in this area. Comprehensive complaint handling and disciplinary proceedings manuals were introduced. These manuals are designed to assist the Society to handle complaints and disciplinary matters in an efficient, timely manner and to serve as a collated point of reference for the Society's various policies and procedures in the area.

The period also saw the introduction of a policy to address non-response by practitioners to request's by the Society for information regarding complaints. Brochures explaining the Society's role in handling complaints and providing information to assist parties in managing the lawyer – client relationship were also published.

Overall complaint number continued to be reduced during the period, with the finalization of the majority of older matters worthy of note. The staffs of the Secretariat are to be commended on this considerable effort.

In relation to disciplinary matters, two proceedings were commenced during the period, with one of these proceedings being finalized within approximately two months of commencement. The practitioner in this case pleaded guilty to a number of charges relating to failures to respond to the Society and the practitioner's client, failure to honor undertakings and failures to carry out instructions. The practitioner in this instance was ordered to pay a fine, repay fees to the practitioner's client and pay the Society's costs in the matter.

There are a number of disciplinary proceedings currently awaiting commencements.

A further proceeding dating from 2004 was also finalized during the period.

A set of guidelines to assist Disciplinary Committees in addressing procedural aspects of disciplinary proceedings and facilitate the timely delivery of decisions was also introduced.

All in all the Secretariat had a very busy and hectic year and stood up to the challenges that it has faced.

Afrana Nisha
Secretary

FLS WEBSITE

The Society has install content management software which enables the Secretariat staff to update the website with more current content, judgments, CLE papers, relevant and efficient.

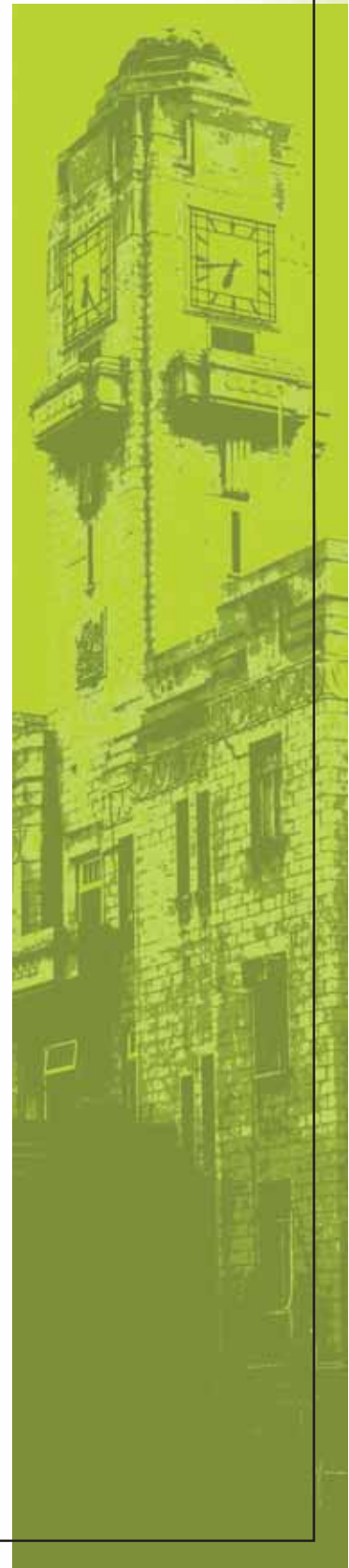
The Society's domain registration on the website is and the email addresses are;

Secretary	-	fls@kidanet.net.fj
Executive Officer	-	vanita@fls.org.fj
Office Assistant	-	clemence@fls.org.fj

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

During the period under review the Council of the Fiji Law Society hosted the following functions for its membership;

- A Christmas cocktail was held at the Point After in Suva attended by 180 members.
- A Christmas cocktail was held at the Chief Restaurant in Nadi attended 100 members.
- A Christmas cocktail was held at the Grand Eastern Hotel in Labasa where all the Northern members attended the function.



REPORT FROM WESTERN COMMITTEE

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REPORT FROM WESTERN COMMITTEE

It is once again my pleasure to report on the activities of the Fiji Law Society Western Committee. Obviously the most important issue on our minds has been the events of December 2006, which issue remains very much alive. Coups in Fiji have become like that nagging itch that never goes away. Every time there is a coup, the lawyers are right in the frontline.

Unfortunately in 2006 there has been a division amongst members. Some support the coup and others do not. Of course, there are those few who ask whether there has been a coup.

The West once again faces the same problems it did after the 1987 and 2000 coups. We are down to one civil Judge handling all matters from Sigatoka to Rakiraki. On the bright side the only Master of High Court in Fiji started sitting at the Lautoka High Court from 31st July 2007. He attends one week every month and we are told that there will be a Judge sent to Lautoka one week per month.

This year the Western Committee hosted a farewell function for Justice Connors. This also got some exposure in the media. Unfortunately that was the only social function we could do this year as most of our time has been occupied by the events of December 2006. Those events have hit closer to home because there has been a direct attack on the Judiciary by the removal of the Chief Justice (albeit under the guise of "voluntary leave").

We have also seen lawyers coming up with several petitions for the re-instatement of the Chief Justice. Some have called for due process to be given. In Fiji we have unfortunately had to deal with public battles between the Judges of High Court. This fight became very obvious in 2000. Now we see that one of the perceived sides sits in key positions of the judiciary (in effect replacing the "other side" from those key positions).

It is unfortunate that there is a very obvious split in the Judiciary. There are two opposing sides and those who remain neutral and silent on these issues. No matter how hard anyone tries to punish lawyers, who speak out against this (by citing contempt etc.), it is indubitable that the perception is out there. It is a perception that the lawyers have to assist the Judiciary in changing.

The Judges concerned and those in powers ought to heed the words of Lord Hewart CJ that "It is not merely of some importance but is of fundamental importance that Justice should not only be done,

but should manifestly and undoubtedly be seen to be done." (see *R v Sussex Justices, ex p McCarthy* [1924] 1 KB 256, [1923] All ER Rep 233).

The Westerns Lawyers held a meeting on the 2nd of August 2007 to discuss all matters currently affecting us. We have resolved the following: -

1. A committee of four lawyers from the West has been appointed to approach the Acting Chief Justice and other bodies in authority to ensure that High Court Lautoka has sufficient Judges to hear matters in West. This is all being done without prejudice to the legal proceeding pending between our Society and the Judiciary.

2. We will be holding Law Days in the West specifically targeting any members of the public who feel that their Human Rights have been breached to approach the Panel of Lawyers and list their complaints. After that, we intend to address the appropriate body and if necessary take legal action ourselves.

3. That we urge the FLS to approach the Chief Justice and offer him full assistance so that he gets due process. After the meeting we discovered that the Chief Justice had filed an action through Munro Leys. This does not mean that the FLS cannot still give its assistance.

4. A budget be specifically allocated for the benefit of the Western Members.

5. Some changes be made to the election process of the FLS so that each year the council of the FLS has elected 3 members from Suva area, 2 members from the West and 1 member from the North.

We hope to implement the above shortly. To all the members (and anyone who reads this report) I wish you all the best for the year 2007/2008. I most sincerely hope we are able to get out the current legal, economical and social mess that we are in. It can only happen if we all work together to uphold the rule of law.

Samuel Ram
Chairperson

FIJI WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

REPORT FROM FIJI WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

The Council of the FWLA is pleased to present the Annual Report outlining the activities undertaken by the Fiji Women Lawyers Association in 2006. The activities have been varied and aimed at ensuring that the Council was able to draw on the talents of interested women lawyers and these included-

- a CLE on the beach at South Sea Island given by Mr Siddarth Nandan;
- a cocktail hosted by the FWLA Council at the Police Officers Mess to welcome new women lawyers into the legal fraternity ;
- Celebration of the 2 year anniversary of the Association with a cocktail kindly hosted by the Australian High Commissioner, Ms. Jennifer Rawson.
- creation and maintenance of the FWLA website;
- participation in the law making process by the making of submissions to the Parliamentary Sector Committee on the Indigenous Claims Tribunal Bill.

Another key development has been the formulation of a flexible strategic plan which will serve as a planning tool. The Council decided to priorities its goals and the need to plan its activities which required a Strategic Plan.

The political events of December 5 2006 saw the Council members reaffirming their commitment to the rule of law and the upholding of democratic values, which is asserted in our Constitution. We urge all members to support the Fiji Law Society in upholding these fundamental principles, critical to economic development and prosperity of our nation.

On 13 July 2007, the FWLA held its fourth Annual General Meeting. A new council was elected:

President : Vukidonu Qionibaravi
Vice President : Anuleshni Neelta
Treasurer : Resina Senikuraciri
Secretary : Radhika Naidu
Assistant Secretary : Ana Tuiketeti

Our gratitude goes to the outgoing Council elected at the 2006 AGM:

Office bearers

President : Mrs. Alofa Seruvatu

Vice-President : Ms. Daiana Buresova
Treasurer : Ms. Bindula Devi
Secretary : Ms. Yuki Qionibaravi

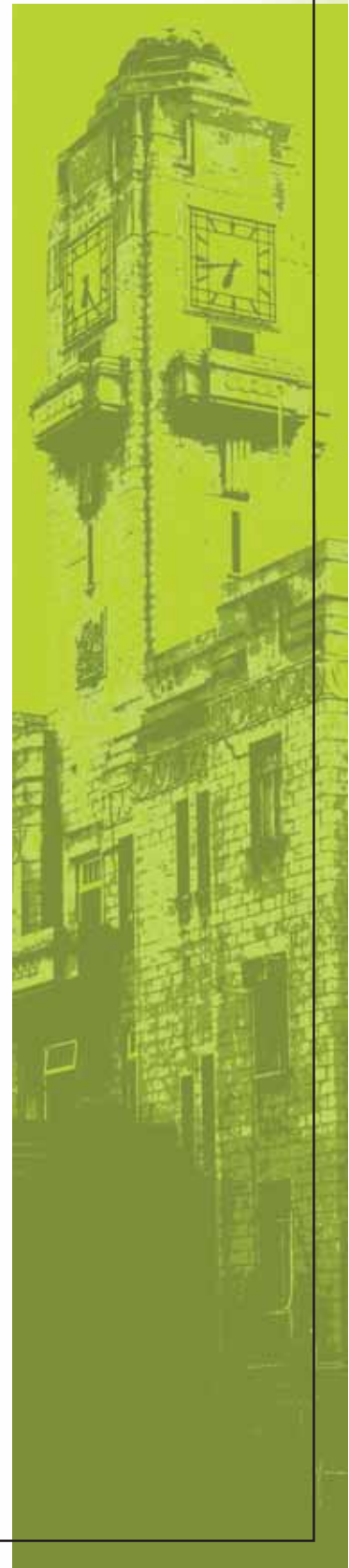
Council members

Ms. Tupou Draunidalo
 Ms. Marigold Moody
 Ms. Tania Varga
 Ms. Shayne Sorby
 Ms. Resina Senikuruciri

Members approved a few amendments to the FWLA Constitution: to reduce the term of Council to one year; to reduce the Council from 9 to 5 (no ordinary council members and they are now all office bearers); to allow women prosecutors from the DPP's Office to join as full members and to create a new position of Assistant Secretary as the fifth office bearer.

