



**DEMOCRATIC
COALITION FOR CHANGE
GOVERNMENT**

POLICY STATEMENT

**Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet,
Honiara, Solomon Islands**

FOREWORD

The **Democratic Coalition for Change (DCC) Government** is determined to bring about positive changes. The **DCC Government** will bring about these changes through effective reform programmes to ensure that Solomon Islanders are governed and empowered to achieve a meaningful quality of life.

Past governments have sought to drive reform programmes through ministries and departments with limited and restricted funding modalities. Also, the absence of political will and drive and the need for good leadership in fostering and implementing policies in all facets of the government has resulted in fragmentation and non-achievement of government policies and priorities.

The **DCC Government** is confident to drive its policies with good and honest leadership. The **DCC Government** will take a '*whole of government approach*', so that priority government policies can be achieved through respective cluster-groups. The Policy Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (PIMEU) at the Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (OPMC), will oversee all policy implementation.

As a priority, the **DCC Government** seeks to grow the economy through creating investment opportunities in manufacturing and industry development such as tourism, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, energy and others in an environmentally sustainable manner. All sectoral policies, including our national and foreign securities will be geared towards directing the **DCC Government** policy outlook.

I understand that there are real and formidable challenges before us. However, with united effort from: government ministries, donor and development partners, Non-Government Organisations (NGO), Non-State Actors (NSAs), Private Sector, Civil Society, Faith-based Organisations (FBO), Community-based Organisations (CBO), traditional leaders and chiefs, men, women, youth and children, all resources can be tapped to bring about positive changes that the **DCC Government** expects to achieve.

With concerted efforts to grow the economy and achieve prioritized policy changes, the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will also be achieved.

In submitting this Policy Statement, I humbly ask for your prayers so that God will guide and bless our government and country, Solomon Islands.



Hon. Manasseh Damukana Sogavare, MP

PRIME MINISTER

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ACRONYMS

CAA	Civil Aviation Act
CA	Competent Authority
CBO	Community-based Organisation
CEMA	Commodities Export Marketing Authority
CSSI	Correctional Services of Solomon Islands
DBSI	Development Bank of Solomon Islands
DCC	Democratic Coalition for Change
EHD	Environmental Health Department
ECE	Early Childhood Education
EGC	Economic Growth Centres
FBO	Faith-based Organisations
HCC	Honiara City Council
ICSI	Investment Corporation of Solomon Islands
IDD	Industrial Development Division
IPAM	Institute of Public Administration and Management
IPST	Initial Policy Support Team
JICA	Japanese International Corporation International
KPSI	Kadere Party of Solomon Islands
LRC	Law Reform Commission
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MGA	Main Group Archipelago
MRF	Medical Research Fund
NAC	National Arbitration Council
NDCS	National Demographic Coding System

NDMO	National Disaster Management Office
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NOCSI	National Olympic Committee of Solomon Islands
NRH	National Referral Hospital
NSA	Non-State Actor
NSC	National Sports Council
NTP	National Transport Plan and/or National Tourism Policy
NUP	National Urbanisation Policy
OPMC	Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PAP	Peoples Alliance Party
PGs	Provincial Governments
PFT	Policy Formulation Team
PGs	Provincial Governments
PIMEU	Policy Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Unit
PPIA	Political Party Integrity Act
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PSC	Public Service Commission
RIPEL	Russell Islands Plantations Limited
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SIICAC	Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption
SIG	Solomon Islands Government
SINU	Solomon Islands National University
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SOE	State Owned Enterprises
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UDP	United Democratic Party for Social Reform and Economic Advancement
USP	University of the South Pacific

DEFINITIONS

A meaningful quality of life refers to the improvement of social and economic livelihoods of all peoples in their respective localities.

Funding Modalities refers to different funding sources that the government will utilise to implement the DCC Government policies and programmes.

Whole of government approach refers to collective decision making through effective coordination by Cluster Groupings.

Cluster-Groups refers to grouping of ministries into respective sectors management by the PIMEU to further improve sectoral coordination and coherent policy implementation.

Mix Mode refers to where a training curriculum includes both academic and life skills training.

INTRODUCTION

The **DCC Government** assumed political leadership in Solomon Islands on the 9th of December 2014.

On this day, the Coalition's candidate, Hon Manasseh Damukana Sogavare MP, was elected as Prime Minister with an overwhelming support from the Members of Parliament in the Tenth Parliament of Solomon Islands. This legitimized the **DCC Government's** right to form government and adopt this policy statement.

The **DCC Government** recognizes the need to adopt a more comprehensive policy planning for fundamental and sectoral reforms to positively build and impact on the lives of Solomon Islanders.

This Policy Statement integrates the manifestoes of the United Democratic Party for Social Reform and Economic Advancement (UDP), the Kadere Party of Solomon Islands (KPSI) and the People's Alliance Party (PAP).

In conformity with its members' principles of good governance and with international agreements, such as the Paris Declaration of 2005, the **DCC Government** guarantees ownership of this Policy Statement, hence, commits donors and development partners to support the implementation of this policy.

Consistent with the 2003 Rome Declaration on Harmonization, this policy will be translated and mainstreamed into procedures and action plans of all Government Ministries.

The **DCC Government** aims to facilitate social and economic development that will ensure fair and equitable distribution of goods and services, and improve Solomon Islanders access to equal opportunities.

PART I: POLITICAL DIRECTIONS

1.1 VISION

With the Grace of God, the **DCC Government** humbly pledge to empower all Solomon Islanders to attain a meaningful quality of life through social and economic reforms. With united efforts in leadership to achieve prioritised reforms, all Solomon Islanders, can be assured to see tangible political and spiritual developments.

1.2 MISSION

The mission of the **DCC Government** is to create a God fearing, peaceful, united and progressive Solomon Islands, led by ethical, accountable, respected and credible leadership that enhances and protects peoples' cultural, social and economic wellbeing.

