



NATIONAL PARLIAMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT – FIRST SESSION – FIRST MEETING

MINUTES

No. 4

Thursday 6 June 2019

NP/05/1/11

The Speaker took the Chair at 10:05 a.m.

Prayers were said by the Clerk.

The following Members were:

**Present:** Hon. Peter Shanel Agovaka  
Hon. Chachabule Rebi Amoi  
Hon. Ishmael Mali Avui  
Hon. Douglas Ete  
Hon. Titus Mokofi Fika  
Hon. Levi Senley Filualea  
Hon. Jackson Fiulaua  
Hon. John Moffat Fugui  
Hon. Robertson E. Galokale  
Hon. Nestor Giro  
Hon. Rick Nelson Houenipwela  
Hon. Shemuel Sam Iduri  
Hon. Dr Tautai Agikimua Kaituu  
Hon. Martin Mokolo Kealoe  
Hon. Peter Kenilorea (Jnr)  
Hon. Frederick Kologeto  
Hon. Duddley Kopu  
Hon. John Deane Kuku  
Hon. Harry Kuma  
Hon. Christopher Laore  
Hon. Charles Jordan Maefai  
Hon. Manasseh Maelanga  
Hon. Augustine Auga Maeue

Hon. Samson Maneka  
Hon. Jeremiah Manele  
Hon. John Maneniaru  
Hon. Samuel Manetoali  
Hon. Derick Rawcliff Manu'ari  
Hon. William Bradford Marau  
Hon. Commins Aston Mewa  
Hon. Dickson Panakitasi Mua  
Hon. Bartholomew Parapolo  
Hon. Rexon Annex Ramofafia  
Hon. Clezy C. Rore  
Hon. Rollen Seleso  
Hon. Stanley Festus Sofu  
Hon. Manasseh Damukana Sogavare  
Hon. Freda A. B. Tuki Soriacomua  
Hon. Makario Tagini  
Hon. Lanelle Olandrea Tanangada  
Hon. Silas Kerry Vaqara Tausinga  
Hon. Dr Culwick Togamana  
Hon. Bradley Tovosia  
Hon. Namson Tran  
Hon. Anthony Kamutulaka Veke  
Hon. Jaimie Vokia  
Hon. Matthew Cooper Wale

**Absent:** Hon. Heinz Horst Bodo Dettke  
Hon. Danny Philp  
Hon. Charles Sigoto

**In attendance:** Mr John Muria, *Attorney General*

### **ELECTION OF GOVERNOR-GENERAL**

The Clerk announced that on Tuesday 4 June 2019 the House had agreed to hold the election of the Governor-General today, Thursday 6 June 2019.

At the closure of nominations at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday 5 June 2019, the Office of the Clerk received only one nomination for the election of the Governor-General designate.

Therefore, pursuant to Standing Order 76 and Standing Order 5 of the National Parliament of Solomon Islands, the Clerk declared that the Most Reverend David Vunagi had been duly elected unopposed as the Governor-General designate.

### **STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER**

The Prime Minister made the following statement:

*“We, the National Parliament of Solomon Islands here assembled, wish to inform Your Majesty that following an election on [Thursday 6 June 2019], the Most Reverend David Vunagi was elected by Parliament to be the next Governor-General designate of Solomon Islands, and, in accordance with Section 27 (1) of the Constitution of Solomon Islands 1978, humbly request Your Majesty to appoint the person so elected to the office of the Governor-General of Solomon Islands at the expiry of the term of office of the incumbent Governor-General.”*

The Prime Minister further added a few remarks.

The Speaker allowed only the Leader of Opposition and the Leader of the Independent Group to contribute to the statement made by the Prime Minister.