Earlier this year in June we had a BBQ and CLE at the premises of the FLS which were well attended. The new Council hopes to hold a cocktail shortly to welcome new women lawyers and to relaunch its CLE and mentoring program as well as to explore funding and sponsorship options for 2008. We look forward to your continued support with the upcoming activities planned by the Council in the next term.

Vukidonu Qionibaravi
President



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

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Detailed income statement	32 - 34

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COUNCIL'S REPORT

In accordance with a resolution of the Council of the Fiji Law Society, the council members herewith submit the balance sheet at 30 June 2007, the income statement, statement of movement in member's funds and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date and report as follows:

1. The following were members of the Council of the Society at any time during the financial year and up to the date of this report:

D Sharma	– President (appointed 6/09/2006)
T Draunidalo	– Vice President (appointed 6/09/2006)
L Vaurasi	– Treasurer (appointed 6/09/2006)
N Shivam	– Treasurer (appointed 6/09/2006)
I Fa	– (appointed 6/09/2006)
R Prasad	– (appointed 6/09/2006)
L Daunivalu	– (appointed 6/09/2006)
S Sorby	– (appointed 6/09/2006)
G Leung	– President (resigned 6/09/2006)
N Basawaiya	– Vice President (resigned 6/09/2006)
R Gordon	– Treasurer (resigned 6/09/2006)
J Waqaivolavola	– (resigned 6/09/2006)
M Naivalu	– (resigned 6/09/2006)

2. PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the Society are to preserve the integrity and status of the legal profession in Fiji through its commitment to the Rule of Law.

3. TRADING RESULTS

The operating surplus of the Society for the year ended 30 June 2007 was \$342,747 (2006: \$103,013).

4. TRANSFER TO RESERVES

The council members recommend that no amounts be transferred to reserves in respect of the year ended 30 June 2007.

5. BAD AND DOUBTFUL DEBTS

The council members took reasonable steps before the financial statements were made out, to ascertain that all known bad debts were written off and adequate provision was made for doubtful debts.

At the date of this report, the council members are not aware of any circumstances which would render the amount written off for bad debts, or the amount of the provision for doubtful debts, inadequate to any substantial extent.

6. CURRENT ASSETS

The council members took reasonable steps before the financial statements were made out, to ascertain that the current assets of the Society were shown in the accounting records at a value equal to or below the value that would be expected to be realised in the ordinary course of business.

At the date of this report, the council members are not aware of any circumstances which would render the values attributable to the current assets in the financial statements misleading.



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7. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

No charge on the assets of the Society has arisen since the end of the financial year to the date of this report to secure the liabilities of any other person.

No contingent liability has arisen since the end of the financial year to the date of this report.

No contingent or other liability has become enforceable or is likely to become enforceable within a period of twelve months after the end of the financial year which, in the opinion of the council members, will or may affect the ability of the Society to meet its obligations when they fall due.

8. OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES

On 5th December 2006, the Commander of the Republic of Fiji Islands Military Forces announced the removal of the government. The Commander subsequently declared a State of Emergency. The political situation has created a degree of economic uncertainty. Given the circumstances, the council members believe that the basis of preparation of accounts is appropriate and the Society will be able to continue in operation for at least 12 months from the date of this statement. Accordingly, the council members believe the classification and carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities as stated in the accounts to be appropriate.

At the date of this report, the council members are not aware of any circumstances not otherwise dealt with in this report or financial statements which would render any amounts stated in the financial statements misleading.

9. UNUSUAL TRANSACTIONS

The results of the Society's operations during the financial year have not in the opinion of the council members been substantially affected by any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature other than those disclosed in the financial statements.

10. MEMBERS' BENEFITS

No member of the council has, since the end of the previous financial year, received or become entitled to receive a benefit (other than a benefit included in the total amount of emoluments received or due and receivable by members and any claim and/or any payment made by any member for attendance and professional services rendered and approved by the members of the council as shown in the Society's accounts) by reason of a contract made with the council or a related corporation with the member or with a firm of which he is a member, or in a board in which he has a substantial financial interest.

For and on behalf of the Council


President


Treasurer

10 September 2007

Date

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL

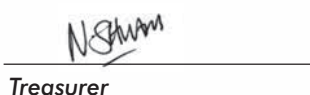
In accordance with a resolution of the Council of the Fiji Law Society, we state that:

- (a) the accompanying income statement of the Society is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results of the Society for the year ended 30 June 2007;
- (b) the accompanying balance sheet of the Society is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs at 30 June 2007;
- (c) the accompanying cash flow statement of the Society is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the cash flows of the Society for the year ended 30 June 2007; and
- (d) the accompanying statement of movement in members' funds of the Society is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the movement in members fund of the Society for the year ended 30 June 2007.

For and on behalf of the Council and in accordance with a resolution of the Council.



President



Treasurer

10 September 2007

Date



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

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INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the members of Fiji Law Society

Scope

We have audited the financial statements of Fiji Law Society for the year ended 30 June 2007 as set out on pages 23 to 31. The council members of the Society are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. We have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the Society.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Fiji Standards on Auditing to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Fiji Accounting Standards and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Society's financial position, the results of its operations, its cash flows and movements in members' funds.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualification

As discussed in Note 5 to the financial statements, the Society has yet to sort out the applicability of the VAT Decree on its activities. Consequently, the VAT account and the Society's results may be materially misstated.

Audit Opinion

Subject to the foregoing qualification:

- (a) the accompanying financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with Fiji Accounting Standards:
 - (i) are in agreement with the books of account; and
 - (ii) to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society at 30 June 2007 and of the results, movements in members' funds and cash flows of the Society for the year ended on that date.
- (b) proper books of account have been kept by the Society, so far as it appears from our examination of those books.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Suva, Fiji
Date : 17 September 2007


PricewaterhouseCoopers
Chartered Accountants

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

INCOME STATEMENT

Year Ended 30 June 2007

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	Notes	2007 \$	2006 \$
Income			
Members' subscriptions		186,375	188,677
Registration fees		-	165,110
Sponsorships		-	45,208
Admission fees		21,348	25,404
Continuing legal education fees		9,475	4,860
Contribution fund	15	285,962	-
Other operating income		42,367	31,257
		<u>545,527</u>	<u>460,516</u>
Expenses			
Staff costs		(56,942)	(68,011)
Continuing legal education fees		(8,671)	(4,627)
Rent		(22,444)	(21,600)
Travelling		(688)	(3,946)
Accommodation and meals		-	(142,102)
Depreciation		(7,275)	(7,446)
Other operating expenses		(106,760)	(109,771)
		<u>(202,780)</u>	<u>(357,503)</u>
Surplus for the year	2	<u>\$ 342,747</u>	<u>\$ 103,013</u>

The income statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 27 to 31.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

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BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 June 2007


	Notes	2007 \$	2006 \$
Current assets			
Cash on hand and at bank	3	509,833	178,925
Receivables	4	56,822	12,547
VAT	5	45,975	31,843
Investment	7	211,614	150,000
Total current assets		824,244	373,315
Non - current asset			
Furniture and equipment	6	26,998	25,134
Total non-current asset		26,998	25,134
TOTAL ASSETS		851,242	398,449
Current liabilities			
Payables	8	123,778	15,174
VAT	5	11,403	11,403
Provisions	9	1,442	-
Total current liabilities		136,623	26,577
Net assets		\$714,619	\$371,872
Members' funds			
Balance brought forward		371,872	268,859
Surplus for the year		342,747	103,013
Total members' funds		\$714,619	\$371,872

The balance sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 27 to 31.

These financial statements have been approved by a resolution of the Council.

For and on behalf of the Council.


President


Treasurer

10 September 2007
Date

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN MEMBERS' FUNDS

Year Ended 30 June 2007

	Members' Funds \$
Balance at 30 June 2005	268,859
Surplus for the year	<u>103,013</u>
Balance at 30 June 2006	371,872
Surplus for the year	<u>342,747</u>
Balance at 30 June 2007	<u>\$ 714,619</u>

The statement of movement in members' funds is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 27 to 31.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

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CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Year Ended 30 June 2007

	Notes	2007 \$	2006 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Subscriptions received		170,521	185,390
Interest received		13,172	2,581
Contribution fund		285,962	-
Sponsorships, donations and other income		29,194	110,722
Convention registration fees		-	56,803
Registration fees received in advance		111,800	-
Payments to suppliers and employees		(211,390)	(407,000)
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>399,259</u>	<u>56,803</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for furniture and equipment	6	(9,139)	(5,039)
Funds received from/(invested) in long term deposit	7	<u>(59,212)</u>	<u>(55,226)</u>
Net cash generated from/(used) in investing activities		<u>(68,351)</u>	<u>(60,265)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		330,908	(3,465)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>178,925</u>	<u>182,375</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	3	<u>\$ 509,833</u>	<u>\$ 178,925</u>

The cash flow statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 27 to 31.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended 30 June 2007

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1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted by the Society are stated to assist in the general understanding of these financial statements. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year unless otherwise stated.

1.1 Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Fiji Accounting Standards. The financial statements have been prepared primarily on the basis of historical costs and except where specifically stated, do not take into account current valuations of non-current assets.

On 5th December 2006, the Commander of the Republic of Fiji Islands Military Forces announced the removal of the government. The Commander subsequently declared a State of Emergency. The political situation has created a degree of economic uncertainty. Given the circumstances, the council members believe that the basis of preparation of accounts is appropriate and the Society will be able to continue in operation for at least 12 months from the date of this statement. Accordingly, the council members believe the classification and carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities as stated in the accounts to be appropriate.

1.2 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are carried in the balance sheet at cost. For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and at bank.

1.3 Investments

Investments are carried at cost.