1.3 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The guiding principles of the **DCC Government** are to:

- a) Acknowledge the Sovereignty of God Almighty and depend on His Divine Grace and Blessings;
- b) Uphold the democratic principles of Universal Suffrage and the responsibility of executive authorities to elected bodies;
- c) Adhere to transparency, accountability, responsibility and respect for the rule of law and traditional and cultural values as foundations for good governance;
- d) Cherish and respect the diverse cultural traditions, worthy customs and Christian values within Solomon Islands to build a peaceful, united and progressive country;
- e) Promote leadership that is honest and principled ;
- f) Promote active participation by people in the governance of their own affairs, by providing them with equity participation, within the framework of the rule of law and consistent with the respect of traditional norms and values;
- g) Respect human dignity, by the protection of the most vulnerable, disadvantaged and disabled in society, including women and children and upholding the principles of equality, social justice and equity.
- h) Share the costs and benefits of development of our resources with all people in the country;
- i) Facilitate self-employment, self-reliance and foster productivity in all spheres of development.
- j) Ensure that resource owners are fairly rewarded in the development and utilization of their natural resources;
- k) Enable partnership in development with resource and landowners, private sector, donor partners, NGO's, NSA and the civil society; and
- l) Encourage gender balance and gender mainstreaming, especially in education and employment, including people with special needs.

1.4 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the **DCC Government** are to:

- a) Pursue meaningful reconciliation between our people at all levels of our society based on our traditional norms of peaceful coexistence that would lead to national reconciliation and foster natural healing process.
- b) Sustain peace process and law and order to ensure that the nation attains sustainable peace and harmonious co-existence.
- c) Foster a greater sense of national unity whilst maintaining our varying cultural identity.
- d) Promote national consciousness and ownership of the country by all Solomon Islanders.
- e) Enhance social reform and economic advancement in the country.
- f) Rehabilitate damaged social and economic infrastructure and building of new ones to create a vibrant and robust economic environment to stimulate growth.
- g) Provide an enabling environment to stimulate economic growth, especially in the rural areas.
- h) Pursue Public Sector Reforms and commit resources to enable private sector-led growth in the country.
- i) Address and meet the basic needs of peoples in rural areas.
- j) Identify and resolve the problem of informal settlements in urban and semi-urban areas.
- k) Work towards food security and poverty alleviation for the nation and ensure a healthy, literate and a contented population.
- l) Achieve political stability and encourage decentralization of decision-making in the country.
- m) Ensure that the roles of chiefs and land ownership are recognized, respected, strengthened and supported.
- n) Establish effective measures to protect the traditional rights of indigenous resource owners so that they are awarded maximum benefit and gain ownership from the development and utilization of their resources.
- o) Generate jobs and increased employment opportunities for the growing population and achieve high economic growth, wealth and social wellbeing for all Solomon Islanders.
- p) Ensure the sustainable utilization and conservation of natural resources, protection of the environment and successfully combating the adverse effects of climate change.

PART 2: DRAWBACKS AND CHALLENGES.

Since attaining political independence on 7th July 1978, Solomon Islands has experienced relatively poor economic growth, a direct result of poor governance at all levels. Besides, the civil unrest and the state's inability to provide adequate and quality goods and services to all peoples in the country, was evident since then.

The **DCC Government** attributes this incapacity of the state to the following drawbacks and challenges as indicated in column 1 of Table below. The proposed reforms are stated in column 2.

Challenges	Proposed Reforms
<i>Lack of ethical, accountable, respected and credible leadership</i>	Instil ethical, accountable, respected and credible leadership that will provide long-term and alternative visions for the country.
<i>The absence of a unifying vision that affirms national identity</i>	Strengthen national unity through shared visions and agreed social and economic development goals.
<i>The absence of long-term development strategies</i>	Establish a Twenty Year National Development Strategy that will guide social reform and economic advancement.
<i>Poor Economic Management</i>	Improve economic management and facilitate reforms that will ensure broad-based economic development and increased investment opportunities for all Solomon Islanders.
<i>Insignificance of private sector-led growth</i>	Promote and facilitate private sector-led economic growth.
<i>Poor Governance</i>	Improve and enforce good governance values and practices and ensure accountability and transparency at all levels of governance.
<i>Growing culture of corruption</i>	Prevent and eradicate corruption in all levels in the country.
<i>Absence of personal and collective security</i>	Ensure that Solomon Islands is a secured, peaceful and progressive country for all Solomon Islanders.

In acknowledging the above challenges, the **DCC Government** is committed to addressing them head on with strong conviction and determination to improve the economy, provide good governance at all levels and improve livelihoods of all Solomon Islanders.

The **DCC Government** will make the Solomon Islands the "Happy Isles" once more.

PART 3: LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The **DCC Government** is developing a **Twenty - Year National Development Strategy 2015-2035** that will provide development targets for each sector and facilitate fundamental and sectoral reform programmes. This long-term strategy will also facilitate good governance and encourage broad-based economic development that will enhance improved livelihood for all Solomon Islanders.

The Twenty Year National Development Strategy will be administered by the Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination and will address four (4) major developmental phases;

Developmental Phases	Time Frame
Rediscovery	The <i>first 5-years</i> is a period of rediscovery. Rediscovery will lay the foundations of long-term recovery and reform.
Consolidation	The <i>second 5-years</i> is a period of consolidation. Reform programmes in the rediscovery phase will be consolidated.
Expansion	The <i>third 5-years</i> is a period of expansion. This phase will concentrate on building and improving on achievements of the reform programmes.
Innovation	The <i>final 5-years</i> is a period of innovation. In this phase innovative ideas will flow to roll this Twenty-Year National Development Strategy into the next twenty years.

The **DCC Government** believes that this long-term development strategy will lead to:

- a) Sustainable and equitable economic growth;
- b) Enlarging investment opportunities for all Solomon Islanders;
- c) Availing of rural and customary land for commercial and agricultural development;
- d) Prevention and alleviation of poverty and hunger;
- e) Ensuring environmental sustainability and ownership;
- f) Provision of adequate, accessible and quality social services, infrastructures and utilities for all Solomon Islanders.