## **MOTIONS**

### **Motion No. 2 – Sine Die**

Hon. Manasseh Sogavare, Prime Minister had moved:

*“That at the adjournment of Parliament on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the present meeting shall be concluded and Parliament shall then stand adjourned *sine die*.”*

Debate on the motion continued and the following members contributed:

- |                            |   |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Hon. Douglas Ete           | - | MP for East Honiara  |
| Hon. Frederick Kologeto    | - | Minister for Public Service & MP for South Vella La Vella      |
| Hon. Rexon Annex Ramofafia | - | MP for Fataleka  |
| Hon. John Moffat Fugui     | - | MP for Central Honiara   |
| Hon. Harry Kuma            | - | Minister for Finance and Treasury & MP for North West Choiseul |

*Parliament suspended at 12:30 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.*

*Parliament resumed at 2:09 p.m.*

Debate on the motion continued and the following members contributed:

- |                   |   |  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Hon. Anthony Veke | - | Minister for Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening & MP for West Guadalcanal |
|-------------------|---|--|

- Hon. Jeremiah Manele - Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade & MP for Hograno/Kia/Havulei
- Hon. Dickson Mua - Minister for Health and Medical Services & MP for Savo/Russells
- Hon. Ishmael Mali Avui - Minister for Forestry and Research & MP for East Central Guadalcanal
- Hon. Charles Jordan Maefai - MP for East Makira
- Hon. Commins Aston Mewa - MP for Temotu Nende

At 4:30pm the Prime Minister moved *“that Standing Order 10 be suspended in accordance with Standing Order 81 to permit the continuation of the business of the House until adjourned by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 10(5).”*

Question put and passed.

Debate on the motion continued and the following members contributed:

- Hon. Rick Houenipwela - Minister for National Planning and Development Coordination & MP for Small Malaita
- Hon. Samson Maneka - MP for North Guadalcanal
- Hon. William Bradford Marau - Minister for Lands, Housing and Survey & MP for Ulawa/Ugi

Point of order by the Speaker who asked the MP for Ulawa/Ugi to restrict his contributions to his relevant portfolio as Minister for Lands, Housing and Survey and not to delve into issues that regarded the Ministry of Commerce, Industries, Labour and Immigration. The Speaker stated that the Minister for Commerce, Industries, Labour and Immigration had already spoken on the motion and just in case questions were raised which pertained to the MP for Ulawa/Ugi’s contributions, it might have caused uncertainty as to who would address such issues if they were needed to be clarified further.

The MP for Ulawa/Ugi continued and concluded his remarks.

Debate on the motion continued and the following members contributed:

- Hon. Peter Shanel Agovaka - Minister for Communication and Aviation & MP for Central Guadalcanal
- Hon. Bartholomew Parapolo - Minister for Culture and Tourism & MP for Ngella
- Hon. John Maneniaru - Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources & MP for West Are’are
- Hon. Robertson Galokale - Leader of the Independent Group & MP for South Choiseul

Point of order by Hon. Peter Shanel Agovaka who stated that if the Leader of the Independent Group had any allegations about former members, there was a platform for that which he could use but he should not have raised it here in Parliament.

The Speaker ruled that whilst the observations that had been made by the Leader of the Independent Group were not aimed towards a particular person and were rather generalised, there were restrictions which the Standing Orders provided for in terms of the content that the Leader had raised during his contribution to the motion. The Speaker asked the Leader of the Independent Group to bear the concerns raised in mind, before he gave the floor back to the Leader.

The Leader of the Independent Group continued with his remarks.

The Speaker asked the Leader of the Independent Group to conclude his remarks to allow the Prime Minister to wind up the debate.

The Leader of the Independent Group concluded his remarks.

The Prime Minister delivered his speech in reply.

Question put and passed.

Before he adjourned Parliament the Speaker advised the House that with particular reference to Standing Orders 32 and 34, he had taken into account the observations raised in relation to the substance and duration of statements. He stated that he had noted the concerns made and wanted to make mention of such just in case something may be done in terms of consultations.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Speaker adjourned Parliament *sine-die* in accordance with the earlier resolution of the House and pursuant to *Standing Order* 10(5) at 8:07 p.m.

**Confirmed**

**Mr Patteson John Oti**  
**Speaker of National Parliament**

**6 June 2019**