1.4 Receivables

Receivables are carried at original invoice amount less provision made for impairment of these receivables. A provision is raised for any doubtful debts based on a review of all outstanding amounts. Bad debts are written off during the period in which they are identified.

1.5 Furniture and equipment

Furniture and equipment are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives at the rates of 10% - 25%.

Gains and losses on disposal of furniture and equipment are taken into account in determining the results for the year.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

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NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended 30 June 2007

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

1.6 Income

Income is recognised when the right to receive payment is established with the exception of income from the contribution fund which is brought to account upon receipt.

1.7 Provision for employee entitlements

The amounts expected to be paid to employees for their pro rata entitlements to annual leave and other benefits are accrued at current wage rates.

1.8 Payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Society prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Included in payables are income received in advance in respect of the July 2007 Convention.

1.9 Income tax

The Society's income is exempt from income tax in accordance with Section 17 (24) of the Income Tax Act.

1.10 Reporting currency

All amounts shown in the financial statements are expressed in Fiji dollars.

1.11 Comparative figures

Where necessary comparative figures have been changed to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

2. SURPLUS FROM OPERATIONS

The surplus for the year has been determined after:

	2007 \$	2006 \$
(a) Crediting as income		
Interest income	11,812	2,755
(b) Charging as expense		
Auditors' remuneration:		
- audit services	4,570	3,500
Bank fees and charges	983	675
Bad debts written off	-	1,600
Loss on disposal of furniture and equipment	-	2,999

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended 30 June 2007

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3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

For the purpose of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise the following:

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Cash on hand and at bank	509,833	178,925

4. RECEIVABLES

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Prepayments – Accommodation	52,600	-
Prepayments – Other	814	1,945
Deposits	3,148	3,148
Other receivables	260	7,454
	<u>\$ 56,822</u>	<u>\$ 12,547</u>

5. VAT ACCOUNT

	2007 \$	2006 \$
VAT receivable	45,975	31,843
VAT payables	(11,403)	(11,403)
	<u>\$ 34,572</u>	<u>\$ 20,440</u>

As noted in the prior year's financial statements, the Society has yet to sort out the applicability of the VAT Decree on its activities. VAT receivable of \$45,975 relates to VAT inputs booked on expenses incurred by the Society for the current year and prior years. No VAT payable was booked in respect of applicable income for the year and it is estimated that \$30,616 is payable. The VAT payable booked in the accounts of \$11,403 has been carried forward from 2004. The Society had not accounted for VAT since 2004. It is estimated that a further amount of around \$84,200 is payable for 2006 and prior years.

If VAT was applicable, the VAT payable not booked in the financial statements is estimated to be \$114,816 (excluding any penalties) but the exact quantum of any adjustment cannot be determined at present in the absence of detailed information. The Society's results will also be affected for any adjustments to the VAT account.

6. FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT

(a) Furniture and equipment are stated at cost and have been included in the financial statements on the following basis:

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Furniture and equipment	63,430	54,291
Accumulated depreciation	(36,432)	(29,157)
	<u>\$ 26,998</u>	<u>\$ 25,134</u>



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

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NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended 30 June 2007

6. FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT - continued

(b) Reconciliation of the net book amount of furniture and equipment at the beginning and at the end of the financial year is set out as follows:

	2007 \$
Balance as at 30 June 2006	25,134
Additions	9,139
Disposals	-
Depreciation	(7,275)
Balance as at 30 June 2007	<u>\$ 26,998</u>

(c) The depreciation policy adopted is set out in Note 1.5

7. INVESTMENT

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Current		
Term deposits	<u>\$ 211,614</u>	<u>\$ 150,000</u>

8. PAYABLES

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Trade creditors	10,762	13,958
Income received in advance	111,800	-
Other payables and accruals	1,216	1,216
	<u>\$ 123,778</u>	<u>\$ 15,174</u>

9. PROVISIONS

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Employee entitlements	<u>\$ 1,442</u>	<u>-</u>

10. OPERATING LEASE

Operating lease commitment payable for office rental is as follows:

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Not later than one year	12,600	21,600
Later than one year but not later than five years	-	12,600
	<u>\$ 12,600</u>	<u>\$ 34,200</u>

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended 30 June 2007

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11. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2007 except in relation to VAT as highlighted in Note 5.

12. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There were no capital commitments at 30 June 2007 (2006: Nil).

13. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

Since the end of the financial year, the council members are not aware of any matter or circumstance not otherwise dealt with in the report or financial statements that has significantly or may significantly affect the operations of the Society, the results of those operations or state of affairs of the Society in subsequent financial years.

14. SOCIETY DETAILS

Establishment

The Society is established pursuant to Section 12 of the Legal Practitioners Act of 1997 and has perpetual succession and a Common Seal.

Principal Place of Business

The principal place of business is located at:
100 Gordon Street
Suva

Number of employees

As at balance date, a total of 2 employees were employed by the Society.

15. CONTRIBUTION FUND

The Contribution Fund was established in accordance with Section 19 (1) of the Trust Accounts Act, 1996 and is managed by the Trustees pursuant to Sections 21 and 22 of that Act.

The Fund is to be utilised in the following manner:

- meet the reasonable expenses of the Law Society in employing an Executive Officer and Secretary.
- the provision of office accommodation and facilities reasonably required by these persons.

If the amount in the Fund at any time is insufficient for the above purposes, then the shortfall shall be paid from the money available for distribution before any payment is made to any of the other funds.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

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DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT

Year Ended 30 June 2007

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Income		
Society account (page 33)	544,300	249,774
Convention account (page 34)	<u>1,227</u>	<u>210,742</u>
Total Income	<u>545,527</u>	<u>460,516</u>
Expenses		
Society account (page 33)	202,408	191,733
Convention account (page 34)	<u>372</u>	<u>165,770</u>
Total expenses	<u>202,780</u>	<u>357,503</u>
Net surplus for the year	<u>\$ 342,747</u>	<u>\$ 103,013</u>



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT

Year Ended 30 June 2007

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SOCIETY ACCOUNT

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Income		
Subscriptions	186,375	188,677
Admission fees	21,348	25,404
Interest received	13,172	2,581
Contribution fund	285,962	-
Other income	27,968	28,252
Continuing legal education fees	9,475	4,860
Total income	544,300	249,774
Less: Expenses		
Advertising	1,274	3,254
Accounting fees	-	1,500
Audit fees	4,570	3,500
Bad debts written off	-	1,600
Bank fees and charges	611	546
Continuing legal education	8,671	4,627
Conference overseas, net of sponsorships	17,494	17,976
Depreciation	7,275	7,446
Disciplinary committee expenses and legal fees	21,332	993
Donations	605	2,233
Electricity and water	3,864	3,499
Entertainment	4,703	1,143
Fiji National Provident Fund	3,406	4,639
Insurance	1,246	2,590
Journals publication-Obiter Dicta	100	-
Loss on disposals of fixed assets	-	2,999
Meeting expenses - Council meeting	3,506	3,684
- General meeting	16,058	4,113
- Other meetings and travelling	1,133	3,826
Office	11,712	1,627
Postage	1,624	1,933
Printing and stationery	4,860	4,521
Rent	22,444	21,600
Subscriptions	2,146	1,755
Sundry	1,912	17,813
Staff training	-	1,970
Telephone	7,638	8,313
Travelling	688	631
TPAF	-	600
Wages and salaries	53,536	60,802
Total expenses	202,408	191,733
Net surplus	\$ 341,892	\$ 58,041



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2007

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DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT

Year Ended 30 June 2007

CONVENTION ACCOUNT

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Income		
Registration fees	-	165,110
Sponsorships	-	45,208
Interest	1,043	174
Other income	184	250
Total income	<u>1,227</u>	<u>210,742</u>
Expenses		
Accommodation and meals	-	142,102
Advertising	-	1,921
Bank charges	372	129
Conference pack	-	8,128
Entertainment	-	5,184
General	-	1,614
Hire charges	-	498
Printing and stationery	-	2,879
Travelling	-	3,315
Total expenses	<u>372</u>	<u>165,770</u>
Net surplus	<u>\$ 855</u>	<u>\$ 44,972</u>



2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Fiji Law Society held on Saturday 9th September 2006 at 2.00pm at the Convention Centre at Warwick Hotel, Coral Coast, Fiji.

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1. PRESENT

1.1 Council Members:

1.	Mr. Graham Leung	-	President
2.	Ms. Nehla Basawaiya	-	Vice-President
3.	Mr. Ronald Gordon	-	Treasurer
4.	Ms. Tupou Draunidalo	-	Council Member

1.2 Individual Members:

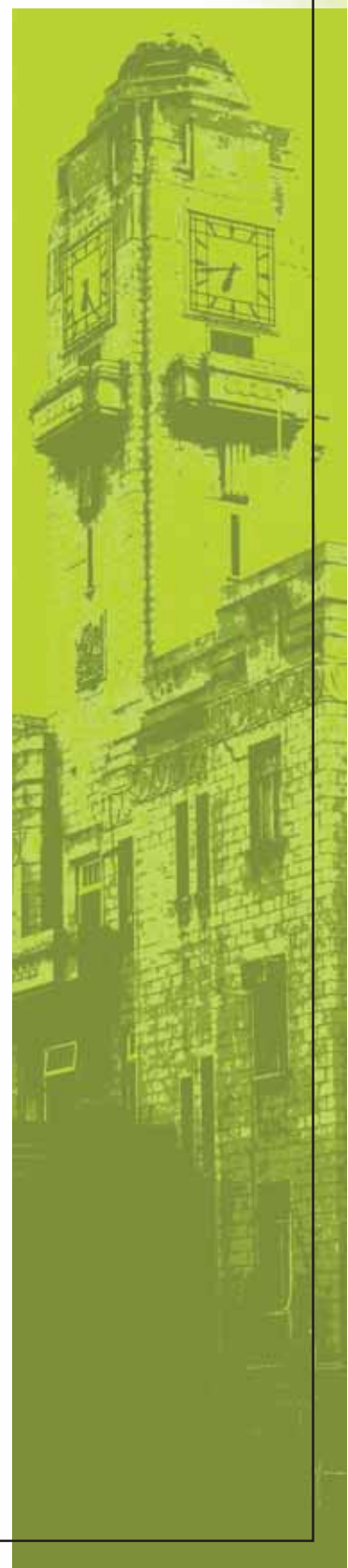
6.	Archibald, Wendell	32.	Qetaki, Alipate
7.	Bale, Amani	33.	Qionibaravi, Adi Litia
8.	Banuve, Savenaca	34.	Qionibaravi, Vukidonu
9.	Cevalawa, Siteri	35.	Rabuka, Epeli
10.	Chaudhary, Rajendra	36.	Sahu Khan, Dr. M.S.
11.	Daunivalu, Luke	37.	Sahu Khan, Shabina
12.	Divola, Natalie	38.	Seeto, Wati
13.	Fa, Ulamila	39.	Senikuraciri, Resina
14.	Fenton, Florence	40.	Seru, Apaitia
15.	Kenilorea, Pamela	41.	Seruvatu, Alofa Aiva
16.	Knight, Peter	42.	Shandil, Varun
17.	Koroj, Alena	43.	Sharma, Devanesh
18.	Lateef, Haroon	44.	Sharma, Janend
19.	Leweniqila, Semi	45.	Sharma, Navneel
20.	Matawalu, Sam	46.	Sharma, Neelam
21.	Naidu, Kavita	47.	Sharma, Sharvada
22.	Naidu, Radhika S.	48.	Sharma, Tirath
23.	Naidu, Richard	49.	Shomars, Devan
24.	Naidu, Ritesh K.	50.	Singh, Roopesh
25.	Nand, Nainendra	51.	Sorby, Shayne
26.	Nandan, Siddharth	52.	Sudhakar, Ashneel
27.	Nayacalevu, Romulo	53.	Sweetman, Barrie
28.	Neelta, Anuleshni	54.	Vakaloloma, Aseri
29.	Patel, Anu	55.	Varga, Tania
30.	Prakash, Rameshwar	56.	Vaurasi, Laurel
31.	Puamau, Volau	57.	Waqanika, Tanya