The **DCC Government** also believes that absence and non- implementation of these long-term development strategy is our major drawback in the attainment of Millennium Development Goals (MDG). By the same token, it can be inferred that without a long-term development strategy, Solomon Islands will not achieve the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Learning from the past, the **DCC Government** aspires to fight for tangible changes by rediscovering, consolidating, expanding and innovating our platforms for development to attain our MDG's and sustain our SDG's in the long run.

PART 4: REFORM PROGRAMMES

To implement this long-term development strategy, the **DCC Government** will invest in reform programmes. Reform is all about recreation and reorganization. In this connection, the **DCC Government** will recreate and reorganize the economies and structures of our Solomon Islands society.

The **DCC Government** shall reform our economies and structures of governance to adequately meet the basic needs of our peoples.

The **DCC Government** will undertake two parallel reform programmes; namely, Fundamental Reform and Sectoral Reform.

4.1 Fundamental Reform Programme

On Fundamental Reform programmes, the **DCC Government** will redefine the norms and values of Solomon Islands society to become more inclusive to enhance sustainable unity.

The **DCC Government** will provide a vibrant, prudent and accountable Government to:

- a) Oversee efficient and effective conduct of oversight institutions to eradicate corruption, at all levels, in the country.
- b) Establish the **Solomon Islands Independent Commission against Corruption (SIICAC)** in compliance with international anti-corruption conventions and initiatives
- c) Review and strengthen anti-corruption legislations and related subsidiary legislations based on national consensus regarding the laws and mechanisms that must be established and implemented at national and provincial levels to combat corruption.
- d) Review the “Lands and Titles Act”.
- e) Re-establishment of customary land recording and registration process.
- f) Establish a National Arbitration Council (NAC).
- g) Pursue peaceful co-existence, national unity, reconciliation and other acceptance programmes.
- h) Establish a National Demographic Coding System (NDCS).
- i) Review and amend the “Political Parties Integrity Act”.
- j) Review and amend the “National Parliament Electoral (Provisions) Act”.
- k) Pursue and implement Constitutional reform programmes in the country.
- l) Pursue and introduce Federal System of Government in the country.
- m) Restrengthen and support land reform programmes to encourage economic development in customary lands throughout Solomon Islands.
- n) Embark on a nation-wide land restitution programme to resolve outstanding land rental claims by original landowners.

4.2 Sectoral Reform Programme

On Sectoral Reform the **DCC Government** will focus on productive, resource and social sectors. Equally important are judiciary and national security sector and development sector in the Sectoral Reform Programme.

4.2.1 Economic and Finance Sector

The **DCC Government** will promote sustainable economic development to:

- a) Review current national fiscal and monetary policies to enhance broad-based economic development and enable the economy to grow.
- b) Facilitate an enabling environment for indigenous entrepreneurship.
- c) Facilitate the re-establishment of the Development Bank of Solomon Islands (DBSI) to cater for SME and other micro-financing schemes in rural areas.
- d) Review and revitalise Investment Corporation of Solomon Islands (ICSI)
- e) Review and revitalise Investment Commodities Export Marketing Authority (CEMA)
- f) Establish a State Owned Enterprise (SOE) to manage all state owned airstrips in the country.
- g) Create and enabling environment to facilitate the expansion of Financial Institutions and services
- h) Review the functions of the Central Tender Board.

4.2.2 Productive Sector

On productive sector, the **DCC Government** will build a broad-based sustainable economy.

4.2.2.1 Agriculture and Livestock Development

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Facilitate and support the development of commercial agriculture.
- b) Facilitate research, development and marketing of high value cash crops.
- c) Facilitate acquisition of Russell Islands Plantation Estates.
- d) Support agro-forestry in the country.
- e) Promote oil palm development in other parts of the country.
- f) Facilitate and support the development of the livestock industry.

4.2.2.2 Tourism Development

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Develop and introduce a national tourism legislation.
- b) Review and amend the "National Tourism Policy"

4.2.2.3 Trade, Commerce, Industries and Immigration

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Enact Small and Medium Enterprise legislation to enable participation of locals in local investment entrepreneurship.
- b) Establish SME Advisory and Support Centre in the Industrial Development Division (IDD).
- c) Encourage indigenous entrepreneurs to participate in income-generating activities in urban and rural areas.
- d) Encourage indigenous nationals to sustainably harvest and utilise natural resources.
- e) Expand the list of reserved businesses for Indigenous Solomon Islanders as per the Investment Act of 2006.
- f) Develop Economic Growth Centres, Industrial Parks and Rural Growth Centres in the country through Public Private Partnership arrangements.
- g) Adopt and implement Small and Medium Enterprise Policy to enhance indigenous business opportunities.
- h) Provide strategic investment incentive packages in targeted growth sectors.
- i) Strengthen the investment division in coordination of project development with set timelines.
- j) Encourage foreign trade and market access with emerging economies.
- k) Review Immigration Act.
- l) Review other restrictive legislation.
- m) Introduce a National Wage Policy.
- n) Introduce anti-human trafficking and anti-slavery legislation.

4.2.2.4 Lands, Housing and Survey

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Develop a National Urbanisation Policy (NUP).
- b) Secure Fix Term Lease from original customary landowners with the intention to expand Honiara City.
- c) Return unused alienated land to original landowners.
- d) Encourage landowners and land resource owners to participate in economic development activities and to become partners in development opportunities.
- e) Support urban and rural dwellers to build or buy appropriate and affordable housing to meet individual and family needs.
- f) Implement climate change relocation/resettlement programme.

4.2.2.5 Civil Aviation and Telecommunication

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Enforce International Civil Aviation Safety requirements in the country focusing on air rescue, navigational aid, fencing and lighting.