1.3 In Attendance:

Ms. Ofa Swann	-	Secretary, Fiji Law Society
Ms. Afrana Rahiman Nisha	-	Executive Officer, Fiji Law Society
Mr. Alex Clunies-Ross	-	AYAD
Mr. Clemence Tulele	-	Office Assistant

2. WELCOME:

The Chairperson, Mr. Graham Leung, welcomed everyone present at the meeting.



2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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3. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received and recorded from 35 members and one Council Member. Apologies from:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Avery, Bernard | 20. Roche, Ian |
| 2. Bhai, Managal V. | 21. Rigamoto, Walter |
| 3. Clarke, Wylie | 22. Sahu Khan M.K. |
| 4. Keil, Franz | 23. Sahu Khan Nahid |
| 5. Kumar, Kamal | 24. Sahu Khan Nazim |
| 6. Lal, Renee | 25. Savou, Jeremaia |
| 7. Maharaj-Wong, Poonam | 26. Shameem, Dr. Shaista |
| 8. Matebalavu, Rabo | 27. Solanki, Bhupendra |
| 9. Moody, Marigold | 28. Tuimanu, Virisila |
| 10. Morgan, Walton | 29. Vosarogo, Vilimone |
| 11. Morris, Jane | 30. Wakanivonoloa, Mesake |
| 12. Muaror, Kafoa | 31. Waqaivolavola, Josaia |
| 13. Nailatikau Mara Adi Koila | 32. William, Dennis |
| 14. O'Driscoll Gavin | 33. Willoughby, Piccolo |
| 15. Patel, Ramesh | 34. Singh, Abhay |
| 16. Patel, Visantika | 35. Shivam, Neel |
| 17. Prakash, Jayant | 36. Vadei, Samuela |
| 18. Raniga, Jaysahre | 37. Vakatale, Alanieta |
| 19. Raza, Mehboob | |

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES HELD ON 3 SEPTEMBER 2005:

Mr. Peter Knight moved, seconded by Mr. Savenaca Banuve that the Minutes be adopted. All present were in favour.

5. REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON THE ACTIVITIES OF FLS AND ITS AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006:

The Chairperson stated that the Annual Reports summarised the financial health and the main areas of activities the Council had engaged in over the last 12 months. He opened the floor to questions from the members.

5.1 Mr. Peter Knight commended the people responsible for putting together an excellent and informative Annual Report.

He enquired about the situation with regard to interest on trust accounts and its effect on the Legal Aid and the contribution that FLS is supposed to receive. He said that last year, members were told that banks were not paying any interest and that investigations were going to be undertaken to find out whether they could be persuaded to place an interest.

Mr. Ronald Gordon, the Treasurer replied that no distribution was made from the Solicitors Trust Account Contribution Fund

to the FLS for the period ending 30th June, 2006. He said that the Fund's Trustee, Mr. Pradeep Patel advised that given the recent improved interest rate by the banks, the distribution out of the Contribution Fund account to the FLS and others in the coming months would be undertaken, as provided for in the Trust Accounts Act. The actual amount and details are still being calculated by the Trustee of the Fund, and there should be an outcome received soon. He said that distributions for the quarter ending 30th September, 2006 are expected to be made around 30th November, 2006.

He said that no discussion has been held with the Attorney-General. The review of the Legal Practitioners Act and the Legal Aid Act would be undertaken soon and hopes that it would address the formula of calculating interest on trust accounts.

5.2 The Chairperson on behalf of the

2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Council welcomed members' comments, questions and criticisms, as it wants the meeting to be as transparent as possible.

Mr. Robinson Prasad expressed the view that since it was a private meeting, the press should not be permitted into the room, as transparency is only for the benefit of the members.

The Chairperson did not have any problems with the media's presence and explained that the same issue was raised in last year's AGM, where it was resolved in the interest of transparency and good governance, and FLS being an accountable organisation, the media was permitted to observe.

Mr. Richard Naidu moved a motion for the media to remain within the meeting vicinity, seconded by Mr. Nainendra Nand, the Solicitor-General. Majority of the members present agreed by a show of hands.

5.3 Mr. Peter Knight asked whether copies of law reports were still available for members to photocopy and if so, what the process was and what was the story on the official law reports.

Ms. Ofa Swann, as the Secretary replied that FLS is currently updating all judgments and that 2004 is still outstanding due to lack of resources faced by the Secretariat.

However, the Secretariat is doing its best to have those available to all the members.

Fee levied for double copies is 20 cents and single copies for 10 cents.

Ms. Afrana Nisha, the Executive Officer explained that the judgments for 2005 and 2006 have been forwarded to different districts. Judgments are accessible as follows: Lautoka - Mr. Gordon's office, Ba - Mr. Narayan's office, Nadi - Ms. Vasantika Patel's office and Suva - FLS office.

The Chairperson added that there has been no progress on official law reports. He believes the Chief Justice is trying to source Aid funds to fund the official publication of the Fiji Law Reports, and the task would be an additional challenge to the incoming Council.

5.4 Mr. Alipate Qetaki commented on the role of the FLS in terms of law reform, a statutory mandate, and as the Chairman of the Fiji Law Reform Commission (FLRC), he

felt that over the years, the FLS has been reluctant to participate or assist. He asked what assistance has been given to the FLS and other Government justice agencies previously.

The Chairperson responded that with regard to the different justice agencies' statutory responsibilities to assist the Government on matters of Law reform, FLS has fallen short of the requirements. He added the Council had difficulty in obtaining practitioners' assistance to submit in discrete areas of law, and it would always be a challenge for any Council. The last Parliament saw the introduction of various Bills such as Criminal Law, Penal Code, Real Estate Bill, Promotion of Reconciliation, Tolerance and Unit Bill. He explained the procedure carried out by FLS when a Bill was published, and outlined that the Secretariat emails the members to solicit and invite views or assist the Council in assembling FLS's submission to Government or the FLRC. He expressed disappointment that practitioners hardly responded and Council members often requested their friends to submit or they do so themselves.

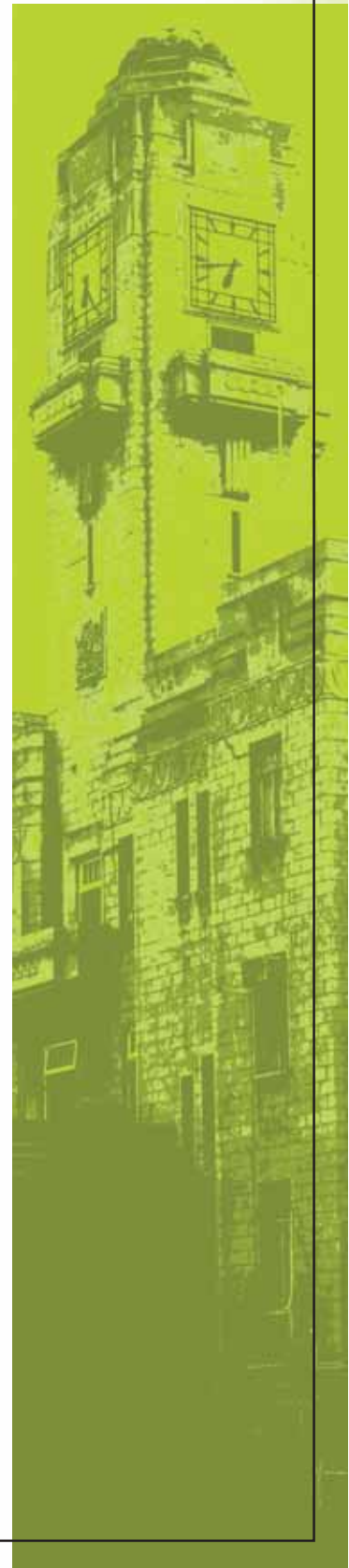
The matter is under consideration by some members. The Chairperson admitted being responsible for that during his term and hopes his successor does a better job.

Dr. S.M. Sahu Khan stressed that it is the responsibility of the FLS Law Review Committee to look into the matter, and saw no reason why the FLRC was not assisted.

He suggested that the Council do away with requesting volunteers or suggestions from practitioners. He questioned what the Committee has done so far.

Ms. Tupou Draunidalo replied on behalf of the Chairperson that the Council agrees with the sentiments expressed. She said that initially Bills were sent to members of the Committee, but due to their commitments on other Bills, members were emailed. Speaking from experience, she informed members that the Council usually carried the burden of the Committee, and requested members to respond with great enthusiasm when emailed for their assistance and expertise.

5.5 Mr. Barrie Sweetman referred to the issue of VAT on page 32 on paragraph 6.5, as a matter of serious concern since the FLS



2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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owes about \$80,000 VAT, including penalties. He requested an update on the matter.

Mr. Ronald Gordon replied that the VAT issue has been a concern for the Council for a long time. There have been correspondences between the FLS and the VAT Department on whether the Society is liable to pay VAT or not. The Department confirmed that the FLS is not liable to pay VAT, hence not being registered for it. Due to the FLS Secretary changing over time, one Secretary unaware of that correspondence, registered the FLS for VAT.

The Council deregistered FLS again. PriceWaterHouseCoopers as the new auditor informed the Council that FLS was liable to pay VAT and the Council again raised the issue with the VAT Department, who stood by their decision and requested information on the activities carried out and its annual value. A draft response has been prepared for the VAT Department after the Council received the audit report in mid-August, outlining the FLS's activities and its annual value, and based on that, the Department will make its decisions. If the FLS would be required to pay VAT, it would be in a refund situation due to the numerous expenses incurred, particularly in regard to the Convention. The draft letter awaits the review and approval of the new Council before being sent to the VAT Department.

5.6 Dr. S.M. Sahu Khan raised the issue of practitioners' attendance at the Annual General Meeting and the Convention. The Convention Account shows that FLS made a profit of \$44,972. He felt that a charge of \$1,800 was too much for a young practitioner to attend the Convention, but felt that it should not be a deterrent. He suggested the re-introduction of having the AGM and the Convention at the same time as it could bring about a legal fraternity family affair atmosphere, and should be held in Nadi due to the large number of hotels.

The Chairperson replied that the new Council would take onboard the views expressed by Dr. Sahu Khan and address them accordingly. He added that under section 23 of the Legal Practitioners Act, the AGM should be held in the month of September every year, so the Convention would need to be held at the same time.

He stated that many members are under the misnomer that having a Convention in a five-star resort is cheap, which is wrong as it is the peak period of the tourism industry.

He accepted the validity of the comments made by Dr. S.M. Sahu Khan on young practitioners' difficulty in bearing the cost of attending a Convention. He explained that due to the hard work of the Council, the New Zealand Government donated a grant of \$10,000 which was solely used to fund scholarships to allow seven young practitioners, who did not use any money, to attend the Convention. The Council recognised that and did something about it. On the issue alluded by Dr. S.M. Sahu Khan on members somehow contributing to the ballooning of funds, the Chairperson explained that from the Convention Account, about \$40,000 in cash was raised by the Council by approaching foreign governments for assistance. The Council tried to build networks with foreign embassies, and that resulted in the Australian Government, New Zealand Government, the Taiwanese Trade Mission and British Government contributing \$40,000 in total. He told the members, that if the bottom line gave the impression that the cost was relatively high to register for the Convention that needed to be put in the context that the fluidity arose from the external subsidy that was received from aid agencies.

Mr. Haroon Lateef endorsed the points raised by Dr. S.M. Sahu Khan. He commended the Council for approaching foreign agencies and the money donated by them. He also expressed the view that when there is a Convention, the Council should not think of making a profit. He did not attend the Convention due to the exorbitant cost, which he felt was ridiculous compared to past years, whereby members paid \$700 to \$800. He said that the money donated should have been utilised towards Convention costs.

Ms. Afrana Nisha replied that when the Convention costing was done, there was no point to make a profit. She added that the profit of \$40,000 was entirely from sponsorship, which was received after the Convention and whatever money received from members were used for expenses incurred, as outlined in the Convention Account.

2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

5.7 Mr. Nainendra Nand, the Solicitor-General stated that the Legal Practitioners Act, the Trust Accounts Act and the Legal Aid Act have been enforced for some years.

He expressed gratitude as Chairman of the Legal Aid Commission, Chairman of the Costs Review Committee and a member of the Board of Legal Education for the support rendered to the Commissions by prominent practitioners such as Mr. Barrie Sweetman, Mr. Peter Knight and Mr. Ramesh Prakash, which has contributed to its achievements over the years. The problem faced by the Costs Review Committee was that when things were sent through the Secretariat to the members, very few responded and hopes that attitude would change in the future. He commended the Chairperson's representatives in Committees for having being of great help given their busy schedules. The Legal Aid Commission has achieved a great deal and he hopes that it would continue to prosper. He hopes that the FLS would play a more instrumental role in the implementation of the review undertaken. The Board of Legal Education has set a high benchmark and applications have been scrutinised thoroughly. He explained that due to Ms. Swann's request, Bills have been made available at no cost to the FLS from the Government Printer and would be circulated to members. He suggested if there could be a small committee to look into important Bills, who could then submit directly to the Attorney-General or to the relevant Sector Standing Committee of Parliament. He also commended the Chairperson and his Council for the successful 50th Law Society Convention, which was also acknowledged by overseas visitors.

The Chairperson also commended the contributions to the Government legal machineries of Mr. Barrie Sweetman, Mr. Peter Knight, Mr. Rameshwar Prakash and other leading members of the profession.

6.0 APPOINTMENT OF AN AUDITOR

6.1 The Chairperson stated that PricewaterhouseCoopers is the FLS's Auditor. He added that the Treasurer, Mr. Gordon shared his view that the present arrangement should continue with PWC unless there was a compelling reason to change.

Dr. M.S. Sahu Khan moved a motion that PWC remains the Auditor for the FLS, seconded by Mr. Anu Patel. Motion agreed to by the majority of the members who were present.

7.0 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2005/2006:

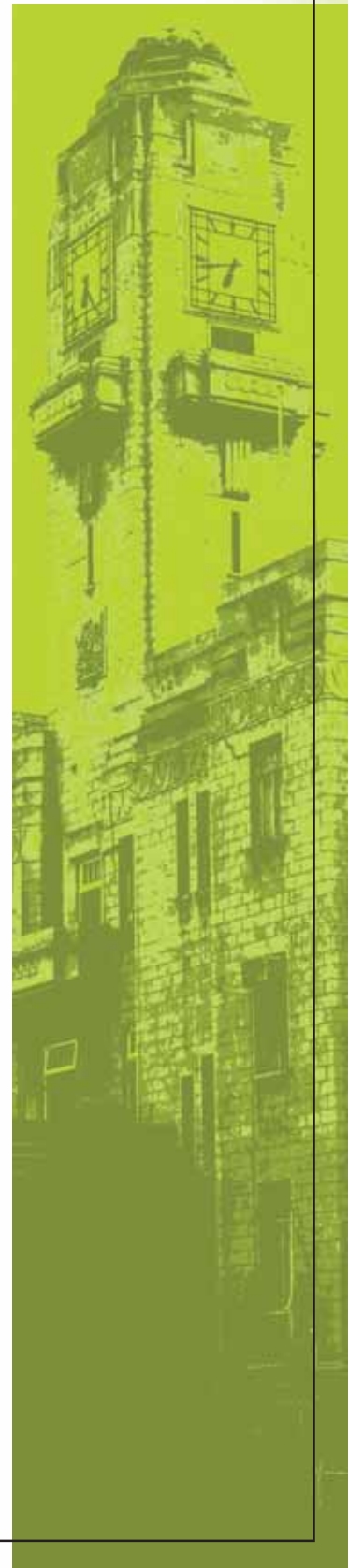
The Chairperson invited the Treasurer, Mr. Ronald Gordon, to present the audited accounts for the financial year.

Mr. Gordon referred to the audited financial statements on pages 4 to 15, and invited questions from the floor.

7.1 Dr. S.M. Sahu Khan queried the increase in subscriptions, Disciplinary Committee hearings, sponsorships and travel expenses.

The Chairperson replied that where the Council has made a determination where his participation at a meeting is justified, the Council has always tried to find external funds to permit that. He added that between March and July this year, he travelled abroad four times to Law Society functions. He attended the Executive Committee of Law Asia in Hong Kong in March and paid for his own airfares and the FLS funded the accommodation, which was \$864.16. He attended his first meeting of the Commonwealth Lawyers Association in London in June, his airfares and accommodation were funded by the British High Commission and the FLS paid for his visa fee of \$165 and subsistence of \$486.82. He attended a meeting of Law Asia in China in July, and his airfare was funded by the Government of the People's Republic of China and he paid for accommodation and incidentals. He was invited by the Queensland Law Society to attend the Dinner of the incoming President, Mr. J. Pinder and he paid for his airfares, accommodation and incidentals. He will be attending a meeting of the International Bar Association, in which he is a member of the Committee on the Access to Justice.

He will attend the Panel Discussion with the Chief Justice of Nigeria in Chicago, and he would pay for his airfares, accommodation and incidentals. Later next month, he would attend another Law Asia meeting in Goa, India and would pay for



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his own airfares. On his Accountant's reckoning, he had personally paid \$24,187.01 out of his or his company's pocket. The Chairperson stated that the Council had been careful about the members' money, because it was not for them to spend. All duty travels, he estimated that he would be out of his office over a period of 45 days. He expressed that he would be leaving his successor very strong external links that would hold the Society in good stead in the future.

7.2 Mr. Ramesh Prakash was concerned about the substantial increase in membership subscription & practising certificate which was done without consultation with members.

He felt that fee structure was done in a discriminatory manner, whereby older practitioners have been charged a substantial amount as opposed to the younger practitioners, and the officers of the Solicitor-General's Office, whose fee have not been included. He explained that when the LPA was introduced, particularly when all Government lawyers were brought under the umbrella of the FLS, the recommendation of the Fox Commission Report was clear that increase of membership was to share expenses. He felt that the Council has done away with that through a motion or decision and had to be re-looked at by the Society.

The Chairperson explained that Mr. Gordon brought a comprehensive paper to the Council, of which he was the original architect of the proposals and various categories, after eight weeks and four Council meetings of deferring the matter, the Council unanimously approved the scale.

In relation to Government lawyers, a lot of expenses were spent on overseeing trust accounts, administration and the like. He added that Mr. Gordon probably had in mind the Government lawyers were the least troublesome in terms of administrative and other costs.

Mr. Ronald Gordon added that the reasons members were not consulted was that the Council had delayed the matter in about four or more meetings and by the time a decision was to be made, information on fees were to be sent to members for the next year. The Council unanimously felt that since it was elected to look after the welfare of the members, it had the mandate to increase the fees otherwise they would have had to wait for another year. He said the

new Council would look into the matter, and if the members felt strongly about it, he suggested a resolution be moved that a committee be appointed or the new Council look into it. He admitted that the Council should have consulted the membership, and apologised for the decision made as it was not deliberate.

Mr. Gordon reiterated what the Chairperson said with regard to discrimination in the structure of fees. The Secretariat cost of young practitioners and the Attorney-General's Chambers statutory body members were far less, as opposed to senior practitioners, particularly partners and those who held trust accounts. He felt that it would have been unfair to many members if the Council was uniform in its assessment of an increased subscription or service of practice certificate. The Council referred to the Legal Practitioners Act which stated that the Council can from time to time levy different amounts to different class of members. The Council had discussed that the matter would be looked at in the AGM.