- b) Review the Solomon Islands Civil Aviation Act (CAA).
- c) Review the current Air Space policy and arrangement.
- d) Review all existing agreements with local, regional and other international Agencies.
- e) Strengthen human resources capacity.
- f) Review legislation regulating the telecommunications industry.
- g) Facilitate the rehabilitation and development of rural infrastructure.
- h) Ensure that all communities are connected with telecommunication networks including radio, television, telephone, fax and internet.
- i) Complete the establishment of fibre optic submarine cable system.
- j) Strengthen and support the Telecommunications Commission.
- k) Promote and encourage participation in the industry in the area of broadband services.
- l) Review current internet service regulations pertaining to provider/hosting licencing.
- m) Develop airfields in economically viable locations.

4.2.2.6 Infrastructure Development

The DCC Government will:

- a. Maintain and improve all roads and feeder roads throughout the country.
- b. Construct 100 kilometres of “*dirt road*” and 50 Kilometres of tarseal road per year.
- c. Construct Domestic seaport terminal facilities to allow safe embarkation and disembarkation of passengers;
- d. Construct International seaport terminal facilities to allow safe and a more welcoming berth for Tourist Cruise Vessels.
- e. Support constituencies to maintain roads and feeder roads.
- f. Relocate the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Complex.
- g. Relocate the National Referral Hospital.
- h. Secure land and develop a new township with all urban amenities and utilities.
- i. Construct a fisheries onshore transshipment facility in Honiara.
- j. Facilitate the rehabilitation and development of rural infrastructures and utilities.
- k. Facilitate the construction and development of high flow economic airstrips, roads and bridges in the country.
- l. Review the provision of domestic shipping services serving uneconomical routes in the country.
- m. Strengthen and support the “National Transport Plan” with the intention to include road transport in the plan.
- n. Design and introduce a national infrastructure code of ‘all weather’ low maintenance minimum standard.

4.2.2.7 Aquaculture, Fisheries and Marine Resources

The DCC Government will:

- a) Review the Fisheries Act.

- b) Strengthen and establish a national and provincial fisheries governance and institutional arrangements.
- c) Improve and strengthen the contribution of small-scale fisheries alleviation, food and nutrition security and socio-economic benefits of fishing communities.
- d) Establish a market-led sustainable aquaculture development throughout the country.
- e) Distribute the benefits of Solomon Islands fisheries and aquaculture endowments through innovation and technology, accelerated trade and marketing.
- f) Strengthen and develop coordinated mechanisms among regional economic organizations and regional fisheries bodies to ensure coherence of fisheries policies and aquaculture development.
- g) Promote and enhance the capacity of people and institutions in the Solomon Islands fishery sector.
- h) Improve and increase the contribution of commercial and large scale tuna fisheries to national revenue generation, food and nutrition security and socio-economic benefits of Solomon Islands citizens

Productive sector is the main driver for economic recovery and growth in the country. The **DCC Government** will undertake reform of the productive sector; so as to provide reliable, accessible and affordable goods and services to the peoples of Solomon Islands.

On infrastructure, the **DCC Government** will bridge the gap that will connect all services to the peoples of Solomon Islands, especially those who live in disadvantaged, vulnerable and uneconomical rural areas of the country.

4.2.3 Resource Sector

On resource sector, the **DCC Government** will build a broad-based and environmentally sustainable economy.

4.2.3.1 Mines and Energy

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Review the 'Petroleum Act'.
- b) Review and amend the Mines & Minerals Act.
- c) Develop the National Mineral Resources Policy.
- d) Review mineral exploration and mining operations in the country.
- e) Identify and develop alternative renewable energy sources.
- f) Observe and subscribe to international regulations and standards.

4.2.3.2 Forestry and Reforestation

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Review the Forestry Act.
- b) Promote downstream processing of forestry and timber industry in the country.
- c) Encourage reforestation and plantation schemes in the country.

- d) Establish terrestrial parks, herbarium and botanical gardens to protect endangered plant species from becoming extinct.
- e) Encourage small, medium and large forestry plantations in-partnership with resource owners and landholders in 'out-grower' schemes.

4.2.4 Social Sector

The **DCC Government** aims to efficiently and effectively deliver adequate and quality social services to the people of Solomon Islands.

4.2.4.1 Health and Medical Services

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Review the 'Medical and Dental Act' with an intention to strengthen the Dental and Medical Board.
- b) Review the 'Pharmaceutical and Poisons Act'.
- c) Review the 'Health Services Act'.
- d) Review the Doctors Scheme of Service with an intention to prevent and reduce brain drain in the country.
- e) Strengthen and support the Competent Authority (CA) at the Environmental Health Division (EHD).
- f) Develop and introduce a postgraduate training and capacity development scheme for Medical Professionals.
- g) Build, upgrade, rehabilitate, renovate and relocate hospitals, mini hospitals, health clinics and other health centres in Honiara, urban centres and rural communities in all provinces throughout the Solomon Islands.
- h) Improve, increase and deliver quality health services to all citizens of Solomon Islands through efficient mode of service and cost effective mobilization of resources.
- i) Support and equip medical professionals to perform their respective vocations to put into practice their professional and technical skills.
- j) Establish medical research fund (MRF) to enhance and increase needed medical science research that will increase and improve disease prevention and control, and increase the profile of our health service nationally, regionally and internationally.

4.2.4.2 Education and Human Resources Development

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Review and amend relevant legislations in the education sector.
- b) Develop and introduce a problem solving mechanism for teachers.
- c) Provide fee-free basic education in all public educational institutions up to lower secondary. Basic education is the right of all children in the country.
- d) Rehabilitate, reconstruct and build new educational infrastructures to accommodate increased enrolment of students at all levels of the education system.

- e) Review the National Human Resources Development Programme based on the prioritised development needs of the country.
- f) Review and improve the national school curriculum with an intention to develop a 'mix mode' curriculum.
- g) Ensure all schools have trained teachers, adequate resources, and appropriate assessment mechanisms.
- h) Strengthen and support capacity building and infrastructure development at the Solomon Islands National University (SINU).
- i) Strengthen and support TVET, Early Childhood Education (ECE) programme in the country.
- j) Develop and implement the National Teachers Scheme of Service.
- k) Continue to support and assist 'faith based' schools/colleges, including schools for peoples with special needs.
- l) Facilitate the establishment of the 4th USP Campus in Ndoma, Guadalcanal Province.