7.3 On the Convention account Mr. Ronald Gordon commented that Sponsorships under Income was \$45,208 and the net surplus was \$44,972 and there could have been a loss if there was no sponsorship. During the budgeting process by the Convention Committee, he was involved in the costing, which was projected to be a breakeven. Sponsorships were not budgeted for and most were received during or after the conference proper. The large cost was due to accommodation of speakers and invited guests, both local and overseas, but overseas guests paid their own airfares. The other reason for the huge cost was the 50th year Anniversary Convention, which was a big event.

7.4 Mr. Ronald Gordon also commented on rebates and refunds. He added if the net surplus was divided by the people who attended, the refund would have been negligible. Accounts were kept separate so that the surplus of \$45,000 would be used for the next Convention. He assured the members that it will never be the intention of the Council of FLS to make a profit from its members in a convention.

The Chairperson expressed that there was a strong body of opinion that there should

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always be more local speakers at the Convention. He added when planning the Convention, the Secretariat and Council emailed local practitioners to volunteer to present papers at the Convention and only a few responded, which forced the Council to look offshore. All overseas speakers, including the Chief Justice of New Zealand paid their own airfares to and from the Convention site.

Ms. Wati Seeto disagreed with the sentiments expressed by Mr. Gordon that as the members elected the Council, they had the mandate to increase the subscription fees.

Her reason being she may have been in the minority group that did not vote the Council in. She suggested that anything which affected payments of money from people's pockets or certain rights of members over others, or anything that means taking more from one group, so that the rest of the group would benefit should be decided by the whole membership.

The Chairperson begged to differ with the comments and referred members to section 20 of the Legal Practitioners Act, which states: "The Council should have the management of the Society and may exercise all the powers of the Society and do and acts as are directed or authorised to be done by the Society."

7.5 Mr. Ronald Gordon referred to page 5 of the accounts on Consolidated Income Statement, which showed a net surplus of \$103,013 that resulted from consolidating regular activities and Convention activities. The other intention of the increase in subscription fees is to engage a full-time legal officer or complaints officer to handle legal complaints before the departure of the current one. FLS has a full-time lawyer on a volunteer contract, Mr. Alex Clunies-Ross, who handles manuals, reviews all complaints and is preparing a complaints procedure. There has been difficulty in finding a replacement and there is a possibility of requesting the Solicitor-General to second someone from his Chambers. Volunteers who were engaged did not produce the required outcome, hence the need for the payment of the appointee on the commercial market rate. He assured members that the surplus of \$103,000 would be used for membership services.

7.6 Mr. Gordon stated that capital

accumulation is also being considered to purchase a building for FLS. Approximately, \$150,000 is in term deposit and in the next financial year, the Council hopes to deposit another \$150,000, and estimating about \$0.5 million for a deposit of a property.

7.7 Mr. Gordon referred to note 5 of the Balance Sheet on page 6 on VAT account under Assets was \$31,843 and \$11,403 under Liabilities. He reiterated that the preliminary calculations, which indicated if FLS is liable to pay VAT, it would be in a refund situation.

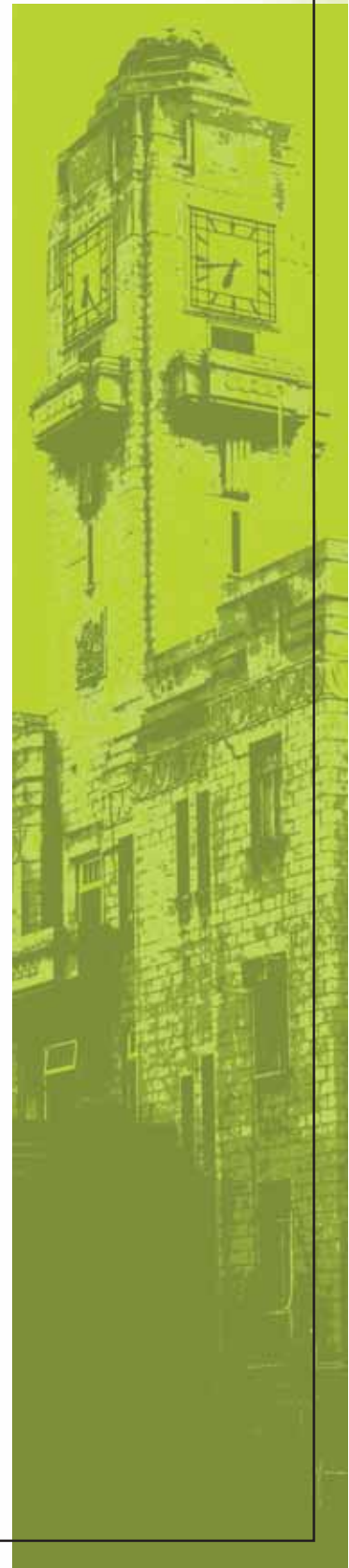
7.8 Mr. Gordon referred to page 7 on cash flow, showing the liquidity over the year. He referred to pages 8 and 9 – Summary of accounting principles. On page 10 are the receivables and VAT Account.

7.9 Mr. Devanesh Sharma asked what the reason was for the drop of CLEs from \$24,081 in 2005 to \$4,860 in 2006 and who ascertained the type of fees to individual members for CLEs.

Mr. Gordon replied that the reason for the drop was that the Council did not have a structured CLE programme in place for this year. The Secretariat calculated a cost of \$35 per CLE, to take into account the costs of venue hire, refreshments, speakers' travel and accommodation and the Secretariat. The Secretariat calculated it at breakeven or a slightly loss situation, and the structure employed is cheaper than what the Fiji Institute of Accountants have for the cost of their CLEs. There was no structured CLE programme because under the statute, the Board of Legal Education (BLE) is responsible for the provision of a programme for CLE.

Resources have been a problem for the Board of Legal Education. He encouraged the members to help the Government wherever possible, as has been the practice.

Dr S.M. Sahu Khan suggested that CLEs are arranged with advanced notification to members or a programme drawn up for up to six or 12 months. For the Western Division, there is lack of CLEs in Lautoka to meet the requirements. He asked why CLEs were only held in Lautoka and not Ba and Nadi. The new Council will have to address the issue of having a CLE programme.



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The Chairperson replied that the Council had struggled with regard to CLEs, whereby they go to members of the Bar and indicate the areas of interest or members could even suggest a topic. The response has so far been disappointing as practitioners who promise to subscribe to the programme do not do so. It is not the responsibility of FLS to draw up the programme, but to assist.

Ms. Afrana Nisha advised the Chairperson that running a CLE costs between \$300 to \$400, which included the hire of the venue, morning and afternoon tea, and support staff. There is a need to have the number in order for it to self-pay. A CLE was supposed to have been held in Nadi, where Mr. Ballu Singh was supposed to have presented, but was cancelled due to the attendance of only three registrations. FLS's approach to CLEs has been *ad hoc*.

Mr. Richard Naidu commented on local speakers, both at the Convention and CLEs. In the last Convention, he felt the two best sessions were conducted by Mr. Buksh of Reserve Bank of Fiji and Mr. Isikeli Mataitoga. He suggested that the Council look at other professionals rather than just the local legal professionals. He reminded members that lawyers do not have a monopoly on legal knowledge, and that there are number of people in the community who are not lawyers, but could give members targeted and relevant education.

The Chairperson fully endorsed the sentiments by Mr. Richard Naidu and expressed that it is a multi-disciplinary world and a lawyer who simply dispenses legal and not commercial advice is now going to be something of a dinosaur.

Ms. Alofa Seruvatu commented that the problems of FLS are limited finance and resources. She suggested two ways of increasing FLS's financial situation are for FLS to fundraise, as there should not be total reliance on Government or donor agencies. Also, there should be a membership drive, for unregistered lawyers, who are not practising to pay for their membership fee to the FLS.

The Chairperson replied that Ms Seruvatu's views have been noted.

Mr. Rajendra Chaudhary stated that the

Council should see that the Board of Legal Education organises enough CLEs, not only in Suva but also in Lautoka.

The Chairperson replied that there were 34 CLEs earning opportunity hours in the last 12 months. In addition, were the DPP's Conference, the Attorney-General's Conference and one at IJALS. He reassured members that it would also be a matter that the new Council would address with appropriate vigour.

Ms. Tupou Draunidalo congratulated the Fiji Women's Lawyers Association who recently had a CLE on South Sea Island, whereby seven or eight members from Suva and seven members from the West attended and there was a discussion on the Land Sales Act, section 6.

Mr. Anu Patel moved and Mr. Alipate Qetaki seconded that the financial reports for 2005/2006 be adopted. All those present were in favour.

7.0 CLOSING REMARKS:

7.1 The Chairperson pleaded to the members, to deal with the Secretariat staff at Gordon Street with an appropriate level of respect and courtesy. He added that an odd-member or two of FLS sometimes felt that it was their prerogative to abuse or be discourteous to the staff. Professional behaviour is requested of members as the Secretariat staffs are hard working and support the work of FLS.

8.0 ELECTION OF THE 2006-2007 COUNCIL:

The Chairperson stated that when the balloting ended, there were 310 ballot papers sent out to the entire membership of the FLS and by 4.00 p.m. of 8th September, 2006, 245 ballots were returned. 235 ballots cast, with 10 invalid votes.

The results were as follows:

Mr. Devanesh Sharma
President
Ms. Tupou Draunidalo
Vice-President
Mr. Luke Daunivalu
Council Member
Mr. Isireli Fa

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Council Member

Mr. Robinson Prasad

Council Member

Mr. Neel Shivam

Council Member (re-elected)

Ms. Shayne Sorby

Council Member

Ms. Laurel Vaurasi

Council Member (re-elected)

The Chairperson commended the work of the Committee responsible for the conduct of the ballot namely Mr. Ramesh Prakash, Ms. Diana Buresova, Ms. Mavis Joseph, Mr. Atuncisa Siwatibau and Ms. Alanieta Vakatale. He also stated on behalf of the old Council conveyed their best wishes to the new Council.

9.0 OTHER BUSINESS:

9.1 Mr. Peter Knight raised the issue of the way FIRCA has been conducting itself, particularly on the profits made on the sale of land and enquired as to who the court of review was.

The Chairperson replied that probably Mr. Jayant Prakash, a former High Court Judge was to be appointed to that position.

Ms. Alena Koroi from the Fiji Islands Revenue and Customs Authority stated with regard to land sales tax, Mr. Michael Scott implemented the project. She added that at present, no court has been convened for the project and there have been submissions by practitioners on behalf of clients. She has been advised by Mr. Scott that it is in effect an advanced tax and has to be involved in whenever land sale undertaken.

She suggested the Council contact the FIRCA Senior Legal Counsel and the VAT Department.

Mr. Amani Bale supported the sentiments raised by Mr. Peter Knight. He said the problems arise from the difference between land sales and the Income Tax Act. Land sales only deals with property and sale of land and there are four exceptions. Income Tax Act deals with other things that are the reason it does not define agricultural land, as that it defined under ALTA. Income Tax Act was not set up to tax on agricultural land; it was dealt under the Land Sales Act.

That is the reason there is no practice

statement on agricultural land in the FIRCA website.

9.2 Ms. Alena Koroi raised the issue of new practitioners' complaints regarding costs of wig and gowns and replacement costs, which are only available in Australia and New Zealand, are too expensive and of short supply, which has led to practitioners sharing. She requested the Council to advise members on this.

The Chairperson replied that the concerns have been noted and the Secretariat would provide some practical suggestions. He said that Lala Stores produces and sell gowns, but not wigs.

10.0 CLOSE OF MEETING:

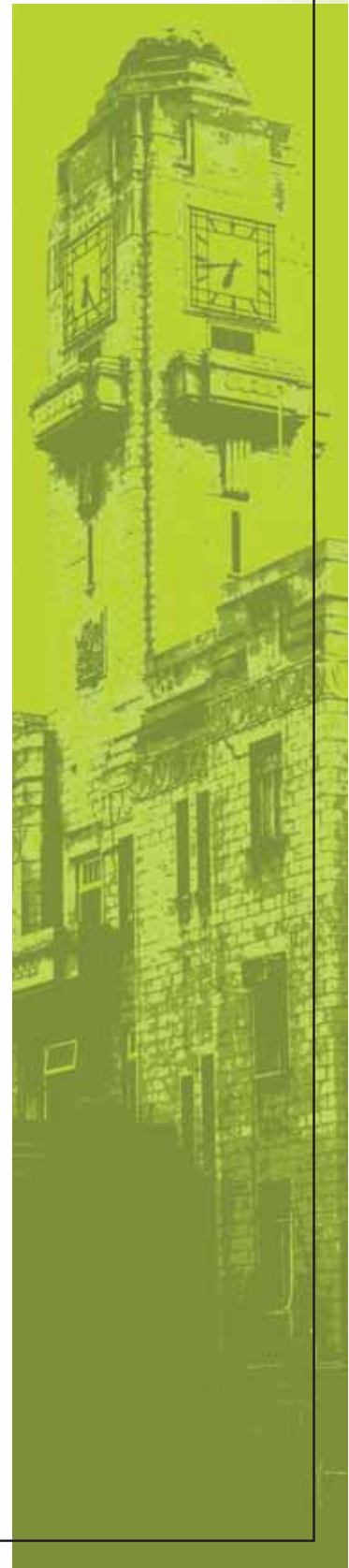
The Chairperson thanked all those present for attending the meeting.

Dr. M.S. Sahu Khan thanked the Chairperson on behalf of the members.

After the close of the meeting the outgoing Chair invited the newly appointed President to say a few words. Mr. Devanesh Sharma then gave a brief speech and thanked the members for his election.

The President declared the meeting closed at 4:00 p.m.

Graham Leung
Chairperson



2007 FIJI LAW SOCIETY MEMBERS

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NO MEMBERS NAME

1.	ALI, Alvina	46.	FA, Tevita
2.	ALI, Caroll Lynette Sela	47.	FATIAKI, Yvonne Aitu
3.	APTED, Jon Leslie	48.	FA-TUITUKU, Ulamila
4.	ARCHIBALD, Wendell	49.	FENTON, Florence
5.	ARJUN, Michael Shalendra	50.	FONG, Anthea Suelyn
6.	AVERY, John Bernard	51.	GANILAU, Lusiana
7.	BAI, Gene	52.	GEORGE, Waleen Maria
8.	BALE, Amani	53.	GORDON, Donald
9.	BALE, Antonio	54.	GORDON, Ronald Rajesh
10.	BALE, Jone	55.	GOUNDAR, Leena
11.	BALE, Qoriniasi Babitu	56.	GREEN, Ropate
12.	BALE, Setavana Saumatua	57.	HANIFF, Feizal Younas
13.	BALI, Ashika Vikashni	58.	HIUARE, Willy
14.	BANUVE, Savenaca	59.	HOWARD, Peter
15.	BARNES, Nicholas	60.	HUDSON, Elsie
16.	BASAWAIYA, Nehla Subramani	61.	HUGHES, Gwendolyn
17.	BENEFIELD, Michael	62.	INOKE, Sosefo
18.	BHAI, Maganlal Vithal	63.	JALAL, Patricia Imrana
19.	BILIMORIA, Nilesh	64.	JAMNADAS, Dilip Kumar
20.	BOSEIWAQA, Jioji Momo	65.	JATTAN, Joytika
21.	BUATOKA, Kelera Baleisuva	66.	JOSEPH, Mavis Elizabeth
22.	BULAMAINAIVALU, Selai	67.	JUNIOR, Josefa Mainavolau
23.	CABEALAWA, Ropate	68.	KABU, Ma'imoa Koila
24.	CAMA, Talei Grace	69.	KAMA, Biu Matavou
25.	CAMERON, John	70.	KAPADIA, Ramanlal
26.	CEVALAWA, Siteri	71.	KAPADIA, Viren
27.	CHAN, Marie Anne	72.	KARAN, Noleen
28.	CHAND, Mahendra Pratap	73.	KARAVAKI, Semesa
29.	CHAND, Ram	74.	KEIL, Franz Georg
30.	CHANDRA, Suresh	75.	KENILOREA, Pamela
31.	CHANG, Vanessa	76.	KHAN, Faiz Feroz
32.	CHAN-LIGAIULA, Davina	77.	KHAN, Iqbal
33.	CHAUDHARY, Rajendra Pal Singh	78.	KHAN, Mohammed Afzal
34.	CHAUDHRY, Rajendra Pal	79.	KHAN, Mohammed Anwar
35.	CLARKE, William Wylie	80.	KHAN, Mohammed Faiyam
36.	COLAVANUA, Sovanatabua	81.	KHAN, Natasha Feroz
37.	DALITUICAMA, Peni	82.	KINIVUWAI, Faranisee
38.	DAUBNEY, Alfred Martin	83.	KNIGHT, Peter Ian
39.	DAUNIVALU, Luke	84.	KOFE, Simon Robert
40.	AVETA, Vilitati Macanawai	85.	KOHLI, Ami Chandra
41.	DEVI, Bindula	86.	KOMAISAVAI, Savenaca
42.	DRAUNIDALO, Tupou	87.	KOROI, Alena
43.	DROVA, Milinia Ramatalava	88.	KOYA, Faiyaz Siddiq
44.	DUTTA, Michael Surendra	89.	KOYA, Siddiq Faizal
45.	FA, Isireli Tuifua	90.	KRISHNA, Ram

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NO MEMBERS NAME

91.	KRISHNA, Shailend Ram	135.	MISHRA, Vipul Manojdutt
92.	KUMAR, Dharendra	136.	MOHAMMED, Aziz
93.	KUMAR, Kamal	137.	MOODY, Marigold
94.	KURUDUADUA, Sainivalati	138.	MORGAN, Walton
95.	LACANIVALU, Filimone	139.	MUA, Makereta Hiagi
96.	LAJENDRA, Nilesh	140.	MUAROR, Kafoa
97.	LAKSHMAN, Chaitanya	141.	MUIR, Mary Lynn
98.	LAL, Renee	142.	NACO, Akuila
99.	LAL, Vandhana	143.	NACOLAWA, Saimoni
100.	LALA, Gyaneshwar Prasad	144.	NAGIN, Hemendra Kumar
101.	LATA, Angeline	145.	NAIDU, Dorsami
102.	LATEEF, Feroze Sharoff	146.	NAIDU, Kamni
103.	LATEEF, Haroon	147.	NAIDU, Radhika Sunila
104.	LATEEF, Shazran	148.	NAIDU, Richard Krishnan
105.	LEE, Thomas	149.	NAIDU, Ritesh
106.	LEKENAUA, Alumita	150.	NAIDU, Vijay Chand
107.	LEUNG, Graham Everett	151.	NAILATIKAU, Adi Koila Mara
108.	LEVACI, Senileba Lia	152.	NAIR, Jotishna Shoba
109.	LEWARAVU, Jereamaia	153.	NAIVALU, Mosese
110.	LEWENI, Taina	154.	NAND, Mukesh
111.	LEWENIQILA, Semi Lalama	155.	NAND, Nainendra
112.	LIGABALAVU, Luseyane Rai	156.	NANDAN, Siddharth
113.	LIGABALAVU, Melaia Senibua	157.	NARAYAN, Adish Kumar
114.	LIGANI, Seremaia	158.	NARAYAN, Bhavna
115.	LORD, Mafi	159.	NARAYAN, Prem Lata
116.	LOW, Pulekeria Maibatiki	160.	NARAYAN, Vandhana Devi
117.	LOWING, Peter Allan	161.	NAWAIKULA, Niko
118.	LUVENI, Pacolo	162.	NAWAQAKUTA, Rupeni
119.	MACEDRU, Alesi Nasiga	163.	NAWASAITOGA, Naomi
120.	MADRAIWIWI, Ratu Jone Mainabua Tuimacilai	164.	NEELTA, Anuleshni Neelum
121.	MAHARAJ, Amrita	165.	NEWTON, Robert Keith
122.	MAHARAJ, Suresh Chandra	166.	NGAMOKI-CAMERON, Carl
123.	MAHARAJ, Vijay Prakash	167.	O'DRISCOLL, Gavin
124.	MAHARAJ-WONG, Poonam	168.	OLUTIMAYIN, Rachel
125.	MAITAVA, Malcolm	169.	PAL, Armish Amendra
126.	MALIMALI, Barbara	170.	PALA, Jainesh Rohit
127.	MANGAL, Jaynen	171.	PARSHOTAM, Satish Ratilal
128.	MANOA, Pio Emosi	172.	PARSHOTAM, Subhas Chandra
129.	MAOPA, Eroni	173.	PATEL, Anu Shiwabhai
130.	MARAWAI, Kini	174.	PATEL, Bhupendra
131.	MASIYAKA, Jekope	175.	PATEL, Praful
132.	MATAITINI, Ratu Alipate Doviverata	176.	PATEL, Ramesh
133.	MATEBALAVU, Apisalome Rabo	177.	PATEL, Vasantika
134.	McDONNELL, Paul Francis	178.	PRAKASH, Deepika
		179.	PRAKASH, Rameshwar