4.2.4.3 Public Service

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Present to Cabinet a New Bill pertaining to the Public Service.
- b) Review IPAM with an intention to find the right institution to absorb and continue the programme.
- c) Improve Public Service efficiency in the delivery of goods and services to the peoples of Solomon Islands.
- d) Review, restructure and reorganize the Public Service to ensure effective and efficient delivery of goods and services.
- e) Deploy public servants to serve in rural Economic Growth Centres.
- f) Strengthen Public Service Commission, ensuring the effective facilitation of government policies and programmes with some autonomy.
- g) Introduce performance based rewarding systems, whenever and wherever necessary.
- h) Strengthen and support PSC to expeditiously act and resolve misconduct in office.
- i) Support local counterparts assigned to understudy external advisors and external technical support programmes.
- j) Establish public service housing scheme to facilitate and encourage home ownership for public servants.
- k) Review of the Public Service salary structure and remuneration.
- l) Encourage effective coordination and efficient administration of all Government Ministries through cluster-groupings.
- m) Encourage effective coordination of policy implementation through strong efficient administration of the Policy Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit.

4.2.4.4 Home Affairs

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Review the Citizenship Act.
- b) Review the Censorship Act.
- c) Re-table the Electoral Boundaries Bill.
- d) Assist and support Honiara City Council (HCC) and Provincial Governments (PGs) to rehabilitate existing sports facilities and build new sports complexes.
- e) Review and strengthen the National Sports Council (NSC).
- f) Review and strengthen the National Olympic Committee of Solomon Islands (NOCSI).
- g) Review the HCC Act 1999.
- h) Consult the Japanese International Corporation Agency (JICA) and HCC with the intention to expand, renovate and improve the HCC Central Market in Honiara.
- i) Establish two new local food markets in Honiara.
- j) Assess the economics of collecting, compiling and collating appropriate data on every citizen in the country to aid intelligence networking, enhance economic and social planning, stop crime and conduct security of people.
- k) Pursue electoral reform both national, provincial and city council elections.
- l) Encourage and facilitate Annual Consultation between Government and Non-Government Organizations (NGO), none state actors (NSA) and civil society groups.
- m) Review the Gaming and Lotteries Act.
- n) Strengthen and support music development and creative arts to empower all communities.

4.2.4.5 Provincial Government

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Facilitate and support PGs to increase and enhance their provincial revenue collection system.
- b) Amend the Solomon Islands National Constitution to regulate and legalise the establishment of a Revenue Sharing Scheme between SIG and PGs.
- c) Support institutional strengthening of provincial government systems.
- d) Facilitate and increase public private partnership (PPP) in provincial and rural economic development initiatives.
- e) Review the Provincial Government Act in conjunction with the federal system reform.
- f) Establish the functions of Provincial Tender Boards

4.2.4.6 Women, Youth & Social Development.

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Establish and develop Community Engagement Programmes that address the needs of women, youth and children.
- b) Develop, promote and facilitate socio-economic development programmes that address the specific needs of women, youth and children.

- c) Strengthen and support gender equality, eliminate gender violence and stop abuse of women and children programmes.
- d) Facilitate and strengthen women and youth livelihood empowerment programmes through direct funding of micro and small and medium enterprise (SME) projects.
- e) Establish a National Children's Civic Amusement Parks.
- f) Strengthen and support music development and creative arts to empower women and youths.
- g) Strengthen and increase support to women and youth empowerment programmes in the Solomon Islands
- h) Work in partnership with organisations, companies, business houses, traders, manufacturers and employers to increase access to labour market for women and youth, and increase gender equality in the workplace.

4.2.4.7 Police, National Security and Correctional Services

On Police and National Security sector, the **DCC Government** will put special attention to combat lawlessness and end all shapes and forms of crimes committed in the country.

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Work in partnership with stakeholders support the development of the National Security Policy.
- b) Review all border agreements.
- c) Strengthen border monitoring, surveillance and reconnaissance operations on all borders.
- d) Strengthen relations with international security and intelligence agencies.
- e) Establish and support cooperation between law enforcement agencies in Solomon Islands.
- f) Support the establishment of the Explosive Ordinance Disposal facility to ensure the safe collection and demolition of WWII explosive ordinance and remnants of war.
- g) Develop and establish a community policing and crime prevention model relevant to Solomon Islands recognising traditional systems and working in partnership with all levels of the community.
- h) Strengthen and support the operational and corporate functions of the RSIPF to ensure the effective and efficient provision of policing services.
- i) Develop the operations capabilities of the RSIPF to ensure that it has the ability to respond to and manage the security or serious criminal threat to the Solomon Islands, including transnational crime and terrorism.
- j) Review the liquor Act to ensure improved support for both national and provincial liquor licencing boards and the effective enforcement of alcohol related offences and prevention of illicit manufacturing, distribution and consumption of illegal drugs and beverages.
- k) Support the RSIPF limited rearmament community consultation program.
- l) Work together with RAMSI, pursue the achievement of the activities provided in the RAMSI Drawdown Strategy.

- m) Strengthen and support the operational and corporate functions of the Correctional Services of Solomon Islands (CSSI) to ensure the effective and efficient provision of Correctional Services.
- n) Support the development of a specialised facilities for young offenders, female offenders, mentally ill prisoners and immigration detainees.
- o) Review national correctional services development programs.
- p) Review the parole regulations considering the development of ministerial guidelines and recognizing policing, judiciary and community concerns.
- q) Maintain correctional centre facilities to ensure they continue to meet United Nations minimum standard rules for the treat treatment of prisoners and the United Nations minimum rules for the administration of juvenile justice.
- r) Develop and enhance partnership with stakeholders including community organizations to enable the development of the effective prisoner rehabilitation and reintegration policy and program.
- s) Review, expand and implement a range of development and training programs for CSSI staff to ensure that officers maintain current essential qualification including performance assessment, leadership development, succession planning and professional development.

4.2.4.8 Justice and Legal Affairs

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Establish special courts for family law (juvenile/child abuse) and minor traffic offences.
- b) Strengthen and support the “Bar Association” of Solomon Islands.
- c) Strengthen and support capacity building within the justice and legal fraternity.
- d) Strengthen and support the Law Reform Commission (LRC).
- e) Strengthen national Judicial and legal system and apparatus in the country.
- f) Establish industrial arbitration courts to supplement the work of Trade Disputes Panel.
- g) Establish and formalise Lawyers and Judges Scheme of Service.
- h) Establish and formalise Legislation for ‘mandatory’ sentencing for petty offences.

4.2.5 Development Sector

The **DCC Government** will work in partnership with development partners to facilitate sustainable development.

4.2.5.1 Foreign Affairs and External Trade

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Review all Bilateral and Multilateral Trade Agreements.
- b) Recognize and value the importance of peaceful coexistence with our regional and international partners to promote trade, economic and foreign relations.
- c) Endeavour to live up to our international and global commitments, protocols and obligations.
- d) Conduct cost-benefit analysis of all diplomatic missions.

- e) Promote and support regional and international sports and cultural exchange schemes.
- f) Facilitate, transfer and exchange of appropriate skills and knowledge with our development partners and other development agencies.
- g) Facilitate the introduction and application of appropriate technology with our development partners and other development agencies.
- h) Promote genuine direct foreign investments with our development partners and other development agencies.
- i) Review the Solomon Islands Foreign Relations Engagement Policy.
- j) Support the labour mobility initiative programme.

4.2.5.2 Development Planning and Aid Coordination

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Establish the Solomon Islands Twenty Year National Development Strategy.
- b) Introduce the “Solomon Islands Development Planning Bill” and associated Regulations”.
- c) Embark on a Partnership Framework with donors, private sector, NGOs and NSAs to coordinate development programmes in the country.
- d) Ensure that tangible results of development programmes in the Annual Development Budgets of the country accumulate to attainment of long-term goals of the Twenty Year National Development Strategy of the country.

4.2.5.3 Environment, Conservation, Climate Change, Meteorology and Disaster Management

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Review the Environment Act and Wildlife Protection and Management Act.
- b) Strengthen and support the national meteorological services.
- c) Improve waste management and disposal in the Solomon Islands.
- d) Protect and promote the biological diversity in the country.
- e) Develop and introduce the “Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Bill”.
- f) Strengthen and support the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO).
- g) Review the National Disaster Management Plan.
- h) Promote and Protect World Heritage sites in the country.

4.2.5.4 National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace

The **DCC Government** will implement recommendations of the parliamentary foreign relations report passed in 2009 recommending government to recongise traditional governance structures and Churches.

The **DCC Government** will:

- a) Recognise, strengthen and empower traditional governance systems and structures.
- b) Protect and preserve the diversity of our organic tradition and culture in Solomon Islands.
- c) Redesign the Solomon Islands Coat of Arms to reflect cultural identity and sensitivity.
- d) Embark on post-conflict rehabilitation programme.

PART 5: CONCLUSION

This Policy Statement of the **DCC Government** will be translated into detailed activity-based action-items, with performance indicators, in a document known as the Democratic Coalition for Change Translation and Implementation Action Plan by Permanent Secretaries of Technical Government Ministries.

As a political entity, the **DCC Government** believes that:

- ❖ Return of ownership of Solomon Islands to its people is inevitable. This is not to say that we have sold our country to foreigners but taking the path of 'business as usual' will leave us vulnerable in our own lands if no proactive steps are taken now.
- ❖ In order to guarantee this ownership, the implementation of this Policy Statement is absolutely necessary.
- ❖ The National Constitution of Solomon Islands needs to be amended to reflect the true meaning and intention of ownership, that is to say that Federal System of Government has been the cry of the people.
- ❖ Taking control of our resources means that the state institution must be supported by resource owners. Support will come readily if out-dated legislations are modernized and poor policies are revised.
- ❖ Solomon Islands will become a more inclusive society through the reforms of this Policy Statement.
- ❖ Our country will become a **“Peaceful, United and Progressive Country of Solomon Islands”**.

God Bless the Solomon Islands, from shore to shore!

Annex 1: Existing Development Projects

The **DCC Government** will continue to implement the following existing development projects:

Agriculture

- ❖ ***Auluta Palm Oil Project*** – This is a major development project on Malaita Province with a potential source of employment for the people of Malaita and Solomon Islands and revenue earner for the country. The **DCC Government** will continue to implement this development project.
- ❖ ***Waisisi Palm Oil Project*** – This is another major development project on Malaita Province with the potential as source of employment for the people of Malaita and Solomon Islands and revenue earner for the country. The **DCC Government** will continue to implement this development project.

Industrial

- ❖ ***Bina Harbour Industrial Township Project*** – is another major development project on Malaita, with potentials of a revenue earner and employment provider of the people of Solomon Islands. The **DCC Government** will continue to implement this development project.
- ❖ ***Noro Industrial Park*** - is a project designed to create rural development opportunities in the Western Province. The **DCC Government** will continue to implement this development project.

Township

- ❖ ***Choiseul Bay Township Project*** – is a major development project in Choiseul Province that will relocate Choiseul Bay Township from Taro to the Mainland. The **DCC Government** will continue to implement this development project.
- ❖ ***Mamara/Tasivarongo Township Project*** - is a major development project in Guadalcanal Province. The **DCC Government** will continue to implement this development project.

Aviation

- ❖ ***Munda International Airport*** – is a major development project in the country as the second international airport. This will create opportunities for developments in tourism and other sectors. The **DCC Government** will continue with implementation of this development project.
- ❖ ***Sasamunga Airstrip Project*** - is a major development project in the country. This will create opportunities for developments in tourism and other sectors. The **DCC Government** will continue with implementation of this development project.