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NO	MEMBERS NAME
180.	PRASAD, Artika
181.	PRASAD, Divendra
182.	PRASAD, Mohini Devi
183.	PRASAD, Nakil Navinesh
184.	PRASAD, Nilesh
185.	PRASAD, Preetika
186.	PRASAD, Robinson Kamal
187.	PRASAD, Sarju
188.	PRATAP, Ajendra
189.	PUAMAU, Volau
190.	PUNJA, Champa
191.	QETAKI, Alipate
192.	QIONIBARAVI, Litia Qoliwasawasa
193.	QIONIBARAVI, Vukidonu
194.	QORO, Kemueli
195.	RABUKA, Epli Vanuacicila
196.	RABUKU, Henry
197.	RABUKU, John
198.	RAFIQ, Mohammed
199.	RAIKADROKA, Joseva
200.	RAKAI, Mele Loloilo
201.	RAM, Adrian Sunil Parshu
202.	RAM, Hari
203.	RAM, Samuel Kamlesh
204.	RAM, Vijayendra Parshu
205.	RAMANU, Isireli
206.	RAMRAKHA, Karam Chand
207.	RANIGA, Jay Shree
208.	RARAMASI, Salakubou
209.	RASOVO, Mereoni
210.	RATUBALAVU, Jovesa
211.	RATUVILI, Usaia
212.	RAYAWA, Timaima Tuiketeki
213.	RAZA, Mehboob
214.	REDDY, Avinesh
215.	REIHER, Lorraine Maria
216.	RIGAMOTO, Walter Gibson
217.	ROBINSON, Harry Arthur
218.	ROCHE, Ian Douglas
219.	ROKOMOKOTI, Ana
220.	RUDRANATHAN, Rama Chandran
221.	SADIQ, Mohammed
222.	SADOLE, Asesela
223.	SAHU KHAN, Muhammad Nazeem Ud-Dean
224.	SAHUKHAN, Dr Muhammad Shams-Ud-Dean
225.	SAHUKHAN, Mohammed Azeem-Ud-Dean
226.	SAHUKHAN, Mohammed Kamal-Ud-Dean
227.	SAHUKHAN, Naveed Nadeem
228.	SAHUKHAN, Shabina
229.	SAHUKHAN, Zulfikar Rahman
230.	SAILO, Eparama
231.	SALELE, Peniana
232.	SAMAD, Irshad Hussein Qureshi
233.	SAMUSAMUVODRE, Penaia Driu
234.	SAUDUADUA, Ita Dolo
235.	SAVOU, Jeremaia
236.	SAVOU, Jiaoji
237.	SAVOU, Mereani Vuli
238.	SAYED-KHAIYUM, Aiyaz
239.	SCOTT, Michael John
240.	SEETO, Trevor William
241.	SEETO, Wati Maopa
242.	SEN, Amrit
243.	SEN, Saadhvi
244.	SENIKURACIRI, Resina
245.	SERU, Apaitia
246.	SERULAGILAGI, Salaseini
247.	SERUVATU, Alofa Aiva
248.	SHAH, Haroon Ali
249.	SHAH, Julie Arun
250.	SHAH, Krishn Ahmed
251.	SHAH, Sheik Hussein
252.	SHAH, Sofia Shanaz
253.	SHAMEEM, Shaista
254.	SHANDIL, Varun Pushp
255.	SHANKAR, Sapt Rishi
256.	SHARAN, Archana Nomika
257.	SHARMA, Devanesh Prakash
258.	SHARMA, Deven Prasad
259.	SHARMA, Janendra
260.	SHARMA, Navneel
261.	SHARMA, Neelam Kavita
262.	SHARMA, Pravesh Prakash
263.	SHARMA, Roslin Neelam Raksha
264.	SHARMA, Sharvada
265.	SHARMA, Sunil

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NO MEMBERS NAME

266.	SHARMA, Suruj Prasad	309.	TUIFAGALELE, Nemani Sakavaki
267.	SHARMA, Suruj Prasad	310.	TUILEVUKA, Anare
268.	SHARMA, Sushil Chand	311.	TUILOMA, Eliesa
269.	SHARMA, Tirath Ganga	312.	TUIMANU, Virisila
270.	SHIVAM, Neel	313.	TUINAOSARA, Kitione
271.	SIKURI, Temalesi	314.	TUITOGA, Tomasi
272.	SIMPSON, Naomi Nance	315.	TUIVAGA, Raijeli Vasakula
273.	SINGH, Abhay Kumar	316.	TUNIDAU, Kevueli
274.	SINGH, Anand Kumar	317.	TURAGA, Siromi Dokonivalu
275.	SINGH, Anil Jatinder	318.	TUWAQA, Sivoki
276.	SINGH, Babu Indrashekhar	319.	ULUIVITI, Asenaca
277.	SINGH, Chandra	320.	VADEI, Samuela
278.	SINGH, Chatur Dasrath	321.	VAKALOLOMA, Aseri
279.	SINGH, Daniel	322.	VAKATALE, Alanieta
280.	SINGH, Jaswant Sailendra	323.	VALENITABUA, Sevuloni Ratumaiyale
281.	SINGH, Kunal Yogendra	324.	VALENITABUA, Simone
282.	SINGH, Raman Pratap	325.	VANIQI, Samanunu
283.	SINGH, Ronal Jaswindra	326.	VARGA, Tania Erica
284.	SINGH, Roopesh Prakash	327.	VAURASI, Laurel
285.	SINGH, Shelvin Amit	328.	VERE, Naipote
286.	SINGH-DEVAN, Roneesh Shoma	329.	VERETAWATINI, Alisi Ditini
287.	SIWATIBAU, Atunaisa	330.	VERETAWATINI, Eroni
288.	SLOAN, James Christopher	331.	VERMA, Suresh Chandra
289.	SOATA, Miriama Rokotavu	332.	VESIKULA, Isireli
290.	SOLANKI, Bhupendra	333.	VOSAROGO, Vilimone
291.	SORBY, Shayne Anne Talei	334.	VUATAKI, Kitione
292.	SUDHAKAR, Ashneel	335.	VUIBAU, Timaima
293.	SWEETMAN, Barrie Nelson	336.	VUKICA, Setareki
294.	TABAKANALAGI, Semi	337.	VULA, Epeli
295.	TAGICAKI-KUBUABOLA, Silipa	338.	VUNIWAQA, Mereseini Rakuita
296.	TAGIVAKATINI, Jone	339.	WAKANIVONOLOA, Mesake
297.	TAKILAI -LEWARAVU, Silvia	340.	WAQABITU, Silika Vuilagi
298.	TAKIVEIKATA, Rita Christiana Joan Morris	341.	WAQAINABETE, Seremaia
299.	TAMANI, Faranise Gavidi	342.	WAQANIKA, Tanya
300.	TAMANIKAIWAIMARO, Salanieta Tudrau	343.	WATKINS, Angelique Maree
301.	TAMATA, Laitia	344.	WILLIAM, Dennis Julius
302.	TAPPOO, Vinod	345.	WILLOUGHBY, Piccolo
303.	TAVO, Ane Tavo aka Ane Kalala	346.	YEE, Glenis
304.	TERERE, Tabibiri Tentau	347.	YOUNG, Chen Bunn
305.	TIKARAM, Anil Kumar	348.	ZURU, Abdullahi
306.	TUBERI, Cama		
307.	TUBERI, Iniasi Vodo		
308.	TUBUNA, Marama		



ROLL OF PRESIDENTS

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(FORMED 22ND NOVEMBER 1956 - INCORPORATED 3RD DECEMBER 1965)

2007 MR. DEVANESH PRAKASH SHARMA

2006	Mr. Graham Leung	1981	Mr. Kishor Nand Govind
2005	Mr. Graham Leung	1980	Mr. Kishor Nand Govind
2004	Mr. Chen Bunn Young	1979	Mr. Kishor Nand Govind
2003	Mr. Chen Bunn Young	1978	Mr. Kishor Nand Govind
2002	Mr. Chen Bunn Young	1977	Mr. Manikam Pillay
2001	Mr. Chen Bunn Young	1976	Mr. Narendra Singh Arjun
2000	Mr. Peter Ian Knight	1975	Mr. Narendra Singh Arjun
1999	Mr. Peter Ian Knight	1974	Mr. Karam Chand Ramrakha
1998	Mr. Haroon Lateef	1973	Mr. Faiz Mohammed Khan Sherani
1997	Mr. Haroon Lateef	1972	Mr. Kantilal Parshotam
1996	Mr. Ram Krishna	1971	Mr. Kantilal Parshotam
1995	Mr. Ram Krishna	1970	Mr. Karam Chand Ramrakha
1994	Mr. Ram Krishna	1969	Mr. Faiz Mohammed Khan Sherani
1993	Mr. Ram Krishna	1968	Mr. Robert Lindsay Munro
1992	Mr. Barrie Sweetman	1967	Mr. Robert Lindsay Munro
1991	Mr. Barrie Sweetman	1966	Mr. Donald John Warren
1990	Mr. Harish Sharma	1965	Mr. Donald John Warren
1989	Mr. Harish Sharma	1964	Mr. Kenneth Albert Stuart
1988	Mr. Geoffrey Miles Johnson	1963	Mr. Kenneth Albert Stuart
1987	Mr. Mohammed Shams-Ud-Dean Sahu Khan	1962	Mr. Kenneth Albert Stuart
1986	Mr. Mohammed Shams-Ud-Dean Sahu Khan	1961	Mr. Robert Lindsay Munro
1985	Mr. Mohammed Shams-Ud-Dean Sahu Khan	1960	Mr. Robert Lindsay Munro
1984	Mr. Mohammed Shams-Ud-Dean Sahu Khan	1959	Mr. Donald Malcolm Noel McFarlane
1983	Mr. Mohammed Shams-Ud-Dean Sahu Khan	1958	Mr. Donald Malcolm Noel McFarlane
1982	Mr. Narendra Arjun Singh	1957	Mr. Donald Malcolm Noel McFarlane
		1956	Mr. Donald Malcolm Noel McFarlane

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Mr. Abdul Lateef
Mr. Barrie Sweetman
Mr. Chatur Dasrath Singh
Mr. Harish Sharma

Sir Moti Tikaram
Mr. Ram Krishna
Sir Timoci Tuivaga