Energy

- ❖ ***Tina Hydropower Development Project*** – is a major development project in the country that will provide affordable and reliable electricity from renewable energy. The **DCC Government** will continue to implement this development project.
- ❖ ***Savo Geothermal Project*** – is another major renewable energy project in the country. The **DCC Government** will continue to implement this development project.

- ❖ **Fiu Hydro Project** – is a major development project that can provide reliable and affordable electricity for Auluta Palm Oil, Bina Harbour Industrial Township, Auki Township and the proposed Kiluúfi Referral Hospital. The **DCC Government** will continue to implement this development project.

Fisheries

- ❖ **Suava Tuna Canning Project** – is an ongoing development project. The **DCC Government** will continue to develop this development project as a fully-fledged pre-cook tuna loining and canning operation (*minimum throughput 75 Metric Tonne per day*). This project is important as a market hub for pre-cook tuna loins processed by Mini Tuna Canneries.
- ❖ **Ndoma Tuna Canning Project** - is an ongoing development project. The **DCC Government** will continue to develop this development project as a fully-fledged pre-cook tuna loining and canning plant operation (*minimum throughput 75 Metric Tonne per day*). This project is important as a market hub for pre-cook tuna loins processed by Mini Tuna Canneries (see new development projects in page 35)
- ❖ **Tenaru Tuna Canning Project** - is an ongoing development project. The **DCC Government** will continue to develop this development project as a fully-fledged pre-cook tuna loining and canning plant operation (*minimum throughput 75 Metric Tonne per day*). This project is important as a market hub for pre-cook tuna loins processed by Mini Tuna Canneries (see new development projects in page 35)

The **DCC Government** is aware of the imbalance in the distribution of existing development projects when weighted against provincial distribution. However, when seen against population the imbalance is non-existent.

As a measure against provincial imbalance, the **DCC Government** will wilfully balance the imbalance by implementing new development projects in other provinces.

Annex 2: New Development Projects

The **DCC Government** will pursue to implement the following new development projects:

Energy

- ❖ **Rural Renewable Energy Projects** – Energy is a necessity and renewable energy is a climate friendly necessity. The **DCC Government** will source funding for Rural Renewable Energy Projects to “power” rural areas.
- ❖ **Paraso Geothermal Project** – The **DCC Government** will consider development of Paraso Geothermal Project.
- ❖ **Huro Hydro Power** to supply KiraKira and surrounding services and amenities including KiraKira Airport.
- ❖ **Kaaka Bay Hydro Project, North Guadalcanal Constituency, Guadalcanal Province.**
- ❖ **South Pacific Fuel Depot Relocation Project** – *This is to relocate the current depot located in Point Cruz Port to a more secure and safe site.*

Economic

- ❖ **Rural Growth Centres** – rural communities will be clustered into development opportune areas and livelihood income earning opportunities will be secured to empower rural peoples in these clusters to live an enterprising life with attainment of improved quality of life. The **DCC Government** will establish Rural Growth Centres in economical viable and feasible clusters in the country.
- ❖ **Temotu International Seaport Project** – establishment of a third international seaport in Temotu will open international doorways to facilitate international trade with the Republic of Vanuatu and Fiji. The **DCC Government** will embark on development of Temotu International Seaport.
- ❖ **Aola Development Centre Project** - North Guadalcanal Constituency, Guadalcanal Province.
- ❖ **East Are’Are Development Centre Project** - East Are’Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Central Honiara Youth Development Centre** – Central Honiara Constituency, Honiara.
- ❖ **West Are’Are Tourism Project** - West Are’Are Constituency, Malaita Province.

Agriculture

- ❖ **Russell Islands Agroforestry and Tourism Project** – The **DCC Government** will secure RIPEL and facilitate establishment of Russell Islands Agroforestry and Tourism Project.

Fisheries

- ❖ **Tatamba Mini Cannery Project** - Tatamba Economic Growth Center, Gao/Bugotu Constituency. The maximum daily throughput for this project will be 35 Metric Tonnes.
- ❖ **Tulagi Mini Cannery Project** - Tulagi, Gela Constituency, Central Islands Province. The maximum daily throughput for this project will be 35 Metric Tonnes.
- ❖ **Masupa Mini Cannery Project** – East Are’Are Constituency, Malaita Province. The maximum daily throughput for this project will be 35 Metric Tonnes.
- ❖ **Aruraha Mini Cannery Project** – West Makira Constituency, Makira/Ulawa Province.

- ❖ **Torahira Mini Cannery Project** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.

Aviation

- ❖ **Domestic Airport Improvement Project** – The **DCC Government** will improve all domestic airports with associated amenities throughout the country.
- ❖ **Bokolonga Airstrip Project** - Gela Constituency, Central islands Province.
- ❖ **Uhu Airport or Rohinari Airport Project** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **East Are'Are Airstrip Project** - East Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Okwala Airstrip Project** – Central Kwaraáe Constituency, Malaita Province.

Telecommunications

- ❖ **Rural Telecommunication Project** – The **DCC Government** will encourage telecommunication facilities throughout the country.

Infrastructure

- ❖ **Prime Ministers' Residence Project** – This project will replace the current dilapidated residence of the Prime Minister at Vavaya Ridge.
- ❖ **Opposition Leader Residence Project** - The DCC Government saw it fit to erect a proper residence for the Opposition Leader.
- ❖ **Speakers' Residence Project** - The DCC Government saw it fit to erect a proper residence for the Speaker of Parliament.
- ❖ **Prime Ministers' Office/Cabinet/Caucus/Foreign Affairs Complex Project** – The **DCC Government** see the need for a new Prime Ministers' Office/Cabinet/Caucus/Foreign Affairs Complex to replace the current dilapidated and obsolete building.
- ❖ **Rural Wharves and Jetties Project** – The **DCC Government** will continue with building of rural wharves in the country.
- ❖ **National Roads and Bridges Rehabilitation, Improvement and Development Programme** - The **DCC Government** will rehabilitate and improve existing roads and bridges and develop new roads and bridges in the country, in particular the following development projects:
- ❖ **Mberande/Marau Road Rehabilitation, Improvement and Redevelopment Project** – Guadalcanal Province.
- ❖ **Kakabona/Lambi/Marasa Road Rehabilitation, Improvement and Redevelopment Project** – Northwest Guadalcanal Constituency, Guadalcanal Province.
- ❖ **Central Makira Road Rehabilitation and Improvement Project** – Central Makira Constituency, Makira/Ulawa Province.
- ❖ **Maewo Wharf and Jetty Project** – Central Makira Constituency, Makira/Ulawa Province
- ❖ **North and East Malaita (Atori-Atoifi) Road Construction, Rehabilitation and Improvement Project** – Malaita Province.
- ❖ **South Road (Auki to Bina to Hauhui) Rehabilitation Project** – Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Busurata to Okwala/Kwaibaita Road Project** – Central Kwaraáe Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Auki Township Road Upgrade Project** – Aoke Langalanga Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **North Coast Santa Cruz Road Development Project** – Temotu Nende Constituency, Temotu Province.

- ❖ **Tiggoa to Lake Tengano Road Project** - Rennell and Bellona Constituency, Renbel Province.
- ❖ **Bellona Roads Maintenance Project** – Rennell and Bellona Constituency, Renbel Province.
- ❖ **Rennell/Belona Shipping Project** - Rennell and Bellona Constituency, Renbel Province.
- ❖ **Ugi Island Road Project** – Ulawa.Ugi Constituency, Makira/Ulawa Province.
- ❖ **Ugi Island Wharf and Jetty Project** – Ulawa.Ugi Constituency, Makira/Ulawa Province
- ❖ **Tatamba to Tihimhau to Lelegia Road Project**- Gao/Bugotu Constituency, Isabel Province.
- ❖ **Tatamba to Tausese Road Project**- Gao/Bugotu Constituency, Isabel Province.
- ❖ **Gold Ridge to Talichana Road Project**- South Guadalcanal Constituency.
- ❖ **Tulagi Public Wharf Project** - Tulagi, Gela Constituency, Central Islands Province.
- ❖ **Tulagi Tourist Boat Jetty Access Project** - Tulagi, Gela Constituency, Central Islands Province.
- ❖ **Tulagi Road Rehabilitation and Improvement Project** - Tulagi, Gela Constituency, Central Islands Province.
- ❖ **Big Gela Old Logging Road Rehabilitation Project** - Gela Constituency, Central Islands Province.
- ❖ **Harumou/Maka Rehabilitation Project** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Hauhui/Wairaha Road Project** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Harumou (Uhu) Wharf Project** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Waisisi Wharf Project** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Wairaha Bridge Project** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Wairokai International Seaport** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **East Are'Are Constituency Road Project** – Construction of this road is very critical to highland dwellers of the constituency.
- ❖ **East Are'Are Shipping Project** - East Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Taefoa/Ata'a Road Project** – This project was previously agreed and approved under the Townsville Peace Agreement and/or otherwise as a Peace Road in Malaita Province.
- ❖ **Guadalcanal Transular Road Project** – The actual location for this road is yet to be identified. However, this project was previously agreed and approved under the Townsville Peace Agreement and/or otherwise as a Peace Road in Guadalcanal Province.
- ❖ **Mberande/Kolosulu/Papae Road Project** – North East Guadalcanal Constituency, Guadalcanal Province.
- ❖ **Feraladoa/Ferakwusia/Matariu Project** – Central Honiara & East Honiara Constituencies, Honiara.
- ❖ **Honiara Roads Extension, Upgrading and Tarsealing Project** – Honiara.
- ❖ **West Are'Are Shipping Project** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **North Guadalcanal Water Supply Project** – North Guadalcanal Constituency, Guadalcanal Province.

Health and Medical

- ❖ **Relocation of National Referral Hospital** - The **DCC Government** will consider relocation of National Referral Hospital to higher grounds.
- ❖ **Kilu'ufi Referral Hospital** – The **DCC Government** will build a third referral hospital in Kilu'ufi, Auki, Malaita Province.
- ❖ **KiraKira Referral Hospital Project** - to cater for the eastern region of Solomon Islands, Temotu included.

- ❖ ***Gizo/Noro/Munda Water Supply Project*** - The **DCC Government** will provide safe and quality water resources to the peoples of the above communities.
- ❖ ***East Are'Are Mini Hospital Project*** – East Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ ***North East Choiseul Mini Referral Hospital Project*** – North East Choiseul Constituency, Choiseul Province.
- ❖ ***Komudalovi Area Health Centre Project*** - North East Guadalcanal Constituency, Guadalcanal Province.
- ❖ ***Kolosulu Area Health Centre Project*** - North East Guadalcanal Constituency, Guadalcanal Province.
- ❖ ***North East Guadalcanal Water Supply and Sanitation Project*** - Guadalcanal Province.
- ❖ ***Rohinari Mini Hospital Project*** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.

Education

- ❖ ***USP 4th Campus Fisheries and Marine Project*** - School in the Marovo Lagoon.
- ❖ ***MEHRD New Headquarter/Office Complex Project*** – Honiara.
- ❖ ***Isabel Senior Secondary School Project*** - Garana, Maringe/Kokota Constituency, Isabel Province
- ❖ ***Rohinari Senior National Secondary School Project*** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ ***Urususu TVET Project*** - West Are'Are Constituency, Malaita Province.
- ❖ ***Suva Rural Training Centre*** - North Guadalcanal Constituency, Guadalcanal Province.

Sports

- ❖ ***Guadalcanal International Sports Stadium*** and Institution.
- ❖ ***Provincial Sport Institutes***

Township

- ❖ ***Guadalcanal Township Development Project*** for Guadalcanal to enable orderly development. Location will be identified by the Guadalcanal Province and people.